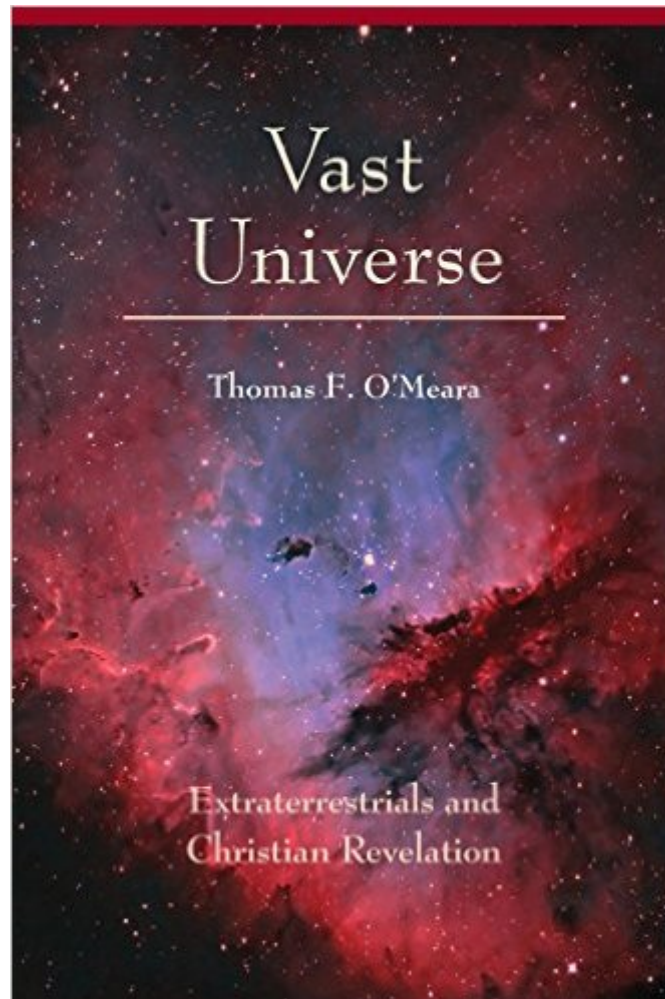


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# Vast Universe: Extraterrestrials And Christian Revelation



## Synopsis

If we have learned anything from recent advances in cosmology and astronomy, it is that we have only barely begun to comprehend the vastness of our universe and all that it contains. For Christians, this raises some fascinating questions: **•** If there are intelligent beings out there, what would be their relationship to what Christianity claims is a special history on Earth of life with God? **•** Would the fact of persons on other planets banish or modify our understanding of God? Would it reduce the importance of Jesus? **•** What role might goodness and evil play in extraterrestrial civilizations? **•** Might God have incarnated himself among other races of creatures, as he became incarnate as Jesus among us? Respectful of the sciences that disclose the reality of the universe, Thomas O'Meara wonders about good and evil, intelligence and freedom, revelation and life as they might exist in other galaxies. In this book, one possible aspect of the universe we live in meets the perspective of Christian revelation.

## Book Information

Paperback: 96 pages

Publisher: Michael Glazier (May 1, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 081468047X

ISBN-13: 978-0814680476

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.3 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars **•** See all reviews **•** (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #650,412 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #261 in **Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Theology > Anthropology** #1034 in **Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Science & Religion** #5988 in **Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Catholicism**

## Customer Reviews

O'Meara's small book briefly discusses some of the rudiments of the questions which relate to how our understanding of Christian thought would be affected or altered given evidence of an extraterrestrial reality. He poses many of the well-known, fundamental and pertinent questions but does not answer most of these explicitly, and of those he does answer, does not offer a systematic or comprehensive response that one would expect in a book-length examination. His basic frame of reference of the question, for the Christian, is his focus on the triad of person, divine relationship, and sin as a universal reality and central significance for all rational creatures. However, this is yet

another anthropomorphic projection that places limitations on what in reality likely is much different. Other beings may not necessarily share our same sense of individuality, consciousness of self-determination, awareness of general or personal morality, or experience of divine relationship. Atheists on our own planet, for that matter, do not share a belief or consciousness of the divine with religious persons, and it is not difficult to imagine given our earth's history, of a society devoid of morality or personal responsibility. In addition, it is possible that a highly advanced civilization outside our earth could establish a culture in which all individuals function as a collective consciousness, enabled by the use of cybernetic and synthetic implantation, where all thoughts, awareness, and decisions are shared and sense of person and individuality have ceased to exist. These are just a few of the unknown types of possibilities of which terrestrial theologies must consider when attempting to formulate an understanding to accommodate new information of this kind.

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