

**#6 Aliens & Religion; Series: Where Science & Religion Meet**

A. What impact would the discovery of alien life have on your faith in God?

1. Fossilized bacteria on the Mars meteor ALH84001 was \_\_\_\_\_ confirmed
2. Much of the furor in our society about alien life is driven by science fiction, the media, & the movies
3. Many of the scientists who work for SETI & in other areas related to extraterrestrial life, have already decided to \_\_\_\_\_ that aliens exist, even though the evidence is against them (truly do have "faith").
4. The belief in alien life has actually been manifested in various religions.
  - a) Church of Scientology (Xenu – alien who started "it" all)
  - b) Heaven's Gate Religious Group

*What's really going on here?*

1. The belief in alien life is quite logical for some people
  - a. The incomprehensible \_\_\_\_\_ of the universe
  - b. "The Miller/Urey Amino Acid Experiment" in 1953
  - c. 4 million Americans who say they have been abducted by aliens
  - d. other media/information
  - e. More likely, they have "\_\_\_\_\_ motivation" to believe in aliens
    1. The belief in alien life helps people not feel so alone.
    2. The belief in alien life helps people not feel so insignificant.
    3. The belief in alien life provides hope for answers to our problems.
    4. The belief in alien life provides hope for not being a cosmic accident.
2. Arguments *against* alien life
  - a. The odds are beyond comprehension as to how \_\_\_\_\_ it would be for intelligent, self-conscious life to evolve somewhere else in the universe
    - 1) It's on the order of 1 times 10 with 54 zeroes times 2, 3, etc
    - 2) even *if* we found life somewhere, there is a big difference between an amoeba and a self-conscious, \_\_\_\_\_ being
    - 3) the Fermi Paradox – (only takes 300 million years to colonize the Galaxy- we would have proof already)
3. Applications to our Faith
  - a. Many people *still* believe the \_\_\_\_\_ of humanity will come through scientific/technological advancements (Can science/technology really save us?)
  - b. Christians sometimes struggle with the idea of intelligent, alien life, because they feel it would disprove a fundamental claim of the Christian faith- that humans are special & unique in God's sight.
    - 1) Luke 15:11-31 - What made him special was that *the father loved him...*
  - c. God, in Christ, is the answer to loneliness, finding significance, help, and hope