

Are Other World Inhabited?

Our universe is vast and enormous. The Sun is *one million five hundred* times larger than the Earth and is the center of our planetary system. There are nine heavenly bodies revolving around the Sun, shining by reflected light. To get an idea of how large the Sun is, if the Sun were hollow, it would be possible to put over *one million* planets the size of our earth inside it and rattle them around like a pair of dice.

The nearest planet from the Sun, *thirty-six million* miles away, is Mercury. Next comes Venus, which is *sixty-eight million* miles from the Sun. Our planet earth is third in distance from the Sun. Mars is *one hundred forty-two million* miles away from the Sun and Jupiter is *four hundred eighty-four million* miles away from the Sun. Next is Saturn, which is *eight hundred eighty-six million* miles away from the Sun. Neptune is *two billion, eighty hundred* miles away in proximity to the Sun. Pluto, *two billion* miles more, out is the furthest planet in the Sun's heavenly bodies.

Astronomers claimed that up until the Hubble Space telescope was launched our giant telescope could only see *one-hundredth-of-one thousands-part* of the universe. [That would be like cutting a pie into 1000 pieces and then cutting one of those pieces into another 100 pieces - and that is all the percent of the universe that man has been able to see - until recently.] By far, most of the solar system has been beyond earth's most powerful telescopes.

I asked an answering site on the Internet the question, "*How big is the universe?*" and got the following back by E-mail:

"Try looking at it all this way...The universe is 'isotropic,' meaning it's the same in all directions. A good analogy is to imagine a mass of dough with raisins imbedded throughout it. Heat the dough in an oven and it begins to expand, carrying the raisins along with it. A little raisin critter looks outward from his home and sees all the other raisins moving away and thinks he's at the center of the expanding dough. But, on another raisin somewhere else in the dough, a second critter looks outward and sees exactly the same thing and thinks he's at the center. Who's right? Of course neither is, which means there is NO center.

"On to the next step. Can anything without a geometric center have an edge or boundary? No. Then can anything without an edge be said to have size? Again, no.

"Just for fun, though, let's say the universe is a perfect sphere with a center, edge, etc.,. Then, after doing the math, we'd find that its volume would be something like 9.20^{30} light years.

*"A light year is how far light can travel in one year's time...about 6-trillion miles. The little " ^ " is used online to show powers-of-ten, or scientific notation. 9.20^{30} would be 9.20 with 30 decimal places to the right of the decimal point. It would look something like 9.200000000000000000000000000000, or this if you stick in all the ', '
= 9.200,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000."
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Just this last week (July 1, 2001) America On line's Welcome page had a site that stated, "NASA's Hubble Space Telescope has snapped a remarkable view of a perfectly 'edge-on' galaxy, NGC 4013. This new Hubble picture reveals with exquisite detail huge...a spiral galaxy, similar to our own Milky Way, lying some 55 million light-years from Earth in the direction of the constellation Ursa Major. Viewed pole-on, it would look like a nearly circular pinwheel, but

*NGC 4013 happens to be seen edge-on from our vantage point. Even at 55 million light-years, the galaxy is larger than Hubble's field of view, and the image shows only a little more than half of the object, albeit with unprecedented detail."*

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To get some idea that might help to grasp the *bigness* of the universe, let's travel to the outer rim of our solar system, until our Sun and its entire planetary system, becomes nothing but tiny specks behind us. We begin to realize that out there in the inconceivable distance, beyond our solar system, are "*systems of the stars*," each system with its own Sun, surrounded by its own planets, much like our own planetary system. We begin to realize that the universe is swimming with myriads of planetary systems.

We look ahead and see other specks and realize that they are other planetary systems . . . rushing worlds with their own Sun and surrounding heavenly bodies. We travel on through space, until these "*specks*" become planetary systems and they too are left behind us and we see other "*specks*" ahead, and they become planetary systems and we continue to fly through system after system, infinity after infinity, until our heart sinks within us, realizing that the universe is unspeakable in its dimension and duration.

We travel on, immensities after immensities, eternities of eternities, until we are dizzy with uncounted systems and cry out, "*Is there no end to God's universe?*" The universe is a myriad of vast orbs, all rushing through space.

The human mind is unable to comprehend the distances of the universe. Words like millions, billions, and trillions do little or nothing to enable man to understand just how large the universe is. To enable man to get a handle on how large the universe is astronomers speak of "*light years*." Light travels at 186,000 miles a second! That's traveling completely around the Earth *seven times* - every second.

Traveling at the "*speed of light*," it would take four years to reach the nearest star to Earth and *forty-seven* years to reach the North Star. [That's like taking a baby step out into the universe.]

To reach Arcturus, which is *one-thousand million miles in diameter* and the first magnitude star in the constellation Bootes, it would take **one hundred, eighty one** years, traveling at 186,000 miles a second!

Our hearts sink in dizziness as we pass through uncounted galaxies, through architraves of eternities, over pillars of immensities, and the architecture of galaxies. Our soul is wrapped in speechless amazement, our mind filled with the vast consternation of thought as we stand as one devoid of wisdom and confess, in deep amazement, "*Here, we discern a wisdom, which cannot otherwise be perceived and we discover a knowledge that banishes all doubt.*"

David wrote in Psalm 33:6, "*By the word of the Lord the heavens were made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.*" In Psalm 19:1-6 he writes, "*The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens he has pitched a tent for the sun, which is like a bridegroom coming forth from his pavilion, like a champion rejoicing to run his course. It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to*

the other; nothing is hidden from its heat."

Think of it, this God, Who upholds all the universe . . . desires to guide your life!

But, the subject at hand is: - **Our Planet Earth**

One of Britain's greatest astronomer made the statement, "*Can it be thought that throughout the vast deeps of space no where but on our own little earth is life found?*"

Dr. Crawford said, "*Not only do I believe that other planets of our system are inhabited, but I believe firmly that the worlds of other solar systems are likewise inhabited. To me it is the smallest thought imaginable to think that this speck of cosmic dust is the only place in the universe that is inhabited by intelligent beings.*"

A professor from Cambridge University said, "*To give a numerical estimate I would say that rather than a million stars in the milky way possess plants on which you might live without undue discomfort. If you were suddenly transported to one of them you would no doubt find many important changes, but the changes would not be as remarkable as the similarities.*"

What does Bible have to say about the universe?

Isaiah 40:12-17 states, "*Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of His hand marked off the heavens? Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance? Who has understood the mind of the LORD, or instructed Him as His counselor? Whom did the LORD consult to enlighten Him, and who taught Him the right way? Who was it that taught Him knowledge or showed Him the path of understanding? Surely the nations of the earth are like a drop in a bucket; they are regarded as dust on the scales; he weighs the islands [also translated as "nations"] as though they were fine dust. . . Before Him all the nations are as nothing; they are regarded by Him as worthless and less than nothing.*"

If human beings on Earth are the only beings in the universe then why would the Holy Spirit inspire the Psalmist to call the nations of the earth, when compared to the universe, "*A drop in the bucket?*" If all the rolling orbs of heaven are destitute of any "*life,*" why would the Psalmist pen the words, "*The Earth's inhabitants are as the dust of the balance?*" or, "*The inhabitants of the earth, (when compared to the universe), are small as grasshoppers?*"

Isaiah 40:22 states, "*God sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, for its inhabitants are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in.*"

There is an interesting principle found in Isaiah 45:18, which states, "*For this is what the LORD says. He who created the heavens, He is God; He who fashioned and made the earth, He founded it; He did not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited - He says: "I am the LORD, and there is no other."*

This Scripture teaches that "*If the heavens, or earth, were created without life, then they were created in vain If they were created empty, then they are useless.*" It teaches the earth and the heavens were not created empty or useless, but, rather, they were created for intelligent, reasoning,

beings!

What infinite folly to suppose that God created the vast amount of space to be useless and void.

Nehemiah, the prophet, speaking of God, said, "*You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship You*" [Nehemiah 9:6].

It seems quiet clear that Scripture teaches that the universe, great and extensive beyond the limits of human comprehension, is peopled with intellect beings, fully capable of praising, adoring and honoring God!

Daniel 4:35 teaches, "*All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing, and He does according to His will in the army of heaven.*"

David, speaking to God, said, "*When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that You care for him?*" [Psalm 8:3-4]

How could such statements be made, if all the worlds of the universe are devoid of inhabitants? If human beings are the only rational beings in all the universe, would David be justified in uttering these inspired words? How could David ever wonder why God considered man, if man is the only life in the universe?

When Job asked God why suffering was happening to him, God answered, "*Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation . . . when the morning stars sang together and all the creatures of God shouted for joy?*" [Job 38:4,7] These verses speak of an order of beings, created by God, singing and rejoicing. It is this order beings that constitute the population of universe!

We are not alone, there Is Life In Outer Space!

God's Word even names this population of the universe. Who are they? David said in Psalm 8:5, "*You [God] made him [made man] a little lower than the heavenly beings!*" David, of course, is speaking of "*angelic being,*" God's ministering angels!

These *spirits beings*, who populate the universe and are superior to human beings are very real. Scripture teachings that, while they do not have bodies of flesh and bone as we do, they do have real bodies, "*spirit bodies,*" with minds that think and hearts that feel.

1 Corinthians 15:40 speaks of, "*celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies,*" that is, bodies that differ in splendor and are not subject to the limitations of our earthly bodies.

Scripture speaks of angels as being "*multitudes in number; hosts of angels; armies of heaven; numbering 10,000 times 10,000 and an innumerable company.*" One Bible writer asks the question, "*Who can number them?*"

Psalm 89:5-6 state, "*The heavens praise Your wonders, O LORD . . . For who in the skies*

above can compare with the LORD? Who is like the LORD among the heavenly beings?"

Psalm 103:19 states, "*The LORD has established His throne in heaven, and His kingdom rules over all.*"

Psalm 148:1 states, "*Praise the LORD from the heavens, **praise** Him in the heights above.*" (verse 4) *Praise Him, you highest heavens.* (verse.5) *Let them praise the name of the Lord for He commanded and they were created. He established them forever and ever.*"

Scripture calls Satan, *the prince and the power of the air*. God allows him to rule a certain area of the heavens, the atmosphere surrounding the earth.

We see in the book of Job, a drama being enacted upon earth while two powers of the universe, God and the devil, are looking on. Let me tell you that two worlds are looking on to see what you will do *tonight!* God and the devil's demons are both looking on. **You** will decide who will win in your life as you make your decision tonight!

Revelation speaks of a time when "*the devil is come down to you!*" Is it possible that the increased activity in space travel is setting the stage for Satan's last attempt to destroy God's plan?

Daniel, speaking of the devil's power, tells of a time when, "*it grew until it reached the host of the heavens [this power of the Anti- Christ] and threw some of the starry host down to the earth and trampled on them*" [Daniel 8:10].

Revelation 13:13, speaking of the false prophet of the end-time, states, "*And he performed great and miraculous signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in full view of men.*"

Obadiah prophesies, "*Though you [Satan] soar like the eagle and make your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down,*" declares the LORD" [Obadiah 1:4].

Let me conclude by saying, that believers will travel through space! Jesus said, "*Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in My. In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again, and take you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*" This is our God-given heritage!

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 promises, "*The Lord Himself will descend from heaven, with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ will rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.*"

I will never be an astronaut, but I want you to know that someday I will be a "**celestial-nauat**" and travel in my spirit-body to meet the Lord in the air!

*There's going to be a meeting in the air,
In the sweet, sweet, by and by,*

*Oh, how I long to meet you there
Away beyond the blue
Such singing you will hear,
Never heard by mortal ear
Twill' be glorious I do declare,
For God's Own Son will be the leading One
In that meeting in the air!"*

Paul writing of this wonderful place said, "*Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither has it entered into the heart of men, the things which God has prepared for those who trust Him.*"

One of these days, and I believe it will be very soon, every child of God will suddenly be caught away and we will travel through space to meet the Lord in the air.

John, the revelator, sees into the future, seven years after the rapture has taken place, and he speaks of the time when we will return *with* Christ as He sets up His kingdom on earth and he writes, "*I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice He judges and makes war . . . The armies of heaven were following Him, riding on white horses.*" [Revelation 19:11, 14].

Suddenly, unexpectedly, an immortal hosts of heavenly beings, from outer space, will invade this planet. Scripture teaches that every eye will behold this awesome spectacle and every heart will be filled with dread. Revelation 19 is speaking of the time when angelic hosts and all the redeemed saints from all ages, who have been previously raptured, lead by their Commander in Chief, Jesus Christ will descend to this earth! It will be an invasion of our planet by beings from another world, beings who are just as real as any visible beings on earth!

ARE YOU READY FOR THE RAPTURE?