

# Of Sci-fi and Faith

## Thoughts on “the Alien Invasion”

As we have discussed and heard numerous times in past sermons, there seems to be a theme of “alien invasion from outer space” associated with the Second Coming of Our Savior Jesus Christ. While I must admit, it always made me take any comments or speculation with a grain of salt, it prompted me to think about space travel, an alien invasion and The Second Coming. With the current mind set of humanity, technology and the push for globalization, could this be too far off base?

That being said, I am presently employed with a group of physicists who truly are rocket scientists, having designed mirrors for the Space Shuttle for NASA. We have had numerous conversations in the past regarding aliens, UFO’s and intergalactic and interstellar space travel. Now I won’t mention their names but they are some of the smartest people on the planet. All PhD’s and engineers, one even proof read the work for a Nobel Prize recipient in Physics. Based on current technology and distances involved, they pretty much agreed such travel between planets and even further, galaxies are impossible. Sure, there are plenty of theories on how to develop such space craft with engines powered by lasers (which is their specific area of expertise) but nothing on the drawing boards that is buildable with present technology. They were also very skeptical on aliens being able to do the same. Where’s the concrete proof of alien existence? With all the sightings, so called “close encounters” there isn’t any physical evidence published. Yet.

We have successfully landed several projects on the planet Mars that have sent rovers and drones to scan the Martian surface. John Spano and I were actually at a rocket engine test for the Mars project several years ago at the Stennis Space Center in Mississippi. We can relate to the sounds described in **Ezekiel 1:24**.

We have had several former NASA projects, Voyager just to name one, that has left our solar system at 37,000 miles per hour (1/18<sup>th</sup> the speed of light). Looking at our closest neighboring star with the possibility of an Earth-like planet is Proxima Centauri. Just a short 4.25 light years away, which equals approximately 40.2 trillion kilometers. As an article I read said, “reaching it in under 10,000 years would be challenging.” Even the aforementioned Voyager Spacecraft if it were pointed at Proxima Centauri would take 80,000 years to cover the distance! This is still in our own Milky Way Galaxy! Intergalactic travel would be even more astronomical! (Pun intended)

So where did all this focus on aliens really begin? Some of the earliest works of science fiction were written long before space travel. Works containing proto-science-fiction (literary works that prefigure the themes of science fiction) were written during The Age of Reason of the 17th and 18th centuries. These included such works from (in chronological order): Shakespeare 's *The Tempest* (1610–11) contains a prototype for the " mad scientist story", Francis Bacon 's *New Atlantis* (1627), an incomplete utopian novel and Margaret Cavendish 's *The Description of a New World, Called the Blazing-World* (1666), a novel that describes an alternate world found in the Arctic by a young noblewoman. Even Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* wasn't written until 1818. Still no aliens but the imagination prep was well underway.

Herbert George Wells was born in England in the 1866. Wells is best remembered for his science fiction novels and is considered the “father of science fiction.” Some of his literary works include: *The War of the Worlds* (1898) and *The First Men in the Moon* (1901). Since his works on aliens and space, the topic has permeated literature, radio, television and movies.

Of Wells himself, he was a socialist. Wells' views on God and religion changed over his lifetime. Early in his life he distanced himself from Christianity, and later from theism, and finally, late in life, he was essentially atheistic. “A fool has said in his heart, “There is no God!” They are corrupt; they have done abominable works, there is none who does good.”- **Psalm 14:1**. We often see a tie between socialism and atheism. Of Christianity, he said: "it is not now true for me. ... Every believing Christian is, I am sure, my spiritual brother ... but if systemically I called myself a Christian, I feel that to most men I should imply too much and so tell a lie.” Satanic influence? You decide.

Not to discredit H. G. Wells nor call him a Satanist, but the seeds planted for the alien deception began a *few* centuries prior. “And the serpent said to the woman, “In dying, you shall not surely die!”- **Genesis 3:4**. The deception of mankind had begun (**Rev. 12:9**). Once Adam and Eve were deceived and sin entered into the world, Satan has had his way with mankind. We have been on the spiritual decline ever since.

The push for globalization and a one world rule has long been at the forefront of a socialist agenda. The removal of God from our society and the moral decay of our nation certainly has created the opening for such a scenario in the minds of the ungodly. The erosion of common sense and decency has long since evaporated. Erasing history along with God is now the norm. Wrong is now right (**Isa. 5:20**). The combination of current circumstances has led to a naïve population that will follow or believe just about anything.

This gullible mindset was aptly depicted in the 1996 science fiction movie, “Independence Day.” There was a female character that was up on top of a building, along with a crowd of other likeminded *geniuses*, directly under one of the enormous alien spaceships. She was yelling, “Oh I hope they bring back

Elvis!” They were all holding welcome signs with a party-like atmosphere right up until the alien ship opened up and disintegrated them all, along with the entire city. This movie was made 25 years before the depravity we face today. Combine all this with a society that can choose its own gender and it’s pretty certain, Satan can make them believe anything he wants (**John 8:44**). We need to be on guard (**Matthew 24:4**).

So, what should we think about all the buildup associated with this topic? It really isn’t complicated when we look at it from a Biblical perspective. “In the beginning God created the heavens and the Earth.” – **Genesis 1:1**. We know that “heavens” is plural to include: (1) Our Immediate Atmosphere (2) Outer Space (The Sun, Moon, Stars and Galaxies) (3) The Home of God Our Creator. Our faith in God’s Word defines in our hearts how and where our universe came from. “O Lord, how many are Your works! You have made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures.”- **Psalm 104:24, (Rom. 1:20)**.

"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows His handiwork" (**Psalm 19:1**). Just look up on a starry night or stand on the beach and watch the waves crash! His creation is all around us.

Jesus told us what is coming. “But immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. And then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven; and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of Man coming upon the clouds of heaven with power and great glory,”-**Matthew 24:29-30**.

We do not know if we will be around for the tribulation or we will have gone to a place of safety (**Matthew 24:21-22**). What we *do know* is we have the Word of

God (**John 1:1**) and the Promises of God (**1 Cor. 15:20-23, Rev. 1:6, Rev. 5:10, Rev. 22:14**).

Regardless of what the world perceives of “the sign of the Son of Man in heaven”, a war with aliens or not, it won’t be our concern. For if we live according to God’s Way of life, keeping His Commandments, His Holy Days and growing in the image of His Son, we will return with Him. The world will see Him and know it isn’t E.T.

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