The Alpha and the Omega: Space Colonization and the Kingdom of God

Introduction

The Bible makes clear there is a beginning and there is an end. Jesus said heaven and earth shall pass away. But before that happens recent discoveries in cosmology provide us with a staggering challenge. The size of the universe is now measured in trillions of galaxies and the expansion and contraction of the universe in hundreds of billions of years.

The scriptures give us many clues that we cannot begin to imagine how great the Kingdom and dominion of the Lord is. And it is all ours to possess! This is not heaven one day...this is the universe created for the dominion of mankind as part of our Genesis 1:26-28 Dominion Mandate.

My conclusion: Space Colonization is part of the Kingdom Agenda for our Dominion Mandate.

Lets start with this interesting fact from Genesis 1:1....



Hebrew reads from right to left. Now read it like this "in-beginning, he-created, God (Elohim)....and now here is something fascinating in the original Hebrew text. Two letters that are never translated in your Bible. But they are there in the original Hebrew text. They are the two letters "Aleph" and "Tov or Tau"....those are the first and last letters in the Hebrew alphabet. In Greek it would "Alpha" and "Omega".

Who do you think "Elohim Aleph Tau" refers to? This is what Jesus said of Himself...

Rev. 1:8 "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending"

Rev. 1:11 "I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last"

Rev. 1: 17 "....fear not I am the first and the last"

Rev. 22:13 "I am Alpha and Omega the beginning and the end, the first and the last."

Isaiah 41: 4 ""Who has wrought and done it calling the generations from the beginning? I the Lord the first and the last; I am he

Isaiah 44:6 "I am the first and I am the last and besides me there is no God." Isaiah 48:12 "I am he, I am the first and I am the last".

You see "...all things were made by Him and for Him and He is before all things and by Him all things consist." (Col. 1:16-17)

So you see this aspect of our Lord Jesus Christ as the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end is very important idea in scripture. Now what end are we really talking about here? On one level we are talking about the end of heaven and earth. But Paul in 1 Cor. 15 also ties "then comes the end" with Jesus completing the work of the Kingdom of God and then delivering that Kingdom to the Father which he states as follows:

"For then comes the end when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God even the Father when he shall have put down all rule and authority and power...that God may be all in all."

When is the End?

Since Jesus is God and created the heavens and the earth He had something to say about that.

Jesus said to His disciples, "Heaven and earth shall pass away but my word shall never pass away." And they asked "When shall this be?" The answer was not for their time. But since 1995 cosmologists can answer it . And it has profound implications for the vision of the Church of the 21st Century.

In Matthew 24 the disciples looking on and admiring the great temple in Jerusalem, Jesus startled them by declaring that the day is coming when "*there shall not be one stone upon another that shall not be thrown down.*" Meaning the destruction of Jerusalem and its temple was coming.

They being intrigued wanted Him to elaborate on this coming catastrophe so asked Him three questions: (Mat. 24:3)

- "Tell us when shall these things be?"
- "and what shall be the sign of thy coming?
- "and the end of the world?"

Most prophecy writers get the answers wrong to these three questions. In this blog I want to give you a radical idea of the answer to the third question which only our generation can understand and there is a reason for that.

But let me make just a quick answer to the first two:

The answer to when will Jerusalem and the temple be destroyed is an easy answer because Jesus answers that straight forward..."this generation shall not pass away till all these things be fulfilled." (verse 34)

Now be careful here because from verses 4-34 He describes all the things that would happen before that generation passes....and that generation was from 33 AD to 70 AD when Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed. And by the way that included Jesus coming in the clouds of judgment as He said He would to carry out the judgment on Jerusalem that He said He would do. That is what He meant in these verses when

He talks about His coming to earth after death and resurrection.

But what about the third question? The end of the world....

Well He answers that also very straightforward...verses 35-36

"Heaven and earth shall pass away but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and hour knows no man no not the angels of heaven but my Father only."

Now please note here that Jesus is answering the question of when is the end of the world that they wanted to know by assuring them that heaven and earth will pass away but the day and the hour nobody knows. He is not answering the question of when will He return as every prophecy writer I know of uses this scripture.

Now what I want to do here is to try to answer the question of when will heaven and earth pass away. I know this seems impossible as Jesus clearly says that no man knows except the Father. But let me say this to that....

Jesus also said that "there are many things I wish to say to you but you are not able to bear them now but when the Spirit of truth is come he will guide you into all truth." (John 16:12-13)

So I make the following conclusions:

Every generation has a job to do for the kingdom and God gives that generation truth and revelation for their time.

Truth is found in the written word of God and also found in the spoken Word of God, the Logos by which Jesus created all things...so by studying cosmology, the stars of the heavens and physics, we discover truths of His creation. In fact Psalm 19 tells us to listen to the stars for they silently have a message for us.

- And Genesis 1:14 says "let there by lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years."

- So the lights of the heavens, the stars are there with a message, they tell us of times and seasons and years and ages to come.

Now here is my argument...we are now able to look deeper into the heavens than any other generations before us and they tell us not only of years...but of ages! And there are very clever cosmologists who only since 1995 after looking at all the data are now able to tell us about how many ages to come....until the end of the heavens and the earth. Not the day or the hour...but within about billions of years.

This is not idle speculation. It is crucial information for our generation to know and plan the expansion of the Kingdom of God and the great work ahead of us.

I recently bought a fascinating book by Paul Parsons entitled:

"The Beginning and the End of Everything: From the Big Bang to the End of the Universe"

Written recently in 2018 it is a great journey through the latest scientific discoveries of the field of cosmology.

What is important about this field of study is that all the important discoveries that give us a truly staggering vision of the size and age of the universe were all made very recently.

The most recent was the very exciting Hubble photos looking very deep into the space and when a small area of space was thoroughly examined they found 10,000 galaxies never before seen in a very small area of the universe.

So calculations were made for the how many possible galaxies in the observable universe and came up with a figure of somewhere between 1-3 trillion galaxies, each with an average of 100's of billions of stars.

Previous to this in 1995 a staggering discovery was made: The expansion of the universe is not steady or slowing down...it is speeding up.

So from this many calculations were made and recorded in Paul Parsons book to try and answer the question.... How long will the expansion and contraction of the universe take? I have seen calculations from anywhere from 40 billion to 950 billion years with others claiming that the expansion is endless.

What does this mean for us?

There are many scriptures that seem to indicate that there is a staggering period of time ahead of mankind. I mention this because Christians are so caught up with the idea of 'end times" or the end of the world etc and thinking in time spans of a maybe a generation maybe a Kingdom of God that lasts a Millennium.

This is extremely faulty! Read the following...

"...from the beginning of the world...throughout all ages, world without end. Amen." (Eph. 3:9,21) Folks wrap your mind around this scripture, the world is never going to end!

Now try this idea...God promised that He would never again destroy mankind on the earth and on top of that promised to never again curse the ground.

"Never again will I curse the ground because of man even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures as I have done. As long as the earth endures seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." (Gen. 8:21-22)

So how long will the earth endure? "*Generations come and generations go, but the earth endures forever*" (Eccl. 1:4).

But that must mean that there will be thousands of generations still ahead? Yes that is right because that is exactly what Exodus 20:6 and Exodus 34:7 says...*the Lord punishes the wicked to the third and fourth generation but for the righteous He is merciful for thousands of genera*tions!

Moses further declared in Dt. 7:9..."*He is the faithful God keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those that love Him and keep His commandments.*" The psalmist also confirms this by saying that the earth is established forever (Ps. 78:69) and that the earth and its foundations will never be removed (Ps. 104:5; Ps. 93:1; Ps. 96:10) In Psalm 119:90 he says, "Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth and it endures forever."

So here is what scripture tell us: The earth is not cursed, in fact it is blessed by the Lord and will fulfil exactly the purpose for which He created it.

The earth will never end because God has eternal purposes for this wonderful creation of His. But let us keep in mind when we speak of "the earth" we are really also talking about the vast planetary and galactic systems of the universe which brings us to the next great thought found in Isaiah 45:18.

Now here scripture introduces us to a staggering thought that is going to be very hard for "end of the world" believers to grasp and actually believe, it is this:

"For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he has established it (forever); he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited; I am the Lord there is none else." (Isaiah 45:18)

Do you see what the Lord is saying here? He says He created the earth and the heavens for them to be inhabited! That means



Billions of stars in a galaxy...

Before the modern era of satellites and telescopes we did not know that the heavens were endless, or that they had billions of galaxies or that those galaxies had billions of stars and planets...but we do know that now! And that is why these scriptures are important for our understanding. Now we know that if the earth endures forever, and if the Lord has plans for thousands of generations, then we can understand why we need vast endless heavens to grow into!

But even before we get to other star systems we are asked by the Lord to consider the heavens around our solar system and what we find here close to us are staggering resources!

And all of this is ours!

Psalm 8:3-6 raises a question and challenge to you and it is this...

"When I consider the heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast ordained; What is man that thou art mindful of him or the son of man that thou visits him? For you have made him a little lower than the angels and has crowned him with glory and honour. You made him to have dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet."

All things! Under out feet? Does that include 1-3 trillion galaxies? Yes it does. And the Lord not only gives us all the resources to take dominion over this great inheritance but He gives us the time in which to do this....thousands of generations!



Trillions of galaxies in the universe...

Space Colonization!

Now further consideration:

A 1000 year rule of Christ on earth is not feasible in either fact or scripture. A 1000 years of 1% growth will give us a population of about 83 trillion people. You need 10,000 earths for that population density. Meaning what? Meaning that God is not interested in just 1000 years of Kingdom growth, he wants endless growth! And that requires galaxies by the multiplied trillions...earth is not room enough!

And consider this as well. The growth we are talking about here very practically are children and families! The place for making babies and raising children is not in heaven. People do not marry in heaven and do not have sex in heaven. That is what the physical universe is for. This is God's great womb, His great nursery and playground to conceive His children and to train them in righteousness and wisdom.

But does God want more children? What did God say to Abraham? I will give you children the number of which are like the stars in heaven and the sand of the sea. Prof. Sean Carroll of Cal. Institute of Technology in his book From Here to Eternity (P380) calculated the sand gains of all the seas at 10 to power 20 (1 with 20 zeros after it) and the number of stars at 10 to power 22.

He said nations (plural nations! Not just one nation Israel) will come from you. God promised that His blessings are for thousands of generations! Those are endless numbers!

Do you think scripture and God are exaggerating? If God knows the hairs on your head do you think he has difficulty counting the stars He has made or the sand grains of the sea?

The dispensationalists demand that we take literally the rule of Christ as being 1000 years. When are they going to take literally that God says He has plans ahead for thousands of generations? What are those plans? The essence of those plans are that He is a Father and He is creating a family and He wants and endless supply of children to be produced for His family and those children need to be perfected and trained and grow into maturity and that is what this earth/universe is for. I have a wonderful book by planetary scientist John Lewis called "Mining the Sky" which makes incredible claims about the abundance of material wealth in our local solar system. We have enough metals, minerals and chemicals on our planets and moons and asteroid belt to support populations of a million times the earth population in space colonies and enough energy to keep them going for millions of years.

In his chapter 12 "The Asteroid Belt: Treasure Beyond Count" he gives an inventory of the possible incredible riches in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. For instance the amount of iron ore there is sufficient to supply the earth for 400 million years based on our current consumption of 2 billion tons per year. Or put another way, there are enough building materials to build space habitats that can comfortably support a population of a million earths. That means that we can build and support for millions of years just in our own solar system a population numbering 7 billion (our present population) times a million!

But besides iron ore there are incredible riches of copper, tungsten, nickel, gold, platinum, aluminium, every metal needed by man.

In his next chapter titled "The Outer Planets: Power Beyond Measure" he shows how we cannot quantify the amount of available gas for power, chemicals etc. And then on the moons of Jupiter and Saturn are all manners of useful chemicals, water, and places like Titan, veritable oceans of liquid petroleum and nitrogen (needed for farming).

Our moon contains vast quantities of a wonderful chemical called He3 (helium three) that scientists consider the best candidate for fusion fuel. He3 does not occur naturally on earth but we can mine it on the moon where it is plentiful. With fusion energy we can have unlimited amount of abundant power. With fusion fuel space drives we can build space ships that get to Mars in 3 days.

Do I believe in the end? Yes I do. I believe att some time in the incredible uncounted billions of years in the future Jesus will say it is finished and will then present the Kingdom to the Father! What does "the end" look like when Jesus hands the Kingdom over to the Father, wraps up the universe and all in it and raises the dead and the living and all stand before the Father....Revelation 7:9 gives us this glorious picture.....

"After this I beheld and lo a great multitude which no man can number of all nations and kindreds and peoples and tongues stood before the throne and before the lamb clothed with white robes"

An uncountable number of people from all nations and galaxies and tongues and people praising our Lord who has saved them and redeemed them.

But before that there will be new heavens and new earths where they will all be born and live and raise families and serve the Lord and take dominion over all the universe for the Lord. Here is what I think some of those new earths are going to look like in new parts of the galaxy as John describes them, he did not see any oceans or sun....



