

Asteroid Impact!



**An
Ancient
Mystery Solved**

- **Today's Reality**

On February 15, 2013 a small meteor (about 50 feet in diameter) exploded midair over central Russia. It released about 500,000 tons of explosive energy. The percussive sound wave radiating from the explosion damaged more than 4,000 buildings and injured more than 1,000 people. A low-frequency rumble far below the range of human hearing lasted for about 32 seconds and was detected by



sensors around the world. Sixteen hours later, Asteroid 2012 DA14 (about 150 feet in diameter) missed Earth by a mere 15 minutes (17,250 miles). Increasingly, nations are concerned that asteroids and comets, large enough to threaten the whole world, are lurking in space. In fact, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) currently tracks about 10,000 near Earth objects (NEOs) and estimates there could be as many as one million NEOs which have not yet been seen and identified.

The news of the meteor explosion and asteroid fly-by has already been buried by an endless stream of subsequent events, so you may wonder why a headline from yesterday's newspaper is worthy of further discussion. As it turns out, a 2,000 year old mystery has been solved, and events on February 15, 2013 contribute to the solution. Before we examine the mystery and its solution, a bit of scientific history is necessary.

- **Scientific Views Have Changed**

In 1978, Dr. Luis Alvarez, a geoscientist at the University of California, Berkeley, advanced a new idea that prompted

much ridicule. Dr. Alvarez postulated that Earth's dinosaurs became extinct because of a huge asteroid impact. Back then, few people had seriously considered the idea that giant aster-

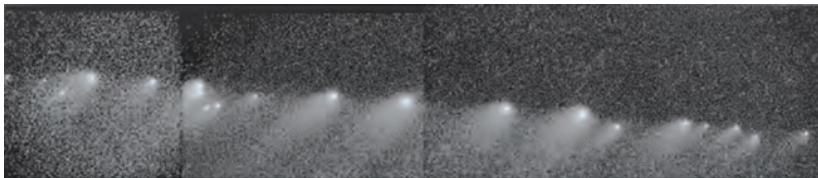


oids, the size of mountains, had previously impacted Earth. But today, the ridicule is gone, literally displaced with mountains of evidence. With the assistance of satellite imaging and

tell-tale iridium deposits, more than 150 impact sites have been identified, and one of the largest impact craters found thus far is located in the Gulf of Mexico. It is about 175 miles wide and its rim lies close to the Mexican town of Chicxulub.

• Comet Shoemaker-Levy 9

Asteroid impacts can release amounts of energy that are impossible to fathom. For example, fragments of comet "Shoemaker-Levy 9" slammed into Jupiter in July 1994 with detonating forces that would dwarf all of the nuclear warheads on Earth combined. Even though the comet fragmented into



21 pieces before crashing into the huge planet, one fragment blasted a crater large enough to place two planets the size of Earth side-by-side in it! This well-documented event did two things: First, human beings witnessed explosive power on a scale never seen before, and second, many scientists and world leaders suddenly realized that Earth could experience the same fate as Jupiter.

- **Impact Power**

The laws of physics demonstrate that when one object collides with another object, energy is released. The amount of energy released is related to the size, speed, density, and direction of the impact. When it comes to cosmic collisions (such as an asteroid impacting Earth), an additional factor is added into the equation because of Earth's atmosphere. When a meteor plunges toward Earth at speeds between 30,000 and 75,000 miles per hour, the leading surface of the asteroid experiences an increasing level of atmospheric pressure as it gets closer to Earth's surface because our atmosphere has higher density at ground level. This atmospheric pressure is much like the



Tunguska Explosion - 45 Years Later

pressure a person feels while riding a motorcycle at a high rate of speed without a windshield. As the meteor comes closer to Earth, the atmosphere increasingly

rubs against the surface of the meteor and intense friction is the result. Friction superheats the asteroid and the excessive temperature causes electrical forces that bond molecules together to "let go," resulting in a huge explosion.

If the composition of the meteor is not very dense, it can explode in mid-air. Evidently, this happened on June 30, 1908 in Siberia. An asteroid having an estimated diameter of 200 feet exploded above the tundra near Tunguska, Russia leveling every tree within a 50 mile radius! The destruction radiated outward from the explosion for more than 800 square miles. Since this event occurred in a remote part of the world before tele-

communication was possible, very few people learned of the impact. It is reported that one survivor, however, reported that he was instantly transported about a mile from where he was standing one morning by the wind coming from a great boom! He claimed the wind literally blew his clothes off, destroyed his house and blew his family and all his goats away. For decades, the event was dismissed as a mysterious explosion of “swamp gas” until scientists discovered that a “shooting star” could actually create this kind of damage.

- **Oceanic Impact**

Because Earth has been impacted by asteroids in the past, scientists have dedicated more resources to understanding the mechanics of asteroid impacts. In April 1997, scientists at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico created a 3-D model of a comet impacting the Atlantic Ocean on a super-computer. For this computer simulation, they created a ½ mile-wide comet that would impact the ocean at a 45 degree angle. (In cosmic terms, a ½ mile-wide asteroid or comet is very small.) The model indicated the impact would release the energy of fifteen million Hiroshima-strength bombs. Their study also produced some startling and unexpected information. For example, the oceanic impact of a ½ mile-wide comet would vaporize up to 1 trillion tons of water. This vapor would immediately rise into the atmosphere and form ice-crystals. The crystals would change or damage the ozone layer that protects Earth from the Sun’s radiation and weather patterns all over the world would be affected for months or even years to come. The computer model also suggested the resulting tidal wave would be 300+ feet high. To put this in perspective, the tsunami that destroyed 230,000 lives in Indonesia in December 2004 rose to a height of 98 feet. The tsunami that hit Japan’s coast in March 2011 killing 18,000+ people and leaving 500,000 people homeless rose to 132 feet in height. Obviously, a tsunami exceeding 300 feet in height would produce death and destruction on an apocalyptic scale. Every island and coastal city around the rim of any impacted ocean would be destroyed.

- **Interest Peaks and Fades over Time**

The National Broadcasting Company aired a dramatic mini-series in February 1997 about an asteroid impact. At the time, this mini-series received the highest ratings of any mini-series ever presented on television. Over 60 million Americans watched the drama. During the same month, the Public Broadcasting System aired two documentaries featuring prominent scientists around the world validating the idea that Earth will be impacted again. Their words, “It’s not a matter of if, but a matter of when . . .” were repeated several times during the broadcasts. After the spectacular sighting of the Hale-Bopp comet in 1997, people around the world have generally accepted the idea that Earth indeed is vulnerable to flying space debris. Since ordinary people can do nothing about an asteroid impact, this new threat has faded into a background of usual threats like earthquakes, wildfires, hurricanes, and tornadoes. Our helplessness explains, in part, why the meteor explosion and asteroid fly-by on February 15, 2013 quickly faded into “yesterday’s news.”

- **Helpless or Helpful?**

Most scientists believe an asteroid impact cannot be prevented. A few argue that an oncoming asteroid might be diverted and they have urged nations to join resources and technology to prepare a global defense. The latest rescue ideas include schemes to either blow apart an incoming asteroid or at least, “nudge” it away from Earth. Of course, such plans presume there will be enough warning time and it is questionable whether man-made equipment is powerful enough to push a huge mountain out of orbit as it travels toward Earth at a tremendous speed. Some scientists argue that breaking up an oncoming asteroid would make matters worse, causing millions of fiery fragments to impact Earth which would create thousands of wildfires over a huge geographic area. Needless to say, scientists are stumped and no solution has been widely accepted or acted upon thus far.



- **The Book of Revelation Predicts**

This background information on the science and discovery of asteroid impacts has been presented for two reasons. First, it is interesting to see how geoscience has changed since 1978. Today, there is no question within the scientific community that Earth (as well as the moon and Jupiter) has experienced impacts in the past, and furthermore, scientists agree that Earth will experience more impacts in the future. Second, even though there is nothing we can do to prevent an impact, there is a very good reason to thoughtfully consider the idea that civilization-threatening asteroid impacts will occur in the future and is the reason for this brochure.

About 2,000 years ago, the prophet John penned a chronological sequence of horrific events that will occur during the final days of Earth's history. (Revelation 8 and 9) According to John, God has even set the very hour, day, month, and year for the sixth event! (Revelation 9:15) When this specific point in time arrives, everyone in the world will observe a flurry of supernatural signs. At first, there will be bolts of brilliant lightning and peals of intimidating thunder. People will hear voices speaking which seem to come up from out of Earth. Finally, the entire world will shake violently from a global earthquake.

(Revelation 8:5) Everyone will see, hear, and feel these frightening phenomena and the normal noise of civilization will turn into a frightening, unnatural silence. This pause will be “the lull before the storm.”

Shortly, another sequence of events will begin. These events will be so calamitous and overwhelming that everyone on Earth will think the end of the world has come! John predicts there will be a meteoric firestorm of burning hail. This firestorm will burn up a third of Earth. A short time later, there will be two asteroid impacts. The first impact will be on an ocean and the second asteroid will impact a continent. After the second impact, great darkness (possibly caused by the ejecta from hundreds of volcanic eruptions) will block out the sunlight and plague the world.

This scenario is no longer in the category of science fiction because science has discovered the sobering truth about asteroid impacts. The meteoric explosion and asteroid fly-by on February 15, 2013 again demonstrate that the events described in Revelation 8 are within the realm of reason. The book of

The Bible Predicts a Specific Order to God’s Judgments

Revelation also explains something that science cannot do. First, John tells us the chronological order of coming events. Scientists do believe asteroid impacts are possible, but the asteroid impacts described in Revelation

8 will not be random events. The asteroid impacts predicted in Revelation 8 will occur in the exact order John described proving that they are deliberate judgments sent from God! The book of Revelation also provides a second step which scientists cannot predict. God’s Word predicts the global response to His judgments!

• The Ancient Mystery

With a brief scenario from the book of Revelation, John describes how God's coming wrath (which includes a meteoric firestorm, two asteroid impacts, and great darkness) resolves an ancient mystery.

Revelation

13:8 mysteriously predicts a time is coming when "all inhabitants of the Earth" will obey a worldwide government (represented



in Revelation as a beast). Given the diversity of mankind (ethnically, culturally, religiously, and politically), what would cause the whole world to obey one government? Even more, what could produce a one world government? This prediction has been a mystery for almost 2,000 years.

• The Solution

The book of Revelation indicates that 25 percent of Earth's population will die during these global disasters. (Revelation 6:8) Assuming the population of Earth is seven billion people, can you imagine how 1.75 billion people could be annihilated? Can you imagine the destruction of thousands of cities all over the world by fire and water? Can you imagine millions of people slowly dying from poisoned water? Can you imagine a planet in chaos blanketed with dense darkness for a few weeks?

If the Bible is true, the prophecy in Revelation 8 will be fulfilled just as it reads. A day is coming when the world will experience God's wrath. Jesus said "... there will be great

distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now – and never to be equaled again.” (Matthew 24:21) God’s judgments will traumatize the whole world. When the religious and the political leaders of the world come to their senses, no one will have to tell them that there is a living God and He is displeased with the behavior of mankind. Consequently, the world’s political leaders will meet and ask the world’s religious leaders, “What should we do now?”

The book of Revelation predicts world leaders will devise a simple solution. They will agree to create a worldwide organization whose mission will be to appease God’s wrath. The reasoning behind the formation of this crisis government will be simple. Religious leaders will tell political leaders that given the scope of the destruction, God is obviously angry with all nations. All nations are offensive in God’s sight. The human race is degenerate and decadent. Therefore, to appease God’s wrath, the behavior of the world must change. If the human race, acting in concert, changes its behavior, maybe God will relent and His wrath will subside. Political leaders, humbled by a display of God’s omnipotent power, will respond to the advice of religious leaders by offering to follow their recommendations. The result will be a series of laws (enacted and enforced within every nation) demanding that people worship God and drastically change their moral behavior.

Revelation 13:8 predicts that all the inhabitants of Earth (except those whose names are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life) will obey this religiopolitical organization (called Babylon in the book of Revelation). Think about the diversity of our world. There are Americans, Chinese, Russians, Africans, Australians, Japanese, Europeans, Jews, Christians, Hindus, Catholics, Protestants, Muslims, Atheists, Wiccans, and so many other groups of people. What could motivate all of these people to obey one worldwide government? After the world has experienced the destruction of thousands of cities and the death of 1.75 billion people, few of the survivors will be willing to antagonize God further. In this setting, it is easy to see

how God's judgments will overcome man's diversity, and cause the world's religious and political leaders to organize in an attempt to stop God's wrath. The only tool that man has to force change is through legislation.

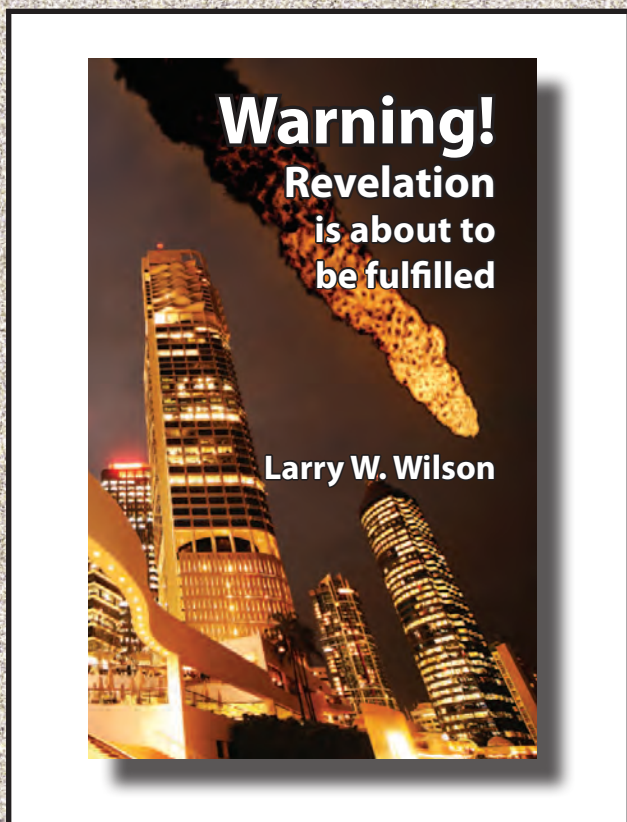
This is not a fairy tale. This is a dire prediction. You can read it in the Bible for yourself. (See Revelation 13:8.) Jesus told His disciples, "I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe." (John 14:29) For 2,000 years, Christians have wondered what could cause all inhabitants of Earth to obey a government (beast) that would exist at the end of time. Science has actually resolved the mystery. Scientists have convinced the world that asteroid impacts have happened and will occur again. Science has explained the dynamics of an impact. The book of Revelation takes the matter two steps beyond the reach of science. Revelation gives us the chronological sequence of coming events (including two asteroid impacts) and Revelation describes mankind's response. Mystery solved!

God's coming judgments are associated with the sounding of trumpets in Revelation 8 and 9 because God's judgments will be "wake up calls." In ancient times, trumpets were used to awaken a city that invaders were coming. Similarly, God's trumpets will put the whole world on notice that the Creator of Heaven and Earth is returning to Earth and He will save those whose names are written in His Book of Life. Is your name written there? I hope so.

If you would like more information on this subject and God's generous offer of salvation, please contact us. We will send you a free copy of my book, *Warning! Revelation is about to be fulfilled*. (See offer details on the back cover of this booklet.) There are no strings attached. There will be no requests for money, no invitation to join a new church, or a suggestion that you should leave your present church. Isn't it better to be informed than to be overwhelmed?

Larry Wilson

Would you like to learn more?



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