The Alpha and Omega of the Kingdom of God

By Orlando Mostert Kingdomvision.co.za

To truly understand why this is the Radial Gospel of the Kingdom I need to give you the proper setting for the great drama of mankind's place of action....this universe and God's intended purpose for mankind.

We cannot properly develop a Biblical understanding of the vast plan of God concerning the Kingdom of God until we begin to set the stage right. That means getting an understanding of the limits of time and space. We cannot develop a proper agenda for the Kingdom of God until we understand the vast time and space scale we are dealing with here.

That also means that we cannot go into the 21st century with a 19th century church eschatology based on the scales of time and space as people then interpreted prophecy by. We can no longer look at a time frame of say 7000 years as the historic time line for the Kingdom of God nor the place of action as just planet earth....that was ok up to about 100 years ago. But a lot has happened in the last 100 years that require us to have a far greater vision of the vast plans of God for this universe and the time allotted for that plan.

There are several things I want to clarify for you right at the start so you can have a new and exciting vision of the vast plan of God for His Kingdom in the ages ahead.

So we will consider three issues to set the stage of the Kingdom vision that follows:

- 1) The time scale between the Alpha and Omega the beginning and the end of God's plan.
- 2) The vast cosmic space scale that our universe is given to us to live in and the relationship between our world and what the Bible describes as the second and third heavens.
- 3) And then we need to answer the question of Psalms 8 "When I consider the heavens the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which you have ordained What is man that you are mindful of him and the son of man that visitest him? For you have made him a little lower than the angles and have crowned him with glory and honour. You made him to have dominion over all the works of your hand and have put all things under his feet"

And so it is proper for us to consider the cosmos. It is proper for us to consider the created universe we find ourselves in.

It is also proper for us to consider the time frame we operate in since both scripture and Jesus say that heaven and earth will pass away and there is a beginning and an end.

And it within those parameters we need to see what we are to have dominion over, what time we have to do our job and what is our purpose.....Who art thou man?

Jesus the Creator of Heaven and Earth and the beginning and end of God's great plan of the ages.....

Lets start with this interesting fact from Genesis 1:1....

בראשית בּרָא אַלֹהִים אַת הַשְּׁכִיִם וְאַת הָאָרֶץ:
the-earth and the-heavens "God he-created in-beginning (1:1)

Hebrew reads from right to left. Now read it like this "in-beginning, he-created, God (Elohim)....and now here is something fascinating in the original Hebrew text. Two letters that are never translated in your Bible. But they are there in the original Hebrew text. They are the two letters "Aleph" and "Tov or Tau"....those are the first and last letters in the Hebrew alphabet. In Greek it would "Alpha" and "Omega".

Who do you think "Elohim Aleph Tau" refers to? This is what Jesus said of Himself...

Rev. 1:8 "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending"

Rev. 1:11 "I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last"

Rev. 1: 17 "....fear not I am the first and the last"

Rev. 22:13 "I am Alpha and Omega the beginning and the end, the first and the last."

Isaiah 41: 4 ""Who has wrought and done it calling the generations from the beginning? I the Lord the first and the last; I am he."

Isaiah 44:6 "I am the first and I am the last and besides me there is no God."

Isaiah 48:12 "I am he, I am the first and I am the last".

You see ".He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for by him were all things created which are in heaven and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones or dominions or principalities or powers all things were made by Him and for Him and He is before all things and by Him all things consist." (Col. 1:16-17)

Scripture infers that the invisible things we don't see are three heavens and heavenly hosts...

The Bible tells of the third heaven....which means that Christ created three realms....

The Third Heaven

Paul describes in 2 Cor.2:12 how he was caught up into "the third heaven" and "heard unspeakable things that is not lawful for a man to utter". Isaiah and Daniel had similar experiences and so did John. All saw the third heaven in which was situated the throne of God (Is. 66:1; Rev.4:2; Rev.5:11; Dan.7:10). From this throne proceeded a river of fire, an unbelievable stream of power and glory that even Seraphim had to cover themselves. Around this throne were a series of other thrones whereon sat the great princes of the universe and the mighty Cherubs who mediate the flow of God's power and from there outwardly innumerable quantity of heavenly beings all gathered.

From Job 1 and 2 and other scriptures we understand that there are regular such meetings when all the sons of God gather in the third heaven for a "family gathering" to discuss the issues of the Kingdom with our heavenly Father. All have a right to voice opinions and all report of their doings (don't ask me how!) and all receive instructions. In Heb 12:22 this great assembly is called the heavenly Mt. Zion where we too have a right to access as part of this great assembly.

The Second Heaven

In Col. 1:16 we read, "For by him (Jesus Christ) were all things created that are in heaven and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones or dominions or principalities or powers...."

All visions of the third heaven reveal to us that above all is the great throne of God but around Him are other thrones, principalities, dominions, powers...etc. This reveals to us that there are innumerable empires, kingdoms, and creations in what we can call the second heavens. This is the realm of spirit beings. God has created a wonderful realm of existence for His children to live wonderful creative lives in for eternity, to enjoy creative work using unheard of powers in spirit bodies that have eternal existence and are able to work with unheard of powers. The vastness of this realm is endless.

Thus is the realm we call Paradise.

This is a truly amazing realm of eternal existence. When people have a near death experience and get to see a glimpse of "heaven" this is the realms that they see. That is why each one seems to have a different story to tell. What we do know is that much of it is very much like our present earth. Rivers, flowers, cities, but with each person coming back with the same wonderful stories...."I did not want to come back; I cannot describe the smells, the tastes, the colours, the music is incredible and everywhere; the joy and happiness and peace and love is indescribable."

This realm by the way is also all around us. We just cannot see it. Our earthly bodies cannot interact with that realm. You need a spirit body to connect with it and to be able to handle the power of that realm. But when your consciousness gets transferred from your human brain to your connected spirit body then happens what John in Revelations says "I was in the spirit on the Lord's day...." and a whole new world opened up to him...he could see angels, he could see the Lord, he could see the future, he could see incredible powers and beings in action all around him.

The First Heaven

This is where we are now. Living and working in a physical world. It has been given by God to men to work in. We have a purpose here. This physical world has a purpose. Jesus gave a parable of a property owner who planted a vineyard and gave it to his servants to operate with the understanding that he comes back to inspect to see if there is production going on.

God made the earth, He is the owner and He has given it to us to manage. The "coming of the Lord" is a fruit inspection time...are we producing from His property what He designed this earthly creation for?

So lets see what we have available to us here in the first heaven and what can it produce....

First thing to realize is that this is an incredibly constricted world. It was created with severe limitations. We are extremely limited as to time, energy, space, etc. We are given a world made of 92 elements, 4 powers (electro-magnetic, gravity, strong nuclear and weak nuclear force), and 4 dimensions (three dimensions of space and one of time).

In the last 100 years we have come to a far greater understanding of our environment we live in by going to the far reaches of the very small (atoms and sub-atomic particles) and the very far and very large (the existence of galaxies and endless space). We learned in the last 25 years something incredible about our universe...not only is it incredibly vast but that it is expanding and the expansion is accelerating

How Vast is Our Universe?

Before I answer that let me say two that scripture tells us about revelation:

Our prophetic understanding is limited by our times and what the Lord wants to reveal for our day. The Holy Spirit through time and each generation leads us into all truth.

The Bible warns us that "we know in part and we prophecy in part" (1 Cor. 13:9). The implication is that the Lord will only reveal truth to us step by step. In our own personal life that is true and in the history of the church that is true. Jesus said when the "Spirit of truth is come he will guide you into all truth...he will show you things to come." (John 16:13) There were things Jesus could not explain to the disciples when He was with them. They were not ready to receive it.

But here is the critical issue: Part of the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to lead each church in the age that they find themselves and to reveal to them...things to come! But each church age can only prophecy in part because we only know in part. And what the 19th century church knew and what the 21st century church knows are very far apart. And what it means is that the Holy Spirit can now show us things to come that He could not show the 19th century church.

So here is what we know today that the church did not know 70 years ago:

- We now know that stars are suns and that each has planets and that these suns are clustered together in groupings called galaxies. There are about 300 billion suns in a typical galaxy.
- After taking deep space photographs of the universe NASA has discovered galaxies everywhere. By counting galaxies in a particular quadrant in the sky the latest estimate are there are at least a trillion galaxies in observable space.
- After careful observation of nearby stars that discovered planets around basically all stars the latest estimate is that there are at least 600 billion planets in just our Milky Way galaxy that can probably be good for human habitation (now multiply that by one trillion galaxies at least!).

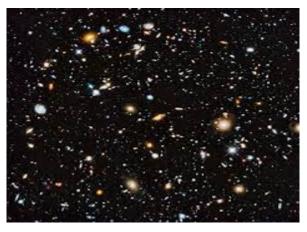
Now consider this....God has given all that property, all that real estate to mankind to have dominion over it all!

And it raises the question that David asks and you should ask....but why? Who are we that the great God of creation should be mindful of us, that He should so honour us and crown us with glory and honour? I want to answer that question in a moment because it has great bearing on this whole debate of what is the nature of the Kingdom of God, what lies ahead, are these the end times, what is the new heavens and the new earth.

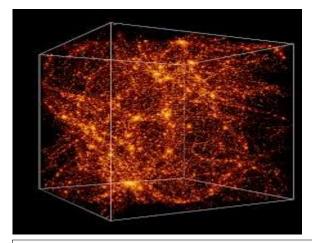
I have asked numerous theologians, preachers for their idea of the future. Not necessarily about the Millennium or the rapture....but the very long term future! Where is earth in a million years time? Where is history and mankind heading? Is there still an earth. Are there a moon and stars? Does life go on in this universe?



Our Milky Way Galaxy....400 billion stars!



More than 10,000 galaxies in our local area...



Scientists have developed computer models of the universe structure...with an estimated 1-3 trillion galaxies.

. Now consider Psalm 147:4 "The Lord counts the number of the stars; he calls them all by their names." God names every star and galaxy because they are His property and His real estate.

Every answer that I have gotten up to now is this: No God wipes out the earth and the heavens and creates a new heaven and earth. And then we all in resurrection glorified bodies live in this new heaven and earth. And in fact all this is going to happen shortly. For the Dispensationalist it happens in a 1000 years time. For the post-millennialists the coming of Jesus and the end of all history can happen at any time.

And what about the 2 trillion galaxies out there? Nothing, it has no meaning to us except to show how great God is and how powerful but it will all be just wiped out and the Lord will start over again with a different earth and a different heavens.

But that is not what I read in either the written Word of God or the heavenly Word of creation. This is what I read....

Psalm 148:3-6 "Praise ye him sun and moon; praise him all you stars of light....Let them praise the name of the Lord for he commanded and they were created he also established them for ever and ever; he made a decree and which shall not pass."

This Word of God is emphatic....the trillions of galaxies are created by the Lord and are established for ever and this decree will not be changed!

The earth also will not be destroyed or changed and it will remain forever....

Psalm 104:5 "The Lord laid the foundations of the earth that it should not be removed for ever." Ecc. 1:3 "One generation passes away and another generation comes but the earth abides forever."

Gen 1:31 " And God saw everything that he made and behold it was very good"

Eph. 3:21 "To him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages world without end."

So understand this....there is no end to the earth or the trillions of galaxies. When God made them He declared His work not just good but very good!

The latest findings from satellite imaging to the shock of physicists is that the expansion of the universe is not slowing down but is increasing!

Why is this important?

Because Isaiah 9:6 says that "of the increase of his kingdom there shall be no end".

This is an incredible, mind-boggling statement. But think deeply about this. How can the kingdom of God increase endlessly? I know God can create galaxies endlessly and there is no end to space or time. But what about people? God's Kingdom is about people, His family. Are there going to be an endless increase in population?

Let me say this. Our entire strategy in the church about the end times is very short sighted. We see it as the primary role of the church is to save the lost by preaching the gospel in all the world and then comes the end. It is over. Jesus comes. The earth is destroyed. God is finished with this earthly creation. All His children are in heaven, the Bride company has been gathered, the foolish virgins dispatched to outer darkness. The Great White Throne judgment. The sheep nations and goat nations separated. Finished. we are all now in paradise.

But I ask you this: How do you get endless growth with all of us in heaven. Jesus made it plain in heaven there is no marrying we are like the angels and live forever. So where do babies come from? Is there sex in heaven? Do we make new children in heaven?

The answer is an emphatic no! If God wanted babies made in heaven He would have made us all to be created in heaven and never created this physical universe.

So I maintain this from what I read in both scripture and in the starry heavens.

This physical universe God created to be forever in utter incomprehensible beauty, magnitude and glory. He made this universe for mankind, not the angels. He made it for a purpose that can only be done by mankind in this environment.

The amazing purpose why God created trillions of galaxies revealed.....

Here is a key and important scripture I ask you to read several times to let it sink in because it will completely change your perspective of the future and the work of the ages ahead: Isaiah 45:18

"For thus says the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it. He has established it, He created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited. I am the Lord and there is none else."

God created the heavens and the earth. He did not create it I vain...meaning with no purpose. God created the heavens and the earth to be inhabited to be filled with uncountable amount of children and families!

Space Colonisation is an Integral Part of the Long Term Kingdom Agenda!

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Did you get that. The 2 trillion galaxies each with 100 billion stars, each with planets were made to be filled with people, with families who have children, who from generation to generation supply the heavens which contain the family of God with an endless supply of more children for our heavenly Father.

Its for this that the physical universe was created...a place where children can be born into families. A place where children learn their identity, where children learn to behave and develop the character of Christ through work and play and sorrow and achievement and most importantly learn to love.

It is why God told Abraham that his descendants will number like the stars and the sand of the seas. It is why God told Israel that His blessings are upon them for thousands of generations. That's right...there are thousands of generations still ahead of us!

Here is what Dt. 7:9 says, "Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; He is the faithful God keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments."

Prof. Sean Carroll, a physicist in his book "From Eternity to Here" calculates the number of stars in the universe at 10 to the power of 20 and the number of grains of sand at 10 to the power of 21 (that's 21 zeroes!) That is how many children God wants from the seed of Abraham.

Do you think God is exaggerating? Remember that scripture says the Lord has counted the stars and named them all! So He knows how much He is asking of mankind/

God in His essential nature and longing for His creation is this: He is a Father who wants a family. So look upon this material cosmic universe of 3 dimensions, of time and space, of chemical elements, of trials and tribulations, of work and struggle...look upon this created world of God as His womb. Like a mother must bear a child from conception to birth for 9 months...so this earth must bear you for the days of your life on this created world until you have been shaped and prepared for heavenly habitation!

It is here where you must be for the gestation period of 9 months womb time before you can move to heavenly realms. It is here that three things are done which can only be done here far removed from the visible power and presence of your almighty heavenly Father:

You are here to develop your identity as a unique being.

You are here to develop your unique personality. You are here to develop the character of Christ in your New Spirit man.

All this can only be done in this universe. It is not going to be done in the second or third heaven. There is no marriage in heaven and therefore no sex and therefore no babies. Scripture says of the increase of His Kingdom there is no end. For a Kingdom to increase it mean new children must be born all the time.

You need to be sheltered from the overwhelming power and presence of God to develop your separate identity and then to find your identity in Christ. You need to have interaction with a social world to develop your unique personality. You need the struggles of this difficult world to develop the character of Christ. And when you are ready it is time to step out of this old body, this limited and restricted world into the wonderful freedom, glory and power of your heavenly family to bring joy to the heart of your Father forever.

What does this mean to me....

It is time for the Church to recognize the long term plans and purposes of God and act and plan accordingly. That means acting and planning like this universe belongs to us and we have thousands of generations ahead of us till the real end.

That means a new sustainable system of economics that allows for family growth and not just corporate growth. It means caring for the earth as our heritage that needs to be passed on to the next generation. It means developing the technologies we need for endless renewable energy. It means space colonization is part of the Kingdom agenda!

It means concentrating on and placing the family at the centre of church growth. Yes evangelism is important to reach the lost, but God's plan is to fill the universe and heaven with the endless growth of families that raise children and disciple them into the image of our Lord Jesus Christ. A thousand years of just 1% growth (for those of you who believe in a Millennium means 83 trillion people

When I contemplate the heavens as the Lord told us to....I see the reality and possibility for the endless growth of God's Kingdom. Yes we have problems ahead of us. This present evil age is drawing to a violent conclusion. The tares and the evil of the earth will be harvested out....leaving the righteous to inherit the earth and the glory of the Lord to fill the earth.

These are but the birth pangs of a new Kingdom Age that is come....and grow forever!

But When is the End?

One of the most popular phrases among we evangelicals is "we are living in the end times". But which end times? You see the 1st century church believed and preached they were living in "the last days". And they were. The last days of the Old Covenant Era with the New Covenant Era upon them. The Bible speaks of the "ages" past (Eph.3:5; Col. 1:26) and "ages to come" (Eph. 2:7; Eph. 3:21)

Yes we are now living in one of those momentous end of the age "end times". But it is a great transition to whole new wonderful eras of "ages to come" with new heavens and new earths..

The question is when is the "omega". The end that Jesus and Peter and Paul describe like this....

Paul writes to the Corinthian church that there is an end to history when God will have achieved all that He set out to do with His Kingdom in this universe through His Son....

1 Cor. 15: 24, 28 "Then comes the end when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God even the Father .. and when all things shall be subdued unto him then shall the Son also be subjected unto him that put all things under Him that God may be all in all."

Jesus said there is an end to heaven and earth....

Math. 24:35 "Heaven and earth shall pass away but my word shall not pass away. But of that day and hour (when heaven and earth shall pass away) no man knows not even the angels of heaven but my Father only."

Peter describes how heaven and earth will pass away...

2 Peter 3:12 "Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God when the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved and the elements shall melt with fervent heat..."

Cosmologists agree with both Jesus and Peter. They agree with Jesus that determining when the earth and the heavens pass away is a tough call. Not even the angels can figure it out precisely. And they agree with Peter it is going to end in one great big contraction of a universal fireball where the elements will melt in fervent heat.

The best estimate of modern science according to the well accepted "Big Bang" theory of the origin and destiny of the universe is that the "Alpha" the beginning was about 13 billion years ago from a huge expansion out of nothing (by His spoken Word) and it is now still accelerating its expansion. And the "Omega"? Depending on what they call the "curvature of space time" the slowing down of the expansion and eventual contraction back into where it came from in a fiery ball is anywhere between 45 billion years to 950 billion years. And they arrived at that by doing what the Lord told them to do...study the heavens because they are giving a message (Psalm 19) and Genesis 1 says the sun and moon and stars are there for signs and times... And they tell us God's Kingdom plans stretch for thousands of generation!

The New Heavens and the New Earths

John saw a vision of new heavens and new earths where there were no seas and sun. Let me give you my idea of what this means. Do you think John would have understood space colonies in places of the solar system where the sun was dim and no oceans but a lush paradise of megacolonies filled with God's people and filled with praise and worship!

We are not going to be spending the next thousands of generations cooped up here on planet earth. Our solar system is full of incredible resources. It just lacks life in the form of plants, animals and people. And that will be supplied from earth. We are destined to be a space faring civilization.

God will provide us with the wealth and technology and workers and colonists and leadership we need to make the leap into space. There are enough resources of minerals and energy and all we need to create wonderful habitats for trillions of people to be supplied for millions of years. I am not exaggerating. I will be coming out with a book in my kingdom series called 'Space Colonization and the Kingdom of God" I will give a detailed description of the latest discoveries of astrophysicists of the incredibly abundant resources of our solar system for the purpose of human colonization.

Scripture says that the kings of the earth must bring their glory into the City of God, the New Jerusalem, which is the Church of Jesus Christ. These two great entrepreneurs each have a vision for private enterprise to make space colonization a reality. They are also two of the richest men on earth. God gave them riches for the purpose of forwarding the kingdom agenda. When Jeff Bzos was in college he was president of the space club and said he was going to start a company one day so that he can finance space colonization. He is now the richest man on earth because the Lord put that dream in his heart and gave him the wealth the make it happen.

There is an incredible amount of wealth of technologies now being developed to make space colonization possible. When God told Noah to build his ship to start a new civilization it took him 120 years. It's not going to take us 120 years. But like the Puritans who left Europe in 1620 to start a new Christian civilization in America. Between 1620 and 1680 it was tens of thousands of Puritans from all over Europe who made colonization of America happen, who braved the dangers of the new world and many\ died taming the wilderness. And only then did others from Europe come to settle...it will be Christian evangelicals who will have the strength of Godly calling and purpose to colonize space.

The church needs to get a vision of how great God's plans and purposes are for His people. We need to get used to the fact that we are part of a kingdom that has already been around on earth for thousands of years...longer than any other grouping on earth and we need to be looking at timelines of thousands of years ahead. We need to get excited about new heavens and new earths...in space! Look at the pictures Jeff Bezos release of what these new colonies will look like. This is what the Lord wants for our future....

Here is an exciting report in the Daily Mail newspaper in May of 2019 on the presentation Mr. Bezos made of his plans for his space ship company to colonize space. I quote....

Revealed: Jeff Bezos' futuristic vision of self-sustaining habitats that could house a TRILLION people in space

- Jeff Bezos outlined his vision of self-sustaining space colonies during secretive event in Washington DC
- He says this is still a long ways off, but could allow trillions of people to one day live in near-Earth space (and eventually the asteroid belt and the outer solar system)

 The concept was first posited in the 1970s by Bezos' former professor O'Neill, a Princeton physicist

By Cheyenne Macdonald For Dailymail.com

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Last week, Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos finally lifted the veil on the lunar lander his aerospace company has been developing in secret for years, along with a plan to put humans back on the moon to stay. And in the process, he also revealed an ambitious vision for space colonization.

Building off of a concept introduced decades ago by physicist Gerard O'Neill – who Bezos himself studied under during his time at Princeton, according to Fast Company – the Blue Origin founder outlined self-sustaining habitats that could hold entire cities, agricultural areas, and even national parks in space. While such a future may still be a ways off, Bezos says it will be an 'easy choice' when faced with dwindling resources on Earth.

The habitats, reminiscent of the film Interstellar, could be built close enough to Earth to allow people to travel back and forth, and house 'a million people or more each.' And, according to Bezos, they'd have the 'ideal climate' at all times, 'like Maui on its best day, all year long.'

'These are beautiful, people are going to want to live here,' Bezos said. 'And they can be close to Earth so that you can return. Which is important, because people are going to want to return to Earth. They're not going to want to leave Earth forever. They're also going to be able to go between'

'We get to choose, do we want stasis and rationing, or do we want dynamism and growth?' Bezos asked during the invite-only event in Washington DC on May 9th.

'This is an easy choice. We know what, we want we just have to get busy.

'If we're out in the solar system, we can have a trillion humans in the solar system – which means we'd have thousands Mozarts and a thousand Einsteins. This would be an incredible civilization.'

The concept was first posited in the 1970s by Bezos' former professor O'Neill, whose proposed habitats would rotate in space to create artificial gravity based on centrifugal force. Blue Origins' take on the design was on display at the secretive event

'These are very large structures, miles on end, and they hold a million people or more each,' Bezos said. "Some of them would be more recreational – they don't all have to have the same gravity – they can have a recreational one that keeps it zero-g so you can go flying with your own wings" They may replicate cities on Earth or start from scratch with their own futuristic architecture, Bezos noted.



And, there would no rain, no storms, no earthquakes. 'These are beautiful, people are going to want to live here,' Bezos said. 'And they can be close to Earth so that you can return. Which is important, because people are going to want to return to Earth. They're not going to want to leave Earth forever. They're also going to be able to go between.'

According to Bezos, a trip between different space colonies would be as simple as 'a day trip.' But, we still have a long way to go before the vision can become a reality.

'This is going to take a long time, this is a big vision,' Bezos said. 'The price of admission to do interesting things in space right now is just too high.'

