

**Subject:** Space People A Long Time Ago. Part 3.

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Subject: Space People Of A Long Time Ago. Part 3.  
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This talks about the Star Of Bethlehem.

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The lines include not only lines and geometric shapes, but also depictions of animals and plants in stylised forms. As the online Skeptic's Dictionary entry points out: If Nazca was an alien airfield, it must have been a very confusing airfield, consisting as it does of giant lizards, spiders, monkeys, llamas, dogs, hummingbirds, etc., not to mention the zigzagging and crisscrossing lines and geometric designs. It was very considerate of the aliens to depict plants and animals of interest to the locals, even though it must have meant that navigation would be more difficult than a straight runway or a large clearing. Also, the airport must have been a very busy place, needing 37 miles [60km] of runway to handle all the traffic. However, it is unlikely spacecraft could have landed in the area without disturbing some of the artwork or the soil. There is no evidence of such disturbance.

A point left unaddressed by the skeptics, though, is why a pre-industrial people, with no ability to get airborne, would have create artworks which can only be appreciated from the air.

Whichever side of the debate one is on, there is no disputing the fact that all the vivid images from scriptures and ancient writings which have in modern times been identified as descriptions of aliens, have alternative if less romantic interpretations.

For instance, the strange wheels and multi-faced humanoids described by Ezekiel have been linked to the sculptures of guardian s-irits set up by the Babylonians at the gates to their palaces which Ezekiel, as an exile in Babylon, would have seen.

In an era in which rapidly advancing technology has become widespread and science fiction more popular than ever, ancient writings attract new interpretations.

Descriptions of extraordinary events, which began life as poetry, fantasy or symbolism, have attracted new literalist meanings in an age when space travel is possible and extraterrestrial life somewhere in the Universe accepted as plausible.

There is no indisputable evidence that any of our ancestors could fly, or had ever met a r-ce of people who had conquered flight. Yet, if we move away from the literal interpretations of von Daniken, we would have to conclude that, long before the invention of aircraft, there was nothing to stop ancient cultures from imagining the possibility of flight, in much the same way that we today imagine the possibility of time-travel.

Some scientists have hypothesised that we may indeed have regular contact with alien life forms, but not as spacecraft and little g-een men. They

come to Earth as space dust bringing new viruses and epidemics. Far from bringing genetic benefits capable of turning grunting primitives into Mozarts and Shakespeares, our space visitors bring us new strains of flu and plague.

Unless of course there is evidence, but it is being suppressed. In 1962, did a certain Dr Tsum Um Nui really succeed in translating the mysterious 12,000-year-old inscription on the Dropa or Dzopa disc from Tibet and present it for publication? Did it confirm the story that the writers of the inscription were aliens stranded on Earth when their spacecraft crashed? Was the publication of the doctor's paper ruthlessly suppressed by the academic hierarchy? Was the whole Dropa story merely satire and fiction, as was later claimed in this magazine?  
(See FT75:57; 109:39.)

Or did the shape-shifting reptiles order the author to confess to a hoax in order to cover up a disturbing truth?

Notes  
1 E-ekiel, ch1, v28 (all quotations from New International Version).

2 Ez-kiel, ch1.

3 John Bowker: The Complete Bible Handbook, Dorling Kindersley, 1998, p218.

4 2 Kings, ch2, v11.

5 Ze-hariah, ch4, v2.

6 Zec-ariah, ch5.

7 Bhagavata Purana, bk 4, ch12.

8 Surah 42, v29.

9 Surah 55, vv33---

10 Surah 29, v22.

11 There Were Giants Upon the Earth, Bear and Company, Rochester, Vermont, 2009.

12 Genesis, ch6, vv2-935.

13

<http://www.rael.org/>

14

<http://www.aetherius.org/>

15.

NICAP UFO Investigator, Oct/Nov 1974.

16 'Nazca Lines', The Skeptic's Dictionary.

THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM - PLANETARY CONJUNCTION, SUPERNOVA OR UFO?

Maybe the Star of Bethlehem Wasn't a star at all. Neil Young

According to St Matthew's account in the Bible, sometime after Jesus was born, wise men came from the east looking for the baby, bringing with them gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Their only navigational aid was a star, which eventually came and stood over where the young child was.

The wise men, it is generally believed, were Persian astrologers known as magi. So is it possible that the star was not a conspicuous object in the night sky at all. Matthew doesn't say it was particularly big or bright but an astrological deduction?

Few people find that a satisfying explanation. Almost since the beginning of Christianity, scholars have been looking for an astronomical explanation.

The third-century theologian Origen speculated that the star might have been a comet. It is a theory with which one modern astronomer agrees.

The eminent mathematician and astronomer Professor Chandra

Wickramasinghe cites independent astronomical evidence to support

this theory: Chinese astronomers of the Han Dynasty recorded the appearance of a comet in the spring of the year 5 BC. It was a spectacular comet with a very long tail and it lasted for 70 days.

The comet explanation is particularly compelling if one accepts at face value the story that the star stood still over a particular place.

There is only one type of astronomical object that can appear to stand over a particular spot, and that is a comet. A long upward-pointing comet tail

can give the impression of its head pointing to a place the stable where Jesus was born.

Four hundred years ago, Johannes Kepler, the German astronomer who produced much key early work on the movement of planets, suggested an alternative theory. The star, he suggested, was the notable conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn.

More recently, astronomer Dr David Hughes identified three such alignments during 7 BC the year that many scholars believe to be that of Jesus's birth.

Other suggestions have included a double eclipse of Jupiter by the Moon and a supernova (two of which appear to have occurred in 4 and 5 BC).

The problem with all conventional explanations, even that of a comet, is that the Bible is clear: the star did not travel east-west across the sky with the Earth's rotation, but north-south. The wise men followed it from Jerusalem, where they met Herod, to Bethlehem, due south. So, the conclusion drawn by some Christians is that the Star of Bethlehem cannot be naturally explained by science.

Skeptics, of course, find the simplest solution to be that Matthew invented the

Star of Bethlehem (it doesn't figure in Luke's account of the nativity)

Martin Gardner, for instance, wrote that in his not-so-humble opinion, the story of the Star is pure myth, similar to many ancient legends about the miraculous appearance of a star to herald a great event, such as the birth of

Cesar, Pythagoras, Krishna and other famous persons and deities.

Unless, of course, it was something else, literally out of this world. What lights

are reported as moving across the sky, zig-zagging in various directions, stopping and then being seen to hover close to the ground? Some writers have suggested that the Star might have been a piloted extraterrestrial craft; some have even posited that the angelic visitation to the shepherds in which the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified (Luke 2:9) complete, as it is, with dazzlingly bright lights describes a close

encounter of a kind often described by contemporary witnesses.

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[http://www.csicop.org/si/show/star\\_of\\_bethlehem/](http://www.csicop.org/si/show/star_of_bethlehem/)

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Part 3.

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