

“IS ANYBODY OUT THERE?”

Are we alone in the universe? Is there life on other planets? Isn't it arrogant to think that we are the “only ones” in a universe consisting of millions of planets? Are these questions more than just the human fascination with sci-fi?

Or do they point to a deeper human condition?

How many sci-fi tv shows / movies can you think of that suggest life on other planets?

(Star Wars, ET, Star Trek, Contact, 2010 A Space Odyssey, They Live, Alien, Mars Attacks, Indiana Jones, X-Files)

I. The EVOLUTION Connection

> The idea of life on other planets is tied to EVOLUTION!

* Earth is just another planet – one where the conditions just happened to be right for life to form and evolve. If there are countless billions of other planets in our galaxy, then surely some could have also had the right conditions. Extraterrestrial life is almost INEVITABLE in an evolutionary worldview.

> So ... where is everybody?

* There is **no** evidence of alien life forms.

* There should be countless numbers of technologically superior civilizations

(from planets billions of years older than earth) – why haven't we heard from them?

(Fermi paradox – Enrico Fermi, atomic scientist)

> What does Scripture say?

* **Isaiah 45:18** – God designed the earth FOR LIFE!

* **Psalms 115:16** – This clear contrast demonstrates that the Biblical view \neq life in outer space

II. The REDEMPTION Problem

> Assuming intelligent alien life, if God is loving and just, how would alien life be redeemed?

There are 4 possibilities:

(1) The crucifixion applies to ALIENS, too.

Problem: They are not BLOOD-RELATIVES of Jesus.

(For the cross to be effective, Jesus had to be (a) fully human and (b) perfect (sinless))

(2) Christ visited ALIEN WORLDS, lived and died there, too.

Problem: Christ died ONCE for ALL (1 Peter 3:18; Heb. 9:27-8; 10:10).

(3) Aliens are SINLESS beings, suffering no fall such as Genesis 3 – no need for redemption.

Problem: They suffer the effects of sin, despite having never sinned. (Rom. 8:20-22)

(4) Alien life is BEYOND THE SCOPE of the Bible.

Problem: This idea attacks the faithfulness of Scripture.
(Genesis 1:14-16 is clearly universal in scope.)

III. Why This Matters.

> Why is our society so interested in life on other planets? Why is it so urgent that we make contact?

Why do we flock to the sci-fi movies and why does our government spend money trying to pick up any message from outer space?

* A: Would it be a vindication of evolution? Maybe, but there's more to it ...

The Real Issue

* If there **is** life out there ... then we are NOT ALONE.

> People have a built-in desire for relationship with God

* If there is life out there ... maybe they have THE ANSWERS.

> People are looking for the fundamental questions of existence:

* Why am I here?

* What is the meaning of life?

> People hope for advanced tech that can CURE – or even DEFEAT DEATH

* What they are looking for ALREADY EXISTS (Col 2:3)

> In a way, a belief in ET life has become a secular replacement for God!

* We are not alone ... God is here.

* He gives us the reason we're here.

* He shows us the meaning of life.

* He is our HEALER.

* He has DEFEATED DEATH. (John 17:3)

Close Romans 1:18-25

The truth is not “out there.” The truth is “*in there* – in the Bible!”

Upcoming Hard Questions:

* *Isn't the Bible full of contradictions?*

* *Is the Bible more a product of man or of God?*

* *How do I explain or even understand the mystery of the Trinity?*

* *What is the “unforgivable sin?”*