

Are We Alone in the Universe? A Biblical Perspective

Craig R. Cordle

**Are We Alone in the Universe?
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Table of Contents

A PROVERB

INTRODUCTION

PART 1: HUMAN LOGIC

Chapter 1: Our Universe

Chapter 2: Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs)

Chapter 3: The Bible and UFOs

Chapter 4: Conclusions from Part 1

PART 2: GOD’S WORD

Chapter 5: The Superiority of God

Chapter 6: Categories of Life

Chapter 7: Four Scenarios of Redemption

Chapter 8: New Heavens and a New Earth

Chapter 9: Non-intelligent Life

Chapter 10: God’s Purpose for an Immense Universe

Chapter 11: The Big Deception

Chapter 12: Conclusions from Part 2

APPENDIX

BIBLIOGRAPHY

A PROVERB

As the size of the universe extends far beyond our comprehension, the magnitude of God's love exceeds our understanding.

The Earth is a special place to God. For here, He placed man -- His crowning work of creation.

When a person feels small and insignificant, they are listening to the lies of the evil one.

Look to the heavens and see the glory of God! In doing so, you will begin to see what value He places on your life.

INTRODUCTION

Are we on the verge of the greatest discovery in human history? The greatest achievement to date may have been the landing of men on the Moon. Scientists are anticipating the day when we will confirm the existence of life on other planets. They believe that when this day comes, it will be the greatest discovery in the history of the world. Do you believe that we will one day see this happen or is there something that is not being considered that could give us a whole different perspective of the universe?

Please consider that we could be alone in the universe. What does this mean to the human race? If so, what is the purpose of a universe that appears to extend endlessly out into the vastness of space where the only life that exists is on this tiny speck of a planet we call the Earth?

In watching television over the past several years, I have noticed that there seems to be an increasing number of programs on the subject of life on other planets and unidentified flying objects (UFOs). I watch a lot of programs on the educational channels, such as the History Channel, Discovery Channel, and the National Geographic Channel. In all this attention given to the possibility of extraterrestrial life, scientists always come up with the conclusion that life must surely exist on other planets in the universe. The media seems to push the idea that there is intelligent life out there but we just haven't been able to prove it yet. Even on the subject of UFOs the scientific community has not endorsed that UFOs are evidence of extraterrestrial life, but they don't discount it either. A considerable amount of serious scientific study is being conducted in the search for intelligent life elsewhere in the universe.

So the question is, "*Does life exist on other planets?*" There is a fascination about the prospect that we are not alone. This is evident by movies such as Star Wars, E.T. The Extraterrestrial, Close Encounters of the Third Kind, Independence Day, and War of the Worlds. People report sightings of UFOs and even claim that they have been abducted by alien beings. Some of these reports are hoaxes, but many are made by honest people who are just reporting what they have seen.

In all the attention given to the idea of life on other planets it would be logical to assume that the majority of people believe in it. The National Geographic Channel in August 2005 reported the results of a poll based on a telephone survey of 1,000 Americans over the age of 18 by the Center for Survey Research and Analysis at the University of Connecticut. The poll indicated that 60% of Americans believe that life exists on other planets. In an interactive poll for the PBS program Nova /Origins the question was asked, "Do aliens exist in the Milky Way?" Out of 11,263 respondents (as of 9/6/05), 78% said "yes," aliens do exist in our galaxy, 15% answered "no," and 7% were "undecided." The results of these polls indicate that the majority of people do believe that life exists on other planets in the universe. I believe the influence of the media is a big reason for the high percentages of those who believe.

The position I will present is not the popular position, but it should be expressed because it is what God says on the subject. Many people, even if they do not claim to be a Christian, have a respect for the Bible. Whether you consider yourself a Christian or not, you owe it to yourself to hear what the Bible has to say concerning life on other planets. There are people who say that the Bible contains evidence that the earth has been visited by UFOs, and these intelligent beings

have had a major impact on the human race. This book contains a section that identifies some of these passages and how they are interpreted. Later in the book I will provide Biblical evidence that will disprove these interpretations and provide you with an interesting alternative. You need to hear what I call the other side of the story and then come up with your own conclusions.

Since I am writing from a fundamentalist standpoint, I am accepting the Bible as the true Word of God. It is the final authority, and that's how I will approach this topic. If you have any degree of respect for the Bible, then please give thoughtful consideration to the views expressed.

This book will stick to the question at hand concerning extraterrestrial life. Areas that will not be addressed in any detail include; how the universe was created, the age of the universe and the Earth. This book will focus on the known facts about our universe and what the Bible reveals.

Information presented will be divided into two parts. In Part 1, we will consider facts about the known universe, space travel and UFOs. This is the side of the debate that considers life on other planets as a solid possibility or in other words, as an unconfirmed reality. Many believe it is just a matter of time before the existence of extraterrestrial life is proven scientifically.

Part 2 of the book is dedicated to presenting the Biblical position that intelligent life on other planets does not exist. I understand that some people try to use the Bible to prove the existence of UFOs, but their interpretation of isolated scriptures is not consistent with the message of the Bible. This part of the book will provide scriptural evidence that agrees with orthodox Christian teaching.

Absent in many of the discussions about extraterrestrial life is what the Bible has to say on the subject. Because of the media's emphasis in supporting the idea that life exists on other planets, I am compelled to write this book to present a Biblical position that does not endorse the accepted view that life exists throughout the universe.

What we will consider are two viewpoints, **human logic** (scientific reasoning) versus **God's Word** (the Bible).

PART 1: Human Logic

CHAPTER 1: Our Universe

Is there intelligent life on other planets? In order to address this question, we need to consider some facts about our universe. It is the size of the universe that leads astronomers, scientists and everyday people to assume that we are not alone and that there must be life on other planets. Later in this book I will address this question based on what God's Word, the Bible, says concerning this subject. Before we look into the Bible, we first need to gain an understanding of the size of the universe. I am in no way an expert in astronomy, but I can provide basic facts that everyone can understand.

Most scientists hold to the "big bang" theory of creation. According to this theory, the universe was created sometime between 10 billion and 20 billion years ago from a cosmic explosion, where matter that was in an enormously dense and hot state was hurled in all directions. As a result of this explosion the universe is continually expanding. This theory was developed by observations and theoretical considerations. There are other theories about the origination of the universe, but the big bang theory is the most widely accepted.

The Observable Universe

We see stars and galaxies because the light from these far ends of the universe has reached the Earth. In theory, much of the universe is not visible to us because light from those outer most regions of the cosmos has not had enough time to reach us. When we speak of the universe, the terms *known universe*, *observable universe*, or *visible universe* are often used. They describe the part of the universe that we are able to see. For the purposes of our discussions, when the term universe is used, we are speaking of the observable universe. The earth is in the center of the universe that we can observe.

Copernican Principle

The *Copernican Principle*, also known as the *Principle of Mediocrity*, is the mindset that many scientists use when considering the Earth and its relationship to the universe. This principle states that the Earth is not the physical center of the universe or the center of any other arrangement of heavenly bodies for that matter. According to this principle, the Earth is a mediocre planet, just one of a countless multitude that exists in the universe. The name of this principle comes from the astronomer Nicholas Copernicus (1473-1543) who stated that the Sun, and not the Earth, was the center of our Solar System. This went against the Earth-centered universe theory that was prevalent for nearly 2,000 years.

The idea behind the Copernican Principle is that there is nothing extraordinary or unique about the planet Earth. It is just one of the many countless planets that exist throughout the cosmos that can support life. Proponents of this viewpoint see the Earth as a mediocre planet, not possessing special value or qualities that would set it apart from other potential life sustaining planets. This is the guiding principle that leads many scientists to believe that we are not alone in the universe.

The Copernican Principle is in direct opposition to the Biblical teaching that human beings are the most significant entity in the universe. This anti-Christian bias becomes evident in some scientists' desire to demote the special status of the Earth as proclaimed by the Bible.

Size of the Universe

In considering the size of the universe, let's start with the Earth and work our way out. The planet **Earth** has a diameter at the equator of 7,926 miles or 12,756 kilometers. The distance of the circumference of the earth at the equator is 24,858 miles or 40,005 kilometers. About 71% of the surface of the earth is water leaving the remaining 29% as dry land. The age of the earth (as the scientists speculate) is about 4.5 billion years. As planets go, it is pretty small. This is the planet we call home. It is one of nine planets in our solar system.

The Earth is small in size when it is compared to the four large outer planets in the solar system. **Jupiter**, the largest planet, has a diameter of 88,736 miles (142,800 kilometers) across the equator. More than 1,000 Earths could fit inside it. It contains more matter than all of the other planets combined. In fact, all of the other planets in the solar system could fit within it. Jupiter has as many as 60 moons. Some suggest that several of the larger moons, Europa and Ganymede, could contain some form of life.

By comparison, the **Sun** is an average size star but it dwarfs our planet. You could fit more than 1 million earths inside it. It has a diameter of approximately 870,000 miles (1,390,000 km). The Sun presently is about 70% hydrogen, 28% helium and 2% other elements. It emits heat and light that are essential for life on earth. Without the Sun, the Earth would be a dark, cold, dead place. The Sun is the world's regulator. Its position in the sky determines the hours of the day and the seasons of the year.

The Sun and its system of nine planets make up what we call the Solar System. Pluto is the 9th planet and for most of the time; it is the furthest planet from the Sun. Because of the eccentricity of its orbit, it is closer to the Sun than Neptune for 20 years out of its 249 year orbit. To get an understanding of the size of the Solar System we need to determine how far Pluto is from the Sun. The mean distance from the Sun to Pluto is 3,666 million miles (5,900 million kilometers). That is over 3.6 billion miles. Earth on the other hand is 93 million miles from the Sun, so we can see that our Solar System extends out a large distance from the Sun. However, if these numbers seem very large, wait until we look at the distances to other stars and galaxies.

Before we start talking about other stars and galaxies, we need to use a different method in measuring these vast distances. Instead of using miles or kilometers, we need to start using a unit of measurement called a "**light year**." A light year represents the distance light travels in one year. Light travels in a vacuum at the speed of 186,282 miles (299,792,458 meters) per second. To extend this calculation out to a year's time, light would have traveled nearly 5.9 trillion miles.

Since we now know the speed of light, consider the following facts. Light would travel $7\frac{1}{2}$ times around the earth in one second. It takes light $1\frac{1}{2}$ seconds to travel from the Earth to the Moon, a distance of 240,000 miles. It takes 8.3 minutes for the light of the sun to reach us in traveling 93 million miles. Using this measuring unit, it takes light about $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours to travel 3.6 billion miles from the Sun to Pluto.

Once we leave our solar system, distances get very large. The nearest star to the Earth, Proxima Centauri is 4.22 light years away. To put this into perspective, if we used a grapefruit to represent our Sun and placed it in Washington D.C., Proxima Centauri would be a cherry in California. In using this illustration we can see that there is a lot of empty space between the stars.

Our galaxy, the Milky Way, is a spiral galaxy that contains over 100 billion stars and is 100,000 light years from end to end. Our solar system is located on the outer edge of the Milky Way and it is 27,700 light years from Earth to the center of the galaxy. The nearest galaxy to ours is a small galaxy called the Canis Major Dwarf Galaxy which is 25,000 light years from the Earth. Andromeda, a spiral galaxy much like our Milky Way, is 2.9 million light years away.

The diameter of the Universe has been estimated at 156 billion light years (or a radius of 78 billion light years) by astrophysicist Neil Cornish (Montana State University). The distance to the edge of the observable universe is 13.7 billion light years.

As you can see, this estimate includes much of the universe that is not visible to us on the Earth. The Hubble Space Telescope has identified about 10 billion galaxies in the observable universe. The number of stars in these billion and billions of galaxies is just simply staggering. It is this vast number of stars that leads scientists to believe that there has to be numerous planets in the universe that are earth-like and contain life. In our human reasoning, this makes logical sense. Until the 1990s the nine planets of our solar system were the only known planets. As of December 2005, 170 planets have been discovered outside our solar system. These newly discovered planets are called “extra solar planets.” Even though astronomers have discovered extra solar planets, many of them would not be considered earth-like.

In order for life to exist elsewhere in the universe that is similar to our own, there has to be earth-like planets. To be considered earth-like, they would have to be a rocky planet, not a gaseous planet like Jupiter and Saturn. These worlds must be close enough to their star that the temperatures would be high enough so that the planet would not be made of ice. Abundant supplies of water would have to be available, and the planet’s size large enough where its gravitational pull would hold an atmosphere. Gases such as oxygen, nitrogen and carbon dioxide have to be in the right proportions to sustain life. There are many factors such as these that are required for a planet to originate life similar to that which is on the Earth. With the number of stars being so large, human logic tells us there has to be a number of solar systems that could contain earth-like planets. This is why many believe that we are not alone in the universe.

How many earth-like planets are there? As of December 2005, 146 planetary systems have been discovered, but astronomers have found mostly the giant gaseous sized planets. A relatively new planet hunting technique called, “gravitational micro-lensing,” has given astronomers the ability to discover distant rocky planets that could support life. Many researchers believe that the rocky planets may be more common than the giant gaseous planets. There is also the possibility of Earth-sized moons orbiting the Jupiter-like planets that could sustain life. Some believe that half of these moons may have earth-like conditions.

Forms of Life

The basic building block for life forms on the Earth is the element carbon with water as the solution where bio-chemical reactions take place. I’m no biologist, but wherever you find water

you can also expect to find life. I have traveled in the desert areas of the Southwestern United States and there are places where you can hardly see any evidence of life at all. The land looks like the surface of the moon. Without water, you will not see much wildlife or green plant life. If we ever find another planet that contains water, then there is a real possibility that life can exist. In the search for earth-like planets in our galaxy, scientists are seeking conditions that would be favorable to carbon-based life.

It is possible that life could be built on other elements. Silicon-based life and ammonia-based life are the two that are regarded as the best possibilities that could allow the necessary chemical processes to support life. Most scientists agree that silicon-based life is not probable. Astronomers have failed to find evidence of the most simple building blocks for silicon-based biochemistry, however, complex carbon based compounds are abundant in space. Ammonia-based life is possible since ammonia can support numerous chemical reactions, and it has some similarities with water. There are problems with ammonia that have mainstream scientists uncertain as to its ability to support life.

Most experts say that, if extraterrestrial life exists, it has evolved independently in different parts of the universe. Another minority view is that life may have spread throughout the universe by a single distribution of spores which could have allowed for life to develop.

Space Travel

If the Earth is being visited by extraterrestrial spacecraft, how far must they travel? With the distances between stars being so vast, how long would it take for a spacecraft to reach the Earth? We are going to take a look at some calculations of how far and how much time it would take for inter-stellar travel.

It has been pointed out that the speed of light is 186,282 miles per second. Our spacecraft today by comparison travels at much slower speeds. For a spacecraft to orbit the Earth, it must travel about 17,500 miles per hour. When U.S. astronauts traveled to the moon, they had to reach a speed of approximately 25,000 miles per hour in order to escape the earth's gravitational pull. The fastest any man made satellite has traveled is about 158,000 miles per hour. In the calculations that will be presented, I will use 150,000 miles per hour as the speed for conventional spacecraft (these speeds can be achieved by taking advantage of a gravitational slingshot effect from a large planet like Jupiter) and the speed of light for a hypothetical spacecraft. As you will see, even if a spacecraft could reach the speed of light, the amount of time required to travel between the stars will show it is unlikely that the Earth is being visited by extraterrestrial spacecraft.

Proxima Centauri is the nearest star to our sun. Let's consider the time required to travel the 4.2 light years to reach it. At conventional speeds of 150,000 miles per hour, it would take 17,856 years. If we were to send astronauts to our nearest star to search for extraterrestrial life, seventeen thousand years travel time makes it virtually impossible. If we had the technology to build a spacecraft that could travel at the speed of light, which is impossible according to Einstein's theory of relativity, it would take 4.2 years to reach Proxima Centauri. This sounds a lot better, but we are only talking about reaching the nearest star.

If there are earth-like planets in our galaxy, we may have to travel much longer distances to reach them or for them to reach us. For example, if earth-like planets existed near the center of

our galaxy, they would be nearly 28,000 light years away. That is extremely far in terms of light years. At conventional spacecraft speeds, we are talking nearly 125 million years to reach the center of our galaxy. When we start speaking of distances like these traveling at the speed of light, the possibility of us finding extraterrestrial life, or for them finding us is virtually impossible. If we consider other galaxies, we are looking at distances in the millions of light years.

In order to find intelligent life in the universe, there would have to be a way to overcome the time and distance factor. It can be argued that life on another planet could be a million years ahead of us in technology. If this were the case, they may have discovered a way to travel to the ends of the universe in a fraction of the time that we are considering. The United States' manned space program began in the early 1960s. We have only advanced approximately 50 years in space technology. What if another world has progressed thousands of years in technology? Could they have solved the problems of traveling these vast distances?

Wormholes

Traveling vast distances across the universe in a shortened time span could be accomplished by traveling through a wormhole. A **wormhole**, also known as an Einstein-Rosen bridge, is basically a shortcut between time and space. For example, if the skin of an apple represented the universe, to travel from one side to the other, you must travel over the surface or half the circumference of the apple. A worm could take a shortcut by burrowing through the apple to the other side. This is the basic idea of a wormhole. They exist only in theory, but if an advanced technology could utilize wormholes in space travel, this would be one way of overcoming the problem in traveling over the vast distances of the universe.

There are those who believe that wormholes also could allow for time travel. If this is possible, the time required to travel the vast distances across the universe would no longer be a factor or an obstacle in space travel.

The idea of wormholes sounds like science-fiction, but for a highly advanced civilization, it could be a scientific fact. Due to the vast distances between stars and galaxies, unlocking the secret of wormholes may be the only feasible way, as far as we can understand, of overcoming the time-distance factor in space travel.

The Search for Intelligent Life

In searching for intelligent life in the universe, scientists have used telescopes located on the Earth and satellites that have been put into outer space that have landed on planets such as Mars and photographed the distant planets as they have flown by. The Hubble telescope that has been put into Earth's orbit has allowed us to look into deep space as never before. These have helped us gain a better understanding of our universe, but they are not the most effective means of detecting life on other planets. Probably the best method to detect intelligent life in the cosmos is by the use of radio telescopes.

Radio astronomy is the study of radio electromagnetic waves emitted by astronomical objects. Visible light only represents part of the spectrum of electromagnetic waves. Radio waves produce electromagnetic waves of a much greater wavelength than those of light. The fact that stars and planets emit radio waves was not discovered until 1932, and the first radio telescope

was made several years later. Since then astronomers have developed ways to produce photographs based on these radio waves. Much information about our universe has been learned from radio astronomy, and it is used in the search for extraterrestrial life.

In America, the first project organized for the search of extraterrestrial life began in 1960. The former Soviet Union began their project in 1970. Projects being conducted in the search for intelligent life in the universe have been classified under the term Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence or SETI.

The SETI Institute is a private nonprofit organization established in 1984 that seeks to explore, understand and explain the origin, nature and prevalence of life in the universe. Dr. Frank Drake is currently the Chairman of the Board of the SETI institute. While working as a radio astronomer in 1961 he developed a formula called the Drake Equation for estimating the number of technological civilizations that may exist in our Milky Way galaxy. A number of government and private companies have provided funding for SETI's research. SETI has predicted that we will detect an extraterrestrial transmission within the next twenty years. This shows that the search for life in the universe is taken very seriously.

If radio telescopes were to convert the electromagnetic emissions it receives into sound waves, the sound would be "white noise" or a random hiss. This is what is detected from the electromagnetic waves produced by stars, planets, radio galaxies, quasars and pulsars.

Radio telescopes are also being used to detect radio signals from some distant civilizations. For example, here on Earth all the television and radio waves created from our communications travel out into space. If you were on a distant planet, you would be able to detect these waves on a radio telescope. Just as extraterrestrials could pick up these signals coming from Earth, we in turn could pick up these signals coming from some distant part of our galaxy. Scientists and astronomers are listening for something beyond this white noise sound that would indicate a transmission of some kind. It may just be a bleep, but it would give evidence of something being out there. It is through these radio waves we could get the attention of intelligent life from another planet, or we can obtain evidence from their signal that they are out there. If these radio telescopes ever detect a signal, it would be the greatest discovery in the history of the world.

I see a problem for extraterrestrials intercepting signals from Earth that would prompt them to visit our planet. David E. Hughes was the first ever to transmit and receive radio signals in 1878. The first public demonstration of radio communication was in 1893. Early use of radio was for sending telegraphic messages using Morse code between ships and land. It wasn't until December 24, 1906 that the first transmission of a radio audio broadcast took place from Brant Rock, Massachusetts. The first news radio program was broadcast on August 20, 1920 by a station in Detroit, Michigan, and the first entertainment radio broadcast took place in 1922. Radio broadcasting did not become widespread until the 1920s and 1930s. This means that radio waves emitted from the Earth have been traveling through space for less than 100 years. In light of the vast distances between stars and galaxies, 100 years of time is not nearly enough time for our radio waves to reach possible earth-like planets so they can discover us. On the other hand, we can detect electromagnetic waves that have been traveling for millions of years. It would seem to me that it would be easier for us to detect them than for them to detect us.

It is interesting that in the approximately fifty years of radio astronomy, no signal has been detected that could be classified as evidence of originating from intelligent life. I looked for

some articles that could shed some light on how this search is being conducted and I found an interesting article from the BBC News.

In a 3/25/2004 article Dr. David Whitehouse, online science editor for the BBC states that the “radio search for ET draws a blank.” Since the best way to find extraterrestrial life is by looking for radio signals, Project Phoenix began in 1995 to look for extraterrestrial life. For most of the last 10 years, the 330 meter dish at Arecibo in Puerto Rico, the world’s largest radio telescope, was used to look at 800 nearby stars. This was the most powerful search ever conducted for extraterrestrial life. This search was done over billions of frequency channels at high sensitivity. No other searches have ever been done that covered so many frequencies. Over the 10 years of this project no signals have been detected that would indicate they were originated by intelligent beings. The article quotes Peter Backus of the SETI Institute with this statement, “*Conclusion: we live in a quiet neighborhood.*” Even with this setback, scientists are not giving up. They are still hopeful that eventually a signal will be detected.

Even though signals have not been detected from some distant intelligent civilization, SETI researches are not discouraged. They feel that the search has just begun. Only a small portion of space has been searched. There are so many stars out there we will never be able to adequately search them all. It may be true that we haven’t found the proper frequency in which to detect the signals. It must be said that even though we cannot decipher any signals, this doesn’t disprove the existence of intelligent life somewhere in the cosmos. It just means we have not been able to receive any signals.

In 1997 scientists were excited over a potato sized meteorite found in Antarctica. They believe that the rock was blasted away from Mars due to an asteroid or comet impact. After flying through space it eventually fell to the Earth approximately 13,000 years ago. Some scientists believe that the Mars rock contains evidence that life existed on the red planet. NASA scientists say the rock contains greasy compounds which they claim is the residue of life. Others dispute this claim by saying the organic matter found on the meteorite came from earthly contamination. At this point in time, the Mars rock has not been accepted as evidence that life once existed on Mars. Possible future missions to Mars or the moons of Jupiter and Saturn may turn up some form of evidence of life.

The Vision for Space Exploration

In January 2004 President George W. Bush gave a speech that outlined his vision for America’s exploration of space. The President’s objectives include the completion of the work on the International Space Station by 2010, development of a new manned exploration vehicle to explore beyond the Earth to other worlds, a return of a human presence on the Moon, and manned missions to Mars. He also stated that advancements in space technology benefits our lives in the areas of communication, weather forecasting, electronics, medical equipment and many other areas.

A plan has been developed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) that outlines a “building block” strategy for the exploration of space over the next three decades. NASA’s vision includes robotic and human missions to the moon and the planet Mars as well as probes to Jupiter’s moons and the other outer planets. Part of this plan includes the launching of space telescopes to search for planets beyond our solar system. These new space telescopes,

utilizing new technology and techniques will be able to search for earth-like planets in a much greater capacity that is currently being done with the Hubble telescope.

One of these projects, the Kepler Mission, will put a telescope in orbit by 2008 that will be able to detect earth-like planets that could harbor life. The Kepler telescope will detect planets by measuring the small changes in the brightness of their parent star. The light from the star will dim or blink as the orbit of a small rocky (or terrestrial) planet crosses the line-of-sight between its parent star the telescope. Scientists can determine the planet's size and orbit when they observe three cycles (or orbits) of this pattern. Using data obtained by the Kepler telescope, a determination can be made if the planet is within the habitable zone (or the distance from the star where earth-like conditions may exist) that could support life. Kepler will be able to monitor many thousands of stars simultaneously and view a much larger area than ever before.

Another key step in the search for earth-like planets will be the launching of the Terrestrial Planet Finder (TPF) around the year 2015. The TPF's are two observatories that will work together to study aspects of other planets outside our solar system. They will analyze the reflected and thermally emitted light from terrestrial planets to determine if they can harbor life. The idea behind this analysis is that the basic forms of life on a planet have an effect on its atmosphere. The evidence for life would be recognizable in the spectrum of light reflected from the planet which is called its biosignature. Studying a planet's biosignature will enable scientists to identify if the necessary elements are present to support life.

In this new wave of space exploration scientists expect to discover many of the rocky type of planets that could support life that have not been detected up to this point. If their expectations hold true, the possibility of detecting life will be greatly multiplied. However, as we are able to look deeper into the universe, new things are discovered that were never expected. It is an exciting time for scientists in this new era of discovery.

CHAPTER 2: Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO)

When there is talk about extraterrestrial life, there will also be talk concerning UFOs. *Wikipedia Free Encyclopedia* defines them as “any airborne object or optical phenomenon detected visually or by radar whose nature is not readily known.” UFOs have been reported through history going back to ancient times. The term “**flying saucer**” was coined back in 1947 when Kenneth Arnold reported seeing nine objects in the sky near Mount Rainier, Washington. He described their movements as being like a saucer skipping over water. Those who do not believe that UFOs are alien spacecraft will argue that the term “UFO” simply means that the object was unidentified after all investigative efforts have been made. Just because an object could not be identified or explained, doesn’t mean that the UFO was extraterrestrial.

Because of the intense interest in UFOs, mostly by amateur and some professional scientific researchers, a new field of study has come into being. The term “**ufology**” was coined for this field and is defined as the study of unidentified flying objects and the evidence used to support their existence. So, anyone who conducts research of UFOs would be called an ufologist.

Explanations for UFOs

Probably the most famous report concerning UFOs is the events that took place in 1947 at Roswell, New Mexico. It is reported that an alien spacecraft crashed near Roswell and that several alien bodies were discovered. When the incident was reported to local authorities, military people arrived and took the debris to the Roswell Army Airfield. Later, some of the debris was flown to Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. The Air Force, in a press release, stated that the wreckage recovered was that of a weather balloon. Some claimed that there was a government cover-up to hide the truth concerning the alien craft. This book will not go into the details of the Roswell incident. There are a number of books and television programs that have covered this subject. I am only mentioning it because it is one of the most talked about events surrounding UFOs. Many people take this seriously and they sincerely believe that this was an extraterrestrial spacecraft.

Some believe that material recovered at Roswell is being held at a location called Area 51. This is a tract of land located in southern Nevada where an airfield exists that was used for the secret development and testing of American military aircraft. The U.S. government does not acknowledge or deny the existence of this facility. Due to the secretive nature of the work being done in Area 51, it has become the subject of many UFO conspiracy theories. Some of the activities that ufologists claim are taking place there include research of a crashed alien spacecraft, study of its occupants both living and dead, meetings with extraterrestrials, and the manufacturing of aircraft based on this discovered alien technology. A section of Nevada State Route 375, that runs by the base, was officially renamed the Extraterrestrial Highway because of the folklore concerning the base.

Of all the reported UFOs, about 10-20% cannot be explained. For the sightings that cannot be identified, people rush to the conclusion that these must be alien spacecraft. The main point I want to make in regards to UFOs is that people should not automatically assume these are from other worlds. There could be other explanations that people do not want to consider. I cannot provide an answer as to what these unexplained UFOs sightings are, but I can rule out one of the

possibilities. Since I am writing from a Christian point-of-view, I will provide evidence from the Bible that will challenge the assertion that UFOs are proof of extraterrestrial life.

Let me point out that just because we see something, it does not mean that it is true. Sometimes our senses can play tricks on us. The way we perceive things around us can be influenced by a number of factors. A person's life experiences, their mental condition, drugs, alcohol, educational and religious background will have an effect on how we perceive things through our five senses. You have probably heard of optical illusions. This is when our eyes can play tricks on us making us think we are seeing something that is really not there. Because of the various factors that can influence our senses, we cannot always rely on them in trying to interpret what we experience.

In a court room setting, eyewitness accounts are one of the highest forms of evidence. However, visual evidence is the lowest form of scientific evidence. In a court room, several people may witness a crime, but when they each testify, there will be differences in their version of what they saw. Science needs physical evidence because people do not always agree when they give accounts of what they see. Mainstream science believes that life has to exist elsewhere in the universe; they just cannot accept the UFO claims as valid evidence of extraterrestrial life. For this reason, this is why radio astronomy is being used by scientists to find evidence of intelligent life. Why would we go to all the expense of building these arrays of radio telescopes if we already had the evidence needed to prove extraterrestrial life's existence?

I am not trying to label people who see UFOs as crazy or mentally unstable. I am just pointing out there can be other explanations that can affect how they interpret what they see and hear. I am taking the position that the Bible provides us with the truth; therefore, information taken from it should be the proof of what is really out there. Once we gain an understanding of the message of the Bible, we can better interpret the meaning behind UFOs and extraterrestrial life. Many have accepted unexplained UFOs reports as evidence of extraterrestrial life and then attempt to prove their existence with the Bible. One should accept the evidence of scripture without the preconceived idea that UFOs are real before addressing the question concerning life on other planets.

A few of the more popular hypotheses for explaining UFOs are:

The Extraterrestrial Visitation Hypothesis: This hypothesis states that UFO reports are explained as being intelligent life traveling in extraterrestrial spacecraft from another planet. Individuals who claim that they have been abducted by an UFO will of course accept this hypothesis. Most scientists do not support this view because they claim that there is just not enough evidence to prove this hypothesis. Critics also state that the vast distances these spacecrafts must travel in order to reach the Earth makes this theory unrealistic. Supporters of this view argue that critics are biased, that they are not adequately informed with available UFO evidence, and that there is a cover up of the evidence. Supporters also say that the alien technology can be so far advanced that we just are not able to understand it.

The Paranormal/Occult Hypothesis: A form of mysticism that is associated with paranormal events which has given rise to UFO religions. This view explains UFOs as supernatural, being beyond the physical universe transcending the laws of nature. One example of this hypothesis is the miracle at Fatima where three shepherd children had visions of the Virgin Mary and witnesses observed strange aerial phenomena in 1917. Some claim that UFOs had major

influences on certain ancient religions. Items found in Aztec, Inca and Egyptian temples are reported to be the same as actual flying objects and were accepted as signs of gods. They believe aliens (gods) landed on the Earth and impacted the birth of civilizations. Another example of the Paranormal/Occult Hypothesis explains UFOs as manifestations of the human soul. The round saucer shapes seen in some religious images are a projection of the internal desires of the viewers who see them. This hypotheses has little scientific support but has had an influence on popular culture.

The Inter-dimensional Hypothesis: This hypothesis explains UFOs as a manifestation of demonic spirits that have appeared throughout human history. The demonic spirits deceive the observer causing them to come to the conclusion they are seeing something that goes beyond our current technology. This theory is not widely accepted by mainstream science or those who believe UFOs are spacecraft from other planets. Our secular society scoffs at spiritual things such as demonic spirits, but this could be an explanation for unexplained UFO sightings. Satan is the commander of the forces of evil that is out to deceive the human race into believing a lie. The Bible says, “*And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.*” (2 Corinthians 11:14) If Satan has this power, he can use it to deceive people into believing they are seeing alien spacecraft. This may seem far fetched to many, including some Christians, but this may be an answer for some of the unexplained UFO sightings.

The Psychological-Social Hypothesis: This hypothesis explains UFOs through psychological or social means. The UFO phenomenon is explained as being the result of misinterpretation, perceptual illusions, fantasy-prone personalities, hallucinations, hoaxes, and just wishful thinking.

Other Miscellaneous Explanations: Some have explained UFOs as being top secret governmental aircraft, swamp gas, ball-lightening, and weather balloons.

Alien Abductions

Whenever there is talk about UFOs, the subject of alien abductions will come up. An *alien abduction* is a phenomenon where a person claims that an extraterrestrial kidnaps them and runs a series of medical experiments on them or uses them for sexual reproduction procedures.

There are common elements in the stories people tell concerning these abduction experiences. The aliens are usually tall with big heads, having large eyes and are green in color from head to toe or they may be some other color. The extraterrestrials strap the human subject to a table and conduct various medical experiments, often by invisible means. The subjects experience a feeling of paralysis, loss of memory, being in a state of altered consciousness and do not sense any extreme pain even though they are being probed or implanted. The aliens communicate by means of mental telepathy. The victims have an understanding that the aliens mean them no harm.

The only reason I bring up this topic is that an entire subculture has sprung up from this ideology. These reported abductions are usually connected closely to UFOs. People who report being abducted seem to be well adjusted individuals who give sincere accounts of what happened to them. There are a variety of explanations of what happened to these people. The most obvious explanation is the one given by those who had the experience, that they were literally abducted by extraterrestrials. Other explanations for alien abductions could be attributed to

hallucinations, temporary schizophrenia, and parasomnia (near sleep mental states). There is even a connection between alien abduction and satanic ritual abuse. Those who believe that these abductions actually took place will say that there is a cover-up to hide the truth from the public.

Another possible explanation could be that people are remembering a surgical operation that they have had. There are many similarities between abduction reports and experiences from medical procedures that leads one to believe there has to be a connection. The altered state of consciousness is comparable to anesthesia. The green colored bodies correspond to the surgical scrubs that the doctors wear in an operating room. The eyes being the main feature of the face could be a result from the doctors wearing masks covering their nose and mouth. The sense of a loss of control, being strapped to a table, and the relieving of pain are also experiences that occur during an operation. The perception of being in a high tech spacecraft compares to the equipment and bright overhead lights in an operating room.

Again, I bring this up to point out that there are valid explanations for these experiences. Regardless of how real these abductions seem, mainstream science does not accept this phenomenon as literal abductions by alien beings. There are more credible arguments for extraterrestrial life than the alien abduction phenomenon.

Crop Circles

Individuals who believe that UFOs are of an extraterrestrial origin will claim that crop circles are caused by alien spacecraft. Crop circles are made in farmers' fields by the flattening of the crop into geometric designs. They are undetectable from the ground and can only be seen from the air. They range from simple circles to complex geometric designs. Crop circles first gained public attention in England in the 1970s and since then have been reported throughout the world.

The most popular belief is that crop circles are caused by flying saucers landing in fields. Mainstream science has concluded that they are solely the work of people playing pranks. Certain individuals have come forward and admitted to creating the circles. Crop circles are just another example of people trying to find evidence that would support the existence of UFOs. I believe that it is an established fact that crop circles are man-made and cannot be cited as one of the proofs for extraterrestrial life. I have briefly mentioned them because of the UFO/crop circle connection.

CHAPTER 3: The Bible and UFOs

I watched a program recently on the History Channel that was named “UFOs in the Bible.” The program claims that the Biblical record contains evidence of the existence of UFOs and that they played a part of the history of God’s people. I feel it is important to present these views, even though they go outside the realm of traditional Biblical teaching, because many people may accept these as valid interpretations of scripture. I will present some examples given in the program that were used as evidence for UFOs in order to show how some people have used the Bible to support these beliefs.

It needs to be said that there are those who claim that this program was completely one sided and that it edited out the Christian expert responses to the questions asked. The problem is many people will accept the information presented in the program as fact. This distortion of the Bible can affect those who are trying to understand the Bible correctly.

It is said that religious beliefs concerning UFOs are found in different cultures. Objects that appear to be UFOs are painted on Egyptian walls and tombs. Thousands of years ago people in Peru made perfect lines in the ground that appear to be runways, drawings of insects, animals, and a man in a space suit. Some say that the Mayans received ancient knowledge from the gods in the sky. Similar stories are found in the Native American Indians, South America, the Orient, and India. The theme throughout is that gods came from the sky and gave technology to the human race. UFOs have been around for centuries and have shaped our development.

There are ufologists who claim that alien beings gave us the Bible. They believe that an alien intelligence with technology so advanced that it has overcome the barriers of time and space had looked into Earth’s future and incorporated it into the Bible. They use certain Biblical events to illustrate they are references to UFOs. Examples of these events are given in order to illustrate where they are obtaining this information in the Bible. The Biblical pattern is that an object shows up in the sky, and a voice comes from it.

Moses and the Exodus

The first example we will look at centers on Moses and the exodus of the Hebrew people from Egypt. The Bible says, “*And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night. He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night from before the people.*” (Exodus 13:21-22) Some claim that the pillar of fire/cloud, which seemed to hover for weeks and months at a time, was an UFO that led Moses during the Hebrew’s wanderings in the wilderness. They state that this was clearly an object in the sky that was in voice communication with Moses and that they were, in essence, playing a game of following the leader.

Some believe that this UFO hovered over the Red Sea and caused it to part as a result of its propulsion system pushing the waters aside. The scripture says, “*Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.*” (Exodus 14:21) As the people

traveled, Exodus Chapter 16 records that God gave them bread (manna) from heaven to eat. Of course, these ufologists say that the UFO provided the manna.

Another example from the exodus is where Moses went up Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments. The smoke, mountain quaking, and the thunder and lightning as described in the scripture, they claim, is evidence that the UFO landed on Mount Sinai. Inside the UFO he received the Law that became the moral framework for their society. The scripture they reference reads as follows, *“Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled. And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. And when the blast of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice. Then the LORD came down upon Mount Sinai, on the top of the mountain. And the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.”* (Exodus 19:16-20) Since the people had no understanding of spacecraft, Moses explained it using terms they understood.

Elijah and the Chariots of Fire

In the Bible the prophet Elijah was carried up into heaven on a chariot of fire. The scripture says, *“And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you? Elisha said, Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me. So he said, You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so. Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.”* (2 Kings 2:9-11) Some UFO advocates say that this was an alien abduction.

Back in Biblical times the closest thing a UFO could be compared to was a chariot. Some believe that the traditional interpretation of the Bible is hampered because of the ancient’s lack of technical references. They also claim there are inaccuracies of the Bible’s translation into English. For example, when the scripture says Elijah was taken up into heaven, they claim this is not heaven as defined as the place you go after death. They claim the word “heaven” more accurately should have been translated into the English word “sky.” This totally changes the meaning of the passage. Instead of Elijah going to be with God in heaven, he was taken up into the sky by a UFO. This would place this event as an example of an alien abduction.

Transfiguration of Jesus

In the New Testament Peter, James, and John witnessed Jesus’ transfiguration. Appearing with Jesus were Moses and Elijah who in the Old Testament were abducted by alien spacecraft. The Bible says, *“Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and led them up on a high mountain apart by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them. And Elijah appeared to them with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.”* (Mark 9:2-4) It is interesting that it was Moses and Elijah who were present with Jesus at His transfiguration. This was cited as another example of UFOs in the Bible.

Ezekiel's Vision of God

The scriptural account of what Ezekiel saw is one of the strangest in the Bible. The Bible gives Ezekiel's vision of God as follows, *"Then I looked, and behold, a whirlwind was coming out of the north, a great cloud with raging fire engulfing itself; and brightness was all around it and radiating out of its midst like the color of amber, out of the midst of the fire. Also from within it came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance: they had the likeness of a man. Each one had four faces, and each one had four wings. Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the soles of calves' feet. They sparkled like the color of burnished bronze. The hands of a man were under their wings on their four sides; and each of the four had faces and wings. Their wings touched one another. The creatures did not turn when they went, but each one went straight forward."* (Ezekiel 1:4-9) *"Now as I looked at the living creatures, behold, a wheel was on the earth beside each living creature with its four faces. The appearance of the wheels and their workings was like the color of beryl, and all four had the same likeness. The appearance of their workings was, as it were, a wheel in the middle of a wheel."* (Ezekiel 1:15-16)

This portion of scripture is one of the most widely studied passages by ufologists. They claim this is clearly a Biblical alien encounter. Ezekiel thought he had an encounter with God. According to ufologists, what he described was a flying saucer, a spinning, glowing metallic object that landed in front of him. His explanation of it as "a wheel in the middle of a wheel," illustrates his difficulty in describing what he saw. The ufologists who support this view stated that this was a mechanical device, a true high tech reality.

I found it interesting that they called what Ezekiel saw a mechanical device. Consider the following verse found later in the book of Ezekiel, *"This is the living creature I saw under the God of Israel by the River Chebar, and I knew they were cherubim."* (Ezekiel 10:20) This scripture says that what he saw were "living creatures," which he called "cherubim." Cherubim are defined as heavenly beings, or angelic beings. They symbolize glorified saints and angels who serve God day and night. They are mentioned in various places in the Bible. The Bible says they are living creatures and not mechanical devices. If these were truly UFOs, why would these aliens have Ezekiel write later in the book that these flying devices were living creatures? The scripture contradicts the claims made concerning the verses quoted in chapter one.

Other Examples

Without going into any detail, let me mention several other examples of UFOs in the Bible as given in the program aired by the History Channel.

They claim that the destruction of the cities Sodom and Gomorrah was done by extraterrestrials using nuclear weapons. The passage reads, *"Then the LORD rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the LORD out of the heavens. So He overthrew those cities, all the plain, all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground."* (Genesis 19:24-25)

Some ufologists think that angels and UFOs are one and the same. Angels were present at some of the most significant events recorded in the Bible. Angels visited Abraham and told him that he and his wife Sarah would conceive a child in their old age. Sarah laughed in her heart and the angels knew it. Since they could read her mind, ufologists say that these aliens demonstrated

their telepathic powers which are a common trait attributed to extraterrestrials. Also, alien abductions seem to be interested in the human reproduction process.

In the Book of Acts Peter was delivered from jail by an angel that exhibited mysterious abilities. The angel could apparently walk through walls, have the chains drop off of Peter, and the prison gate open on its own accord. Again, modern UFO cases report that aliens have abilities such as these.

On the topic of the Bible and UFOs, those who view the events I have mentioned as evidence of alien interaction with the Jewish people have literally taken every miraculous event from the Bible and attributed it to aliens. Those who hold this view have taken a blasphemous position against God.

As a final comment regarding UFOs let me say this. For UFOs to have been visiting Earth throughout human history, they would have had to detect that life existed here. The Earth is a very small speck when compared to the universe. How would they even notice that we were here? As I stated earlier, the best way for them to detect us is by intercepting our radio and television signals. The fact is these waves have only been transmitted from the Earth for about 100 years. How could extraterrestrials find us thousands of years ago in such an enormous universe when there were no signals coming from Earth to alert them as to our whereabouts? If they didn't detect our signals, then they would have had to find us by searching for possible planets they felt could support life. Due to the vast size of the universe, for alien intelligence to find us without the aid of radio astronomy would be a Herculean task.

CHAPTER 4: Conclusions from Part 1

You may be wondering, a Christian book would not normally go into all this detail before getting into the Bible itself. It was my intent to supply the reader with valid scientific information and credible theories that can be used to support the existence of extraterrestrial life. This is the information you will hear when the subject of extraterrestrial life comes up. This information was also presented to show that it can be used to both support and reject the existence of life on other planets. People use this information depending on where they stand on this issue.

I would probably be a believer in extraterrestrial life if I was not a Christian. The reason is the size of the universe and the number of possible earth-like planets makes a lot of sense that life has to exist somewhere. But that is thinking based on scientific logic. When I became a Christian and starting studying the Bible, I began to see things differently. I am saying, that if you believe we are alone, then you will have to answer those who question your reasoning when they bring up the kind of information that has been presented. This is why I have included Part 1 in this book. This way you can know both sides of the argument.

With all the information given so far in this book, we can come to the following conclusions. First, based on the immensity of the universe, human logic tells us that life must exist on other planets. The laws of probability tell us that there has to be worlds that contain some form of life. This extraterrestrial life, in many cases, will include intelligent life, and this life may be thousands of years ahead of us in technology. With this advanced technology, they may have overcome the vast distances and the time required in traveling those distances for inter-stellar flight.

Secondly, many believe that the unexplained UFO sightings are evidence of extraterrestrial life. They claim that the Earth is being visited by these advanced civilizations, and throughout human history there is evidence found in art and literature that proves their existence. Supporters of this position even say that there is evidence in the Bible that can only be explained as spacecraft from other worlds.

Finally, life may exist elsewhere that is totally different from our own. Life on our planet is carbon-based life. Life in the cosmos may also be based on other elements such as ammonia or silicon, or even another substance that we know nothing about.

Conclusions such as these are based entirely on *human logic* because we do not have the physical evidence needed by science to prove that life exists in other parts of the universe. The remainder of this book will now shift from using human logic to considering what the Word of God, the Bible, says concerning extraterrestrial life. I am supporting the position that the Bible overrides human logic. Information contained in the Bible represents the absolute truth because it is the words of the Creator Himself. We need to give heed to what God says and accept it as the final word on the subject.

The Bible says, “*Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, But the LORD weighs the hearts.*” (Proverbs 21:2) In other words, a person believes what they say is correct. We hear scientists say that life on other planets has to exist. Since they are considered experts, people accept their statements as fact. The Bible says that man’s intelligence is far below God’s intelligence. The

difference between what a person knows and what God knows is so great, it goes beyond what we could ever imagine. The Bible says, *“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.”* (Isaiah 55:9) I am taking the position that what the Bible says trumps what the experts say. Allowing God to have His say on the question of life on other planets is the reason for this book.

As I have reported, there are people who use passages from the Bible in order to prove the existence of UFOs. I am going to show that these are incorrect interpretations of scripture. It's easy to pull scriptures from their proper setting and attempt to make them say what you want. Whenever you use different passages to prove a point or to establish a teaching, they must be in line with the entire message of the Bible. If you use a particular portion of scripture to prove a point, there should not be any other passages that contradict your viewpoint. If you are interpreting scripture correctly, then everything will come into agreement. I will show that the interpretation of certain scriptures as giving evidence of UFOs or extraterrestrial life is not consistent with the message of the Bible.

Now it is time to look into the Bible and hear God's side of the story.

PART 2: God's Word

CHAPTER 5: The Superiority of God

Are we alone in the universe? The Bible does not contain a direct statement that would either confirm or deny that extraterrestrial life exists, but the Bible indirectly gives us evidence to prove that the earth is unique and holds center stage in God's creation. Even though we cannot look to a single verse that will clearly address the existence of extraterrestrial life, we can refer to scriptures and when analyzed collectively, come up with the answer to our question.

In the first part of this book we considered the prospect of extraterrestrial life from the vantage point of human logic. The conclusions drawn were based on human intellect and the knowledge gained through scientific research and investigation. Even though there are some very intelligent people, human intelligence cannot begin to be compared to God's intelligence.

The Bible says, *"Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!"* (Romans 11:33) God's wisdom and knowledge goes beyond the ability of the human mind to comprehend. There are things God does that we will never be able to explain. As the Bible said, they are past finding out or beyond our ability to trace it out. This holds true for creation.

The Bible says, *"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."* (Genesis 1:1) God spoke the universe into existence. It was the creative effect of His words that made something out of nothing. We look into outer space, and based on what is visible we try to explain how the universe was formed. The Bible tells us however, *"By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible."* (Hebrews 11:3) In other words, God created the stars and galaxies that we see from things that you cannot see. God created the universe with His Words. You cannot see words, can you? We need to give heed to what the Word of God says about creation. Many Christians believe that God could have created the universe by starting with a big bang. Regardless of how the creation event took place, it needs to be emphasized that creation was not an accident; it was an act of God. Scientists think they have things figured out, but God's ways are past finding out. It is God's superiority over man that makes His Word, the Bible, the key resource in answering the question about extraterrestrial life.

At the end of Chapter 4 it was pointed out with scripture that God's ways and thoughts are higher than our ways and thoughts (see Isaiah 55:9). You may choose to accept what the scientists say over what the Bible says, and if you do, you are rejecting God's superiority over man. You may not understand everything the Bible says, but it is the truth all the same. As we explore the scriptures, please remember who is doing the speaking and the weight God's words carry as we continue our study. We should have the mindset that God knows more about this subject than we do.

If we listen to the scientists, they will say the Earth is a tiny speck located on the edge of a single galaxy that is one of the 10 billion galaxies in the universe. Due to the vast size of the universe they believe that there must be millions of planets with intelligent life. In this way of thinking our planet is seen as insignificant (*Copernican Principle*) when compared to the grand scale of the universe. If we think of ourselves as insignificant, then we may have the idea that we are not important to God. In my opinion, that is the danger in the belief of extraterrestrial life. You may

say that it is foolish and makes no sense to believe that in all the immensity of the universe, there is no other planet with intelligent life other than our own. That's your human logic speaking, but I will show that God had a divine purpose in mind when He created the universe on such a grand scale. Consider what the Bible says concerning man's wisdom, *"For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God."* (1 Corinthians 3:19a)

The belief in extraterrestrial life also carries with it the idea that they are far more advanced than we are in technology. Some even say that they may be immortal and have discovered the secret in eliminating the aging process. Many look to alien beings as having the answers to all the problems that we have here on the Earth. They see alien life as a savior for the human race. This thinking runs contrary to the Word of God. The Bible says, *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."* (John 3:16) The Bible says Jesus Christ is the Savior and that eternal life is through Him. Salvation comes from God and not from extraterrestrials.

God spoke the universe into existence. The Word of God tells us that He created the sun, moon and stars on the fourth day. The Bible says, *"Then God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth; and it was so. Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also. God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. So the evening and the morning were the fourth day."* (Genesis 1:14-19) Notice that the Bible says God "set" the sun, moon, and stars in the heavens. The word "set" comes from a Hebrew word that means appoint, assign, and to put. God literally set or placed the stars in their positions in space. If the universe was created from some gigantic explosion that hurled matter in all directions, God orchestrated it so the stars and galaxies would be precisely where they are for the existence of life on the Earth. There is a definite order to creation, and in the center of it all, as we will see, is the Earth. The scripture says that the purpose of the sun, moon, and stars was to be a light source for the Earth and to be a means of measuring time.

As we can see, God had a plan and purpose in mind when He created the universe. He did not just randomly create stars and planets and throw them out into space. The Bible says, *"Lift up your eyes on high, And see who has created these things, Who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, By the greatness of His might And the strength of His power; Not one is missing."* (Isaiah 40:26) God had a definite reason for creating the vast number of stars and galaxies. In fact, as the Bible said, He can call all these heavenly bodies by name. Later in this book I will give the reason for the immensity of the universe.

CHAPTER 6: Categories of Life

In order to address the possibility of extraterrestrial life we need to identify the different categories of life. These categories are:

1. Life with the capacity to choose whether to OBEY or to DISOBEY God.
2. Life without such a capacity.

The Bible says, *“Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you today; and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside from the way which I command you today, to go after other gods which you have not known.”* (Deuteronomy 11:26-28)

Intelligent beings have the ability to make choices. The choices that an individual makes will either be in line with God’s commandments or they will be in rebellion with God’s commandments. This would be true for the human race on the Earth or some intelligent race on another planet.

Even the angels of heaven make choices between good and evil. Lucifer, who was the highest angel in heaven, chose to rebel against God. His sin was that he wanted to be as God. The Bible reveals this by saying, *“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.”* (Isaiah 14:12-14) As we can see, all intelligent beings made by God, which includes angels, have the capacity to choose good or evil. This precedent holds true for the higher order of beings created by God. We are not speaking here of animal life, but intelligent life.

God revealed to the children of Israel that they must make a choice whether to obey Him or disobey. If God requires that this choice be made for His creation on the earth, it should hold true for His creation anywhere in the universe. Consider how the Bible makes this truth clear, *“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, ... I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live.”* (Deuteronomy 30:11, 19) The scripture said that not only the Earth falls under this principle, but heaven is subject to it also. When God spoke this to His people, Heaven was a witness to this truth.

If you use Strong’s Concordance to reference the word “heaven” back to the original Hebrew word, you will find that the word is *“Shamayim (8064).”* This Hebrew word means, *heaven, heavens, sky, visible heaven, abode of the stars, the visible universe, and even Heaven as in the abode of God.* So by definition, we see that the word heaven used in the verses quoted apply to intelligent beings anywhere in the universe. Scripture therefore identifies three heavens which include the sky (atmosphere), outer space (stars, galaxies) and the abode of God.

Intelligent forms of life have the ability to choose to do right or to do wrong as it relates to the divine will of God. This applies to the human race and any other intelligent race of beings that could exist anywhere in the universe, including God's angels. If a living thing does not have the capacity to make this kind of choice, then we do not call that form of life intelligent life. This would include the simplest forms of life, like micro-organisms, all the way up the ladder to dolphins and chimpanzees.

The Choice to Obey God

This question now needs to be asked. What if intelligent life on another planet chooses to OBEY God? Now, this is the opposite of what has happened here on the Earth.

First, let's look at the situation on the Earth and then consider an intelligent race that never disobeyed God. The human race fell into sin because of Adam's transgression back in Genesis Chapter 3. Because of this one act of disobedience, the entire human race becomes separated from God. The Bible says, *"Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned."* (Romans 5:12) Adam's sin, also called original sin, brought about a condition on the human race called "spiritual death." This can be defined as separation from God. Because of spiritual death, man cannot enter Heaven to live eternally. Spiritual death is inherited by every individual who was ever born. This is why the Bible tells us that a person needs to be born again in order to see the Kingdom of Heaven. This broken relationship between God and man was reconciled by Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. This is evident where the Bible says, *"For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous. Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."* (Romans 5:19-21) Jesus came to reverse what happened when Adam chose to disobey God.

To talk about the redemption of the human race from spiritual death is an awesome topic, and we will not take the time to consider it here. God had a plan to restore the broken relationship between Himself and mankind. I need to emphasize, God did not do this for the angels that sinned. This is an indicator that mankind holds a special place in God's creation. The point that needs to be made here is that we have both man and some of the angels that chose to disobey God. As in the case with man, God had a plan to fix the problem.

When we consider intelligent life on other planets, what if they chose to obey God? If so, there would be no need of a Savior to restore the broken relationship. The Bible gives us some clues to help us understand if this is possible. Consider this verse from the Bible, *"For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now."* (Romans 8:22) This verse gives us insight to the truth that the whole creation (universe) came under the curse that resulted from Adam's sin in Genesis Chapter 3. The whole universe is groaning over the pointlessness of having been made subject to a curse. The present sufferings of creation are the "birth pangs" for the new age to be born, the Millennium. This verse suggests that the entire creation is eagerly looking forward to the time when the curse will be lifted.

It would be unjust for God to curse a planet and bring judgment upon those inhabitants who had never sinned. Since the curse resulting from Adam's disobedience was universal, it would be

against God's nature to punish those who had not sinned. The only conclusion you can draw is that there are no sinless beings living on other planets.

The Choice to Disobey God

What if beings on another planet chose to disobey God? Since God had a plan to restore the broken relationship between Himself and man on the Earth, it would be proper for Him to desire to remedy the situation on another planet. According to the Bible, it takes the shedding of blood to remove sin. This principle is stated in the Bible where it says, *"For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul."* (Leviticus 17:11) It is the blood that gives life to the body. The word "atonement" means to reconcile or to make amends for a wrong that was done. The blood from the animal sacrifice was for the reconciliation of man's soul to God. We can further see this in the Bible where it says, *"And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission."* (Hebrews 9:22) The spiritual principle is that the shedding of blood is required for the forgiveness of sins.

The blood sacrifices in the Bible illustrate the fact that the innocent must shed their blood and die in the place of the guilty in order for sin to be forgiven or remitted. In the Old Testament of the Bible, animals were sacrificed as a temporary measure to cover the sins of man until a perfect sacrifice could be made. Jesus Christ became the perfect sacrifice for the sins of man by shedding His blood to redeem the human race and permanently restore man's relationship with God. Since this spiritual law holds true for the Earth, it would also hold true for any other alien beings in the universe. That alien race would also need a Savior to take care of the sin problem brought about by their disobedience to God. Next, we will look at how God might address the sins of a disobedient alien race on another planet.

CHAPTER 7: Four Scenarios of Redemption

Since we have ruled out the possibility of sinless beings living on other planets, we now have to deal with the situation of extraterrestrials that have also disobeyed God. If this were possible, how might God seek to redeem beings on another planet? There are four possible scenarios of how God might accomplish redemption for inhabitants on other planets:

1. Send Jesus Christ as He did on the Earth.
2. Send another son.
3. Send another being though not His son.
4. God could send us to proclaim Jesus' work of atonement.

Scenario 1: Send Jesus Christ to another Planet

Many people believe it is possible that Jesus Christ may have visited other planets and carried out the same plan of redemption that occurred on the Earth. The same sequence of events would need to happen on that planet as it did here on the Earth; Christ's virgin birth, sinless life, death, burial and resurrection to make a way of salvation for that race of beings.

There are scriptures in the Bible that indicate Jesus Christ is not visiting other planets. For example, *"For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another—He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation."* (Hebrews 9:24-28) Notice that this passage says that Christ offered Himself "ONCE" to bear the sins of many. Jesus only died once to pay the penalty for sin. Jesus is not dying over and over again on other planets to obtain salvation for some other race of beings. The Word of God is very clear in saying that Christ died once and not numerous times in carrying out His same mission on other planets.

Another scriptural reference we should examine is as follows, *"By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified."* (Hebrews 10:10-14) We see from these verses that Jesus made one sacrifice forever! Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father and is waiting for the appointed time when He will come again and deal with those who have rejected God and His salvation. We need to accept what the Bible says. Since the Word says Jesus died once, then that holds true for the entire universe.

Scenario 2: Send another Son

Since Jesus is not visiting other planets to carry out God's plan of redemption, could God be sending another son? Again, let's look to the Bible for the answer. The Bible says, *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."* (John 3:16) Here we have the most quoted verse in the Bible. The scripture says that Jesus is the ONLY begotten Son of God. Based on this statement it is evident that God does not have another son to send.

Scenario 3: Send another being though not God's Son

Now let's consider a third scenario. Could God send another being, though not His son, to another planet to carry out God's plan? If God were to send another being, then that being would have to be an equal with Jesus Christ. The following scripture gives us the answer to this question, *"Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* (Philippians 2:9-11) God has given Jesus a name which is above every name. The Bible says that every knee will bow to Him that is in Heaven, Earth, and even Hell itself. This statement incorporates the entire creation. This means that Jesus has no equal. There could be no other Savior visiting other planets to take care of their sin problem. Another scripture speaking along these lines is, *"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."* (Acts 4:12) Jesus is the only name by which we can be saved. If there is no other name that can save, then there cannot be another being that can bring about salvation for some alien race.

Scenario 4: God could send us

Finally, let's look at a fourth alternative of how God might redeem an alien race. God could send us to proclaim Jesus' work of atonement. Due to the vast distances between the Earth and other possible inhabited planets, it is very unlikely that it would be God's plan to send us to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to them. There are some who believe that Christians will take the gospel message to other worlds throughout the universe. They state that the word "world" given in the scriptures is a reference to the universe. In order to explore this possibility we need to gain an understanding how we got the English word "world" from the Greek text in the New Testament of the Bible. I am sticking with the New Testament because that is where Jesus gives the church the directive to preach the gospel to the entire world.

There are three Greek words from which we get the English word "world." The word *"aion"* means age or dispensation; *"kosmos"* is defined as an apt and harmonious arrangement or constitution, order, government, adornment or arrangement; and *"oikoumene"* means the inhabited earth. These are the primary meanings for these Greek words. When you look these words up in Strong's concordance and dictionary of Greek words, you will find various other definitions given. All three words carry a secondary meaning of "the universe." This is why many believe that when there is a reference to the world in the scriptures, it is speaking of the whole universe. Is this a correct interpretation based on the Greek words used in the original text of the Bible?

These three Greek words are found 330 times in the New Testament. I do not want to weary you with numerous examples of how these words are translated into our English Bible, but we need to examine several to give you an understanding of the context in which they were used. In the

following scripture references I will show the Greek word in brackets beside the word “world” to aid in our analysis.

The Bible says, *“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”* (Acts 1:8) Our responsibility in preaching the gospel is to spread it to all the ends of the Earth. This is the key scripture in defining our evangelical field in which the gospel is to be taken.

The Bible also says, *“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world [oikoumene] as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”* (Matthew 24:14) The verse says that the gospel is to be preached as a witness to all nations. The word “nations” is a reference to a community of people on the Earth. The proper interpretation of the Greek word *oikoumene*, in context of this passage, can only be a reference to the inhabited earth and not the universe. This interpretation would be in agreement with Acts 1:8 quoted earlier that says believers will be witnesses for God to the *“end of the earth.”*

Jesus gave His disciples what is called the great commission, *“And He said to them, Go into all the world [kosmos] and preach the gospel to every creature.”* (Mark 16:15) In this verse the word “world” came from the Greek word *kosmos*. This is the Greek word from which we get our English word *cosmos* which means an orderly harmonious systematic universe. It is understandable that when we encounter the word *kosmos* that we would naturally think of the universe. We must remember that this is just one of the meanings for this word. This is where we need to let the context of the passage dictate the proper meaning for the word. Jesus is talking directly to His followers and He is telling them to go into the entire world and preach the gospel. It is quite evident that His followers could not go to other planets to preach His message. We must conclude from the context of this passage that the world is another way of saying the Earth.

Another example of the use of the Greek word *kosmos* is found where the apostle Peter spoke of the flood in the time of Noah, *“and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world [kosmos] of the ungodly,”* (2 Peter 2:5) and *“by which the world [kosmos] that then existed perished, being flooded with water.”* (2 Peter 3:6) The Greek word *kosmos* was used, but it should be obvious from these passages that God did not flood the whole universe with water.

There are times when the Bible is speaking of the whole universe. The Bible says, *“By faith we understand that the worlds [aion] were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.”* (Hebrews 11:3) In the text, the word “worlds” came from the Greek word *aion*. In this context, “worlds” is a reference to the universe. This verse is not talking about preaching, it is speaking of creation. It is true that God created the worlds (all the stars and planets), but this does not mean that He placed intelligent life on other planets. The Bible is clear in stating the purpose for the Earth where it says, *“For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD, and there is no other.”* (Isaiah 45:18) The purpose for the Earth is that it is to be inhabited. I can find no other verse in the Bible that says anything about other worlds being inhabited. Here again we see that the Earth and man, that He placed on it, are very special to God.

Some will come back with the idea that after a Christian dies and goes to Heaven, God sends them on to preach the gospel to other worlds. Is this a likely scenario of how God could evangelize other planets that are inhabited with intelligent life?

Jesus tells a story in the book of Luke Chapter 16 about a rich man and a beggar named Lazarus. In this account, the rich man dies and goes to a place of torment (hell or Hades). Lazarus then dies and is carried away to a place called Abraham's bosom (paradise or Heaven). The rich man seeking relief from the flames of hell cried out to Abraham (he could see Abraham and Lazarus but could not go to them) for help. Abraham responded with a statement, that in effect said he was getting what he deserved according to how he lived his life, but Lazarus was being rewarded for how he lived his life. The rich man pleaded with father Abraham that he would send Lazarus to preach to his five brothers who were still alive on the Earth so that they would not end up in the place of torment. The Bible records this reply to the rich man's request, *"Abraham said to him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent. But he said to him, If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead."* (Luke 16:29-31) As we can see from this passage of scripture, those who have died and gone on to Heaven do not preach to the unsaved. The job of preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ belongs to God's ministers and all believers who are alive on the Earth. The reference to Moses and the prophets is a reference to hearing the Word. The story of the rich man and Lazarus communicates this Biblical principle very well. Based on God's Word we can see that we will not be going to other planets to preach to alien beings, either before or after we die.

To imply that God intends for us to preach the gospel to other worlds is not consistent with the message of scripture and is not practical at the same time. The evangelical field for the Christian is the Earth. The Biblical evidence given previously concerning how God might redeem races of beings on other planets brought us to the conclusion that intelligent life does not exist beyond the Earth. For the message of the Bible to remain consistent, references concerning the spreading of the gospel to the universe (world) as some believe is simply not correct. We cannot elect to use poetic license to select the meanings of Hebrew or Greek words as we please in order to prove our point. The message of the entire Bible has to be consistent and not in contradiction with itself.

The message of God's plan of redemption is to be preached to the whole world, not to other distant worlds. The Bible also tells us that God is no respecter of persons. Why would God show favoritism to the Earth by coming here personally and expecting other worlds to hear the message second hand? Based on these arguments, we can rule out the possibility that God would expect us to take the gospel message to aliens on other planets.

Summary of the Four Scenarios of Redemption

In summarizing the possible ways God could redeem a fallen race of extraterrestrials, there is no Biblical basis for which this could be accomplished. God would not send Jesus to die again for their sins because He was to die only once. God could not send another son because Jesus is the only begotten Son of God. There is no other being that could redeem an alien race since that being would have to be equal with Jesus Christ and the Bible says that His name is higher than any other name. Finally, God would not send us to another world because our evangelical field is the Earth. As a result of obtaining this information from the Word of God, we must conclude that extraterrestrial beings do not exist.

It is interesting to me that, when Lucifer sinned and fell from Heaven, he ended up here on the Earth. If there are numerous worlds in the universe with extraterrestrial life, why did Satan choose to be on the Earth? This tells me that there is no intelligent life on other planets for him to go to and work to foil God's plan. If the Earth is just an insignificant speck in the cosmos, why is there a vast company of fallen beings (devils/demons) concentrated on the Earth? The only answer that I can come up with is that the Earth is the focus of God's creation, and it is the only planet where He chose to place life.

The Bible tells us that there will be a time when God creates a new heavens and a new earth. God will judge the Earth because of sin and that will involve the destruction and the recreation of the universe because of the events that have happened on the Earth. It would be unjust for God to destroy alien worlds if life existed there because of God's dealing with the Earth.

Pre-Adamic Race

One scenario that has not been addressed is the possibility of an alien race that disobeyed God but was never redeemed. Up to this point we have accepted the fact that, if God created a race of intelligent beings anywhere in the universe, He would desire to redeem that race because of sin. Is it possible for there to be an alien race in which God did not choose to carry out a plan of redemption? I bring this up because there are some Christians who believe that a race of beings existed on the Earth before Adam was created of whom God did not choose to redeem from sin. If this be the case, then it would be possible for other intelligent beings to exist in the universe that were never redeemed from sin. In order to address this question we need to first examine the possibility of an existence of a pre-Adamic race on the Earth. If this were possible on the Earth, then we could accept the fact that this condition could exist elsewhere in the universe.

If Adam was the first man, you naturally question how could there be a pre-Adamic race on the Earth. Some Christians believe in what is called the **"Gap Theory"** of creation. This theory speculates that a long period of time elapsed between the first two verses in the book of Genesis. In that gap of time between these two verses were the age of the dinosaurs and the existence of a race of beings prior to the time that God created Adam. Scripture says, *"¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters."* (Genesis 1:1-2) The Gap Theory says that God created the heavens and the Earth in verse one, but something occurred that caused the Earth to become void or without form. They believe that Lucifer's fall occurred during the time between these verses which caused the Earth to become a void. They feel that God would not create something that is void. This gap of time may have covered billions of years which allows the time necessary to explain the existence of dinosaurs, the fossil record, and the geological time required to form various features of the Earth such as the Grand Canyon. The Gap Theory also states that the account of creation, in Genesis Chapter 1 verses 3 through 31, was a reconstruction of the Earth after it had become void. Thus, the Earth was created in verse one and then reconstructed in verses 3 through 31.

First, let's briefly examine why some believe that there existed a pre-Adamic race of men. The key Bible verse that has been the basis for this belief says, *"And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and **replenish** the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth."* (Genesis 1:28 King James Version) The use of the word "replenish" is what brings

some people to believe there existed a pre-Adamic race. In order to replenish or to repopulate, there must have been something there beforehand.

The problem with the belief of a race before Adam is the mistranslation of the Hebrew transliterated word “male” (Strong’s reference 4390) into the English word “replenish.” The actual meaning of the word is “to fill” or “be full.” In the 1611 King James Version of the Bible the word replenish was used which means “to fill or build up again,” implying people existed on Earth prior to Adam’s arrival. The New King James Version properly reflects the correct translation of the word by saying, “*Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; **fill** the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”* (Genesis 1:28) The proper translation gives a whole different meaning to this verse. Instead of repopulating the Earth, God is saying to populate (fill) the Earth.

A Biblical reference that shows there could not have been a race before Adam states, “*And so it is written, The first man Adam became a living being. The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.*” (1 Corinthians 15:45) This verse says that Adam was the FIRST man. Before Adam sinned there was no death. It is through Adam’s sin that death entered into the world. The Bible says, “*Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.*” (Romans 5:12) The Bible also says that the whole creation came under the curse that was brought about by Adam’s sin as I have explained in Chapter 6.

Jesus, during His earthly ministry, made this statement, “*And He answered and said to them, Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning made them male and female.*” (Matthew 19:4) Notice that He said “at the beginning.” Adam and Eve were made at the beginning and no race could have existed before them. A race of beings before Adam could not have died out because death came as a result of Adam’s sin.

In using the genealogies and the ages of when sons were born given in the Bible, we can determine that Adam was created approximately 6,000 years ago. Some people argue that this cannot be true because of the fossil remains of prehistoric man. It is not the purpose of this book to answer this question because our subject concerns the possibility of the existence of extraterrestrial life. I am not saying that the Gap Theory is totally incorrect, but the existence of a race of men before Adam contradicts the scriptures. I heard a park ranger say one time when my family was visiting the Grand Canyon, “We study geology to learn about the age of rocks, we study the Bible to learn about the Rock of Ages.” The Bible does not give us any solid information if a period of time elapsed between the first two verses of Genesis Chapter 1. Since the Bible is silent, we should go on what the Bible does say about creation. I am not going to try and reconcile geology and the Bible, since that is outside the scope for this book.

Based on the Biblical evidence presented, there was no pre-Adamic race on the Earth. Since there could not have been a race on the Earth that God chose not to redeem, you can go on to conclude that a similar race could not exist elsewhere in the universe. Even though it is true that God did not redeem the angels that sinned, they never had a physical body that could experience death; their fall did not change the conclusion that was reached.

CHAPTER 8: New Heavens and New Earth

Consider this amazing statement from the Bible, *“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.”* (2 Peter 3:10) The “Day of the Lord” is a time when the world will be judged by God. If you look into the original Greek text and the meaning of the words for this verse, it is apparent that it also includes the annihilation of the universe. It also needs to be said that the Day of the Lord covers a thousand year period beginning with the second coming of Christ and concluding when God creates the new heavens and new earth. Jesus Christ will come as a thief in the night at the beginning of the Day of the Lord, while the universe will be destroyed at the end of the Day of the Lord.

The Bible teaches that at the second coming of Jesus Christ, He will triumph at the Battle of Armageddon. This will usher in a thousand year kingdom of peace on Earth. At the conclusion of this thousand year period, a final battle will take place where Satan will be defeated and cast into the Lake of Fire (the final hell) for eternity. This book is not going to get into the details of Bible prophecy, but I mention it to point out that at the end of the thousand years and the defeat of Satan, God will create a new heavens and a new earth. This is significant to our discussion because the entire universe will be affected by these events on the Earth. If there is intelligent life on other planets, their existence would be affected by God’s dealings with the Earth. Since God is just, He would not destroy their planet, as a result of His judgment being executed here on the Earth.

At this time let me provide some definitions for selected words in the verse of scripture I previously quoted. The word *“heavens”* was translated from the Greek word *“ouranos”* (Strong’s number 3772). This Greek word means (a) the universe, the world, (b) the aerial heavens or sky, and (c) the starry heavens. We can see that the word heavens in this verse is speaking of the atmosphere and outer space. In the book of Isaiah in the Old Testament there are several scriptures that prophecy of the creation of the new heavens and new earth. *“For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind.”* (Isaiah 65:17) *“For as the new heavens and the new earth Which I will make shall remain before Me, says the LORD, So shall your descendants and your name remain.”* (Isaiah 66:22) God will create a new universe, the old one will no longer be remembered and the new universe will remain for eternity. All of this because of God’s dealings with the human race on the Earth.

Another word we need to consider is the word *“elements.”* This comes from the Greek word *“stoicheion”* (Strong’s number 4747) where one of its meanings is - the heavenly bodies. So we can understand that the scripture is speaking of heavenly bodies, not just the elements on the Earth. The word *“melt”* comes from a Greek word meaning to destroy, break up, to do away with, demolish, and to loose what is compacted or built together. The Bible again confirms this, *“All the host of heaven shall be dissolved, And the heavens shall be rolled up like a scroll; All their host shall fall down As the leaf falls from the vine, And as fruit falling from a fig tree.”* (Isaiah 34:4) The universe will be dissolved and rolled together as a scroll.

Since we have gained a better understanding of the meaning of these Greek words, consider 2 Peter 3:10 from several other versions of the Bible.

“But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.” (English Standard Version)

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will vanish (pass away) with a thunderous crash, and the [material] elements [of the universe] will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and the works that are upon it will be burned up.” (Amplified Bible)

“The day of the Lord's return will surprise us like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a loud noise, and the heat will melt the whole universe. Then the earth and everything on it will be seen for what they are.” (Contemporary English Version)

These other translations of the Bible render this verse with words like *the heavenly bodies* and the melting of the *whole universe*. When God makes statements such as these in the Bible, we can see that the Earth does hold center stage in His creation. If there was intelligent life somewhere in the universe, it would be destroyed when God created the new heavens and the new earth. God would not penalize beings on another planet due to a divine judgment being carried out on disobedient beings on the Earth. Since these events are determined by what is happening on the Earth, this is another scriptural proof that we are alone in the universe.

Scriptures Used to Support Extraterrestrial Life

There are Christians who try to use scriptures from the Bible in order to prove the existence of extraterrestrial life. The word “heavens” is normally used in the Biblical references used. As I have mentioned previously, the word “heavens” can be taken to mean the sky, outer space, and the abode of God Himself.

Examples of some of the verses cited by proponents of this view are given as follows. *“And then He will send His angels, and gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven.”* (Mark 13:27) Some believe the phrase, “farthest part of heaven,” would imply there could be life in other regions of the universe. This verse is a reference to the second coming of Christ to the Earth. If life exists on other planets, then beings from other worlds would be involved. This is highly unlikely. Another verse quoted for this view is, *“You alone are the LORD; You have made heaven, The heaven of heavens, with all their host, The earth and everything on it, The seas and all that is in them, And You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You.”* (Nehemiah 9:6) Again, the phrase “host of heaven” can be used as a reference to extraterrestrial life. A better interpretation of this verse is that the word “host” is a reference to the angels. The two verses referenced use the term “heaven” in some way and people interpret it to fit their viewpoint. In explaining these passages one needs to keep them in the context in which they were written.

One final example of a scripture used to support extraterrestrial life is, *“And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.”* (John 10:16) Jesus is actually speaking of the Gentile believers in this verse who would become part of His flock, not of extraterrestrial beings.

Some have taken liberties in the interpretation of certain Bible passages in order to support their view. This has been a common practice throughout the church age. The reasons given in

Chapter 7, “Four Scenarios of Redemption” provide ample Biblical evidence that there is no alien life on other planets. This evidence alone should enter into how the above scriptures should be interpreted to ensure it is consistent with the message of the Bible.

CHAPTER 9: Non-intelligent Life

We have examined the possibility of the existence of intelligent life on other planets from the Biblical perspective and have seen that it simply does not exist. Is it possible that non-intelligent life may exist on other planets in the universe? When we speak of non-intelligent life, we are referring to animal and plant life. This idea is not as evident in the scriptures as is the case of intelligent life. Remember, intelligent life can be defined as life that can choose to obey or disobey God. It needs to be said that it is possible for God to have created non-intelligent life on other planets if He chose to do so. There are no scriptures that would make us to believe that He would not.

In order to answer the question about the existence of non-intelligent life we can use the Bible to help us formulate an opinion. First of all, we understand that God does not do anything without a purpose. God has a reason behind everything that He does. He had a purpose for creation, just as He has a purpose for your life and mine. A logical starting point would be to determine what the purpose is for non-intelligent life.

Let's start by looking into why God created plants and animals on the Earth. The Bible says concerning man, *"Then God blessed them, and God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth. And God said, See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food; and it was so."* (Genesis 1:28-30) God instructed Adam and Eve to populate the Earth and exercise dominion (authority) over all animal life. He also made the statement that all the plant life was given as a source of food. Man's authority over animal life is stated again in the book of Psalms where it says, *"You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet, All sheep and oxen—Even the beasts of the field, The birds of the air, And the fish of the sea That pass through the paths of the seas."* (Psalm 8:6-8) Based on these scriptures we see that God's purpose for His other creatures was for man's benefit.

If all forms of non-intelligent life were created for man's benefit on the Earth, then it would be appropriate to assume that this principle would hold true for intelligent beings on other planets. This is where we run into a problem. The Bible has told us that intelligent life does not exist on alien worlds. Since we have this information from the Word of God, we have to ask the question, what would the purpose be for plant and animal life on another planet where they cannot benefit intelligent life? Of course, God could place plant and animal life on other planets, but what purpose would it serve? It appears that it would serve no purpose because it would not be able to benefit man.

It should be pointed out, that in all our explorations of space, we have not found even the slightest trace of life. Scientists have studied meteorites, like the Mars rock mentioned previously in this book, to search for evidence of life but have found nothing. In our own solar system, apart from the Earth, life has not been detected on any of the planets, moons, or asteroids. We have to come to the conclusion that Earth is unique in the entire universe. Why is the Earth so special to God? The answer is because this is where God chose to place man. The

human race is God's special creation and the focal point of the entire universe. In our human reasoning we come to the question, why did God create such an immense universe that apparently contains no life of any kind outside of the Earth?

CHAPTER 10: God's Purpose for an Immense Universe

The Bible gives us the answer for why God created such an immense universe. People have been in awe of the universe ever since humans have been on the Earth. Everyone has looked up into the night sky and has seen the moon and the stars and wondered what is out there. When we have an understanding of the size of the universe and look into the night sky, it becomes even more awesome. Anyone who has a belief in God will look into the heavens and wonder; why would God take any interest in man? The Earth is so small and seemingly insignificant when compared to the vastness of space.

In the Bible David thought about the same things we do today when we look into the night sky. This is illustrated in the scripture, *"When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained, What is man that You are mindful of him And the son of man that You visit him? For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor."* (Psalm 8:3-5) David marveled when looking into the heavens and wondered why God would be mindful of man. The scripture goes on to say that God had made man a little lower than the angels but He had crowned him with glory and honor. What a statement For God to make about the human race! Man is below the angels in the respect that when man sinned, it brought about a condition called spiritual death which separated man from God. Because of man's sin, God has worked out a plan of redemption to restore that broken relationship through Jesus Christ. The Bible says that man was crowned with glory and honor. This shows that the human race is of extreme importance to God because of the sacrifice it required by the Son of God. When we look at the stars and feel so small, we need to realize that God is telling us that we are held in the highest regard. This does not tell me that I am insignificant but that I am important to God.

What was God's purpose for making such an immense universe if no life exists apart from planet Earth? Again, the Bible gives us the answer by saying, *"The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork."* (Psalm 19:1) The creation is a display of God's awesomeness. The purpose behind the vastness of the universe is to give glory to God. We marvel at the size of the universe and should realize the magnificence of our Creator. His greatness goes beyond our ability to comprehend. He is truly the divine architect of everything that exists.

Bigness and Smallness

It really is amazing when you contrast the infinitesimally small with the enormously big. The immensity of the universe staggers our imagination. Recently, scientists have estimated the number of stars in the known universe to be 70 sextillion. This is the number "7" followed by 22 zeros. There are ten times as many stars in the universe as there are grains of sand on the Earth. As I mentioned previously in this book, the diameter of the universe has been projected to be 156 billion light years across. When we consider numbers such as these, it gives us an increased awareness of the term "bigness."

We can also go to the other extreme of smallness. The "atom" is called the building block of all matter. It is defined as the smallest unit into which matter can be divided without the release of electrically charged particles. The atom is composed of three sub-atomic particles called

protons, electrons and neutrons. There are even smaller particles, such as quarks, that make of these particles. Atoms are so small that millions of them could fit on the sharp point of a needle.

There is another amazing piece of information about smallness that concerns the human body. Our body is made up of cells. A “cell” is called the building block of life. All organisms are composed of one or more cells. Some organisms consist of only a single cell while others are composed of many cells. The human body is estimated to contain as many as 100 trillion cells. God uses these seemingly insignificant microscopic building blocks of life to form a complex human being.

God operates in the super big and in the super small. We can see His divine intelligence in creation in both extremes. All the matter in this gigantic universe is based on the tiny atom. The smallest of things is the basis for the biggest of things. Is the atom insignificant because it is so small? The answer is of course not. God does not think like man thinks. The purpose for which God does something does not have to make scientific sense to man. The way man looks at the universe is not the way God looks at the universe. For man to say that intelligent life has to exist in the universe means nothing to God.

Some time ago I was thinking about the enormous size of the universe, and the Lord spoke these words into my spirit, “There is no bigness or smallness with Me.” I don’t know how you feel about the idea of God speaking to you. If you are a Christian, there’s a good chance that you know what I’m talking about. There are times when a thought is planted in your mind that did not originate from within yourself. It’s not something that you think about and then come up with an idea, but it comes from God. I believe this is what happened to me. This was a profound truth that God was revealing to me.

Let me explain the meaning of the statement, “There is no bigness or smallness with Me.” In God’s eyes, the size of something does not reflect if it’s significant or not to God. We see the immense bigness of the cosmos and the microscopic smallness of the universe in the atom. Both have a meaning and purpose in creation. The immensity of the universe does not show how insignificant we are, it shows the immensity of God’s love toward us. In other words, the size of the universe should be looked at as a measurement of God’s love for the Earth.

Our human logic tells us that the universe is so huge that there is no way that we can be alone, but God does not think that way. It is nothing for Him to create a universe that seems to extend endlessly out into space for no other purpose than to demonstrate the greatness of His love for us. This is not a waste of space or a lack of purpose for existence. This is not an arrogant or egocentric way to think. God intended for us to recognize that the Earth, and man that He placed on it, is the centerpiece of His creation. God’s focus is upon man who He placed on the Earth.

When you begin to think from this perspective, you can see the vastness of the universe is just a backdrop for God to display His glory and to show the importance that man has to the creation. You see, man is God’s crowning jewel of creation. We were made in His image, after His likeness. The Bible reveals this truth by saying, “*So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*” (Genesis 1:28) This is what makes human beings different from any other form of life. Animal life is not created in the image of God. He created animal and plant life for man’s benefit. We need to have the mindset that we are special to God. The Bible confirms this by saying, “*But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the*

praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.” (1 Peter 2:9) God is telling us that those who choose to obey Him are a “special people” to Himself.

Biblical Examples of the Smallness Principle

The Bible has many examples of God using something small such as empowering a few to save a multitude. It's like God wants the odds to be against Him so that He can show His glory and power. He can take a small amount and do mighty things. No small amount is insignificant when God is involved. In my prayers I had asked God to show me, in His Word, scriptures that went along with the principle that there is no bigness or smallness with God. I would like to share some passages that the Lord gave to me.

Let me elaborate on the concept that the bigness or smallness of something does not matter to God. I believe one of the greatest examples of God focusing on something that we would call insignificant is where He selected the nation Israel as His chosen people. This would be the people by which He brought salvation to the whole world. Did He choose the greatest or largest nation on Earth at the time for this honor? No, He chose the smallest of nations, the least significant people on the face of the Earth. The Bible says, *“For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth. The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; but because the LORD loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.”* (Deuteronomy 7:6-8) In this passage we see that God chose the least of all people because of the love that He had for them. Notice that the scripture said that the least of things was a special treasure to Him. God does not judge the importance of something by how big it is. God's love is what's important regardless of how small the object of His love may be.

Jesus told a parable about a mustard seed that carries the message that something that is the least can become the greatest. The Bible says, *“Another parable He put forth to them, saying: The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches.”* (Matthew 13:31-32) This parable teaches that the church will have a tiny beginning but will eventually experience great growth. We see God's Kingdom starting from a humble beginning. God is able to work with the smallest of things and see it grow into something great. This is another example that there is no smallness or bigness with God.

In the gospel of Luke we have an account where Jesus' disciples were arguing over which of them would be the greatest. Consider the answer Jesus gave them when He knew what they were thinking in their hearts, *“Then a dispute arose among them as to which of them would be greatest. And Jesus, perceiving the thought of their heart, took a little child and set him by Him, and said to them, Whoever receives this little child in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me receives Him who sent Me. For he who is least among you all will be great.”* (Luke 9:46-49) One time when Jesus was teaching, people brought their children to Him so that He would touch them and bless them, but His disciples wanted to keep them away and not take up His time. Children were not considered to be important. Jesus reprimanded them and said not to forbid them to come to Him for such is the Kingdom of God. The Bible says that we must come

to God as a little child. In the passage previously quoted, Jesus used a child to show His disciples that he who is least amount you will become great. Here we see the principle at work again; the least will be the greatest, or what seems to be insignificant will become of great importance.

One of the great stories from the Old Testament of the Bible concerns a man named Gideon as recorded in the book of Judges Chapters 6-8. Back in those days the Hebrew people were under the oppression of a people called the Midianites. The Midianites would steal their crops which caused Israel to be greatly impoverished. The angel of the LORD appeared unto a man named Gideon and called him to save the people from the Midianites. To make a long story short, Gideon started out with 32,000 men who could fight for Israel. The problem was God said that was too many! God reduced the number down to 300 men to fight a large army of the Midianites. The end result was that 120,000 Midianites fell by the sword. Why would God use such a small number of men to fight a large army? The Bible says, *“And the LORD said to Gideon, The people who are with you are too many for Me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel claim glory for itself against Me, saying, My own hand has saved me.”* (Judges 7:2) God kept Israel’s fighting men down to a minimum number so that they could not claim that they defeated the Midianites by their own might. In this situation, God used a few to prove that He was with His people and that the battle was His. This again illustrates the principle that little is much when God is in it.

We see this same scenario played out over and over again in the Bible. God will use the smallest and most insignificant things that He can to prove that He will supply all of our need. Several times in the earthly ministry of Jesus He used several loaves of bread and some fish to feed a multitude of people. Jesus took a small amount and miraculously multiplied it to feed thousands of people. God uses the smallness of something to show that He can work with it and turn it into something great. This gives glory to God.

I have been giving some examples of how God can take the least of things and do a mighty work. We also see the reverse in that God used the bigness of the universe to show His glory to the Earth, a tiny speck when compared to the vastness of space. We should not think that just because the Earth is so small in comparison to the universe that it does not carry that much importance to God. To the contrary, we can see that God has focused His attention on the least of planets to display His crown jewel of creation, man.

You Are Valuable to God!

Every individual on the face of the Earth is important to God. Even though you may be one person among the 6 billion who are alive on the Earth today, God is very aware of you! In the Bible Jesus said, *“Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.”* (Luke 12:6-7) This passage is saying that even though five sparrows can be purchased for a very small amount of money, God is aware of each little sparrow. If God has that much concern for a sparrow, think how much more He is interested in you and me! God knows you so well that He even knows how many hairs you have in your head. This shows the value God places on your life. No matter how small and unimportant you think you are, God places a tremendous worth on you as a person. Remember, there is no bigness or smallness with God!

CHAPTER 11: The Big Deception

This brings us to the problem with believing that intelligent life exists on other planets. Many, but not all, who believe in extraterrestrial life are looking for something other than God who can provide the answers to man's problems. Some who believe this way attribute many of the world's advancements as coming from alien technologies. Others even suggest that the God of the Bible is actually an alien being who is giving moral values and technology to man.

Is it possible that the belief in the existence of extraterrestrial life is a big deception to get the focus off of God? If so, the purpose behind the idea that life exists throughout the universe on earth-like planets is to make our existence seem insignificant and not important. Earth is just a speck in the universe, and man is just a newcomer on the scene where there are numerous civilizations that are much more advanced than we are.

There is a devil named Satan who is the general of a spiritual army of demonic spirits who wants to destroy man. Satan is the father of lies as Jesus stated, *"...When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it."* (John 8:44c) He is the great deceiver. The forces of darkness want to deceive man into thinking he is not important to God. The belief in extraterrestrial life is one of the big deceptions of our day that Satan has used to get the human race to believe a lie. This is one way Satan can use to get people to believe in a savior other than the Lord Jesus Christ.

With all the infatuation with outer space, extraterrestrial life, and UFOs, our culture may be developing a false view of God and our place in the universe. You could say that people in effect worship the creation along with their knowledge of how they believe it was formed. I use the word "worship" to mean, "Extravagant respect or admiration for." In our world today science is held in a higher regard than God and His Word, the Bible. This way of thinking is not new but has been around for a long time. The Bible addresses this error in judgment by saying it this way, *"They gave up the truth about God for a lie, and they worshiped God's creation instead of God, who will be praised forever. Amen."* (Romans 1:25 Contemporary English Version) Science has put the emphasis on the creation itself and not the Creator. Instead of accepting what God said about the universe, they are promoting their own theories.

If you are a Christian who believes in extraterrestrial life, it is my prayer that the information given in this book will get you to reconsider what you believe. We need to base our beliefs on the Word of God and not on the opinion of science. In fact, the way we interpret the immensity of the universe has been backwards. It does not show that we are one of many planets with intelligent life, but the immensity of creation is intended to prove the importance of man as the Earth holds center stage in God's universe.

I do not want to give off the impression that science should be discarded. Science is important and has its place in our life. I am pointing out that science is not the authority on the question of the existence of extraterrestrial life. The Bible says, *"But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence."* (1 Corinthians 1:27-29) Our scientific experts have

missed it on this one. They may say Bible believers are foolish to think that they are alone in the universe, but God's Word will put them to shame in the end for taking a position that contradicts what He has said.

CHAPTER 12: Conclusions from Part 2

Based on information contained in the Bible we have to conclude that we are alone in the universe. The Earth is unique. It is special creation in the universe because this is where God placed man. Man was created in the image of God and is the highest order of His creation, proven by the fact that God had a plan of redemption for the human race. Based on statements recorded in the Bible, there appears to be no scenario available for God to redeem an alien race. We have seen in the scriptures that Jesus is the *only* begotten Son of God, that He died *once* to pay the penalty for sin, and that there is *no other being equal* to Him that could carry out a plan of redemption on another planet.

Another important indicator that we are alone in the universe is the fact that God is going to create a new heavens and a new earth. This includes the destruction of the whole universe to make way for the new one. God would not destroy another planet that had life on it based on the timetable of His dealings with planet Earth. This would not be just (righteous or proper), and we know that God is just in everything that He does.

There is no bigness or smallness with God. The Earth is microscopic in comparison to the universe, but God does not say it is insignificant or not important. God does not think like man thinks. He does not operate on human logic. The vastness of the universe is a demonstration of how important mankind on the Earth is to God. When we look at an immeasurably huge cosmos we understand that its Creator is immeasurably powerful. It is through this immense universe God shows His greatness and that His attention is on the human race.

Our planet is not an insignificant speck among countless billions and billions of galaxies, stars and planets. In fact, along with Heaven itself, it is the most important place in the universe to God. Our being alone in the universe should blow our minds and bring us to our knees to praise the Almighty God who loves us and wants to have an intimate and personal relationship with Him.

Where Do I Fit In?

You might be wondering how does this affect me or where do I fit in? If you are a Christian, this information should help you better understand the purpose of creation and the importance you are to God. If you are not a Christian and desire a personal relationship with Him, you need to give your life to Jesus Christ because He is the only way to God. Jesus said in the Bible, “... *I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*” (John 14:6) When a person considers the universe, it should draw his attention to God. The Creator who made the universe on such a grand scale did it to show the immeasurability of His love for you!

Jesus said in the Bible, “... *Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*” (John 3:5) You might ask what must I do to be saved. First, you need to recognize that you are a sinner and that you need the Savior. The Bible says, “*for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*” (Romans 3:23) Next, a person needs to repent and desire to turn their life around. After a person repents you simply confess your faith in Jesus Christ. The Bible says, “*that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes*

unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” (Romans 10:9-10)
It is not hard to give your life to Christ. It means everything and is the most important thing that you will ever do in your life. Find a Bible believing church and begin to attend their services. Other believers will help you to get established as a child of God.

Final Comments

Mainline science states that extraterrestrial life has to exist in the universe. Their statement is based on the laws of probability. The scientific community says that due to the immensity of our universe, there has to be numerous earth-like planets where the conditions are favorable for life to evolve. Many scientists do not accept the UFO phenomenon as evidence of intelligent life visiting Earth from other planets. This is why the search for intelligent life continues. Science does not yet have the physical proof that is needed, but the feeling is that it is just a matter of time before the required evidence is obtained. This is the basis of the argument for the existence of extraterrestrial life.

The Bible tells us that the human race holds a special place in creation. God does not operate within the realm of human logic. Life exists on the Earth because it was God’s will to place it here. Life did not evolve, or just form over billions of years of time. Life exists because God said, *“Let there be ... and it was so.”* Just because conditions may be right for life on other planets does not mean that it was God’s will to place life there. Life has to be created, it doesn’t just happen. This is the missing factor that scientists are leaving out of the equation for life. It’s not a matter of science; it is a matter of FAITH in what God has already said in His Word. The Biblical evidence reveals that we are alone in the universe. The size of the universe does not mean that the Earth is insignificant; it shows that it is of extreme significance in the eyes of God.

APPENDIX

The purpose of this book is to present the Biblical view concerning the possibility that life exists on other planets in the universe. Why is it important to know what the Bible has to say on this or any subject? Many people will say that the Bible was written by man so why is it different from any other book? Since the validity of this book rests solely on the integrity of the Bible itself, I thought it necessary to say some things that will shed some light on why the Bible is so important.

What is the Bible?

It is the sacred Book, or collection of books, accepted by the Christian church as uniquely inspired by God, and thus authoritative, providing guidelines for belief and behavior. The English word “Bible” comes from the Greek word *biblion* (singular), *biblia* (plural) meaning “any kind of written document,” and the Latin word *biblia* meaning “book.”

The Protestant Bible is divided into two testaments or covenants:

Old Testament – containing 39 books written over the course of 1,500 years by 32 writers, originally written in Hebrew (some small portions are in Aramaic).

New Testament – containing 27 books written over the course of 100 years by 8 writers, originally written in Greek.

How did we get the Bible?

No part of the Bible exists today in the handwriting of the original writer. Since the original documents are no longer in existence what we have are copies of the original texts. The sources of information we have are (1) *Manuscripts*, documents written by hand which were copied from the original manuscripts or from copies of them and (2) *Versions* being a translation of any document into another language. The oldest known manuscripts are the *Dead Sea Scrolls*. The oldest version of the Old Testament is a Greek version called the *Septuagint*.

The Bible came together by a progression. For 2,500 years God’s Word was passed down by word of mouth, a process which is called *Oral Tradition*. The first written text appeared about 1,400 B.C. Jewish scribes copied the Old Testament manuscripts with great care giving us handwritten copies. Later in the 15th century with the invention of the printing press copies of the Bible could be distributed to the common people. Although none of the original manuscripts exists today, still the condition of the text has been remarkably preserved.

Who is the Author of the Bible?

Man wrote the words but God gave him the words to write. This is called writing under the inspiration of God. In the verses below God tells us where the scriptures came from.

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.” (2 Timothy 3:16)

“For prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.” (2 Peter 1:21)

It can be said that there were forty writers of the Bible, but there is only One Author. Man wrote the words that God gave him. There are two terms that are used that describe the authority of the Bible. The word “*infallible*” means incapable of error, dependable or reliable and the word “*inerrancy*” meaning free from error. True Christians will believe in the inerrancy and infallibility of scripture. This is what makes the Bible different from any other book. Critics of the Bible will attack the belief that it is without error.

The Bible is the true Word of God. It is said that man wrote the Bible and it contains mistakes, contradictions, fables and fairy tales. However, when man writes under the inspiration of God he does not make mistakes. When there appears to be contradictions concerning a topic that is mentioned in several portions of scripture, it is because the reader does not have the correct interpretation of the passages. When interpreted correctly the Bible fits together like a puzzle.

How can a collection of writings by 40 different people of different backgrounds, economic and social statuses, written over the course of 1,500 years be so cohesive in declaring the message of the One True God? The answer is because the Bible is the true Word of God. The Bible is God’s message to the human race that He personally gave to holy men of old who recorded His very words which we read today. This is truly a miracle of God!

In validating that God is the author of the Bible, every statement that He makes in it carries tremendous weight. When we have a conflict between science and what the Bible says, the Bible should be accepted as the ultimate authority. What God says should override what man (science) says. This is the reason why the Bible is so important when we consider the subject of extraterrestrial life. Allow the words of the Creator Himself answer the questions about the existence of life in the universe.

In order to authenticate the authorship of the Bible, I will present five proofs that the Bible is a work of God and not a work of man.

Five Proofs that the Bible is the True Word of God

Many people desire to have some form of proof or solid evidence that the Bible is truly the Word of God. The problem is many do not take the time to search the matter out to determine in their own mind if the Bible is authentic. I believe if a person takes the effort to study the Bible they will find out that it is truly from God. There are five proofs that in my mind validate that the Bible is what it claims to be, the Word of God. These proofs are:

1. The fulfillment of prophecy
2. The use of types and shadows
3. Archeology (especially the Dead Sea Scrolls)
4. The changed lives of believers
5. Numeric design of the Bible

I will briefly comment of each of the five proofs mentioned. Much can be said on each of these topics, but I will give some information on each in order to increase your awareness of them.

The last proof that I listed, **numeric design**, is of special interest because it can be called a **scientific proof** that the Bible is the true Word of God. Since this book examined human logic or scientific reasoning concerning the existence of extraterrestrial life, the idea that science can prove the authenticity of the Bible is truly amazing.

The fulfillment of prophecy is probably the greatest proof that the Bible is from God. Prophecy can be defined as *history written in advance*. God uses the fulfillment of prophecy as His signature upon the Bible to verify that it is truly the inspired Word of God. The Bible says, *“Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure.”* (Isaiah 46:9-10) God is able to declare the end from the beginning or in other words, He knows the end result before something even begins. There are literally thousands of prophecies in the Bible and none of them have failed to come to pass. Of the prophecies that are still future we can be assured that they will also be fulfilled. We can say concerning Bible prophecy that God’s track record is perfect. People make many predictions but NONE have a 100% record of accuracy. Looking back at fulfilled prophecy declares the accuracy of God’s Word. No other book can even begin to make predictions and see them all come to pass. This is what makes the Bible different from any other book!

It’s a small thing to have one prophecy come true. It’s entirely a different matter when literally hundreds of prophecies come true. The combined mathematical probability of a series of events being fulfilled, such as prophecies concerning the first coming of Jesus Christ, is simply beyond our ability to comprehend. The odds of one man fulfilling the prophecies concerning the coming of the Messiah as Jesus did are so astronomical it is virtually impossible for anyone to duplicate the feat. The use of prophecies and their fulfillment is a proof of divine authorship of the Bible.

The second proof I gave that the Bible is the Word of God involves the use of types and shadows. A **type** can be defined as a figure, representation, or symbol of something to come, as an event in the Old Testament foreshadows another in the New Testament. Types generally find their fulfillment in the Person and Ministry of Jesus Christ. **Shadows** are a reflection of an object. Events in the Old Testament foreshadow events that were to take place in the New Testament.

A wonderful example of types and shadows can be seen when we study the events concerning the first Passover back in the book of Exodus. God sent a series of ten plagues to persuade Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, to let the Hebrew slaves go free. The tenth plague was the death of the firstborn. The only way this could be prevented was by the sacrifice of a lamb and the smearing of its blood on the door posts of the Hebrews’ houses. The many aspects concerning this “Passover Lamb” are symbolic of Jesus Christ and His coming to be our sacrifice in the New Testament. Exodus Chapter 12 describes this lamb as being one without blemish (not sickly and no deformities) which is a type of the sinlessness of Christ. The lamb was to be killed and its blood applied to the door posts, it was to be roasted with fire and then eaten. Any leftovers from the meal were to be burned with fire so it would not spoil and decay. These types were fulfilled at the conclusion of Christ’s earthly ministry. The blood of Jesus covers us and protects us from eternal death just as the blood on the door posts protected the Hebrews from the 10th plague in Egypt. The roasting of the lamb was a type of the sufferings of Jesus as He endured the fire of God’s wrath in paying the penalty for our sin. The burning of the leftovers is a type of Christ’s resurrection from the dead in that His body did not see corruption or decay in the grave. These

are just a few examples of the use of Biblical types and they beautifully show how the Bible is linked together. Time prevents me from going further into this subject but the use of types and shadows proves the Bible's divine authorship.

The validity of the Bible can also be proved through archeology. There have been many criticisms leveled against the Bible concerning its historical reliability. Criticisms are usually based on a lack of evidence from outside sources to confirm the Biblical record. The discoveries of archaeology since the mid 1800s have demonstrated the reliability and plausibility of the Bible narrative. Nothing has been found to disprove the historical accuracy of Biblical events, places, or people. The science of archaeology strongly confirms the accuracy of the Bible. There are many examples of Biblical references which were said to be unlikely or wrong, only to have archaeology later prove that it was the critics who were mistaken. Every significant person and place mentioned in the Bible since the time of the inhabitation of the Holy Land by the Israelites (following the exodus from Egypt and the desert wandering) has now been verified.

Some examples of Biblical archeology are given just to give you some idea of its importance. *The Ebla Archive*, documents written on clay tablets from around 2300 B.C. demonstrate that personal and place names in the Patriarchal accounts are genuine. *The Temple Tablet*, an amazing archeological discovery made in January of 2003 where a tablet possibly dating back to the 9th century BC was discovered that made mention of the rebuilding of Solomon's temple. In 1867, 119 pieces of plaster were discovered that confirm the existence of Balaam and corroborates Numbers 22-24.

The Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in eleven caves along the northwest shore of the Dead Sea between the years 1947 and 1956. They contain either the whole books or fragments of all but one (Esther) of the Old Testament books going back to the 2nd and 3rd centuries B.C. They have been called the greatest manuscript discovery of modern times. They are a valuable witness to the accuracy of the Old Testament text. Through the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls we can see that God has insured His Word has been preserved over the centuries.

Another proof that the Bible is the true Word of God is its ability to change people's lives. The Bible says, *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."* (2 Corinthians 5:17) I have seen miraculous changes in new Christians' lives that have virtually happened overnight. The *New Birth* experience is life changing. People who had addictions have experienced complete deliverance from them. Others have had relationships restored with their family and friends. Wonderful healings and miracles have happened to people as they make their way toward God. As the Bible said, old things pass away and all things become new. God gives people a second chance. Seeing how God changes the lives of people is an awesome example that the Bible is what it claims to be.

The final proof that I want to give that the Bible is God's Word concerns the **numerical design** of the Bible. This is a fascinating subject and I will give some highlights of how God has used amazing numerical patterns in the Bible as a means of proving His divine authorship. It needs to be pointed out that these numerical patterns are found in the original Hebrew and Greek text of the Bible. These are the original languages in which the Old and New Testaments were written.

The amazing numerical patterns that have been discovered in the Bible were found beneath the surface of the text. This means that the numerical occurrences are not spotted in the plain reading of the text. One has to go deeper into the original text in order to find these numerical

features. In order to explain how these numerical designs occur we need to provide some preliminary information.

In the Hebrew and Greek alphabets, each letter represents both a *“letter”* and a *“number.”* In the English alphabet, the 26 letters represent letters only. Numbers are identified by the use of Arabic symbols (1, 2, 3, etc.). Since the Greek and Hebrew letters also represent numbers, every word has an arithmetic sum. The numerical value of a word is derived by adding up the numerical value for each letter in the word. To take this even further, every sentence, paragraph, chapter and even the entire Bible itself has a numerical value.

In the Bible the number *“seven”* is used more than any other. The number seven in scripture is the number of divine fullness, perfection and completeness. It is God’s number! Other numbers also have special meaning in scripture but the number seven is directly connected to God.

The number seven is very apparent in the plain text of the Bible. The Book of Revelation is filled with the use of the number seven. In Revelation we find seven churches, seven seals, seven trumpets, seven vials, seven dooms, and seven new things. This is just some of the cases where we find the word seven in the Book of Revelation. The keyword in the Book of Hebrews is *“better.”* Hebrews mentions seven *“better”* things; covenant, promise, substitute, hope, sacrifice, word and resurrection. Ephesians mentions seven walks and Peter speaks of seven precious things. In the Old Testament, Naaman was told to dip seven times in the river Jordan to be healed of leprosy. God told Joshua to march around the city of Jericho for seven days; one time each day for the first six days and seven times on the seventh day before the walls fell down flat. These examples just skim the surface of where the number seven is used in the surface text (meaning the word seven is actually spelled out) of the scripture.

The number seven is also very apparent in creation. There are seven colors in the rainbow. Medical science says that every cell in the human body is replaced once every seven years. A human’s pulse beats slower every seven days meaning we need to rest. The human body is made up of seven parts (four limbs, head, neck and trunk). There are seven distinct notes in a musical scale with the eighth note being the start of the next octave and the beginning of a new seven. In almost all animals the incubation period is divisible by seven. There are many more examples that could be given. In all of this we can see the emergence of what could be called the *“Law of Sevens.”*

In all the examples given we can see the significance of the number seven. Now we need to turn to understanding how the number seven is used beneath the surface text of the Bible in the original languages of Hebrew and Greek.

The discovery of thousands of these numerical facts beneath the surface text of the Bible was made by a Russian born scientist named Ivan Panin. Mr. Panin was born on December 12, 1855 in Russia. He was exiled from his homeland early in his life and spent a number of years in Germany furthering his education before coming to the United States. Upon his arrival to the United States he entered Harvard University. He was an agnostic who often lectured on atheism. Panin being a multi-lingual scholar began to study the Bible in the original languages of Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek. He was a brilliant mathematician who loved to play with numbers. One day in 1890 while reading the scriptures he experimented by converting the letters to numbers and stumbled upon a mathematical pattern. He continued to study and become amazed by the number of patterns that he had found. This led him to become a born again Christian and he

devoted 50 years of his life identifying these amazing numerical facts. He invited many to review his findings but no one was able to refute his facts. Panin died on October 30, 1942, at the age of 87. Following are just a few of the numerical designs he discovered in the Bible which scientifically proves the authenticity of the Word of God.

It is the numerous occurrences of the number “seven” beneath the surface of the original text that leads one to the conclusion that these numerical patterns are there by design and could have only been done by God. Each occurrence of a numerical fact that involves the use of the number seven is called a “numeric feature.” Consider the numeric features in the first verse of the Bible, *“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”* (Genesis 1:1) In the Hebrew, this verse contains exactly “7” words which is one feature. Feature two; in these 7 words there are “28” letters or four 7’s. Feature three; the three main words in the verse are “God” which is the subject, “heavens” and “earth” are the objects. The number of letters in these three words is “14” or two 7’s. The numeric values of these three nouns are 86, 395 and 296 respectively. When these three values are added together you get a numerical value of “777.” I thought that this was quite interesting considering this book has stated that the Earth holds center stage in God’s creation. There are other features of the number seven in this one verse of scripture but I wanted to provide several to show how these numerical features work.

In the Parable of the Sower found in Mark 4:3-20, there are “49” Greek vocabulary words or seven 7’s. Vocabulary words are the number of different words used. For example, the word “and” is one vocabulary word that could be used more than once in a sentence. In this case, it would be counted only once when citing the number of vocabulary words. In the last twelve verses of Mark Chapter 16 there are over one hundred numerical features. This section of scripture (verses 9-20), some argue, should not be included in the canon of scripture. Based on the number of numerical features contained in this portion of scripture, it would validate that these verses should be included.

Other numbers used in the scripture also have meaning. For example, the number “8” is the number of *resurrection*. The name Jesus in Greek is spelled “I-E-S-O-U-S.” The “I” stands for 10, “E” represents 8, “S” stands for 200, “O” for 70, “U” for 400, and finally “S” for 200. When these numbers are added together you come up with a numerical value of “888.” It is interesting to note that in the Book of Revelation the antichrist is identified with the number “666.” This should tell us that there is some significance to these numbers. We know that Jesus rose from the dead and the numerical value of His name is “888” where 8 is the number of resurrection. This should cause us to marvel and wonder!

When you consider that the entire Bible is built upon these numerical patterns that can be seen in individual words, sentences, verses, chapters, and books, the only answer for the occurrence of these features is that the divine intelligence of God put them there. If a word or even a single letter was added or taken away it would destroy the mathematical cadence of the Bible. God has designed His Word in such a way that any tampering with it would be easily detected. Consider the warning the Bible gives about adding or taking away from His Word, *“For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.”* (Revelation 22:18-19) We see this same directive given in the Old Testament where it says, *“You shall not add to the word*

which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.” (Deuteronomy 4:2)

One might ask why God would go to all the trouble of incorporating these numerical features into the Bible. I believe it is one way of proving the authenticity of the Bible by providing a scientific proof for those who scoff at it and will not accept it by faith. There is a wonderful blessing for those who diligently seek after God. The Bible says, *“It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, But the glory of kings is to search out a matter.”* (Proverbs 25:2) God has concealed some wonderful things in His Word and it requires one to search for them in order to see into the depths of its wonders.

It needs to be stated that these numerical design features only occur in the original Hebrew and Greek text of the Bible. Numerical patterns have not been found in other writings. This is a marvelous proof that the Bible is like no other book and that it is indeed the true Word of God.

Praise God for His Word!

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