

The Strong Delusion

Invasion of an Otherworldly Islam

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To my great-grandmother Thelma. She planted my first seeds of faith; to that I owe her eternally.

Unknown to her, she also bestowed on me a mantle to reconcile my faith with the existence of extraterrestrial life. In so doing, after twenty years of searching, I believe I have discovered the nature of the *strong delusion* of 2 Thessalonians 2:11

PHOTO TAG (01. Great Grandmother Thelma.jpg)

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Introduction

The Bible speaks of a deception that will overshadow the world in the last days. This *strong delusion* is spoken of in 2 Thessalonians 2:3–12.

Note: All the Bible verses in this book are from the English Standard Version (ESV), unless otherwise stated. For the sake of brevity, many scripture references are not quoted, so I recommend reading this book along with a Bible translation of your choice for a more in-depth study of the material.¹

2 Thessalonians 2:3–12 [bold emphasis and bracketed comments added]

Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and **the man of lawlessness [the Antichrist]** is revealed, the **son of destruction**, opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. For **the mystery of lawlessness is already at work**. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. **The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved**. Therefore God sends them a **strong delusion**, so that they may believe what is false, in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Since my youth, this upcoming deception has both terrified and intrigued me. Jesus stated that it will be so powerful, if it were possible, *it would deceive the very elect* (Matthew 24:24, Mark 13:22).

Matthew 24:24

For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.

What deception could have the ability to appeal to every demographic? What deception could draw upon every facet of human wisdom, harmonizing with all the sciences, and simultaneously inspire a sense of spiritual wonder?

Whatever it is, it's big and completely unexpected, and it will force a paradigm shift by all who encounter it. It will court the aspirations of both physicists and theologians, it will unify people from all walks of life, and it will all proceed from a man who will demonstrate the reality of the spiritual realm with such powerful demonstrations that those of divergent faiths will unite and those of no faith will come to believe.

While the world is unprepared for what is coming, at the same time, I venture to speculate that people across the globe can sense we are on the edge of a great precipice. That is most likely why you have picked up this book. Those troublesome echoes in the ether of your mind are calling out to you.

Years ago, not long after I accepted Christ in my early twenties, for reasons I will divulge later in this book, I came to the realization that the strong delusion mentioned above has something to do with extraterrestrial life. To that end, I devoted myself to extensive research for over two decades.

Those familiar with two of my previous books, *Aliens in the Bible* and *Aliens and the Antichrist*, will know that I am a Christian who believes in the existence of extraterrestrial life. I implore you to briefly set aside any conundrum you may have at this point regarding any perceived contradictions in my beliefs. Simply accept the premise that the existence of extraterrestrial life would most likely present the world with an extreme wild tangent that would impose dramatic scientific and spiritual implications on the global community if proven true.

The second element of the strong delusion that I address in this book, which I have never addressed in depth before, involves the religion of the Antichrist. I credit author Joel Richardson's book *The Islamic Antichrist* for opening my eyes to the religion of Islam and inspiring me to write this book. While researching the Qur'an and Hadiths regarding the future return of a Muslim Jesus, I found myself reading about a vision that has haunted my dreams for many years. Everything in this book is the result of that vision.

As a Christian ufologist, I focused almost exclusively on the Bible in the past. In this book, I have expanded my scope to include the book of Enoch, as well as passages from the Qur'an and Hadiths. It turns out that the Qur'an and Hadiths have an inexplicable relationship with the Bible that not only includes a *mirror image* of the End Times prophecy but also discloses a great deal of information about how those End Times events will include extraterrestrial involvement.

The connections that extraterrestrial life and the religion of Islam share with the strong delusion are wide and varied. This book is my best attempt to disclose the information I have discovered regarding the deceptions of the Antichrist and his False Prophet. Recalling the words from 2 Thessalonians on the previous page, where it states, "Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things?" it is my hope that by illuminating these unbelievable details before they happen, this book will serve the purpose of preserving the elect.

Chapter 1: My Great-Grandmother's Encounter

I have been asked many times over the years, "How is it that a person who claims to be a Christian also believes in extraterrestrials?" Those who have read *Aliens in the Bible* might figure it has something to do with my seeing and communicating with a glowing ball of light in the jungle of Panama back in the early 1990s, which I disclose in chapter 1 of that book. However, I actually believed in the existence of extraterrestrials much earlier than that. It all goes back to my great-grandmother.

From my early childhood, I recall the fervent faith of my great-grandparents. From the stories Grandma told and the diary notes she left behind, I learned that when my great-grandfather was born in 1899, his aunt prophesied that he would be a preacher of the word of God. Her prophecy came to pass. He left home with his young bride, and they traveled all over the United States during the Great Depression, spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

My childhood visits to Grandpa and Grandma's house were always accompanied by stories about Daniel in the lion's den, David and Goliath, and other famous biblical accounts. They never missed church; they prayed every day, read their Bible every day, volunteered in various ministries, and dedicated their lives to serving God. If the TV was on, it was an evangelist, and if the radio was playing, it was gospel music. They ate, drank, walked, talked, slept, dreamed, blinked, and breathed Jesus. I have never met anyone in my life so consumed with God as they were.

Grandma had several powerful supernatural encounters in her lifetime, and she had no qualms about sharing these stories with the family. As outlandish as some of her stories were, I still consider her the most reputable source of anyone I know because she was not one to lie.

Her most notable experiences were about the two times Jesus visited her in person. These weren't dreams, or impressions, or some experience in an altered state of consciousness. These visits happened when she was fully conscious, and Jesus literally showed up in bodily form, appearing like a flesh-and-blood human being, except that He was glowing.

The first time she saw Him was when she lived in Oklahoma. She was recovering from a stroke that had nearly killed her. The stroke left her completely paralyzed on the left side of her body. She said she was lying in her hospital bed fully awake during the daytime, and Jesus walked into her room. He was wearing a glowing white robe, and His countenance was brilliant and unspeakably beautiful. He smiled at her, bathing her in a supernatural peace, and instantly she was healed from her paralysis. He then turned and walked out. Later on, the doctors were baffled when she gave her testimony.

While Grandma's stories of Jesus and an angel who saved her life on one occasion were beyond fantastic, in a way, they didn't seem unfitting for those who knew her. As I mentioned, she was utterly consumed with Jesus, so these stories were at least in context with the rest of her life. However, not everything Grandma witnessed in her days fit so nicely within the context of the Christian paradigm most Christians are comfortable with.

Grandma saw a UFO when she was a young girl. Our entire family thought it fascinating to hear such an outlandish story coming from her, of all people. She told this strange story one night at her house when many members of the family were visiting. She was contentedly reading a newspaper article about a wild-goose chase between several police cars and a UFO sighted just outside of the town where we all lived. She spoke up quite suddenly, excited about the article, read it out loud, and then blurted out to everyone's amazement, "When I was a young girl, I saw a UFO."

My interest in UFOs was peaked at the ripe age of five years old when Grandma made this declaration. I didn't know what UFOs were, but whatever they were certainly seemed curious, judging from the dumbfounded looks on everyone's face. It was clear to me that most people thought they did not exist, but if Grandma said she saw one, they had to exist.

Many say UFOs are only a product of this technological age, but I don't consider that a valid fact, knowing my great-grandmother lived in backwoods Kentucky and had never seen an automobile at that time, much less a flying contraption. She said she was very impressed by its polished surface; it was the first thing she ever saw that had a polished alloy surface.

Grandma said it happened one afternoon while she and her sister were walking in the middle of a deserted prairie. They noticed a strange object shaped like a cigar hovering without sound, about twenty feet above the ground. The cylindrical object slowly cruised by, flying right in front of them, less than one hundred yards away. It had a reflective metallic surface like aluminum with a transparent bubble on top. She actually saw a man inside. For those who attribute all UFO activity to top secret government projects, I do not think our military was developing things like this less than twenty years after the Wright brothers made their debut.

There were some bluffs nearby, and when the object reached the bluffs, it went over the cliffs and zipped off at an amazing speed. She said it was gone in the blink of an eye. It made a *zing* sound when it shot like a bullet over the cliffs and out of sight. Grandma even made the sound effect to illustrate her point.

After that, she and her sister rushed home to tell their mother, only to be harshly scolded and sworn to secrecy. Her mother wouldn't hear another word about a man in the sky inside of a shiny thing that flew like a bird.

At least Grandma had her sister to confide in, but unfortunately her sister died when she was very young. Reading that newspaper article must have jolted her memory. She was so enthusiastic when she read the article out loud. It was probably a relief to get that story off her chest after some sixty-plus years of silence.

Nobody in our family ever doubted her. What motive could she have possibly had to commit the sin of lying to her family about something as odd as a UFO sighting?

"I don't care what anybody thinks" she said bluntly, "those things are real!"

Perhaps she found a peculiar familiarity while reading 2 Kings 2:11-12 in her Bible.

2 Kings 2:11–12 [bold emphasis added]

And as they still went on and talked, behold, **chariots of fire and horses of fire** separated the two of them. And **Elijah went up by a whirlwind** into heaven. And Elisha saw it and he cried, “My father, my father! **The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!**” And he saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Note: 1. Elijah was physically taken to heaven in a physical chariot. 2. My two cents: If flying horses were towing a chariot, the chariot would be dangling beneath the horses unless it was capable of defying gravity on its own. Obviously the chariot was capable of defying gravity, and it further applied that antigravity field to pull Elijah up into it (i.e., the whirlwind). This chariot therefore had to have a highly advanced propulsion system and most likely did not have actual horses at all. The author simply knew of no other way a chariot could move, so he attributed the source of power that moved this chariot as being very unusual horses (i.e., horses of fire).

Concerning the transparent bubble on top of the aerial vehicle that my grandma saw, I’m reminded of another passage of scripture that mentions something similar. In the book of Ezekiel, chapters 1 and 10, Ezekiel describes an otherworldly encounter with angels, and what appears to be advanced technology. Below is an excerpt.

Ezekiel 1:16–24 [Bold emphasis and bracketed comments added]

As for the **appearance of the wheels and their construction: their appearance was like the gleaming of beryl**. And the four had the same likeness, their appearance and construction being as it were a **wheel within a wheel**. When they went, **they went in any of their four directions without turning as they went**. And **their rims were tall and awesome, and the rims of all four were full of eyes all around**. And **when the living creatures went, the wheels went beside them; and when the living creatures rose from the earth, the wheels rose. Wherever the spirit wanted to go, they went, and the wheels rose along with them, for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels**. When those went, these went; and when those stood, these stood; and when those rose from the earth, **the wheels rose along with them, for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels. Over the heads of the living creatures there was the likeness of an expanse, shining like awe-inspiring crystal, spread out above their heads**. And under the expanse **their wings were stretched out straight, one toward another** [wings were straight and possibly connected at the ends (one toward the other)]. And each creature had two wings covering its body [note that **two wings on each side, an upper and a lower, connected on the ends, would resemble the panels of a saucer**]. And when they went, I heard **the sound of their wings like the sound of many waters**, like the sound of the **Almighty, a sound of tumult like the sound of an army**. **When they stood still, they let down their wings**.

Most people in Ezekiel's day would sum up such a vision in one word: indescribable. But Ezekiel was an articulate man, as best as he could be with his ancient Hebrew language, and I commend him. This vision may have been completely baffling to Ezekiel, but in this modern age, a number of characteristics are highly indicative of advanced technology.

1. Ezekiel mentions "a wheel within a wheel." Is this not the shape of a flying saucer?
2. Out of all the types of metals that exist, Ezekiel mentions that the wheels had the "gleaming of beryl." Beryllium happens to be commonly used in missile and aircraft construction. It is an exceptionally strong, lightweight metal with many beneficial properties, such as heat and corrosion resistance.
3. How might a man from antiquity describe a device capable of flight, had that person never seen anything fly except for birds? He would likely associate wings with what he thought gave such a device its ability to fly. Here we see four wings joined together, *straight* wings that do not turn (i.e., not fluid, flexible, or flapping). It sounds to me like he could be describing the paneling on the outside of a spacecraft.
4. Does it not appear odd that a living being that flies would have the shape of a wheel? The wheels he describes sound more like transportation devices associated with these angels than they do appendages, such as arms or legs.
5. "And the likeness of the firmament upon the heads of the living creature was as the color of the terrible **crystal**, stretched forth over their heads above." Here Ezekiel states that there was a crystal over the heads of the four living creatures. Could this be a transparent bubble on top?

Just after Ezekiel witnessed this vision, he reports that he was "lifted up."

Ezekiel 3:12–14 [Bold emphasis and bracketed comments added]

Then the **Spirit lifted me up**, and I heard behind me the voice of a great earthquake: "Blessed be the glory of the Lord from its place!" It was the sound of the wings of the living creatures as they touched one another, and the sound of the wheels beside them, and the sound of a great earthquake. **The Spirit lifted me up and took me away**, and I went in bitterness in the heat of my spirit, the hand of the Lord being strong upon me.

Call it speculation, but I think Ezekiel saw one or more aerial vehicles (probably intergalactic and interdimensional), and the technology was so incomprehensible, he initially referred to the pilots *and* their vehicles as living creatures. However, in Ezekiel 1:21, he distinguishes the living creatures from the wheels by stating that "the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels." He also states that he was "taken up," further indicating that this was a vehicle and he entered it, just as Elijah entered the chariot of Israel, with its horses of fire.

Many UFOs are described as having a glass-like bubble on top, and that is exactly the case with the UFO my great-grandmother saw. It also appears to be the case with these wheels that Ezekiel saw.

I personally think my great-grandmother encountered an angel, just like Ezekiel's angels, complete with his mode of intergalactic, interdimensional transportation. It leaves me to wonder if my grandma experienced more on that day than she consciously recalled.

While the conclusion I'm drawing from this passage of scripture supports the possibility that angels use technology, it should be noted that angels are limited beings, whereas God is not. The prospect that God, Creator of all things, would need technology for anything is utterly absurd. However, based on what I see in this scripture, it appears that at least some of His angels do use technology.

Taking this scripture into account, and bouncing it off the account in 2 Kings 2:12, which mentions a "chariot of Israel" flown by angels in the sky, and 1 Chronicles 28:18, which mentions a "chariot of the cherubim," as well as other accounts of glory clouds, pillars of fire at night, and a roving Star of Bethlehem, and so forth, I can't help but conclude that angels are physical, interdimensional beings that use technology.

It is not uncommon for Christians to link a UFO/extraterrestrial phenomenon with the realm of the demonic, which is easy to do in light of some horrific alien abduction accounts. Keep in mind, however, that scripture speaks of faithful angels *and* fallen angels. Based on all my research, I think both faithful and fallen angels use technology. It is particularly the association of good angels and technology, which some have mistakenly used to demote God to the status of a created being who relies on technology, that I believe is a powerful contributing factor to the strong delusion.

Chapter 2: Christian Ufology

While the field of ufology became more defined with the Roswell incident in 1947 and the establishment of Project Blue Book, which immediately followed, the more specialized field of Christian ufology didn't begin to take shape until the 1990s. Even the new term "Christian ufology" may not officially exist. If it doesn't, I hereby pronounce it into existence. It is a specialization in the field of ufology, whereby UFOs and their occupants are defined within the paradigm of a Christian context.

Some ufologists might think Erich von Däniken and Zacharia Sitchin are Christian ufologists. They both have made names for themselves as ancient-astronaut theorists, but one must first be a Christian in order to be a Christian ufologist. Simply quoting from the Bible doesn't make someone a Christian. I will discuss these two ufologists more in depth later in this chapter.

While I'd like to think I am a pioneer in the field of Christian ufology, noted theologian Finis Jennings Dake actually touched upon the subject of extraterrestrial life spanning the cosmos as early as the late 1940s.¹ Following him, there was Dr. Barry Downing in the 1960s, whom I will discuss momentarily, but aside from these scant few authors, the degree of published material by Christians in the field of ufology was minimal. I can personally attest that searches on the Internet for "aliens" and "Bible" or similar queries gave few relevant results in the early 1990s. In response to that void, I posted my initial research into the fledgling field of Christian ufology on a free website, in an article titled "My Message to the World." That article formed the basis of my first book, *Aliens in the Bible*.

Just one year after I posted my article, author Chuck Missler produced several audio sermons titled "Return of the Nephilim."² I seriously doubt he stumbled across my obscure article, but he was certainly tuned into my channel. I was absolutely floored when I heard Missler on the radio for the first time. Up until that point, I thought I was alone with my otherworldly views of the Bible.

In 1999, I published *Aliens in the Bible*, and in 2006, I published *Aliens and the Antichrist*. During that time, in less than a decade, the field of Christian ufology exploded, as if a prophetic invasion force stormed the beachhead of the church. Regarding all this new literature, I have found that the Christian views of extraterrestrial life tend to fall into four general categories:

1. **Category 1 (ETs Don't Exist):** Christians who attribute the existence of extraterrestrials and their intergalactic spacecraft to natural or manmade phenomenon
2. **Category 2 (ETs Are Evil):** Christians who categorize extraterrestrials and their intergalactic spacecraft as an elaborate satanic deception
3. **Category 3 (ETs Are Good):** Christians who categorize extraterrestrials and their spacecraft, which they define as intergalactic *and* interdimensional, as divine manifestations of God's holy angels from the heavens (the heavens being outer space as one of the definitions).

4. **Category 4 (ETs Are Evil and Good):** Christians who agree with the third category of Christian ufologists in their belief that extraterrestrials are divine manifestations of God's holy angels, but they also agree with Christians in the second category because the Bible documents both good and evil angels. They therefore disagree that *all* extraterrestrials and their spacecraft are divine manifestations of God's holy angels. This is the category in which I fall. I believe that some extraterrestrials are God's faithful angels, whereas others are fallen angels.

2.1 Christians in Category 1 (ETs Don't Exist)

According to Tariq Malik, staff writer for Space.com, a telephone poll that questioned one thousand Americans revealed that regular churchgoers were less likely to believe in extraterrestrial life (about 46 percent) than nonchurchgoers (about 70 percent).³ Combining this statistic with the fact that roughly 77 percent of US adult citizens identify themselves as Christians,⁴ the conclusion must be drawn that Christian ufologists in the first category appeal to the largest number of active Christians.

Explanations for UFO/extraterrestrial-related phenomena derived from Christian ufologists in this category vary widely, ranging from ball lightning, swamp gas, hallucinations, or hoaxes to meteorites, weather balloons, or experimental military aircraft. An example of a Christian ufologist who doubts the existence of extraterrestrial life and dismisses the bulk of UFO/extraterrestrial phenomena as being misidentified natural or manmade is Kenneth Samples. He is coauthor of *Lights in the Sky and Little Green Men: A Rational Christian Look at UFOs and Extraterrestrials*.⁵

2.2 Christians in Category 2 (ETs Are Evil)

While most active Christians dismiss the majority of UFO/extraterrestrial-related phenomena as author Samples does (though this statistic is in flux), the largest number of Christian ufologists are more willing to accept that there is definitely a paranormal phenomenon taking place. However, they attribute this phenomenon to a satanic deception rather than actual extraterrestrial beings from other planets. I have narrowed down four primary reasons for this conclusion.

First of all, many propulsion experts agree that the science of propulsion makes the idea of intergalactic space travel seem impossible.⁶ Secondly, UFO/extraterrestrial-related phenomena are frequently linked with the realm of the occult.⁷ Thirdly, the alien abduction phenomenon as reported by most abductees is not only described as a torturous and horrific experience, but it is also noted that abductions of Christians who call the name of the Lord Jesus Christ for help immediately terminate their abduction.⁸ I've interviewed people who have testified to this. And finally, Christian authors in this category sometimes quote scriptures referring to Genesis chapter 6 during the days of Noah, when fallen angels interbred with humanity and produced a race of evil giants known as the Nephilim.

It was the Nephilim that caused God to bring the flood of Noah. Jesus stated that there would be a return to the days of Noah (Matthew 17:26, 24:37). Authors in this category,

therefore, hypothesize that the extraterrestrial phenomenon is a return to the intermingling of fallen angels with humanity.

Among the Christian ufologists in this category are Chuck Missler and Dr. Mark Eastman, authors of *Alien Encounters*; Dr. Michael S. Heiser, author of *The Façade*; Dr. L. A. Marzulli, author of *The Nephilim Trilogy*; Dr. I. D. E. Thomas, author of *The Omega Conspiracy*; Cal Thomas, Los Angeles Times Syndicate; Barbara Simpson, author of *The Babe in the Bunker*; Jack Vallee, author of *Messengers of Deception*; Stephen Yulish, retired professor and researcher, and David Flynn, author of *Cydonia: The Secret Chronicles of Mars*.

2.3 Christians in Category 3 (ETs Are Good)

The third category of Christian ufologists, those who believe that most UFO/extraterrestrial related phenomena should be considered as divine manifestations of God and/or His holy angels, is the most controversial category with respect to those of the Christian faith. Part of the reason for this is that some of the most famous ufologists who proposed the ancient-astronaut theory are those who quoted the Bible to support their theories, yet they (namely von Däniken and Sitchin mentioned earlier) were not Christians. Their research demotes the God of the Bible to a created being (i.e., alien, or race of aliens) who seeded life on Earth.^{9, 10} This contradicts one of God's immutable attributes as being the one and only Creator of all things as defined in Acts 17:24–26, Colossians 1:14–18, John 1:1–14, and many other scriptures.

Colossians 1:14–18 [bold emphasis and bracketed comments added]

... in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He [Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him [Jesus] **all things were created**, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—**all things were created through him and for him**. And he [Jesus] is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he [Jesus] is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

Extraterrestrials cannot be substituted for the name of Jesus in the above passage of scripture. Extraterrestrials, angels, and everything else are created beings that *live in the heavens*, which are a multidimensional construct of time/space created by God. Only God is the Creator, and as the Creator of the universe, only He can exist outside of His creation. This distinction is an immutable quality that only God has. Understanding that God is the Creator is a core belief that one *must* hold to in order to be a genuine Christian, much less a Christian ufologist.

Zacharia Sitchin, who quoted more from ancient Sumerian texts than anything else, derived his theory of a race of aliens creating humanity partly from his interpretation of the Old Testament Hebrew word for God, which is *Elohim*. Elohim is a plural word. The wording of God's dialogue in reference to creating humanity is also unique. For the creation of man, God communes with Himself, as if talking to a team in a sort of self-dialogue.

Genesis 1:26–27 [bold emphasis added]

And God said, **Let us** make man in **our image**, after **our likeness**: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth. So God created man in **his own image, in the image of God created he him**; male and female created he them.

A theologian acquaintance of mine, Michael Heiser, scholar of Hebrew and author of *The Facade*,¹¹ disagrees with the assertion that Elohim refers to the Trinity in the Old Testament. He contends that this violates some theological interpretational rule, though I am not sure how in spite of his lengthy attempt to explain it to me. The way I see it, if God *is* a Trinity, He has been, currently is, and always will be a Trinity. However, Heiser believes that God's dialogue about the creation of man, such as the phrase "Let us create man in our image," is actually God talking with His high-ranking angels. He argues that God, and only God, does the creating, but His angels are there to witness it.

Theological types have a habit of getting deep into the weeds over semantics like this. I personally don't think this fine point makes much difference if God is indeed the one who created humanity.

Regardless of Heiser's assessment, most Christians I have talked to attribute the plurality of Elohim to the fact that God has a triune nature (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). Either way, Hebrew scholar or not, God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are all specifically defined as God in the New Testament. Whether the wording in the Old Testament is referring to angels or the Trinity alone, it was God in His triune nature who created humanity, not angels, and that's the part that counts.

Sitchin and von Däniken, on the contrary, insist that the plural word for God denotes a race of beings that created humanity, rather than a triune God. What they both fail to convey, however, is that the same Elohim who created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1) and declared "Let there be light" (Genesis 1:3) is also the Elohim who created humanity from the dust of the earth (Genesis 2:7).

Genesis 1:1–3 [bracketed comments added]

In the beginning, God [Elohim] created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God [Elohim] was hovering over the face of the waters. And God [Elohim] said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

A race of alien beings could not have possibly spoken the universe, and light into existence. Tinkering with DNA is one thing; extraterrestrials can most likely tinker with DNA. Creating the universe and DNA out of nothingness is quite another matter. No created being can do such things.

In summation, Sitchin and von Däniken only pick and choose verses from the Bible that fit their narrative and discard all else as *human error*. Their ultimate conclusion is that ETs created humanity, not God, and that all world religions are nothing more than a misidentification of the extraterrestrial reality.

While there are many ufologists like von Däniken and Sitchin, who quote the Bible as supporting evidence for UFO/extraterrestrial activity, few are Christians, who hold to the biblical worldview that God, the Creator of all things, is also the Creator of humanity. Despite this fact, there are at least two prominent Christian ufologists in this category that I know of.

Barry Downing, author of *The Bible and Flying Saucers*¹² and *UFO Revelation*,¹³ made the ancient-astronaut connection with the Bible back in the 1960s, around the same time as Erich von Däniken. Downing received a bachelor's degree in physics from Hartwick College, a bachelor of divinity in theological seminary at Princeton, and a PhD from the University of Edinburgh, where he specialized in the relationship between science and religion. He was also a minister for thirty-four years. Needless to say, Downing is somewhat of a polymath.

In Downing's books, he speaks extensively about flying angelic chariots, the clouds of heaven that transported angels between heaven and the earth, Moses and the burning bush, the parting of the Red Sea, the pillar of cloud and fire that fed and led Israel through the wilderness for forty years, the fact that most angels described in scripture don't have wings, and many other details, all of which establish the idea that UFOs/aliens are God's divine messengers. In today's terminology, they're the same entities as "good guy" extraterrestrials. The Bible is still 100 percent true; Downing simply proposes a new lens through which to view it.

For making this connection, Downing has come under severe attack from some of those in category 2. Guy Malone said he was "downright blasphemous," Gary Bates labeled him "a wolf in sheep's clothing," and Heiser accused him of "hermeneutical rape," whatever that means.¹⁴ I think some of these guys lie awake at night just thinking of these colorful terms. Hermeneutical rape ...

In the past, I probably tempted Gary Bates to declare similar things about me, and as I previously mentioned, Heiser and I also corresponded, though on better terms than this. I think these attacks are ridiculous. Whatever happened to civil debates? Downing is a respected minister and a devout Christian; there is no need for this kind of ridiculous hyperbole.

In my correspondence with Downing, we discussed each other's work and also the idea that even Jesus was an extraterrestrial in his preincarnate form, such as when He interacted with Adam and Eve, when Joshua encountered Him as the captain of the Lord's army (Joshua 5:13–15), and when the Israelites witnessed Him and ate dinner with Him on the top of Mount Sinai (Exodus 24:9–18). I totally agree with Downing on this assessment, though with one caveat, which he agrees with.

When Jesus is physically manifest in His multidimensional creation, He can be considered an extraterrestrial *by definition* because He is an intelligent being, not originally from Earth. Jesus even declared that He is a king from another world (John 8:23, 18:36).

John 8:23 [bold emphasis added]

He said to them, “You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; **I am not of this world ...**”

John 18:36 [bold emphasis added]

Jesus answered, “**My kingdom is not of this world.** If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.”

However, I stress the distinction that Jesus has from all other created beings: He is *not* a created being, and He has the ability to completely exit all dimensions of time/space altogether, including all the dimensions of the heavens. This is something that *no other* extraterrestrial is capable of doing. Jesus is unique, the one and *only begotten Son of God*; there is no other like Him.

Furthermore, if any other claim is made that other people (i.e., religious leaders of other religions) were or are also extraterrestrials, such as Buddha, Muhammad, Confucius, or some modern New Age guru, they have no equal footing with Jesus. Such would also be the case of an otherworldly Jesus who claims to be something other than His biblical definition as the only begotten Son of God, a point I will bring up later.

Simply put, those who claim a divine status that competes with, refutes, or otherwise denies Jesus Christ, as He declared of Himself, are false. The prophets of scripture in both the New and Old Testaments were emphatically clear about this. It’s one of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:3), and it’s also what differentiates Christ from antichrists (1 John 4:1–3; 2 John 1:7).

Exodus 20:3

“You shall have no other gods before me.”

1 John 4:1–3 [bold emphasis added]

Beloved, **do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God**, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: **every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God**, and **every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist**, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.

2 John 1:7 [bold emphasis added]

For many deceivers have gone out into the world, **those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh.** Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist.

Downing agrees with me that Jesus is indeed unique. He quoted John 1:1–14 to me, saying that Jesus is the Creator and the incarnate *word of God*. What more of an answer could anyone want? Downing is most certainly a Christian, yet he's also a kind of ancient-astronaut theorist (though not with much of the secular baggage that term often entails).

His emphasis continues to be focused almost exclusively on the so-called good guys, but not so much that he refuses to acknowledge that fallen angels will play their part of the deception in the End Times. He simply believes that it is more important to recognize the true God and His faithful angels, than to recognize the deceivers. After all, the scribes and Pharisees made the mistake of not recognizing Jesus when they accused Him of being demon possessed (Matthew 12:24). To that, Jesus indicated they were toying with an unforgivable sin.

One example of how this might play out in the future is that God's faithful angels will preach the Gospel to people in the End Times (Revelation 6:14). When this happens, how many people might reject this message, not because of its contents but rather because of the possible otherworldly distractions (i.e., intergalactic, interdimensional spacecraft for example) associated with the angel(s)?

Revelation 14:6 [bold emphasis added]

Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people.

Downing has a good point here, and I agree that we definitely need to be able to discern who the good guys are, regardless of distractions like technology. This will also be a relevant factor for discerning other details involving the good guys, such as the rapture of the church, which might actually be a mass UFO abduction, as well as the arrival and work of the *two witnesses* in Revelation. I will talk more about these guys in successive chapters.

Another noted theologian who focuses almost exclusively on the good guys is Donald P. Coverdell, ThD, author of *The Mystery Clouds*. He doesn't agree that humanity was created by a race of aliens/angels, but he does believe that UFO/extraterrestrial manifestations are primarily divine manifestations of God and His faithful angels.¹⁵

Like Downing (or perhaps too much like Dr. Downing because his work looks very close to plagiarism), he quotes numerous scriptures referring to the events of the exodus of Israel from Egypt, which included miracles as well as events surrounding a mysterious pillar of fire in the night sky (Exodus 13:21–22, 14:24; Numbers 14:14; Nehemiah 9:12, 14) and a pillar of cloud in the day that rained down a strange bread-like food in the mornings for the Israelites to eat.

Other mysterious clouds associated with God and His faithful angels are mentioned throughout scripture, such as the clouds of heaven (Daniel 7:13, Matthew 24:29–31, 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18, Revelation 11:12); the clouds of glory present during Moses's meetings with God on Mount Sinai, the tent of meeting, and with Jesus at the mount of transfiguration (Exodus 16:10, 24:16, 40:34–35; Numbers 16:42; 1 Kings 8:11; 2 Chronicles 5:14; Isaiah 4:5;

Ezekiel 1:28, 10:4; Matthew 17:5; Mark 9:7; Luke 21:27); and the cloud to which Jesus entered when departing the earth (Acts 1:9).

Coverdell writes about the angelic visitations of Ezekiel, as I have also touched upon, in which the angels were associated with what appeared to be some type of advanced technological mode of transportation referred to as wheels within wheels (Ezekiel 1, 2) and of the angelic *flying chariots of fire* in God's angelic army (2 Kings 6:17), also named the chariot of Israel in a specific encounter with the prophet Elijah (2 Kings 2:11–12).

Coverdell argues that this chariot of Israel was an airborne vehicle piloted by angels; it was used to physically *abduct* Elijah from the ground in a whirlwind and carry him away to heaven. Furthermore, Coverdell points out that before Elijah was taken away to heaven, he may have been routinely abducted by angelic beings as indicated in 1 Kings 18:12 and 2 Kings 2:16.

1 Kings 18:12 [bracketed comment and bold emphasis added]

And as soon as I [Obadiah is speaking] have gone from you, **the Spirit of the Lord will carry you I know not where.** And so, when I come and tell Ahab and he cannot find you, he will kill me, although I your servant have feared the Lord from my youth.

2 Kings 2:16 [bracketed comments and bold emphasis added]

And they said to him [Elisha], “Behold now, there are with your servants fifty strong men. Please let them go and seek your master [Elijah]. **It may be that the Spirit of the Lord has caught him up and cast him upon some mountain or into some valley.**” And he said, “You shall not send.”

I agree with all these details that both Downing and Coverdell disclose in their books; nevertheless, I also believe this subject deserves at least an equal degree of attention devoted to understanding the “bad guys.” Proposing various interpretations of scripture into both perspectives of this issue (ETs as both good and bad) will hopefully prepare people for any given outcome in the days ahead.

2.4 Christians in Category 4 (ETs Are Good and Evil)

Finally, the last of the four categories of Christian ufologists are those who believe in the existence of extraterrestrial life forms, and they define them as both *good* and *evil*. Downing can be included in this category as far as his beliefs are concerned, but since his research is focused primarily on the good guys, I include him as an example of category 3.

As for me, I fall into category 4, and I have extensively documented my research in *Aliens in the Bible*¹⁶ and *Aliens and the Antichrist*.¹⁷ In *Aliens and the Antichrist*, I devote an equal amount of time and attention to explaining how both perspectives, the biblical roles and identities of good and evil ETs, need to be fully understood in order to comprehend how the strong delusion will unfold. I have a hunch that the reason why the strong delusion will be such a powerful deception is because it will contain so much truth to it.

Christian ufologists in category 4 draw their research primarily from the Bible, just as the researchers from the second and third categories of Christian ufologists do, yet they also reconcile the differences between these seemingly opposing views.

Aside from me, Finis Jennings Dake, theologian and author of *God's Plan for Man*,¹⁸ and another personal friend of mine, Jim Cunningham,¹⁹ Christian UFO researcher and website maintainer for the Strong Delusion website (it was Jim who introduced me to Downing), are among a select few in this last category.

I'm sure there are others in the fourth category because the information I am writing about in this book is finally spreading among Christians. However, this is still relatively new information; most Christian ufology books are less than a decade old. As for the manner in which I address the religion of Islam in this book, and how it will tie into an extraterrestrial reality, I've never seen, heard, or read anything even remotely close to it. That's why I was compelled to write this book.

Like Christian ufologists in the second category, I agree that there is a satanic deception at work within the UFO/extraterrestrial phenomenon, yet at the same time, I also believe the deception contains more truth to it than most Christian ufologists surmise. This makes the deception even more cunning than it would be if there were no truth to it at all.

The truth I refer to concerns the belief that the universe actually *is* populated with life, which is in agreement with Christian ufologists in the third category. However, unlike Christians in the third category, I insist on pointing out that the Bible speaks of *faithful* and *fallen* angels, both of which have mingled in the affairs of humanity since the dawn of history. Both will continue to be involved in the affairs of humanity until the return of God's kingdom of heaven on earth in the future.

During the End Times, the days of Noah will return. This namely consists of public interaction between humans and fallen angels, but I also believe God's faithful angels will be at work in the days to come as well. Revelation 14:6 makes the audacious statement that an angel will proclaim the gospel in the future. Exactly what this will look like when it happens remains a mystery. I will not be surprised if it involves extraterrestrials emerging from their alien spacecraft, similar to what happened with Ezekiel.

In a nutshell, in *Aliens and the Antichrist*, I explain how terms such as *angel* and *host of heaven* are synonymous with extraterrestrial life forms of varying alignments and power (angels are more powerful than nonangelic hosts of heaven). These beings are living on other planets (in the heavens), spanning multiple dimensions. We live on a multidimensional earth, in a multidimensional universe, or rather, a *multiverse*.

I call the idea of Earth being a multidimensional planet, the *onion theory*. In short, hell is in the heart of the earth (Matthew 12:40, Ephesians 4:9), and one of the definitions of heaven includes the sky. The firmament (i.e., sky) is where birds fly (Genesis 2:19, 7:3, 23; Psalm 8:8; Lamentations 4:19). Also, Satan is known as the prince of the power of the *air* (Ephesians 2:2).

Moreover, the prophet Daniel gives an account of a prolonged angelic confrontation lasting twenty-one days in answer to his prayers. It is doubtful that angels were battling in God's direct presence in the third heaven, where fallen angels already were cast out. This confrontation could have occurred in the second heaven (outer space); however, the archangel Gabriel's access was specifically blocked from Earth. Therefore, this confrontation likely occurred in the first heaven directly surrounding the earth (Daniel 10:13).

For civilizations to exist in these various places, they must be dimensionally shifted into higher and lower dimensions, beyond our perception. The earth is therefore a multidimensional union of lithospheres, different dimensions layered on top of each other. Earth is smaller in a lower dimension (where hell is located), and Earth is larger in a higher dimension (where the first heaven is located).²¹

Christian ufologists in the fourth category believe Christian ufologists in the first and second categories will be forced to abandon their premise that there is no such thing as extraterrestrial life in the cosmos, when, in the future, it will become common knowledge as predicted in scripture with the return to the days of Noah.

One means of proof for the existence of extraterrestrial life may be derived when intergalactic travel becomes possible and available to the public, either by means of intergalactic visitors providing that transportation and/or technology to humanity, or with the advent of our own invention of said technology, which NASA may have already completed.²²

Part of my fixation with the strong delusion is my perception that Christian ufologists in the first and second categories will be more vulnerable to the satanic deception they believe is coming because they will face a paradigm shift they will not be expecting. There *really are* aliens on other planets; they will be able to prove it.

As for those in the third category, they may have a tendency to view *all* UFO/extraterrestrial-related activity as divine manifestations of God and his faithful angels. Because of this, they may be susceptible to misidentifying fallen angels as God's faithful angels. New Age types already are set up for this deception, and many nominal Christians who have fallen for deceptions like the theory of evolution will fall for this as well.

The fourth category of Christian ufology is the most complex because it combines and reconciles information from both the second and third categories. In some cases, it expounds upon topics of the Christian faith, as well as the UFO/extraterrestrial phenomenon, through the cross-referencing of terminology.

For example, in *Aliens and the Antichrist*, I speak of something I define as *the butterfly theory* to explain the origin of angels. This theory suggests that angels did not start out as angels. Instead, they were initially created as various reproductive species spanning the cosmos. They reproduced after their own kind, rather than each being an individual creation. During their reproductive stage, they were not yet angels. Instead, they were like Adam and Eve prior to the fall: perfect, sinless beings, who reproduced after their own kind. Later in their lives, as they spiritually matured, they were eventually *translated*, at which time they became angels. This

conclusion was derived by simply pondering the destiny of the human race: those who are saved will be translated (Luke 20:36).

The butterfly theory explains the true identity of Cro-Magnon and Neanderthal, for those who are aware of the flood of Lucifer. Finis Dake was the first I know of to expound upon the flood of Lucifer. This flood destroyed an angelic civilization that once existed on Earth, and the Bible has a lot to say about it. Dake provides an extensive table that documents the differences between the flood of Noah and the flood of Lucifer.²³

Also in *Aliens and the Antichrist*, I discuss the interesting concept of *cosmic salvation*, concerning other intelligent beings in the universe.²⁴ All of these details are important in the event that extraterrestrial life becomes a reality because they will defend against the strong delusion, explaining how scripture can harmonize with the existence of extraterrestrial life. In fact, the Bible supports the existence of extraterrestrial life far more than anyone's claim that it refutes it.

I highly recommend reading *Aliens and the Antichrist* as a foundational work to this book. I am offering it as a free download on my website, <http://www.aliensandtheantichrist.com>. I've been giving away that book and *Aliens in the Bible* as free downloads ever since I published them. If the website is down, contact me at jmilor@yahoo.com, and I will e-mail you a copy.