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## Our Lady of Fatima, UFO's, and September 1994

by Paul Sumner

On May 13, 1917, three children in the small Portuguese village of Fatima experienced a vision in which the Virgin Mary (they said) appeared to them. The Lady told them she had an important message for all the nations and that she would reappear on October 13 accompanied by a spectacular miracle to substantiate its authenticity. On that day, as promised, a sky vision occurred in which the sun “danced,” displayed unusual colors, and roamed across the heavens pulsating and emitting brilliant shafts of light.

This famous apparition of “our Lady of Fatima” was witnessed by several thousand people, including journalists from Europe and America. This particular vision of the glory of the Mother of God, called by Catholics a “Marian Apparition,” has long inspired certain members of the Roman Catholic hierarchy, including the present pope [1994], John Paul II of Poland.

In 1981, the Pope experienced his own version of the Fatima revelation, including signs in heaven. And informed Vatican sources say that he believes that the Queen of Heaven will reappear during his tenure in the papal office. In not many coming days, she will return in another fantastic display involving our sun, in order to “fission human history,” to confirm her queenship over this world, and to publicly anoint John Paul II as her earthly representative and the only keeper of the keys to Christ’s kingdom.

UFO researchers, who have been tracking the phenomena of Unidentified Flying Objects and other extra-terrestrial activities, have studied the events of Fatima in 1917. Reports of celestial events in the two years preceding and accompanying the actual vision of “the Lady from Heaven” are all consistent with well-documented appearances of alien spacecraft.

Eye witness descriptions of the leaf-falling and saucer zig-zagging movements of the sun at Fatima, as well as the luminous spheres, lights with strange colors, a feeling of “heat waves” all display “a fairly classical sequence of UFO sightings.” Increasing numbers of serious researchers and occult-watchers believe these phenomena represent a physical incursion of spiritual beings (i.e., demons) who are masquerading as intelligent life forms from other solar systems. In other words, the UFO thing is quite real — but it’s not what most people think it is.

In 1981 in the village of Medjugorje in the Hercegovina region of Yugoslavia, another visionary “Mary” appeared to six Catholic teenagers, and has been doing so every evening since. The whole episode is quite similar to the events at Fatima. A portrait (photograph?) of the apparition appears on the cover of a book entitled *Medjugorje: The Message*, written by an American journalist.

What is so striking about the portrait is its eerie resemblance to many of the drawings made by people who have encountered or been abducted by ET aliens. An alien’s

portrait on the cover of a UFO book entitled *Communion: A True Story* (1987) by Whitley Strieber contains a similar likeness.



An influential American Bible teacher and radio commentator is predicting the Secret Rapture of the Church during the Jewish High Holidays this September. In his book *1994?*, Harold Camping outlines how he arrived at this date, based on interpretations of prophetic patterns involving the ancient feasts of Israel in the Old Testament.

The doctrine of a secret “taking away” or *rapture* (Latin, *rapere*, to seize) of the Christian elect first emerged in the 1830s in England, apparently among followers of Edward Irving. He founded the “Catholic Apostolic Church,” a fervent prophecy-centered revivalist sect that sought to re-establish the primitive catholic Church in preparation for the Second Coming.

The doctrine spread and soon became an important teaching among the Plymouth Brethren, and was popularized among many Protestants through the *Scofield Reference Bible* (1909, 1917). Central to the rapture doctrine, as taught by adherents today, is the belief that Christ will visibly appear in the skies and lift all true believers up into the heavens, taking them out of this world, just prior to allowing the forces of Antichrist to initiate the Great Tribulation on the earth.

The Rapture is the next significant event on the countdown calendar to the End. And many Christians are expecting an any-moment, literal evacuation into heaven between now and the final return of Christ to earth.

### What’s the connection between all these facts?

In these apparently unrelated events we may be witnessing a convergence of supernatural or para-normal phenomena, both of a “scientific” and a religious nature. We may be on the verge of a massive display of heavenly sky-centered events orchestrated by non-human beings in order to convert humanity. Convert to what?

If there is a fantastic and undeniable vision of a “Mary-being,” the event would win back apostate, rebellious Catholics. It may also force to the knees a nonbelieving world that has rejected the Christianity of the Roman Church and its spiritual authority—the Blessed Virgin, the Queen of Heaven. If there is a “Christ-being” manifest in the skies with his Mother, it might finally convert recalcitrant Protestants and sectarian Christians.

And if there is a host of extra-terrestrials (“angels” some Christians and New Agers would call them), it would utterly melt the last vestiges of skepticism among rationalist, scientized atheists. Astronomers and members of SETI would finally say, “You see, we told you *we aren’t alone*.”

### And the Rapture?

One of the most ominous aspects of UFO reports has been the abduction of people into alien spacecraft or other planes of reality. What if a massive display of supernatural events takes place, as Pope John Paul expects to occur, and the Virgin Mary (or even a

Christ-image) appears in the heavens and beckons her “children” to come up to her and her son, then suddenly masses of people are miraculously lifted up into the sky in an undeniable rapture/abduction by the “hosts of angels” who look like the Lady of Medjugorje and the beings of UFO visitations?

Are millions of Protestant Christians being set up by the Secret Rapture doctrine to expect an event that will eventually dovetail into the “sky events” expected by the Pope?

### How would people respond?

Those who expected the Rapture of the Church—but are left behind when the event occurs—might well cry out to God that they were mistakenly overlooked and would do *anything* to be included in the Taking Up and avoid the Tribulation. They might even confess the Lady as God’s channel of grace and bow their knee to the Roman vision of spiritual reality and accept God’s Vicar on earth, the Pope, as their Father and Shepherd.

Those who are not Christian but are involved in other supernatural realities might excitedly be drawn into this circle of divine phenomena that characterizes the Roman Church. New Agers, Spiritualists, Occultists, and adherents of various pseudo-scientific disciplines may quickly drop their cynical

unbelief and flock to the Mother (Gaia?), as though going home.

The hard bitten atheists and agnostics who have contempt for religious beliefs, other than their own self-love of Humanity, could easily adopt the view that they had been right all along, that there was indeed intelligent life on other planets superior to ours, and that its representatives have finally made their embassy publicly known to our planet. Carl Sagan and his colleagues will be vindicated.

Of course, the cynics might say: “Well, there was something to all that Christian and even Jewish kabbalistic stuff about miracles and heavenly visions—even though ignorant religious people obviously did not realize that they were actually dealing with Beings from other solar systems and not actually with divinities or Gods.”

Whether September 1994 will bring *the* or *a* Rapture, as Harold Camping predicts, I will not say. We will find out. But if something does occur then or even later, it is worth asking what might happen if there is a convergence of all these human expectations. How would the world interpret such an event and respond to it? How will people discern the true and holy from the false and diabolical?

It may well be the time to find out.

### Sources

On the subject of UFOs from a biblical perspective, see the double issue of *S.C.P.* [Spiritual Counterfeits Project] (Vols 17:1 & 2, 1992), PO Box 4308, Berkeley CA 94704 USA. For other research that focuses on the “supernatural” (though not necessarily the demonic) aspect of UFOs and the Fatima sightings, see Jacques Vallee, *Dimensions: A Casebook of Alien Contact* (New York: Ballantine Books), and the British journal entitled *Flying Saucer Review* (PO Box 162, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP13 5DZ England).

On Pope John Paul's interest in Our Lady of Fatima and an explanation of how the coming Marian apparition will affect the world, see the book by former Jesuit professor Malachi Martin, *The Keys of this Blood (The Struggle for World Dominion Between Pope John Paul II, Michael Gorbachev & the Capitalist West)* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1990), especially pages 627-639. Martin has also written *The Jesuits, Vatican, The Final Conclave*, and *Hostage to the Devil*. He is not anti-Catholic.

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On the origins of the Pre-Tribulation Rapture doctrine, see the works of journalist Dave MacPherson: *The Incredible Cover-Up* (1975) and *The Great Rapture Hoax* (1983). An updated book is in the works. Harold Camping's book is *1994?* (New York: Vantage Press, 1992).

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