

MYSTERIOUS ALIENS

Title: *The REAL Big Bang, Pt 18*

Series: **Heavenly Visitors, Pt2**

July 14-15, 2018

ser#3750

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I. LIGHT MOMENT

A. Since we'll be talking about "aliens" today, I thought we'd begin with a few "light moments" relational to outer space and aliens. Are you up for it? Ok, here goes!

Q: What is an alien's favorite place on a computer?

A: The space bar.

Q: Where would an alien park his space ship?

A: A parking meteor!

Q: What do aliens serve their food on?

A: Flying saucers

Q: What kind of currency do aliens use?

A: Star-bucks

Source: <http://www.jokes4us.com/peoplejokes/alienjokes.html>

B. Let's pray!

II. OUR TEXT

Genesis 18:1 - 5

The Three Mysterious Visitors & Their Reception

1 The **LORD** appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. **2** Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground.

*emphasis mine

3 He said, “If I have found favor in Your eyes, my Lord,^a do not pass your servant by. **4** Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash Your feet and rest under this tree. **5** Let me get You something to eat, so You can be refreshed and then go on Your way—now that You have come to your servant.”

“Very well,” they answered, “do as you say.”

A. The setting—This is the sixth time the LORD speaks to Abram, now Abraham.

1. Abraham is now living in the plains of Mamre (v1) where he has settled his family since separating from his nephew Lot. **(show photo)**



2. He is shading himself under the tent door flap, **(show photo, p2)** which most likely means it's hot, very hot. He is therefore placing himself in a position to catch a breeze should it come his way.

NOTE: Typically the day of a shepherd living in Mamre



began when the sun came up, and finished when the sun went down. RECALL the song: *From the Rising of the Sun* “to the going down of the same, the name of the LORD shall be praised.” *Psalms 113:3*

ILLUSTRATION: The first time I visited India (1998), it was 129° when we landed in Chendamamangal (southern tip), a city of huge historic Hindu temples and the center of Hinduism. 129° is hot! I was traveling with Dr Sam and Uncle Jerry. Oh, how I remember this visit to India, because it was the first time I had ever fainted in my entire life. It was a Sunday. I was scheduled to preach—Dr Sam and Uncle Jerry were to share their testimonies. Uncle Jerry and I were also scheduled to teach the congregation a couple of songs, one of them being, “From the Rising of the Sun,” with hand motions.

The night before I had gotten very sick. We were in a half star motel (**show photo**) at best, sleeping in a room, which contained a tiny air conditioner. Not by choice, we listened to the eeriest



haunting music till the wee hours of the morning. I awakened in the middle of the night and said to Jerry, “I’m going to go in the next room, it’s chilly in here.” He looked at me like ... “You can’t be serious?” I was.

Back to leading the congregation in song—when we got to the line that said, “To the going down of the same,” I looked at Uncle Jerry and said, “I don’t think I’m going to make it.” He didn’t have a clue what I meant. The next thing I know I was on the floor, out cold. And, it felt so good. Finally, “I’m sleeping.” 😊 Well, at first, everyone thought it was a part of the motions of the song, “From the going down of the same.” LOL! Then when I didn’t get up, they realized what had happened and 200 people were surrounding me, lifting me up in prayer.

Santos, Dr Sam’s nephew, stayed with me the rest of the day and took care of me. Dr Sam preached and then he and Jerry prayed with people in the congregation for two and a half hours. I was never quite the same after that even though Dr Sam kept trying to get me to eat raw homemade yogurt—he said that would cure me. “Let me tell you something” (as my dad would say) about raw homemade yogurt it’s not Oikos. [\(show photo\)](#)



[\(Back to Abraham and ... hot.\)](#)

3. I suspect, at the age of 99, Abraham may have been napping. Suddenly, he sensed a presence, looked

up and ran to meet the visitors.

4. Important. Say with me, “Important.” Verse 3 says Abraham recognized “the Lord.”

QUESTION: If you saw the Lord, not LORD, but Lord—Jesus—would you recognize Him? Now, there were two aliens accompanying the Lord, but Abraham knew who Jesus was. He recognized His

Shape,

Gait,

Persona;

the things that distinguish the outer form of a person.

ILLUSTRATION: When I walk, you can’t miss my “gait.” My father walked the same way. Joel, our son, walks the same way. We shift our weight from one leg to the other with each step. We’d never make a runway models—male runway models (or female). LOL!

Abraham recognized the Lord. Recall, this is the sixth time God has appeared to Abraham. When he spotted the Lord at a distance he ran to meet Him and bowed—an act of humility—before One greater than him.

HERE’S A THOUGHT! Could it be that one reason why the LORD often picked shepherds, fishermen and astronomers (wise men/magi) was because they knew how to be still, and had cultivated the skill of being “still?”

Doesn't Scripture say, "Be still and know that I am God?" They learned the art, the discipline, of stopping and listening. Could it be that we don't hear God, or miss his voice, or don't recognize Him because we are ALWAYS on the run? **[R]**

B. The text demands I ask this question: Do you/ I have a quiet time? Do we take time away from the hustle and bustle of life, a time when all other voices are shut out and you can hear God and recognize Him should He shows up? Let's define what QT isn't. It is **not**...

1. Listening to the radio
2. Watching TV
3. Participating in your favorite hobby
4. Reading a book—unless it's the Bible
5. Sports
6. Playing games on your mobile device
7. Chatting on the phone or via text

Quiet Time is just that—Quiet Time—being QUIET/ STILL before God...

1. It's no interruptions

2. It's no commotion
3. It's no cell phone
4. No telephone calls
5. No text messages
6. No music
7. No TV

C. For some of us, that is contrary to our nature —we're always on the go. But take careful notice of those who hear from God ... and where. In most cases they are where there were no **clamoring** or **competing** voices:

1. *Abraham* is alone in his tent
2. *Jacob* is alone sleeping on a stone pillow
3. *Moses* is in the desert (burning bush); *Moses* is on top of Mt Sinai (Ten Commandments)
4. *Joseph* is alone in a jail cell
5. *Samuel* is alone in his bedchamber (age of twelve) (**show**



photo)

6. *Manoah's wife*—the first time we don't know where she was other than alone; the second time she was in the field
7. *David* is in a pasture
8. *Elisha* is plowing in a field
9. *Mary* is alone when Gabriel appears to her
10. *Zachariah* is alone in the Holy Place
11. *Paul* is alone in an Arabian desert when he receives instructions regarding the Lord's Table
12. *John the Revelator* is alone on the Isle of Patmos (**show photo**)
13. And the list goes on.



D. Will you commit TODAY to have a

Quiet Time with the LORD, daily? Even if it's for 10 minutes—just you and Him away from clamor and commotion of everyday life. It may mean going to bed 10 minutes later, getting up 10 minutes earlier, or shortening your lunch by 10 minutes. But do it! It will

be worth it.

(TAKE 30 SECONDS TO BE STILL. THEN 30 SECONDS WITH MUSIC WITH NO WORDS.)

E. Abraham doesn't want the Lord to leave so he persuades him to stay for a drink, pedicure, nap and a meal (vs 4-5). The Lord takes the deal.

III. DINING WITH THE LORD *Genesis*

18:6-15

6 So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. “Quick,” he said, “get three seahs^b [36 lbs] of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread.”

7 Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. **8** He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

NOTES:

- 1) Neither the Lord nor the angels were vegans or vegetarians.
- 2) Everything was fresh: bread, butter, cheese and milk.

NOTE WHAT THEY'RE EATING? Everything you're not supposed to have when on a diet—bread, butter, cheese and milk. You know what that means? No DIETS in Heaven. Hallelujah!

- 3) The Lord and angels eat in Heaven, too; it's one of the pleasures of life here and in eternity. (*Psa 78:25; Lk 22: 16, 18 &30; Acts 10:41 and Heb 13:2*)
- 4) Why 36 lbs of flour? Angels have a huge appetite? Not really! Abraham fed his entire household; everyone was to be blessed when The Guest arrived.
- 5) Abraham did not eat; he watched the Lord and angels eat—all indications are Abraham served the Heavenly Aliens.

(Let's continue with our text.)

9 “Where is your wife Sarah?” they asked him.

“There, in the tent,” he said.

NOTE: The Lord wants Sarah to hear what He is going to say.

10 Then one of them said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son.”

Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. **11** Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. **12** So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, “After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?”

13 Then the LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Will I really have a child, now that I am old?’ **14** Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son.”

15 Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, “I did not laugh.”

But he said, “Yes, you did laugh.”

A. Please note the beauty and gentleness with which the Lord responds to Sarah's inner

thoughts and outward lie.

1. First, never for one moment think that God doesn't know your deepest thoughts and desires—He does. **Isaiah 11:3**—*When He, the Lord comes, He will not judge by what He sees or hears.*”
2. We have all, I suspect, at one time or another, lied out of fear.
3. But God doesn't “rebuke” her; He “corrects” her, assuring her, once again, of the miracle at hand.

B. Why doesn't the Lord rebuke her? Why does He, instead, simply correct her? He understood. Scripture tells us we have a high priest who is able to empathize with the situation we're in. He understands emotional and physical pain. He understands what it is to be bullied, rejected, mocked, ridiculed, made fun of, want something and can't have it, lose a job, be diagnosed with terminal cancer, and the list goes on. **He understands.** **Hebrews 4:15** tells us,

For we do not have a high priest who cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but one who has been in all points tempted like we are, yet without sin. *New Heart English Bible*

The LORD is very much aware of our inner thoughts, our struggles and pain; His ultimate desire and purpose is to bring those things into subjection to His will.

When that happens the stars align and lead you to the Christ.

Eventually Sarah gets there. Because in *Hebrews 11:1* we read,

By faith even Sarah herself received power to conceive seed when she was past age, since she counted Him faithful who had promised:

C. Where is it He's calling you to trust? Repent. Turn from your unbelief today, and let Him give you the miracle only He can give.

V. INVITATION (ATSL)

You say, "Where do I begin?" By receiving Christ. Here's how:

Admit— your sins have separated you from God. (*Psa 14:1-3; Rom 3: 23*); **Believe** – that God did something about your sins through Jesus Christ. (The final Pascal Lamb/Messiah.) (*Lev 17:10; Heb 9: 19-22*); **Commit** – yourself to His righteous by confessing Jesus as Lord and Savior. (*Isa 53:5; Col 1:22*); **Do it today!** (*Isa 49:8; 2 Cor 6:2*).

Father in Heaven, I'm sorry for the things I've done that are wrong: I am a sinner; forgive me. Thank You for loving me and sending your Son, Jesus, to pay the penalty for my sin. Holy Spirit, come into my heart; Jesus be my Lord and Savior. I give You my life. Amen!

ser3750, *Mysterious Aliens* (The REAL Big Bang, Pt18—Heavenly Visitors, Pt 2)
Words w/ Invitation 2220)