

GALILEO GALILEI

Scientific Precursors:

Aristotle

- concentric spheres of the four elemental forces: air, fire, water and earth
- “Aether” exists outside of terrestrial realm

Ptolemy

- Planets move on fixed orbits around the earth
- These orbits are complex combinations of circular paths- called epicycles

Copernicus

- First heliocentric figure of the universe (Sun-Centered)

Galileo Himself!

Great Major Discoveries:

Falling Objects-

Objects of different weights fall at the same rate. Legend is that Galileo dropped two weighted balls off the leaning tower of Pisa.

Pendulum-

Noticed that Pendulums (this is incorrect) swing at the same rate despite the amplitude. This allowed for the creation of clocks.

Created modern Physics, Scientific Method. “Father of Science” “Father of Physics.” “Father of astronomy”

Church Controversy

Galileo had to appear before the Holy Office in Rome a number of times to defend his books against charges of Heresy

Galileo found out some very important stuff about astronomy. The four most important things, the things that you should try to remember, are that Galileo discovered:

Craters on the moon.

Sunspots on the sun.

Discovered the Saturn wasn't round.

Discovered that the Milky was composed of a lot of little stars.

