

## **ROME AND THE HERESY OF ALIEN LIFE**

Nearly 600 years ago, philosopher and theologian Nikolaus Krebs wrote in his *De Docta Ignorantia (On Learned Ignorance)*:

“Life, as it exists on Earth, in the form of men, animals and plants, IS TO BE FOUND, let us suppose, in a higher form in the solar and stellar regions. Rather than think that so many stars and parts of the heavens are uninhabited and that this earth of ours alone is peopled – and that with beings, perhaps, of inferior type – we will suppose that in every region there are inhabitants, differing in nature by rank and all owing their origin to God. ... And WE MAY MAKE PARALLEL SURMISE of other stellar areas that NONE OF THEM LACK INHABITANTS, as being each, like the world we live in, a particular area of one universe which contains as many such areas...” [1]

Over 140 years after this statement, philosopher and theologian Giordano Bruno penned:

“Thus is the excellence of God magnified and the greatness of his kingdom made manifest: he is glorified not in one, but in countless suns; not in a single earth, a single world, but in a thousand thousand, I say in an infinity of worlds.” [2]

Bruno went on to populate every heavenly body, including all planets, stars, and meteors.

The interesting thing about these two men is that Nikolaus Krebs was a Cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church, Giordano Bruno, a Dominican friar. The Roman Church later burned Bruno at the stake for his writings. But his execution at the hands of the dark-age inquisitions had nothing to do, believe it or not, with his theories on extraterrestrial life. *The Catholic Encyclopedia* explains:

“Bruno was not condemned for his defence of the Copernican system of astronomy, nor for his doctrine of the plurality of inhabited worlds, but for his theological errors, among which were the following: that Christ was not God but merely an unusually skillful magician, that the Holy Ghost is the soul of the world, that the Devil will be saved, etc.”<sup>3</sup>

So, what did the Roman Catholic Church have to say, officially, about these early theories by its own philosophers and scientists? Nothing. Rome made no official proclamation. But, as it’s often said, **ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS**. And what were the actions of Catholicism at this time? Their “actions” consisted of burning people at the stake for translating the Bible into English, and for believing in salvation in Christ alone. Evidently, for the papacy, it was more expedient to eliminate those who were getting the printed words of God into the hands of everyday men (like William Tyndale) than it was to address alien life on other worlds. And lest anyone doubt the influence of the statements of Rome’s philosophers at the time, today (580 years later) Nikolaus Krebs is recognized **AS HAVING PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE** in the development of modern astronomy.<sup>4</sup> The truth is, the Roman Catholic Church has helped grow the idea of life in space and helped mainstream the theory of intelligent, non-humans on other planets.

Former Director of the Vatican Observatory, Father Jose Funes, claimed that it was difficult to exclude the possibility of intelligent life on other planets arguing that such creatures may be sinless. The Jesuit also repudiated scripture as a means of educating the Christian on the question of alien life. The current Director of the Vatican Observatory, Guy Consolmagno (a holder of the Carl Sagan Medal), is the author of the 48-page booklet called *Intelligent Life in the Universe? Catholic Belief and the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligent Life*. The book is published through the British-based Catholic Truth Society.

The late Vatican theologian and demonologist, Monsignor Corrado Balducci (1923- 2008), made five appearances on Italian television discussing alien life on other worlds. His conclusions regarding the UFO-related “close encounters” were that such events “are not demonic” and “are not a case of entity attachment.” In other words, twenty-first century Vatican astronomers (like those cited above) have encouraged the heresy of “space aliens” by proposing that these beings should be received as fellow “brothers and sisters” and co-created beings of God.<sup>5</sup>

If the papacy ever steps forward and declares humanoid life on other planets a “reality,” feel free to ignore it. After all, this same crowd has been pushing the idea for hundreds of years. They were wrong then, and they’re wrong now. Their position on cosmic pluralism is really no different than that of a Bible-rejecting atheist. As far as the “aliens” are concerned, if they ever do communicate with the Vatican they’re only real communiqué will be:

“Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?” Acts 19:15

#### FOOTNOTES

[1] Crowe, Michael J. *The Extraterrestrial Life Debate*. Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame, 2008. p 31-32

[2] Ibid. p 44

[3] Turner, William. “Giordano Bruno.” *The Catholic Encyclopedia*. Vol. 3. New York: Robert Appleton Company, 1908. 11 Feb. 2013 <<http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/03016a.htm>>.

[4] Crowe, Michael J. *The Extraterrestrial Life Debate*. Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame, 2008. p 34

[5] Boylan, Ph.D., Richard. *Vatican Official Declares Extraterrestrial Contact Is Real*. *UfoDigest*. [www.ufodigest.com](http://www.ufodigest.com).