

Venus, Crescent Moon to Put on a Stunning Show in Friday Night Sky

Skywatchers across the United States will have a chance to witness a striking celestial display Friday evening as the bright planet Venus appears alongside the crescent moon shortly after sunset.

According to a Fox Weather report, the event will be visible “to the naked eye,” giving millions of Americans an opportunity to enjoy one of the summer’s most eye-catching sights without the need for a telescope. Binoculars may offer an even better view.

The pairing is known as a conjunction, an astronomical event in which two celestial objects appear close together from Earth’s perspective. While Venus and the moon will seem almost side by side in the evening sky, appearances can be deceiving.



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NASA notes they “appear very close to each other from our perspective on Earth,” even though they are “actually separated by millions of miles in space.”

For the best chance of catching the spectacle, viewers should look toward the western horizon shortly after sunset. The moon and Venus will remain visible for only about two hours before dropping below the horizon.

Weather conditions will play a major role in visibility. Clear skies are expected to give observers in cities such as Miami, Denver and Los Angeles some of the best opportunities to enjoy the conjunction, while cloud cover could make viewing more

difficult in parts of the Midwest and Northeast, including Chicago and New York.

A little planning can make all the difference. Finding an unobstructed western view, arriving before sunset and hoping for clear skies will provide the best chance to take in the event.

For anyone who enjoys looking up at the night sky, this is one of those simple but memorable moments that reminds us just how beautiful God's creation can appear. Even though the moon and Venus are separated by unimaginable distances, they'll seem to meet in a breathtaking display that is well worth stepping outside to see.

James Lasher, a seasoned writer and editor at Charisma Media, combines faith and storytelling with a journalism background from Otterbein University and ministry experience in Guatemala and at the LA Dream Center. A Marine Corps and Air Force veteran, he is the author of *The Revelation of Jesus: A Common Man's Commentary* and a contributor to Charisma magazine. For interviews and media inquiries, please contact media@.