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U.S. preachers warn aliens are the devil's agents

From: campbell@ufomind.com (Glenn Campbell, Las Vegas)
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ROSWELL N.M., (Reuter) - Some preachers in this New Mexico town where aliens allegedly landed 50 years ago say Satan is behind the growing belief in extraterrestrial life.

Pastor Jim Suttle of Roswell's non-denominational Calvary Chapel said Saturday that the tens of thousands of people who have flocked to Roswell's UFO spectacular this week were drawn by the devil's ``alien minions.''

``People are looking to UFOs as a replacement for God,''

said Suttle, organizer of a conference giving a Christian spin on aliens. ``This is Satan distracting people from the Lord.''

Stan Crosby, organizer of the six-day UFO extravaganza marking an alleged alien crash landing in the desert near here July 4, 1947, brushed off the criticism and said the event allows preachers to spread their message even wider.

``If aliens show up here let them (preachers) try to convert them ... if not, they're free to spread the word to the tourists,''

Crosby said.

Chuck Missler, a Christian minister from Idaho, has come here to do just that. Missler, lead speaker at the Alien Encounters conference, said aliens are ``fallen angels'' from another earthly dimension rather than another planet.

He believes a major conflict is brewing between Christians and alien hordes. ``When Christ returns, the battle will begin.''

Throughout the week's festivities, people who claim to have been abducted by aliens said the beings that took them appeared to be benevolent and not necessarily far from God.

``They told me that they're here to save us,''

Leah Haley, who claims to have been abducted on many occasions, said. ``They

don't want us to destroy our planet and each other.'

Opinion polls in recent years have shown a sharp increase in the number of Americans who believe in intelligent alien life.

John Mack, a Harvard psychiatry professor and UFO researcher, said a mass visitation of aliens would drastically change our religious, military and economic institutions and force an overnight rewriting of conventional wisdoms.

'We'd no longer be the top being in the cosmos, we'd be knocked off our perch ... Mankind's overwhelming arrogance would definitely take a tumble,' he said.

But author Whitley Strieber, who has written extensively about his abduction by non-human entities, said it has only increased his Christian faith.

'After that experience, I found my soul was hungry to live the Christian experience,' Strieber said.

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