

ALIEN INTRUSION

DISCUSSION GUIDES

“The evolutionary philosophy of a self-made world continues to do untold damage to Christianity, but its logical conclusion (nothing other than matter exists, thus no ultimate meaning or purpose either) remains largely, though not surprisingly, unpalatable. So, as the church declines, ‘spirituality’ in many other guises is thriving. Blended with ‘science’, and fueled by science fiction, the ‘UFO/ET’ phenomenon plays a prominent and growing role in this heady religion-philosophical cocktail. ET beliefs range from cautious acceptance of the possibility of ‘life out there’ to total conviction about aliens, even as our creators and/or saviors.” – Dr Carl Wieland, former head of Creation Ministries International, Brisbane, Australia.

ALIEN INTRUSION DISCUSSION GUIDE: SESSION 1

THE EARTH IS SPECIAL: Many people are not aware that the Bible has a great deal to say about the universe. And as vast as the universe is, Scripture takes a high view of our planet in particular. In fact, while the Bible doesn’t speak specifically about intelligent life forms on distant planets, we can make logical deduction from Scripture that would indicate there is a Gospel issue with the idea of extraterrestrial beings. God is not at all silent on this topic and gives us keen insight on his plans and purposes—not just for planet earth, but all of humanity and even the entire cosmos which will be destroyed and recreated because of the effects of sin on this current creation. So, let’s glean truth on this subject from both Old Testament as well as New Testament passages. Print out and read the article *Did God Create Life on Other Planets?*, available freely at www.creation.com/alien-life.

1. The Bible indicates that the whole creation groans and travails under the weight of sin (Romans 8:18–22). The effect of the Curse following Adam’s Fall was universal. Otherwise what would be the point of God destroying this whole creation to make way for a new heavens and Earth—2 Peter 3:13, Revelation 21:1 ff? Therefore, any ETs living elsewhere would have been (unjustly) affected by the Adamic Curse through no fault of their own—they would not have inherited Adam’s sin nature.
2. When Christ (God) appeared in the flesh, He came to Earth not only to redeem mankind but eventually the whole creation back to Himself (Romans 8:21, Colossians 1:20). However, Christ’s atoning death at Calvary cannot save these hypothetical ETs, because one needs to be a physical descendant of Adam for Christ to be our ‘kinsman-redeemer’ (Isaiah 59:20). Jesus was called ‘the last Adam’ because there was a real first man, Adam (1 Corinthians 15:22,45)—not a first Vulcan, Klingon etc. This is so a sinless human Substitute takes on the punishment all humans deserve for sin (Isaiah 53:6,10; Matthew 20:28; 1 John 2:2, 4:10), with no need to atone for any (non-existent) sin of his own (Hebrews 7:27).

3. Since this would mean that any ETs would be lost for eternity when this present creation is destroyed in a fervent heat (2 Peter 3:10, 12), some have wondered whether Christ's sacrifice might be repeated elsewhere for other beings. However, Christ died once for all (Romans 6:10, 1 Peter 3:18) on the earth. He is not going to be crucified and resurrected again on other planets (Hebrews 9:26). This is confirmed by the fact that the redeemed (earthly) church is known as Christ's bride (Ephesians 5:22–33; Revelation 19:7–9) in a marriage that will last for eternity. Christ is not going to be a polygamist with many other brides from other planets.
4. The Bible makes no provision for God to redeem any other species, any more than to redeem fallen angels (Hebrews 2:16).

READ: Genesis 1:14, Psalm 8:3-9, Psalm 115:16, Isaiah 66:1, Isaiah 40:22, Isaiah 45:18, Romans 8:22, and Revelation 21:1

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. According to Genesis 1:14, what is the purpose of the sun, moon, and stars?
2. How might this suggest that intelligent life is exclusive to Earth?
3. What do these verses indicate about God's unique affection for Earth and mankind? (see Ps. 8:3-8, Ps. 115:16, and Is. 66:1)
4. Consider Rom. 8:22. Why has "all of creation" been groaning? What are the implications of this regarding extraterrestrial life?
5. How does the idea that God holds the earth and its inhabitants (you) in a very special place affect the way you see yourself and the way you see God?

APPLICATION

As seen from this discussion, Scripture points to the earth being unique—it is center stage. The rest of the universe was made for purposes relating to the earth and what happened on Earth affected the universe. Many of the Scriptures we reviewed distinguish between the heavens and the earth, while others single out the earth as being special, made for humans to dwell on, and a focus of God's attention. We can imply from these passages that the earth should be considered separate and special when compared to the rest of the universe, and they suggest that the earth alone was created for life. So far, based on man's limited exploration of space and the solar system, this certainly holds true.

ALIEN INTRUSION DISCUSSION GUIDE: SESSION 2

A SUBTLE DECEPTION: While it may appear innocuous to believe in the possibility of intelligent life from other planets, there is actually a subversive current to that mindset that can lead to extremely dangerous shifts in understanding core doctrines of the Bible. The idea of extraterrestrial beings stems largely from a belief in evolution, so to allow for this possibility opens the door to a validation of the theory of evolution. As believers, we must be on guard against deceptive teachings and principles that lead us away from the truth of God's Word. Print out and read www.creation.com/et-needed-evolution.

READ: John 8:32, Romans 1:25, 2 Corinthians 10:5, Colossians 2:8, and 2 Thessalonians 2:10

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How does the belief of extraterrestrial life validate evolution?
2. Why is it important to be aware of this subtle deception?
3. Where did you develop your beliefs on the concept of life on other planets?
4. What are the dangers of being taken captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy (see Col. 2:8)?
5. How does knowing the truth set you free (see John 8:32) and from what are you being set free?

REFLECTION

- What is something you've been deceived about? How did you discover the truth about it?
- To what degree are you willing to believe that the Bible is the inerrant, infallible truth?
- How are you regularly growing in truth and knowledge?

ALIEN INTRUSION DISCUSSION GUIDE: SESSION 3

WHY JESUS: So, with the sci-fi myth of celestial beings from outer space debunked, what can we look to as our ultimate source and where can we put our hope in something bigger than ourselves. The Bible speaks to that as well. There is one whose name is above every other name. One who has always been and always will be. One who was at the creation of the entire cosmos and who is the way, the truth, and the life. This person is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and the Savior of the world. Paramount to understanding other doctrines of the Christian faith is a saving faith in Jesus. Christ is worthy of our faith and worship because he is supreme over all of creation.

READ: Colossians 1:15-23

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. The “firstborn” has the rights of an heir. What rights does Jesus have (vs. 15-18)?
2. What is his relationship to “all things” and why is this emphasized?
3. Why did all things need to be reconciled to God and how did Jesus achieve this?
4. How much do you identify with vs. 21, even now? How do verses 22-23 make you feel?
5. At times, what people (or forces) seem to be more powerful than Jesus (explain)? How do you respond to the fact that even those are under Christ’s authority?

ACTION

- Write out your Spiritual Timeline. This is an examination of the events and influences on your spiritual life. Review your life to this point, remembering the milestones in your spiritual journey. In your mind move through the years, noticing the events that bubble up. These events may be formal, such as confirmation or marriage, or they may be very personal, such as dreams or decisions. They may include encounters with particular people. They may be positive or negative in impact. This is an important exercise to be aware of your spiritual milestones so you can more effectively share your faith journey.
- Think of three people who do not know Jesus Christ as their personal savior and write their names down. Begin praying for them daily and look for opportunities to share your faith journey with them and how you came to be a believer in Christ.
- Study the foundational doctrines of the Christian faith, so you will be grounded in truth and not easily deceived by false teaching or culture theology. (Ephesians 4:14)