

OMNI

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**BREAKTHROUGH:
THE CHEMISTRY
OF SELF-HEALING**

**THE MYSTERIES OF
NIKOLA TESLA**



I believe that
the Red Sea was parted by a space
vehicle serving
the angels—a heaven-sent UFO.

ANTI MATTER

It's one of the most powerful moments in the Old Testament. Fleeing Pharaoh's army, the Israelites come up against the insurmountable obstacle of the Red Sea. But suddenly God divides the sea, leaving a massive wall of water on either side and a dry-as-a-bone swath of ground between. The Israelites sweep ahead to the opposite bank. When Pharaoh's legions follow, the waters close again, crashing down on their heads.

We all know the story, right? But did you ever ask yourself exactly *how* God pulled this one off? Did he merely wave

his omnipotent hand? Did he blow and blow? Nothing so sophomoric: He used a UFO. Manned by angels, a space cylinder hovered over the Red Sea until a propitious moment. Then it aimed its antigravitational propulsion system at the water, fanning it back. When the Jews reached safety, the UFO reversed the beam to drown the Egyptians.

This is the striking scenario theorized by Reverend Barry H. Downing, author of *The Bible and Flying Saucers*. Downing, pastor of Northminster Presbyterian Church in Endwell, New York, believes that the same heaven-sent UFO may have accounted for the burning bush seen by Moses and may also have dropped the manna that fed the Israelites. In both the Old and New Testaments, he adds, the angels were said to have traveled on "clouds of heaven." And in Exodus, angels led the Israelites with the "pillar of a cloud" by day and the "pillar of a fire" by night.

Hundreds of these events are recorded in the Bible, Downing says. And anyone with a scientific bent must question how



UFO UPDATE

Within months after finishing his thesis, Downing had written *The Bible and Flying Saucers* (J.B. Lippincott). He became pastor at Northminster soon after and has remained there since. Indeed, far from being condemned as a heretic for his UFO beliefs, Downing is held in high regard by his peers and parishioners. "I'll stick with the mysteries the way they were presented in Genesis and Exodus," says Vince Early, a recently retired pastor from nearby Endicott, New York, who has known Downing for 17 years. "But Barry's educational background and credentials are impeccable. A lot of people have read his book."

"It's really an issue of faith," concludes Downing. "God has to stay out of sight so he can test our faith, yet remain close enough to keep us from despair. UFOs have taken up this role in our culture. They stay out of sight enough so we have to go on faith, but they give us a sign that someone who cares is watching over us. They're like shepherds watching over their sheep."—MARK TEICH

they occurred. For Downing, however, the answer is clear: The reports were spurred by spacecraft serving the angels, he says—in other words, by heavenly UFOs.

Downing's theory came to him when he was completing his Ph.D. in philosophy of science and religion at the New College of the University of Edinburgh in Scotland—the premier Presbyterian learning establishment in the world. "I was in the middle of my doctoral thesis when it hit me in a flashbolt," Downing says. "Assuming that UFOs are true and real, they might have created religion itself."