

creation. Even if there were other galaxies with planets very similar to Earth, life could only be there if the Creator had fashioned it. If God had done that, and if these beings were going to visit us one day, then He would surely have enlightened us about this.

God *has* given us rather specific details of the future—for example, the return of Jesus Christ, and some details about the end of the world. The universe will, at some future point, be rolled up like a scroll (*Isaiah 34:4; Rev6:14*). If God had created living beings elsewhere, this would automatically destroy their dwelling place as well. Adam’s sin caused all of creation to be affected by the Curse, so why would a race of beings, not of Adam’s (sinful) seed, have their part of creation affected by the Curse, and then be part of the restoration brought about by Christ, the last Adam? All of this would seem very strange.

2. The Purpose Of The Stars

Stars were not only made *for God* to glorify Him and show forth His handiwork (*Psalms 19*), but they were also made *for man*: “God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years” (*Gen 1:14*). Thus, God made the stars for mankind on Earth, not for another alien race “out there.” The thrust of the biblical testimony is found in the sequence of creation—on the *first* day, Earth, but the stars came not until the *fourth* day. The purpose of the creation is uniquely centered on this Earth.

What Does Science Say?

1. Never A Single Contact With An “ET”

In 1900, the French Academy of Science offered a prize of 100,000 francs for the first person to make contact with an alien civilization—so long as the alien was not from Mars, because the academy was convinced that Martian civilization was an established fact! Since then, not a trace of “little green men,” or indeed any life, has been found on any of the planets that our probes have explored, including Mars.

Despite this, a great number of astronomers think that since life supposedly evolved here on Earth, it must have evolved “out there” as well. Around the world, SETI (Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence) researchers have scanned the sky, looking in vain for signals from intelligent beings. Despite all the listening on thousands of frequencies for many years, nothing indicating intelligent alien life has ever been heard.

2. Conditions Must Be “Just Right”

Life on any planet can only survive provided a great number of very stringent requirements are met. For example, the planet must be at the right distance from its sun, so as to be neither too hot nor too cold. In particular, it must be in a very narrow temperature range so that liquid water exists. Even if recent “findings” of planets around other stars are confirmed, it is extremely improbable that any of them would fulfill all the requirements needed for life. Just having liquid water is completely insufficient, despite the excitement created when such was possibly detected on the surface of Jupiter’s moon, Europa.

3. Life Cannot Form Spontaneously

Without intelligent, creative input, lifeless chemicals cannot form themselves into living things. The idea that they can is the theory of spontaneous generation, disproved by the great creationist founder of microbiology, Louis Pasteur. Without unfounded evolutionary speculation, ufology (*the study of UFOs*) would not have its present grip on the public imagination.

4. Vast Distances

Even if we assumed life existed somewhere else in the universe, a visit by extraterrestrials to Earth, such as is claimed in UFO reports, seems completely impracticable, if not impossible. The distances, and therefore the likely travel times, are unimaginably vast.

The *closest* star to Earth, Proxima Centauri (*Alpha Centauri C*) is 40.7 million million kilometers (*25 million million miles*) away. The Apollo flights took three days to get to the moon. At the same speed, one would need 870,000 years to get to this nearest star. Of course, one could accelerate (particularly unmanned) probes to a greater speed. At the incredible speed of one-tenth the speed of light, the trip, one way, would still take 43 years. However, one would need enormous amounts of energy for such an acceleration, roughly equivalent to the total energy generated in four days by the world’s largest hydroelectric power station with all its 18 turbines operating.

Furthermore, in every cubic kilometer of space, there are an estimated 100,000 dust particles (made up of silicates and ice) weighing only a tenth of a gram. At such a velocity, colliding with even one of these tiny objects could destroy a spaceship.

So What About UFOs?

How, then, should one understand the UFO phenomena and all the associated hype? In the German

magazine *Focus*, it was stated, “90% of UFO reports turn out to be humbug, but there is a residual 10% which are not easy to dismiss.” The article quoted sociologist Gerald Eberlein as saying:

Research has shown that people who are not affiliated with any church, but who claim that they are religious, are particularly susceptible to the possible existence of extraterrestrials. For them, ufology is a substitute religion.

The Word of God goes somewhat deeper in this matter, identifying a supplementary cause and effect:

Whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie (*2 Thess 2:9-11*).

Ephesians 2:2 talks about the “prince of the power of the air,” whose reign is on Earth. The devil has his own repertoire of deception in the form of various occult practices and a multitude of religious rites. It could be that behind those unexplainable UFO reports is the work of the archdeceiver.

UFO reports, by definition, remain nebulous and not identifiable. People who do not know Christ are easily fascinated by all sorts of phenomena that are difficult to explain. Jesus left us this warning, “Take heed that no man deceive you” (*Matt 24:4*).

Secret Bases? Government Cover-ups?

Many UFO enthusiasts spread the “urban myth” of secret USA government experiments on aliens—an idea reinforced by the movie *Independence Day*. But, does a cover-up make sense when, under the inspiration of atheists like the late Carl Sagan, the USA government has spent millions of taxpayers’ dollars listening “out there” for signs of intelligent extraterrestrial life? Many other evolutionary humanists, like Sagan, passionately believe that intelligent life has evolved out there in addition to on Earth, and would pounce on any hard evidence for this idea. Consider the media frenzy about the “life in Mars rock” fiasco. To imagine that a *much more* exciting discovery would be kept secret for decades is simply ridiculous!

Why The Ongoing Search For Little Green Men?

Pulse...pulse...pulse...What could it be? It was so regular—flashing at one-and-a-third seconds—keeping exact time. Nothing like this had been seen before. Jocelyn Bell-Burnell and her supervisor, Prof. Antony Hewish, were at Cambridge University when they

discovered this peculiar phenomenon. Jocelyn said during an interview:

One of the ideas we facetiously entertained was that it might be *little green men*—a civilization outside in space somewhere trying to communicate with us...It did seem to be a little bit going off the deep end to say we had detected signals from another civilization. But the name stuck. We referred to this radio source as LGM-1.

And what had they found? It was a rapidly rotating neutron star, now called a pulsar, broadcasting without artificial aid. That briefly summarizes how the first pulsar ever discovered was named LGM-1.

Little green men, indeed! Would scientists really even contemplate such a possibility? Not only did they contemplate it, but millions of tax dollars are being spent by NASA to search for intelligent life in outer space. And why are they searching? Is it because there is evidence that there are beings on other planets? Not at all! It is solely because NASA is so committed to accepting evolution as “fact.”

As Jocelyn imagined *little green men* when she heard the regular pulses from what we now know is a pulsar, even so many scientists get very excited with each new scrap of “evidence” for life on other planets. In their opinion, this evidence bolsters their understanding of how the universe, and life on Earth, evolved.

A Double Standard

Do you see what is so illogical about the search for nonhuman intelligence? If these same scientists would exchange their telescopes for microscopes, look down into the cells of every living creature and observe the DNA making up the chromosomes, they would see the most complex code, the most complex information system, the most complex language in the entire universe—and look at this and say, “*Chance!*” Yet if they receive the simplest ordered sequences possible from outer space—they are prepared to say, “*Intelligence!*”

Nobody has ever seen a complex language like DNA evolve by chance. Scientists know it takes information to get information, yet they refuse to consider that an intelligence is responsible for life here on Earth. They refuse to accept the possibility that the God spoken of in the Scriptures *is* that intelligence—the infinitely intelligent God of creation. They refuse! Why? It would mean that this Creator, the Lord Jesus Christ, is Lord over them (*John 1:1-3,14*). They would have to bow and worship Him and assume responsibility for their sins and admit their need of salvation.

As these scientists look into outer space, it is as if they are shaking their fists at Jesus Christ, defiantly saying: “We refuse to accept you as Lord over us!”

Well, they don’t need to waste millions of tax dollars searching for an intelligence somewhere out there. The Psalmist said just look up at the night sky (*19:1-3*):

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.

Take a microscope and look at our DNA:

The invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse (*Rom 1:20*).

Man *knows* there is a higher intelligence. He realizes there is something more. The knowledge that there is an infinite God is written on man’s heart and is obvious from everything around us. Scientists need neither telescopes nor electronic microscopes to see what God has already revealed about Himself and the world.

Secrets Of The Universe — Revealed!

When the USA Congress shut down funding for NASA’s SETI project in the 1990s, calls rang out for private funding to continue the search for civilizations around other stars. A major newspaper explained this yearning for answers: “Some speculate that alien intelligence might beam vast streams of coded information, a virtual encyclopedia galactica, with insights into the origin of the universe or immortality.” Man is crying out for some intelligence to tell him where he came from and how to find immortality.

Carl Sagan was one of the leading proponents of SETI. His book *The Cosmic Connection* summarized his dream for finding a secret message from the stars:

At this very moment the messages from another civilization may be wafting across space, driven by unimaginably advanced devices, there for us to detect them — if only we knew how...Or perhaps the messages are already here, present in some everyday experience that we have not made the right mental effort to recognize. The power of such an advanced civilization is very great. Their messages may lie in quite familiar circumstances...The message from the stars may be here already. But where?

Carl Sagan seemed prepared to accept that there must be a much higher intelligence than man, and that the “messages” may already be here. But Sagan also admitted he may not have “made the right mental effort to recognize” the messages. He was right! — “When

they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened” (*Rom 1:21*).

An infinite intelligence has already “streamed” in information, a virtual “encyclopedia galactica,” about where we came from, who we are, what is wrong with us, and insights into immortality — and it’s not coded! It’s been translated into nearly every language in the world. It’s in written form, revealed from the infinite Intelligence who made all things. It’s the Holy Bible.

Man Has Rejected The Heavenly Message

Man is crying out for purpose and meaning in life. But he is not listening to God. In fact, he doesn’t *want* to listen. Man is “willingly ignorant” — he deliberately rejects the truth about creation (*2 Peter 3:5*) — “having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart” (*Eph 4:18*).

God sent His prophets, and man stoned them. God sent His Son, and man nailed Him to a cross. God gave us His Word, and man has burned it and its preachers at the stake. Man cries out on one hand for there to be something more, but then shakes his fist at God. Why? Because man really wants to fashion his own god — he doesn’t want to acknowledge his own wickedness, and admit that he’s in rebellion against his Creator.

Voyager Sends A Mistaken Message To The Heavens

Man would rather accept a lie than admit to the truth — that God is the Creator and man is a sinner in need of God’s mercy. To avoid the truth, man has “changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things” (*Rom 1:23*). What better way to show how man has done this than to look at the two *Voyager* spacecraft, launched in 1977 and sent barreling towards the outer reaches of the solar system. On each ship is a gold-coated phonograph record, offering a message to extraterrestrial civilizations.

This message includes pictures of the evolution of man from molecules, via fish, reptiles, ape-like creatures, to humans. It also presents the evolution of man in sound — a series of sounds in an evolutionary progression: music of the spheres, volcanoes, earthquakes, mud pots, wind, rain, crickets, frogs, birds, hyenas, elephants, chimpanzees, wild dogs, foot-steps, heartbeats and laughter. There is also the sound of fire and speech, of stone tools, a tame dog, Morse code, ships, a train, the F-111 aircraft and so on.

The *Voyager* craft also offers greetings from representatives of nations around the world. These messages bring greetings from Earth, calls for help, offers of friendship, pleas for peace and promises that man is thinking about them (the extraterrestrial intelligent beings), calling these supposed beings out there “great ones.” And just to make sure they were communicating, scientists included a greeting from some whales! In the book *Murmurs of Earth: The Voyager Interstellar Record*, by Carl Sagan and others, we read about the “whale greeting”:

We listened to it [the whale greeting] many times and always with a feeling of irony that our imagined extraterrestrials of a billion years hence might grasp a message from fellow earthlings that had been incomprehensible to us.

Wallace Macaulay, the UN delegate of Nigeria, made an impassioned plea in his message carried by *Voyager*:

To extraterrestrial intelligent beings: We are supposed to inhabit this planet alone but we know this is not quite so. In Africa, we want to believe that we have you and you are all-knowing, and perhaps possess high intelligence and therefore can help us solve the many problems of our world here.

Why don’t they listen to God’s Word? It tells us where to look for solutions: “My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth” (*Psalms 121:2*).

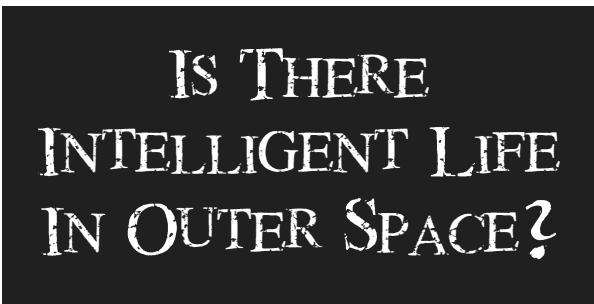
Don’t Miss The Message From Heaven!

God has sent mankind a clear message of hope and terror. “*See that ye refuse not Him that speaketh...from heaven*” (*Heb 12:25*). There is coming a time when sorrow will cease, a time of eternal peace, but *only* for those who have obeyed the gospel:

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him (*Rom 10:13; John 3:36*).

For those who continue to worship the created world instead of the Creator, those who “*professing themselves to be wise...became fools*” (*see Rom 1:19-23*), God warns that they “shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death” (*Rev 21:8*).■

—Adapted from the writings of Ken Ham and Dr. Don Batten



For decades, speculation about extraterrestrial life has been boosted by tales of flying saucers and encounters with aliens. In 1996, NASA (the National Aeronautics and Space Administration) and its researchers claimed to have found evidence for simple life-forms in a meteorite, allegedly from Mars, found in Antarctica.

Since then, this “proof” of life in the “Mars rock” has very much lost favor among the scientific community. The supposed “nanofossils” were probably no more than magnetite whiskers plus artifacts of the experimental process.

Despite this, the 2 kg rock ignited a new surge of “Mars fever.” The Americans, Europeans, Japanese and Russians planned several new projects to explore our neighboring planet, which is some 48 million miles away at its closest approach to us. Meanwhile, belief in extraterrestrial intelligence continues to grow with an almost religious fervor.

The UFO Wave

Harvard University psychiatry professor Dr. John E. Mack recently attracted worldwide attention with his collection of cases of people claiming that they were “abducted by aliens.” There was also the release of a film of an alleged autopsy on an alien from a crash in New Mexico close to the US Air Force Base at Roswell. The blurry footage, which most have dismissed as an obvious and crude forgery, was nevertheless the main attraction at the 1995 UFO World Congress in Dusseldorf, Germany. Then there was the “alien invasion” film *Independence Day*, which grossed more in its opening week than any previous film. What should Christians think about UFO accounts?

What Does The Bible Say?

1. Scripture Does Not Mention “ET” Visits

The Holy Bible, the revealed written Word of God, teaches that life is only possible through a process of