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The Riddle of The
FLYING SAUCERS

by Gordon Lindsay

THE RIDDLE OF THE FLYING SAUCERS

The scientific world has indeed been baffled by these mysterious visitors in the skies. For a number of years reports have come in from sources all over the world of strange objects appearing in the heavens, objects which apparently have power to move at incredible speeds and which in other ways distinguish themselves as something distinctly different from any aircraft known by the inhabitants of the earth.

These objects have been called flying saucers, because many of them — though not all — more or less resemble that shape. Sightings of these strange disc-like craft have been made by persons of many occupations, some of whom are engaged in the ordinary pursuits of life, while others are professional people such as air pilots, radar operators, Air Force personnel, astronomers of repute, and those used to observing what goes on in the skies and who are able to give an objective report of what they see. The consensus of opinion of those who have evaluated these reported sightings and are best qualified to judge is that at least six per cent of these objects are sky craft of some kind unknown to the military intelligence of this or any other country.

In the late fifties saucer sightings declined, and the matter gradually ceased to hold public interest. Then in the middle 1960's there came another rash of sightings — this time in such numbers and confirmed by so many witnesses whose reputations for integrity were beyond question, that the subject again made the headlines. Practically all national magazines have since carried at least one article featuring the UFO's (Unidentified Flying Objects). These magazines included, *Look*, *Life*, *Reader's Digest*, etc. The excitement has not abated to the present day.

What then is the nature of these flying saucers? Are they of prophetic significance? Are they controlled by beings from other planets? Does their coming have a relation to events which are to take place at the end of the age? Could those who pilot them be angelic beings? Or are they diabolical beings? How does the whole thing fit into the prophetic picture? Is it possible that Christ was referring to this subject in Luke 21:11 when He said, "And fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven"? In this book we seek the Bible answer to the riddle of the flying saucers.

The Riddle of the Flying Saucers

by Gordon Lindsay

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CHAPTER I

The Mystery of the Flying Saucers

On October 22, 1965, James Townsend, announcer for KEYL of Long Prairie, Minnesota, was driving along Highway 27 at 7:15 P.M. As he rounded a curve, he was confronted by what appeared to be a rocket ship about 30 feet in height, standing in the middle of the road. He slammed on the brakes and came to an abrupt halt. Realizing the consequences of such a find, he turned on the key to get closer to the strange object, but his engine would not start. At that moment three strange creatures appeared. After sighting Townsend, they moved back into the space ship. A humming sound was heard, and the rocket lifted off the road and disappeared into the sky.

James Townsend is a level-headed, hard working young man not given to drink nor hallucinations. He has in fact strong religious convictions and had spent the summer before the incident as a counselor in a Bible camp. He hurried into town and reported his story to the sheriff's office, and several deputies returned with him to the scene. They found evidence of three strips of an oil-like substance unlike anything they had ever seen before. The story received nation-wide publicity via news media and television. Other residents in the area came forward confirming the incident saying that they had seen strange lights and occurrences in the sky at about the same time.

SAUCER FOLLOWS JAPANESE AIRLINER

Yashika Inaba was piloting a TOA Airliner Convair 240 in Japan. At 7 P.M. March 18, 1965, he was passing the small island of Himeji at an altitude of 6,000 feet. At that moment a strange object approached that was different from anything he had ever seen on the airways. The object was a greenish color; and when it came near, it disrupted the plane's automatic direction finder, cutting off all radio communication with nearby landing fields.

Afterwards during the inquiry that was held, Inaba testified that the object had continued to follow him for awhile, coming to his left

wing. The co-pilot declared that he had tried several times to break radio silence but was unsuccessful. Inaba made a sharp 60 degree turn to try to elude the unwelcome visitor but could not. TOA Airlines after conducting an investigation concluded that the crew had given a true report of what they had seen. The evidence showed that the object seen was not a recurring natural phenomenon but something distinctly different. Experts from the U.S. were flown to Japan to study the cause of the phenomenon but were unable to shed any light on the matter.

FLYING SAUCERS IN MICHIGAN

Early in 1966, widespread publicity in newspapers and magazines, including *Life Magazine*, was given to sightings in Michigan. Some 87 Hillsdale, Michigan, coeds spent nearly three hours watching a red and white object from their dormitory windows. Photographers succeeded in getting pictures of the strange objects. Dr. Hynek, an astrophysicist visiting in Michigan, looked at the photographs and said that "without any question" they were time exposures of the rising moon and the planet Venus. Unfortunately for the good doctor, it was definitely proved that the moon had not risen at the time the exposure was made!

Representative Gerald Ford found none of the explanations given to be satisfactory. On the radio-television program "Face the Nation," Congressman Ford said, "Bring out these witnesses from the Air Force and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, have them interrogated by members of the House or Senate Committee, let them put their records on the line. Let the people who have allegedly seen these objects come and testify." However, so far no congressional investigation has been made. Perhaps it will happen in the future.

THE PHOTOGRAPHER AND THE FLYING SAUCERS OF VIENNA

Saucer sightings have by no means been restricted to the United States. On the morning of March 2, 1960, a staff photographer, Edgar Shedelbauer of the *Wiener Montag*, a Vienna newspaper, had his camera strapped over his shoulder as he travelled on a motorcycle through the Austrian countryside. As he left the town of Labrittendorf, suddenly he saw a brightly glowing object hovering over the forest. As he cruised toward it, he saw it descend toward earth. With the natural instinct of a photographer, he grabbed his camera and aimed it at the mysterious object. He had

just snapped the shutter when a low humming noise was heard that turned into a deafening roar. In a matter of seconds the strange object had disappeared.

Shedelbauer raced to Vienna to have the picture he had snapped developed. When the print was made, it revealed a brightly glowing object, although slightly fuzzy because of the rapid movement of the object. The photograph was published in the *Wiener Montag* and caused a sensation. Skeptical experts studied the film closely but were forced to conclude that to all appearances the film was genuine.

The scientific world has indeed been baffled by these mysterious visitors in the skies. For a number of years reports have come in from sources all over the world of strange objects appearing in the heavens, objects which apparently have power to move at incredible speeds and which in other ways distinguish themselves as something distinctly different from any aircraft known by the inhabitants of the earth.

These objects have been called flying saucers, because many of them — though not all — more or less resemble that shape. Sighting of these strange disc-like craft have been made by persons of many occupations. Some of these individuals are engaged in the ordinary pursuits of life; others are professional people such as air pilots, radar operators, Air Force personnel, astronomers of repute, and those used to observing what goes on in the skies and who are able to give an objective report of what they see. The consensus of opinion of those who have evaluated these reported sightings and are best qualified to judge is that at least six per cent of these objects are sky craft of some kind unknown to the military intelligence of this or any other country.

Varied explanations have been given by those who have investigated the flying saucers as to their true nature. In this book we shall consider some of the explanations that have been advanced. If the flying saucers exist as extra-terrestrial phenomena, there must be a purpose in their coming.

Some have attempted to prove that the sightings are merely the result of mass suggestion abetted perhaps by the confusion and uncertainty of our times. But the great majority of investigators reject this explanation as completely inadequate. It is probable, of course, that many of the reports can be written off as being the result of imagination, suggestion, or as coming from erratic persons whose motive is to obtain notoriety. Then too, people unfamiliar with celestial observation can be expected to confuse certain objects such as

advanced styles of aircraft and even kites with what appear to them to be flying saucers.

Atmospheric effects such as temperature inversions or mirages might explain a number of sightings. The writer himself has seen lakes and trees appear in the sky where no such things ought to be. Such phenomena while not exactly rare are rather infrequent and do require very special atmospheric conditions. The saucer sightings, however, have occurred in every latitude, day or night, winter or summer. The appearance and motion of the celestial objects in question are in striking contrast to any effects produced by a mirage.

Various other objects in the sky such as the planet Venus have been mistaken for the light of a space ship. Meteors and other well-known celestial phenomena have been considered as a possible explanation for some of the saucer sightings.

With these considerations in mind the Air Force intelligence at the beginning of their investigation took for granted that the whole question of flying saucers was merely a matter of mistaken identity. Any alternative was just too fantastic for belief. Consequently, the whole investigation proceeded from that standpoint. If unidentified objects appeared in the sky, there must have been a rational explanation for them. Nature in some way was performing some kind of magic, causing people to think they saw what actually did not exist. That was the official conclusion of Operation Flying Saucer at the completion of the initial investigation, and with that they suspended operation.

Nevertheless, saucer sightings continued to multiply, and the number of qualified witnesses kept on increasing. The Air Force Intelligence was compelled at length to reopen its investigation which in its new phase went under the name of Operation Blue Book. It was no longer possible to ignore the accumulating evidence. Something was up there in the sky that was not being accounted for.

The result of the new investigation was that the United States Air Force made the quiet admission that certain of these objects in the sky were something that could not be accounted for as any phenomena known to science. At the present date they reluctantly admit that there are over 600 unidentified sightings.

In the late fifties, saucer sightings declined, and the matter gradually ceased to hold public interest. Then in the middle 1960's there came another rash of sightings — this time in such numbers and confirmed by so many witnesses whose reputations for integrity were beyond question, that the subject again made the headlines.

Practically all national magazines have since carried at least one article featuring the UFO's (Unidentified Flying Objects). These magazines included *Look*, *Life*, *Reader's Digest*, etc. The excitement has not abated to the present day.

What do these things mean? Although the writer decries wild unfounded speculations, he must confess that the evidence is almost incontrovertible that there is actually something taking place in the heavens of a most significant nature — something that is important for us to understand. We believe that there should be an explanation of this phenomenon from a Scriptural standpoint. Indeed, some Christians have actually joined flying saucer clubs! And we have known of one church which went so far as to have a man in its pulpit who claimed to have ridden in a flying saucer.

We believe that it is time that we ask some straight questions and get some straight answers. What is the nature of these flying saucers? Are they of prophetic significance? Are they controlled by intelligent beings from other planets? Does their coming have some relation to events which are to take place at the end of the age? How does the whole thing fit into the prophetic picture? If such intelligences exist, how can they pilot ships through outer space? Are they of a different physical nature from human beings? Is their purpose beneficent or sinister? Could they be angelic beings? Or diabolical beings?

There are many questions, and we do not say we have every answer. Nevertheless, we believe that we do have information on this subject which every person ought to know. Indeed we consider the matter to be of a grave nature, and one that ought to be examined carefully. We believe that Christ was referring to this subject when speaking of the time of His Second Coming. He said, "And fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven" (Luke 21:11). In the chapters which are to follow, we shall seek the Bible answer to the riddle of the flying saucers.

CHAPTER II

The Coming of the Saucers

It was Tuesday, June 24, 1947. Kenneth Arnold, a business man of Boise, Idaho, was installing some fire-fighting apparatus at Chehalis, Washington. After completing his task, he returned to his plane at the local airport in preparation for his return to Boise. He was pilot of a small private plane, and he used it in the conduct of his business which required him to travel extensively in the north-western states. As he was preparing to take off, he remembered that a C-46 Marine transport plane had gone down in the mountains a few months before, and there was a \$5,000 reward for its discovery. It might be worthwhile to keep his eye open for possible signs of the wreckage. As he took off from the Chehalis airport, he decided to follow a route that would take him over the high plateaus near Mt. Ranier.

About an hour later as he was flying over Mineral, Washington, at an altitude of something over 9,000 feet, his attention was taken by a bright flash. At first thought he supposed a plane had passed overhead and light from the wings had been reflected from the sun. He looked around, but did not see any such craft. Then came another flash. This time he caught the direction from which it came. Then he saw what caused it. Far to his left and to the north was a formation of bright objects coming from the vicinity of Mt. Baker.

At first he could not make out their shape, as they were at a considerable distance away. He naturally assumed that the objects were a new kind of jet, so rapid was their speed. As they drew near the snow border of Mt. Ranier, he observed that they were in echelon formation. But the thing that startled him was that he could not see any tails on them. He then concluded that they were camouflaged in some way.

Arnold noticed the rapid flight of the formation and made an attempt to clock their speed. To his amazement he discovered that the craft apparently were moving 1300 miles an hour or even faster. He was able to get a fairly accurate estimate of speed because the formation revealed its distance when it passed in front of one of the

mountains and then behind one of the peaks. Even then Arnold still believed that these were aircraft of the U.S. Air Force and remarked to himself as to "what these aeronautical engineers would dream up next."

Arnold continued his search for the downed C-46, but somehow his mind had become diverted by what he had witnessed, so he went on to Yakima and landed. There he reported his experience, and as might be expected, it stirred up an excitement that brought the newspaper syndicates running. Soon the story had been relayed by wire to papers all over the country. Arnold was informed by men who were qualified to speak on the subject that the flying discs which he had seen could not have been jets or guided missiles. Apparently, they were not of United States manufacture at all.

A few days after Kenneth Arnold made his sensational announcement of seeing a formation of flying saucers in the vicinity of Mt. Ranier, Captain E. J. Smith of United Air Lines, flying from Boise's municipal airport, also observed a similar phenomenon. About eight minutes after take-off, the DC-3 plane was flying over Emmett, Idaho, at about 7,100 feet when they saw a formation of nine strange aircraft. Pilot Smith was naturally astonished. He called the attention of the co-pilot, Ralph Stevens, to the formation. They called the stewardess, Miss Martie Morrow, into the cockpit without telling her the reason. As she looked she immediately exclaimed, "Why, there's a formation of those flying discs!" The oval-shaped objects were traveling toward the northwest, and they were moving at terrific speed.

In this volume it is impossible for us to recount the thousands of reports of these mysterious objects in the skies that have been observed since 1947. We can only briefly describe a few of the sightings. These reports are well documented and are typical of many more which have been publicized in magazines of national circulation, as well as newspapers all over the land.

CYLDE TOMBAUGH, DISCOVERER OF PLANET PLUTO, SEES A FLYING SAUCER

Famous scientists and astronomers are among those who have witnessed these strange objects in the skies. One of the most noted is none other than Clyde Tombaugh, the discoverer of the planet Pluto! Tombaugh does not say categorically that what he saw was a flying saucer, but this is his report of what he did see:

"In the sky over Las Cruces, New Mexico, in the summer of 1948, whizzing silently overhead from south to north was an oval-shaped object. It had about a dozen 'windows' which were clearly

visible at the front and along the side. The rear trailed off into 'shapeless luminescence.' It was traveling too fast for a plane and too slow for a meteor."

THE VISITATION AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

A startling event occurred in Washington, D.C., on July 20, 1952, according to *Life* magazine, in connection with the flying saucer sightings. At 12:40 A.M. the control operator was going about his business directing traffic of commercial planes in his area. These planes form little "blips" on the radar screen. Suddenly, strange "blips" appeared on the screen indicating the presence of unidentified craft some fifteen miles southwest of the city.

The operator, startled by what he saw, called Harry Barnes, senior controller, into the room. In a few minutes everyone present at the control center was gathered around the scope watching what was taking place. The unidentified blips were performing in an astonishing manner. Some hovered; others reversed themselves back and forth, and still others made turns of ninety degrees or more. When at length they began to zoom over targets such as the White House and the Pentagon, Barnes became alarmed and sent for experts to inspect the radar gear to see if it were out of order. It wasn't.

Mr. Barnes then called the air force base outside of the city, hoping that their observers might be able to see what was appearing on his radar screen. One of their observers went outside and saw a bright orange light. People called in reporting a strange object. Other radar scopes in that area also recorded unidentified objects. The senior controller then called the Air Defense Command to send out jet fighters. He contacted a commercial plane in the vicinity of the blip. The pilots reported that they saw six strange lights, white and starlike, speeding across the heavens. They were slower than meteors and had no tails.

Mr. Barnes estimated that some of the objects went as slow as 130 miles per hour, but others moved so fast that the radar scope could not track them. One object was tracked at 7,200 miles per hour.

Not until two hours later did jet fighters get into the air, and they reported that they saw nothing. (This was before SAC had set up its alert system.) Later the blips showed up again. Suddenly, Mr. Barnes saw an unidentified blip near a Capital Airlines ship, 610. He called pilot Howard Dermott and told him to look out of his window. Dermott did so and saw a bright light in the same position that it had appeared on the radar screen. The light disappeared

only when the plane was four miles from the airport. On through the night until morning came, these blips showed at regular intervals on the screen. They have never been satisfactorily explained.

LIFE MAGAZINE'S RECENT REPORT OF THE SAUCERS

Life Magazine gave a report of the flying saucers in the April 1, 1966, issue. A number of startling photographs were shown. Also included was the account of Frank Mannor, a farmer of Dexter Township, Michigan.

According to Mr. Mannor, one Sunday night at about eight o'clock his dogs began to bark; he ran outside, and looking over toward the swampland, he saw lights and a faint red glow. At first he thought a meteor had hit, but soon he saw it was something more mysterious. As he and his son drew near the marsh, they saw that the object observed was some kind of vehicle with a green light at one end and a white light at the other. It seemed to be hovering eight feet off the ground in a patch of mist, and suddenly as they looked, it turned blood red. They started to run toward it, but before they got there it vanished before their eyes.

Back at the house Mrs. Mannor decided to call the police. Since they were on an eight-party line, the news spread with great rapidity. Soon police, deputy sheriffs, and sightseers were all over the place. They too saw it reappear in a red glow and watched it vanish. Patrolman Robert Hunawill saw it with red and white lights making sweeps over the swamp at about a height of 1,000 feet. It then joined with three other objects and went away.

THE EXETER INCIDENT

Another incident at Exeter, New Hampshire, has gained nationwide publicity. The story has been published in book form; it also appeared in *Reader's Digest* and other magazines. The facts appear to be documented beyond contradiction. John G. Fuller's account carried an extensive documentation. Here is a brief outline of the events that happened near Exeter:

On September 3, 1965, Norman Muscarello came rushing into the police station at Exeter, New Hampshire, in a near state of shock. His story came out in bursts. He had been hitchhiking on Route 150 from Amesbury, Massachusetts, to his home in Exeter. At two in the morning he reached Kennington when suddenly he saw the "thing." It appeared to be 80 to 90 feet in diameter and carried brilliant pulsating lights around the rim. It came toward him, then backed away. At that moment a car passed by, and a couple picked him up and drove him to the Exeter police station.

Puzzled, Officer Toland tried to calm down young Muscarello. But at that point patrolman Eugene Bertrand pulled into the station and told of meeting an almost hysterical woman who had apparently seen something. Patrolman Bertrand and Muscarello then drove along route 150. They got out of the car and went over by the trees where the object had been. Suddenly, they both saw it — a brilliant roundish object. The whole area was bathed in a brilliant reddish light. Within minutes after the object moved toward the trees and out of sight, the Exeter police station began receiving calls from many persons who had seen the object. From then on for weeks over a wide area the sightings of this unidentified object continued.

About this time news reporter Fuller went to Exeter with the purpose of thoroughly investigating and documenting the reports. He not only got scores of statements from responsible citizens but actually saw a flying saucer himself! One singular fact that came out of this investigation was that the sightings in many cases took place near high voltage power lines.

While Mr. Fuller pondered this strange coincidence, suddenly the great New York blackout occurred. He asked himself whether there was a relationship between the fact that the saucer sightings were generally near a power line and that the northeast blackout had resulted from circuit breakers on the lines going out. No one can answer this question. The cause of the great blackout is still unexplained. The point at which the failure began, at the Adam Beck generator station in Queenstown, Ontario, is known, but a careful inspection found nothing wrong in the relay that opened the circuit. The circumstances are still obscured in an aura of mystery.

Major Donald E. Keyhoe, author of *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy* who has carried on an intensive investigation of the flying saucer mystery has gathered a vast amount of proof that flying saucers do exist. He cites case after case of formations of flying saucers which have been witnessed by responsible persons whose integrity cannot be questioned. He is critical of the Air Force and claims that many startling reports are being held back from the public because of fear of nation-wide hysteria if these reports were released. In a letter to Mr. Stringfield, Director of the Civilian Research of Interplanetary Flying Objects, Major Keyhoe writes:

Dear Mr. Stringfield:

For the past . . . months our entire world has been under constantly increasing surveillance by the unknown race which controls the "flying saucers." During the same time, the "silence group" in the air force has fought to keep the truth from the public. Hundreds of UFO's operating singly and in

formations have been sighted by our military and airline pilots all over the world. But the threat of court-martial if reports are made public keeps military pilots silent: and only a few airline pilots have risked official anger by publicly reporting these dramatic encounters . . . Through CRIFO you are doing a valuable public service, helping to expose this conspiracy of silence.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Keyhoe

Major, U.S. Marine Corps, Retired

THE INCIDENT OF THE FIRST GEMINI TEST FLIGHT

Major Donald Keyhoe tells in *True* (January, 1965), a startling incident that occurred during the first Gemini flight.

"On April 8, 1964, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration launched from Cape Kennedy the first two-man Gemini capsule, a crucial step in our effort to land an astronaut on the moon. The capsule went into its planned orbit around the earth, and sensitive instruments began gathering data that would reveal flaws and point out possible improvements in the design. The first test flight was a great success. You read about it in your morning paper.

"But there was something else you didn't read. This report was still in its first orbit when four spacecraft of unknown origin flew up to it. While startled radar trackers watched their screens in open-mouthed amazement, the four took positions around the capsule — two above it, one beneath, one aft. Whoever was inside those strange craft appeared to be inspecting the capsule minutely and with care. They drew near the capsule and paced it for a full orbit of the earth. Then, apparently finished with their scrutiny, they pulled away and vanished into the unknown."

Major Keyhoe goes on to describe this new wave of saucer sightings.

"In the past three years, unknown to the general public, there has been a tremendous new wave of incidents in which unidentified flying objects (UFO's) have been sighted around the world, often near rocket test ranges, satellite orbital pathways, and airfields. The U.S. government has been aware throughout this time that enigmatic alien craft of some kind are watching our outer-space operations. The new wave of UFO appearances fully matches in magnitude the great 'flying saucer' scare of the late 1940's and early 1950's when it wasn't unusual for dozens of UFO sightings to be reported in a single week. *UFO's actively slowed down somewhat in the late 1950's. But now suddenly the UFO's are back — their number greater, their origin as obscure, their purpose as unfathomable as ever before.*"

CHAPTER III

What Are the Flying Saucers?

In our search for the solution of the mystery of the flying saucers, one of the first things to consider is whether all may not be explained on the basis of natural phenomena, phenomena appearing as the result of peculiar conditions existing at the particular time in the atmosphere. Donald H. Menzel, a Harvard professor, in his book *Flying Saucers* has made a detailed survey of the subject from this angle. He has held the view from the beginning that flying saucers are only apparitions of the sky that appear as the result of natural causes.

Dr. Menzel calls attention to cases where observers have apparently confused kites, weather balloons, and other such objects with what are supposed to be flying saucers. He discusses instances in which sky-hook balloons were mistaken for such objects. He mentions occurrences of this nature as that happened over Denver, Colorado, causing a flurry of flying saucer rumors. An observatory took a telescopic picture of the object sighted and found it to be a sky-hook balloon.

Comment is made concerning the planet Venus, which at times is bright enough to be seen in daytime. At its farthest elongation, Venus, excluding the sun and the moon, is the most brilliant object in the heavens. There have been occasions in which considerable excitement has arisen among observers who mistook what they saw and supposed they had spotted a flying saucer.

In the case of the death of Captain Thomas F. Mantell at Goodman Field while engaged in pursuit of a flying saucer, Dr. Menzel believes that he was engaged in following a sun-dog or a mock sun, which like a rainbow can never be reached by pursuit, but moves along in front of the observer at his own speed. He adds that the captain probably reached such a high altitude that he blacked out,

as the result of lack of oxygen. The unpiloted plane went out of control and crashed to the earth.

The official report of the military intelligence regarding Dr. Menzel's observations is that these explanations were all carefully considered even before he published his book. The doctor was invited by the department to apply his theories to any or all of the unexplained sightings, but he did not see fit to avail himself of the offer. The conclusion of the military intelligence is that Dr. Menzel's explanations do not account for many of the saucer sightings. His failure to make a reply to their questions caused them to conclude he could not explain them.

ARE THE FLYING SAUCERS OF U.S. OR RUSSIAN ORIGIN?

From time to time there have been reports that the flying saucers are of U.S. or Russian origin, that they are some kind of secret weapon being prepared by the military. As we mentioned earlier, a typical report of this nature appeared in *Reader's Digest* some years ago (July, 1950). The article was entitled, "The Flying Saucers are 'Good News!'" The writer, Henry Taylor, declared that flying saucers were being built by the U.S. government in different sizes, some as small as twenty inches, and others much larger. Some were guided; others were not. They left no trail of smoke and were silent in operation. They could hover momentarily in motionless flight and then dash off at a high rate of speed. The writer declared that these saucers were a product of a big experimental project that had been progressing for a period of three years — just the length of time that the public had been sighting such objects. They were an important military secret, the significance of which would be "good news" for America when it was fully released.

There was some truth in Mr. Taylor's remarks. The army has engaged in making tests of saucer-like craft of various designs. Nonetheless, officers of the Air Force never took Mr. Taylor's report seriously, and in fact they considered the whole article as an absurd and futile attempt to explain the mystery.

Now that some sixteen years have elapsed since the Taylor article was published, it can be stated that nothing has developed that has in any way fulfilled Mr. Taylor's anticipations. While some such craft have been developed, they were and still are largely novelties and are in no way an explanation of the flying saucer formations which were seen as early as 1947.

Likewise the speculation that the flying saucers are of Russian origin has failed to bear fruit. The Russians indeed outdistanced Americans in the development of outer-space craft. But these turned out to be rockets which on October 4, 1957, were able to send the first Sputnik into orbit. Although the event represented an epochal engineering triumph, satellites in orbit adhere to well-known physical laws, and there is no mystery about them. America was soon producing satellites and outer spacecraft herself, which has culminated in the present race between Russia and the U.S. to be the first nation to put a man on the moon.

There have been strange reports of craft resembling saucers bearing the Soviet hammer and sickle insignia. Whatever the significance or accuracy of these reports, it is quite evident by now that these incidents are in no way an explanation of the flying saucer phenomena. Moreover, it appears highly unlikely that any nation would send revolutionary new aircraft over America and risk having them shot down. Indeed, if these flying saucers which have appeared in large numbers were of a mechanical nature, something would have gone wrong with at least a few of the motors, and it would have been necessary for them to land. But no such case has actually occurred. They are phantom craft which can speed away or simply melt and disappear from view when pursued. The flying saucers that are now appearing in the skies are not of human origin.

CHAPTER IV

Are the Flying Saucers From Other Planets?

A writer in a recent issue of a national magazine makes this statement after he had made an observation of what he believed to be a flying saucer: "I am convinced it was a flying saucer, and further that these discs are spaceships from other planets, operated by animate intelligent beings." This conclusion is not one that is easily accepted by investigators. But the reason that many are taking this view is because to them there seems to be no alternative.

It is interesting to note the statements of prominent persons concerning the flying saucer sightings. As mentioned above for want of a better explanation many of them are convinced the flying saucers come from other worlds. The following statements appeared in *True*, August, 1966:

"I am certain that the UFO's we saw were intelligently operated craft from somewhere other than this planet" — Senior Captain William B. Nash, Pan-American Airways (pilot for 16 years).

"I have been convinced for a long time that the 'saucers' are interplanetary. We are being watched by beings from outer space" — Albert M. Chop, Deputy Public Affairs Director, NASA.

"Reliable reports indicate that unidentified objects are coming into our atmosphere at very high speeds and that they are controlled" — R. Admiral Delmer Farhney (Ret.), former Chief of Navy Guided Missiles division.

"The unknown objects are operating under intelligent control. It is imperative that we learn where they come from" — Vice-Admiral Roscoe H. Hillen Koetter, U.S.N. (Ret.), former CIA director.

"My own conclusion is that UFO's are real and can come only from another planet with a civilization older than ours" — Lt. Col. Howard Strand, Base Commander, Michigan Air National Guard.

"Information covering sightings of UFO's is of vital importance. The American people are fully capable of understand-

ing these problems" — Mayor John V. Lindsay, New York City.

"I cannot support government secrecy in these fields unless the national security is involved, and I cannot believe that it is" — Senator Everett Dirksen, Republican, Illinois, Senate Minority Leader.

"I feel that the Air Force has not been giving out all the information it has on the Unidentified Flying Objects. You can't disregard so many unimpeachable sources" — Cong. John W. McCormack, Democrat of Massachusetts, Speaker of the House.

"I am indeed interested in UFO's. I frankly feel that there is a great deal to this, and I have discussed it with many Air Force officers" — Sen. Barry Goldwater, Republican of Arizona.

"The public has sound reason for being confused about this. The public should be given all information which would not adversely affect our national security" — Senator Stuart Symington, Democrat of Missouri.

As can be seen the majority of these persons express their belief that the flying saucers are interplanetary in origin. If they are correct, this means that at least one other planet is inhabited. Could this be true?

It is obvious that if there is life on any of these planets like that on earth, then they must have similar terrestrial environments to those of our planet. Moreover, if the inhabitants of such planets are able to construct planetary ships capable of navigating the space between planets, then they must have developed a civilization more advanced than that of the earth. According to the flying saucer advocates, this must be so; and they also contend that these beings are hovering about the earth preparatory to an invasion to save the earth from cataclysmic disaster.

What truth is there in such beliefs? Let us consider the matter carefully. If the alleged beings in space ships are similar to human beings, they must be subject to certain conditions which determine the kind of environment they can live in. The craft must be affected by the same physical laws to which ordinary aircraft are. The engines that propel them must be subject to failure on occasion, for no mechanical engine is so perfect that it cannot have a breakdown. Flying through our skies over a period of years would mean that occasionally one of the craft would have trouble and be forced to land. Certainly, if such craft were discovered, it would result in the biggest newsbreak of the age.

But according to all reports, flying saucers possess the ability to fly at terrific speeds in the densest atmosphere, producing little if any sound. None has ever been known to collide with another. They seem to have the power to stop suddenly, to turn at a right angle, to rise or fall at will. If pursued, they fade away from the pursuer as the rainbow recedes from the one who follows it. There is nothing to indicate that these craft are physical in nature.

The possibility that there is life on the planets has always been a subject for speculation. A few astronomers have thought they have detected signs of human habitation on at least one of the planets. The late Percivall Lowell of Flagstaff Observatory believed that certain so-called "canals" on Mars were indications of life on the planet. The evidence was, however, of such a speculative nature that astronomers almost universally discounted the possibility.

The recent probing of Mars and Venus by explorer rockets shows that life on either of the planets as we know it is impossible. Venus is believed to have a temperature of 600-800 degrees. At that temperature any organic life subject to physical laws would be instantly destroyed. The probe of Mars in July, 1965, shows its surface to be as barren as that of the moon and without a single evidence that conditions there are suitable for sustaining human life. The telephotos reveal Mars to be covered with craters, the surface of which is one of utter desolation. It has only a trace of oxygen, and its temperature most of the time is far below zero, except at the equator.

As far as the moon is concerned, it is absolutely certain that no creature remotely resembling human beings could find habitation there. Only the most complex equipment would make it possible for astronauts to spend a few hours there and survive. There is not a trace of atmosphere, and the temperature varies between hundreds of degrees above zero in the day to hundreds of degrees in the long 14-day lunar night. Even during lunar eclipses the temperature was observed to fall from 160 degrees to minus 110 in about an hour.

Jupiter and Saturn are largely gaseous planets covered with thick clouds of ammonia and methane. This is positively confirmed by spectrum analysis. Even if there were a solid surface on Jupiter, the average man would weigh some 500 pounds because of its great mass and its strong gravitational attraction. Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto are at such remote distances from the sun that little is known about them except that the temperature that exists on their surfaces is hundreds of degrees below zero. On the other hand, Mercury,

the planet nearest the sun, has a temperature hotter than that of Venus. Hardly a place for human habitation!

With such evidence in view, it seems hardly possible that intelligent beings of a human order could exist on either the inner or outer planets of the solar system, other than the earth.

Some investigators recognize the difficulty in accepting the planets as a suitable human habitation and have speculated on the possibility that these space visitors have come from other stellar systems. This is certainly the wildest kind of a guess. Even traveling at the rate of hundreds of miles a second, the distance, even to the nearest star is so great that it would require thousands of years to traverse the distance. Traveling at the rate of a million miles a day, it would take over 70,000 years to reach the "near" star Alpha Centauri. Other stars are hundreds and even thousands of times farther.

For this reason it would appear that flying saucers do not come from the stars. What then, are they, and what is the explanation of these sightings? Mr. Fuller in his article in the August, 1966 issue of *True* gives the conclusion that they come from other planets, but he says this only because he can see no other alternative.

"The possibilities seemed to boil down to one of three things: first, a revolutionary government secret weapon, unannounced and unpublicized. Second, it might be a foreign craft. Russia's perhaps, that was so fast, maneuverable and invincible that it could thumb its nose at our Air Force, and survey the country at will and without fear of being captured or shot down. Third, it could be an interplanetary craft, coming from a civilization far advanced beyond our own.

"Of the three major speculative possibilities, there seemed to be arguments against any one of them being likely. If it were an experimental aircraft of our own design and making, it would be required to carry conventional running lights simply for air safety, if nothing else, regardless of its secret nature. And the Federal Aviation Agency would prohibit it, secret or not, from zooming straight at automobiles on the highway and forcing people into nervous shock. It would most certainly not be permitted to hover or maneuver in populated areas at night, skimming over housetops and cars. And if it were that secret the Air Force would not want it in populated areas anyway. If it were not secret as Sergeant Farnsworth has said, it would be all over TV along with the astronauts, whose feats would be overshadowed by the power and maneuvers of the UFO's.

"If the craft were of foreign origin, why had it not set off vociferous complaints about violation of air space in our coun-

try, or any other of the countries which had reported UFO's so frequently? The single U-2, which had flown over Russia at 60,000 feet, had created a major international incident, blasted the hopes of a summit conference, and brought before the United Nations a case which still echoes through its halls. Logic would seem to rule out this possibility also.

"If the UFO's were extraterrestrial, why had they not attempted to communicate with us? Certainly a civilization advanced enough to create interplanetary or even interstellar craft should be able to make it plain to us that we had visitors from space from the first time in recorded history. Unless, of course, they had already communicated with authorities who had decided to withhold this intelligence on the theory that the public might panic."

But the one thing that Mr. Fuller overlooks or else considers an impossibility *is that the unidentified objects are of psychic or preternatural origin.*

CHAPTER V

Are the Flying Saucers Piloted by Spirit Beings?

If the flying saucers are not of terrestrial origin and cannot be accounted for as natural phenomena, then what can they be? Who is piloting them? Where have they come from? Are their intentions benevolent or sinister? Since we have carried our investigations as far as science can help us, let us see what light the Scriptures can throw on the matter.

A passage of Scripture which may well have reference to the subject is found in Luke 21:11. The Lord Jesus was telling His disciples about certain signs or events that would take place preceding His return to earth. Among those mentioned were famines, earthquakes, pestilences, and "great signs . . . from heaven."

"And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences: and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven."

It is significant that preceding the word "signs" is the phrase "fearful sights," as if these signs would produce fear in the hearts of men.

In considering this particular phase of the subject, let us first ask this question: Could flying saucers be manned by angelic beings? The fact that angels are messengers from God to the inhabitants of the earth is a familiar truth to Bible readers. Angels act in various capacities. They are of different ranks and have various duties. Some act as guardians of human beings (Matt. 18:10). Some transport the righteous at death to Paradise (Luke 16:22). On occasions they carry messages from God to individuals on earth (Luke 1:11-13). They assist in battling against the evil powers of Satan (Dan. 10). They are guardians of Paradise, and on occasion they may be messengers executing the righteous judgments of God.

It is generally agreed by Bible students that the angels keep this world and its inhabitants under observation at all times. One of their

duties is to investigate and to determine when a nation, or nations, is ready for judgment. Such a case happened in the days of Abraham when judgment was visited upon Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19). The book of Revelation clearly reveals that at the time of the Day of the Lord when the great judgments are to be poured out upon the earth, angels will appear personally to execute these judgments.

Much has been said by some writers about the possibility that Ezekiel in his day saw flying saucers. He lived at a time when God's judgments were poured out in Israel. The last person we would expect to agree with this would be Dr. Donald Menzel, the Harvard astronomer. However, he assures us that this is exactly what the prophet Ezekiel saw — flying saucers, the kind of flying saucers which people see today! However, he believes that the flying saucers we see and the ones Ezekiel saw can be explained by natural causes. But the facts simply do not bear out such a conclusion. (Read the first chapter of Ezekiel for details.)

The Scriptures inform us that the living creatures which Ezekiel saw were identical with the cherubim, which have to do with the vindication of the holiness of God as against the presumptuous pride of sinful men. The cherubim were placed at the entrance of the Garden of Eden to guard the hand of fallen man from taking the fruit of the Tree of Life. Those who see a connection between the flying saucers and the supernatural creatures described in the first chapter of Ezekiel call attention to the following points of similarity.

1. The living creatures flew over Israel at the time that the judgment came upon Israel. So today celestial watchers may be appearing just before judgment is to fall upon the world.

2. The cherubim have to do with the holiness of God as outraged by sin. Just as these creatures appeared over Israel in observation of the nation whose cup of iniquity had become full, so it might be that once again the cherubim are being revealed to people on the earth as harbingers of swiftly approaching judgment.

3. It is said that a fire unfolded itself and came out of the object seen in the vision of Ezekiel. It has been observed on occasions that a flame of fire comes from flying saucers.

4. The term "a wheel in the middle of a wheel" suggests some kind of celestial craft involved in the movements of the living creatures.

5. It is noted on occasions that flying saucers will suddenly stop, rise, or reverse themselves, thus defying the ordinary laws of inertia, and then move forward at speeds far beyond that of even rocket

power. It is pointed out that this motion bears a similarity to the description given of the movements of the cherubim of Ezekiel.

Nevertheless, as to a relation between the flying saucers and the cherubim of Ezekiel, positive identification is certainly not warranted for one very important reason. The personnel of the flying saucers which some claim to have contacted *seem never to glorify God nor His son Jesus Christ but invariably talk about how they have come to save the world from disaster or atomic destruction. These beings which claim to come from outer space are the saviours, according to them.*

Let us again call attention to the words of Jesus which we quoted from Luke 21:11: "And fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven." In connection with this remarkable prophecy of Jesus, it is of interest to note the contrast between circumstances during Christ's ministry on earth and His Second Coming. When the skeptical Pharisees came to Jesus, they wanted Him to authenticate His mission with a "sign from heaven" (Matt. 16:1-4). He answered that no sign would be given that generation "but the sign of the prophet Jonas." In other words, the resurrection of Christ from the dead, of which Jonah's descent into the belly of the whale was a type, was the only sign given to that generation. There would be no signs in the heavens for the Pharisees as were given to the believing Magi, who lived in the generation before them. But Jesus specifically stated that at the time before His Second Coming there would not only be signs in the heavens, but these would be of a nature to inspire mystery and even fear in the hearts of dwellers upon the face of the earth. These signs which Christ said would appear could well include the flying saucers.

What then is the significance of these preternatural visitors? We believe we can say this with positiveness: their appearance can be taken as a warning to the peoples of earth that there is shortly to be a divine interruption of the course of world events. When Jesus Christ came the first time, the sign given to mankind was the resurrection, indicative of God's power to raise not only Christ but those dead in trespasses and sins to the newness of life. God's plan for that time and for centuries to follow involved the preaching of the gospel of salvation. The time of change is again near. God is going to intervene openly once more in world events. There will be signs in the heavens. They will be of supernatural origin. The miraculous is going to be more and more manifest. There will be signs in the stars and in the moon and in the sun. Finally, there will be the sign of the Son of Man when Jesus will appear in the clouds with great power

and glory and all His angels with Him. That event will mark the ending of this age and the beginning of the new.

Jesus speaks of His coming in these words, "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other" (Matt. 24:30-31).

The apostle Peter, speaking of events to take place in the last days, first mentions that God will pour out His Spirit upon all flesh in a mighty miraculous visitation — an event now taking place in large measure. Then He says, "And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke" (Acts 2:19). Thus while blood, fire, and vapor of smoke may describe the terrible results of atomic warfare on the earth beneath, there will also appear "wonders in the heaven above." Certainly one of these wonders may be the mysterious flying saucers that are appearing over the earth and which are being witnessed by so great a number of observers. The flying saucers come well within this prophetic description of "wonders," for they have baffled the most intensive investigation of modern science which has at its disposal knowledge and instruments far more sensitive than man has ever possessed before.

In summary it seems likely that flying saucers are among the signs in the heavens of which Jesus spoke. Perhaps some of the objects are those which Ezekiel saw in his day, although evidence thus far does not bear this out. Jesus spoke of "fearful sights" in connection with "signs in the heavens," as if there were something sinister involved.

THE APPEARANCE OF "SPACE VISITORS"

We now come to the weirdest part of the mystery. It concerns reports that saucers have already landed and that some people have had communications with saucer men who identify themselves as visitors of another world!

The writer has hesitated as to whether or not to mention this phase of the flying saucer phenomenon because to the reader who is not particularly informed concerning psychic manifestations, such incidents appear to owe their source to overwrought imaginations. However, scientists do concede, though reluctantly, that such psychic manifestations are occurring. They are not certain, however, as to

their exact nature or cause. From time to time national magazines have carried stories of this nature, the details of which were vouched for by reputable witnesses.

We feel that the people responsible for these saucer accounts are sincere though sadly deceived as to the nature of what they saw. They believe that the person or persons with whom they conversed were visitors from other planets. Actually, the phenomenon described by them is closely allied to that of spiritism and sorcery. *The distinguishing feature of the flying saucer apparitions is that they claim to come from other planets and that they have the world under observation for the purpose of sparing the inhabitants from atomic destruction.* We can state emphatically that these claims do not harmonize with the Scriptures.

Since a discussion of the flying saucer phenomenon would not be complete without a brief consideration of these strange apparitions, we include one account by Truman Bethurum, a man whom the writer met personally and who actually gave his story to 4,000 people in Angelus Temple in Los Angeles. We might say that the Angelus Temple congregation rejected his explanation that an alleged flying saucer crew came from other planets to save the world from catastrophe. They clearly saw that the whole episode was a psychic manifestation and had no connection with the gospel message.

THE TRUMAN BETHURUM STORY

Truman Bethurum claims to have been inside a flying saucer eleven times. According to him the saucer was some 300 feet in diameter. One cannot doubt the sincerity of the man. He has seen something. But what he saw does not inspire our confidence.

Truman Bethurum describes his adventures in a book entitled *Aboard a Flying Saucer*. He declares that while he was out in the desert of southern Nevada, he was visited by a flying saucer commanded by a woman captain whose name was Aura Rhanes. He engaged in conversation with this woman who says she came from the "planet Clarion."

Bethurum records at some length his conversation with her. As usual with these supposed space-visitors this "Captain Rhanes" claimed to have come to the earth on a mission to warn and save the world from atomic destruction. But the Bible knows no salvation for the world except that which is in Christ. Jesus warned against impostors appearing in the desert claiming to be the world's saviour (Matt. 24:26).

This woman, according to Bethurum's account, said, "We worship a supreme deity who sees, knows, and controls all." These are

practically the same words that an Indian Yogi would use to describe the god of the mystics.

The woman talked much about "contacts." She said, "You can do anything, or get anything, even contact other persons through sheer concentration." In other words, if anyone desires to meet a space visitor, he is to concentrate on that desire.

The "woman captain" described life on the "planet Clarion," which apparently was much like that on earth. She said, "I love to read, ride, swim, and fish in lakes and rivers. I like to dress up nicely and dance, but housework gives me the shivers."

As to religion the woman seemed to favor Roman Catholicism. She gave Bethurum an invitation to take a trip in her flying saucer. He was to bring along a Catholic priest who would say mass for him and the crew of the space ship. She recommended a certain Father John.

The woman space visitor gave the location of the "planet Clarion." "It is behind the moon," she said. To anyone familiar with astronomy this is an absurd statement. The moon moves at the speed of 30 miles a minute in orbiting the earth. In an hour it has completely left the position in space it just occupied in relation to the earth. How could another planet hide behind the moving satellite of the earth?

Bethurum also tells us that the woman lied to him on one occasion. He met her in a restaurant and tried to talk to her. But she disclaimed any acquaintanceship in this public place. As the space woman went out of the door she suddenly disappeared into thin air. But Bethurum adds that she left a note admitting that she had not told the truth. By its own admission, whatever Bethurum talked to was a "lying spirit."

We have information on a number of such incidents, but because the evidence indicates so clearly that their origin is definitely the work of seducing spirits, we need not give them further consideration.

CHAPTER VI

Conclusion to the Riddle

An easy way to answer the riddle of the flying saucers would be to say that they are due to natural causes and let it go at that. Such a solution, nevertheless, is totally inadequate to explain the facts that have been repeatedly witnessed by many observers.

Then again if we accept the explanation that the saucers are extra-terrestrial, we might simply conclude that they are controlled by the heavenly beings who are carrying out some kind of divine mission. The evidence of this is, however, very weak, and to suppose that this is the entire explanation is quite unacceptable.

We are not to believe even an angel if he should preach any other gospel but that which has been delivered to us. "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed" (Gal. 1:8).

Furthermore, we are specifically warned not to believe every spirit, but to try the spirits to determine whether they be of God. "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world" (I John 4:1). We will not displease God, but rather honor His word, if we demand to see the credentials of any new phenomenon that purports to be of God.

Something like a hundred years ago the modern religion of spiritualism was founded. The cult started when spirits began making "contacts" with certain individuals. Since then literally millions of people have been deceived by this subtle delusion, simply because they believe that all spirit phenomena must be of God. Incidentally, we must not suppose that there are not genuine manifestations of demon power. There are indeed many kinds of such phenomena — spirit communication, moving of bodies through space, impersonation of dead friends and relatives, levitation, and even materialization of spirit into physical form. This phenomenon has convinced

some highly educated and cultured people who fail to apply the Bible tests to spirit manifestations.

Now what is the method of discerning between evil powers and the powers which are of God? The answer is simple: The apostle John declares, "Hereby know ye the spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God. And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is the spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world" (I John 4:2-3).

Those who have made "contact" with the flying saucers usually bring back reports that their occupants believe in God. But so does spiritualism claim to be of God, false and deceiving as it is. Only if these alleged visitors who say they are from other planets glorify and magnify the name and deity of Jesus Christ would we dare accept them as being messengers of God. The divine messengers will never vary from the Holy Scriptures.

Accepting as fact that flying saucers are extra-terrestrial, we ask therefore, whether they are supernatural or preternatural? Let us remember that we are getting nearer and nearer to the time when preternatural powers will be revealed, but not in their full diabolical character — for Satan seeks to adopt a role as an angel of light. We are told by the Scriptures that from his present position in the heavenlies, the devil is soon to be cast down to earth. "Therefore rejoice ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time" (Rev. 12:12).

A most powerful deception of some kind is soon to visit the inhabitants of the earth. II Thessalonians, chapter 2, tells us of the rise of the Man of Sin. He exalts himself as being the God of the universe (Verse 4). He will show himself to earth-dwellers in sudden revelation (Verse 8). He will manifest himself "after the working of Satan with all power and lying wonders" (Verse 9). He will come as a great deception, and many will be carried away with the delusion.

Those who claim to have made "contacts" with the flying saucers say that space visitors are soon to make further contacts with the human race in an attempt to save it from disaster. The alleged space visitors declare that they are of God, but they say nothing about the deity or Lordship of Jesus Christ. They pretend to have come from other planets. Our own astronomers tell us that there is no

evidence that human beings could live on these planets — and space visitors claim to be the same as human beings, only at a higher state of evolution! The theory of evolution we know is a miserable fraud, and if these creatures make an assent to this teaching, then we have absolute proof that their claims are false. Certainly, the Bible says nothing about a race of supermen from another planet coming to save the world from catastrophe! But it does have a great deal to say about Christ's coming in the clouds of glory to judge the world!

We have no way of telling what future developments may bring forth. We are only sounding forth a warning that if creatures claiming that they have come from another planet make further contact with the earth dwellers, then we should beware. So far they have made no mention of Christ. If they come with some new revelation purporting to save the world, if some superman appears who claims to be divine, let us remember the warning of II Thessalonians 2. Let us not be among those who become victims of such a delusion. Jesus said in Matthew 24:24-26: "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, which shall shew great signs and wonders: insomuch that, if it were possible, they should deceive the very elect. Behold I have told you before. Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth; behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not."

The flying saucers landing in the desert, claiming to come from other planets, claiming to be creatures of a high state of evolutionary development, claiming to bring knowledge to the human race to save it from disaster — does not ring true. Something is wrong. The whole thing has the earmarks of the diabolical. We are not to look to the desert for a Messiah. We are to look for Christ who will come in the clouds of glory suddenly, like lightning from the east shining even unto the west!

Jesus told us to watch and pray always that we might be accounted worthy to escape all things and to stand before the Son of Man. Let us, therefore, be on the alert; let us have our lamps trimmed and burning, that we may have a part in that great day which draws near and join in the glad welcome of those who look for the return of our Lord and King.

* * * * *

A question that has been asked is this: Why have almost all the supposed flying saucer sightings occurred since the end of the War? Some writers feel that there is a connection with the appearance of space visitors and the atomic explosions. Because of the tremendous

release of energy by nuclear explosions, it is suggested that fallen creatures of another world have been able to use this free energy to provide themselves with space vehicles. One writer suggests that malevolent personalities are gathering up the released free energy and are using it to break down the partition that has separated the nether world from the human order.

Whether the above explanation is correct, it is impossible to say and it is not important. One thing is important: that is that we exercise spiritual discernment and not allow ourselves to be carried away by seducing spirits into any of the great deceptions that are now appearing. Let us dedicate ourselves anew to the service of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and thereby escape the delusions that are coming on the world.

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