Aliens and UFOs

There are some subjects that are never discussed in church. For example, I strongly suspect that you've never heard a sermon on aliens from outer space! I know that sounds funny but I'm not joking. Churches simply don't talk about UFOs. If you want to find out what the Bible has to say about aliens (and I believe it has quite a lot to say), you are on your own.

That's unfortunate because our culture is *very* interested in aliens. According to a 2008 Scripps UFO poll, 56% of Americans believe that life probably exists on other planets and 8% believe that they've seen a UFO. On top of that, according to a 2002 poll commissioned by the SciFi channel, 2% claim to have had an encounter with alien life. That 2% number has been fairly consistent over the past few decades; it keeps coming up in poll after poll. If there are 300 million Americans then that means *six million people* claim to have been abducted.

Most people just laugh at these numbers and move on, believing that the whole "alien" thing is nothing more than fringe lunacy. The problem is that since the church doesn't take this phenomenon seriously, people are looking elsewhere for the truth. That is *very* bad because the Bible actually does address this – and what it has to say isn't being told.

One thing you may not realize is that UFO sightings have been increasing. In July 1992 there were 32 reported UFO sightings. In July 2002 there were 430 reported sightings. In July 2012 the number of sightings increased to 867. You may not hear about them on the news, but the number of sightings is going up, not down. The UFO phenomenon is *not* going away.

Another fact you may not realize is that UFO sightings aren't a recent occurrence. There are reports of UFOs in documents from ancient Egypt, Rome, and during the Middle Ages. A UFO was seen in Boston in 1639 – and there are many other cases as well. What *has* changed in the last century is the frequency of the sightings. In the past they were rare but in the modern era they're quite common.

It would be easy to dismiss this whole phenomenon as a case of mistaken identity. Perhaps people are just seeing things. After all, there are lots of planes in the sky these days; maybe that's why there are more UFO sightings. This whole subject might just be a misunderstanding. Why should the church take this seriously? Shouldn't it be left to scientists and investigators?

The reason I think it's worth a closer look is because of what the aliens are telling people during abductions. Now, I realize that you may not believe in alien abductions. But if you read the abduction accounts and listen to the claims that the "aliens" keep making, a disturbing picture begins to emerge. This isn't a scientific phenomenon at all; instead it's a spiritual one.

There are certain common themes that run through many abduction stories. It turns out that the message of these "aliens" is very religious. The aliens didn't come to our world to talk about science; no, what they want to talk about is *religion*. The aliens spend a great deal of time trying to convince people that Christianity is a hoax. Of all the religions in the world, Christianity is the one that they single out and attack. For some reason they hate Christianity with a passion.

The aliens make many religious claims which contradict the Bible. For instance, aliens claim that we had past lives:

> "Then [the alien] said that it was my choice, that I agreed to all this a long time ago. I said I didn't remember the agreement ... and he answered, '<u>Before you were born</u>, and we've had this conversation before." [*Taken*, p147]

They claim that they're here to help us, and if we join them we can become one with the Creator (which is a teaching known as "pantheism"): "People on Earth, open your doors to our help, for you need it desperately ... Join our Confederation and <u>be one with the Creator</u>."

The aliens claim that they (not God) created mankind:

"'Did you create humans, too?' [the abducted woman] asked, and <u>he confirmed this</u>." [*Taken*, p157]

"Aliens genetically changed the DNA of a distant cousin to the ape on this planet ... the aliens took the natural evolution and sped it up." [*Alien Contact*, p178-9]

They claim that the Bible isn't accurate:

"Not all stories in your Bible are accurate because <u>your Bible is not 100% correct</u>..." [*Alien Contact*, p177-8]

They claim that Jesus was an alien:

"The messages include ... exhortations to put the world in order by returning to the 'Cosmic Laws' as taught by great Masters such as Jesus, Buddha, and Krishna – <u>all of whom are said to</u> <u>have come from other planets</u>" [*Aetherius Society*, p12-3]

"The millions that come from other worlds, from far-off galaxies to assist in bringing peace upon Earth, have my staunch support... <u>I am</u> <u>Sandanda, known to you as Jesus the Christ</u>... I am Sandanda, and this is my message to the world." [*Project World Evacuation*, p8-9] "The most controversial thing is the ascension and resurrection of Christ. You see, <u>he went up</u> to a UFO in a beam..." [*Alien Contact*, p177-8]

"the creators therefore arranged for a child to be born of a woman of the Earth and one of their own people (aliens). The child in question (Jesus Christ) would thereby inherit certain telepathic faculties which humans lack... Mary was the woman chosen..." [*The True Face Of God*, p60]

There's a great deal more, but you get the point. The main thing that aliens want to do is convince people that Christianity is false. Aliens claim that Jesus didn't actually die; instead He was beamed up to a UFO and revived. They claim that Mary was an alien. They claim that Jesus wasn't sent here to save us from our sins but to help us advance scientifically – and on and on it goes.

The point is that these supposed aliens spend a great deal of time attacking the Bible, Jesus Christ, and the gospel. Their message is primarily a religious, New Age message that's a *direct attack on Christianity*. In other words, the aliens are spending their time spreading a false gospel and promoting a false religion.

Incidentally, this message is having a *tremendous* impact. Many people are believing what these aliens are telling them. One person put it this way: "My belief system went right out the window" (*1 in 40*, p322-3). After encountering aliens, people are not only drawn away from Christianity but are plunged into the occult. Alien encounters change people's worldview – and this is happening to many people! Regardless of what you may think of alien abductions, people believe that it's real and their experiences are causing them to reject the gospel. In many cases alien abductions turn into *conversion experiences* when people are shocked by what happened to them and accept a false gospel. Regardless of whether they actually were abducted or not, their embrace of paganism after the encounter is *very* real. This should be a cause of great concern to the church because the aliens' message is spreading. Each year people are becoming *more* interested in what the aliens have to say. The message that the aliens bring is both clear and disturbing: the Bible is false, Jesus can't save you from your sins, the Earth is on the verge of a terrible crisis, and the only way to save mankind is to reject Christianity and put your faith in aliens. What we're dealing with here is a false religion that's led countless people astray – and it has gone almost completely unchallenged by the Church. (Like I said earlier: how many sermons have you heard about this in church?)

All of this brings up a question: does it seem likely to you that genuine extraterrestrial beings would travel thousands of light-years across space just to come to Earth and tell people that the Bible is wrong? Does it seem likely that an advanced race of beings, with superior intelligence and amazing powers, would spend their time performing horrifying medical experiments on live subjects and preaching a false gospel to them?

Dr. Jacques Vallee put it this way:

"The 'medical examination' to which abductees are said to be subjected, often accompanied by sadistic sexual manipulation, is reminiscent of the medieval tales of encounters with demons. <u>It</u> <u>makes no sense in a sophisticated or technical</u> <u>framework</u>: any intelligent being equipped with the scientific marvels that UFOs possess would be in a position to achieve any of these alleged scientific objectives in a shorter period of time with fewer risks." [*Confrontations*, p13]

John Keel was more blunt:

"The UFO manifestations seem to be, by and large, merely minor variations of the age-old <u>demonological phenomenon</u>..." [Operation

Trojan Horse, p299]

What do we know about these supposed aliens? Well, based on abduction reports, the aliens are sadistic, cruel, and heartless. They torture people and molest them. They have tremendous powers. Most of all, though, they attack Jesus Christ, the Bible, and the gospel. Given that profile isn't it possible that, instead of extraterrestrials, what we're actually dealing with are *demons*? What if these aren't aliens at all but are evil spirits *posing* as aliens in order to peddle a false gospel and inflict horror upon people? This does fit the profile of what we know about them. After all, demons are known as deceiving spirits.

There's another reason to suspect that alien encounters are actually demonic in nature: born-again, Bible-believing Christians *have never been abducted*. Unbelievers are abducted all the time, and people who are involved in the occult are especially likely to have an encounter. (According to research, virtually *all* abductees had some sort of prior involvement with the occult before they were abducted.) But Christians are avoided. In the tens of thousands of abduction cases that have been studied, *not one* of them ever happened to a Christian.

On top of that, it turns out there's only one way to stop an alien abduction. In nearly all cases the people who were abducted had no power over what happened to them. The aliens simply took them and there was nothing they could do about it. In a few cases, though, people were able to stop their abduction. How did they do it? In every case it was the same: they *called on the name of Jesus*. Even though the abducted people weren't Christians, when they called on Jesus the aliens became terrified. They simply could not stand that Name. The name of Jesus made them flee.

Is there a group of powerful, superhuman beings that are terrified of the name of Jesus? Yes, there is. Demons are terrified of the Lord Jesus Christ, as the New Testament demonstrates time and time again: **Matthew 8:28-29:** "And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two <u>possessed with</u> <u>devils</u>, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way. And, behold, they cried out, saying, <u>What have</u> we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?"

Some Christians believe that demonic occurrences are something that happened a long time ago, back when Jesus walked the Earth. In those days there were lots of demonpossessed people, and Jesus fought the demons and cast them out. Today, though, times are different. Demons may tempt people to sin but that's about it. Evil spirits don't go around tormenting or possessing people anymore. That only happened back in Bible times. Things are different now – or so people think.

But what if demons have *not* stopped seeking whom they may devour? What if they're still active and Christians simply haven't noticed because the demons picked a particularly good disguise? After all, posing as aliens would be a *terrific* way to deceive countless people, and there are many who would believe anything an "alien" told them. What makes it even better is that most people think UFOs are "goofy" and ignore them – which would give demons free reign to do anything they wanted. If demons are behind the UFO phenomenon, I have to say that they're winning because the church isn't even fighting the battle. Instead churches are ignoring it entirely.

Regardless of whether aliens are demons or not, *someone* is out there destroying the faith of millions of people and bringing countless souls into spiritual darkness. Is this really something that should go unchallenged?