

2. Global Catastrophic Risks

Terrie Lambert, 04.11.2022

Youtube Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MLPyjDPtyYc>

[00:00:05.720] - Terrie

Our loving guide in heaven. We've gone safely through another week and we thank you for Your loving kindness and for Your truth. That even though the world is in turmoil and our lives are not easy, in many ways, we know that Your providential hand is over all. And you've given us light in these dark times to navigate this history. We have such wonderful light. We thank you for the path you've put us on. And as we explore that a little more tonight, we pray that you would guide our conversation, direct our thoughts and just bless our time together. We think of all those across the world that are preparing. They're still in preparation. Bless them and we just look forward to the Sabbath hours as they are about to open for us. We know there's a special blessing. And we just thank you for all your provisions. We leave ourselves in Your care and pray in Jesus name. Amen.

[00:01:18.120] - Terrie

What have we been doing? We spent quite a bit of time understanding the Daily of Daniel, chapter 8. The continual. What's perpetual. And not only tracing it through history, but understanding how it works, the principles, the ideology that's behind the daily, which we sometimes call paganism and we sometimes call spiritualism.

[00:01:47.640] - Terrie

The Hebrew word is Gadal. The Greek word is Hubris. We saw that it was represented as self exaltation and self promotion. Once we did that, we traced it even further back than what Daniel did. Daniel is dealing with the kingdoms of Bible prophecy, but we saw that it actually begins in heaven. And we looked at the mind of Lucifer in Isaiah chapter 14 and Ezekiel chapter 28, where Lucifer wanted to be as God. I will be like the most High. And this Hubris, this self promotion, caused his fall. And then he brought those thoughts, that mindset, down to earth and shared it with human beings. He convinced them that ye shall be as gods. And it's in that temptation that human beings found paganism, spiritualism. That they could live a life outside of God's care and God's law. We traced the daily down to the earth and we saw the result of that is what we know as the sin of Eve. It was a fall of Adam and Eve, but it resulted in three curses. Once this mentality, this ideology is accepted, we see troubles form on the earth.

[00:03:46.900] - Terrie

And the results of that are these curses that God explained to Eve and to Cain and to Ham, that it was no longer possible that they would receive a blessing, it would result in a curse. And these curses are a result of humans trying to fix problems, the problems that arise or even rise to those curses. We have the

problem of Eve that's going to be resolved. Humans are going to resolve that with patriarchy. And the problem of Cain, we will see just intolerance, et cetera. And the problem of Ham will solve that by slavery. These curses were man's attempt to solve problems, and of course, it just resulted in more problems. What they were doing is perpetuating this Gadal, this self exaltation, by man coming and ruling over woman. By the intolerance of others beliefs, and by slavery bringing other human beings into subjection. Each of these are the result of this treading down of another human being. Then what we did was we went on to look at Babel. Any questions so far? We're going to go back and we're going to revisit the spirit of prophecy. I think we might reread these paragraphs for context.

[00:06:24.930] - Terrie

Would somebody like to read page 118, paragraph four?

[00:06:38.530] - Graeme

I can read it.

[00:06:44.720] - Terrie

We'll go Graeme. And then Marie. Graeme, if you could read this paragraph.

[00:06:49.120] - Graeme

For a time, the descendants of Noah continued to dwell among the mountains where the ark had rested. As their numbers increased, apostasy soon led to division. Those who desired to forget their Creator and to cast off the restraint of his law felt a constant annoyance from the teaching and example of their God fearing associates. And after a time, they decided to separate from the worshipers of God. Accordingly, they journeyed to the plain of Shinar on the banks of the River Euphrates. They were attracted by the beauty of the situation and the fertility of the soil. And upon this plain, they determined to make their home.

[00:07:30.060] - Terrie

So far any thoughts from that passage? Do you remember what we pulled out of that passage?

[00:07:42.050] - Graeme

We saw that separation. One group decided to stay up on the mountain. Another descended. But as they descended, they still wanted to promote themselves by reaching heavenward. I'm not sure if there's anything else I've missed.

[00:08:04.890] - Terrie

Okay, that's right. There's been a division on the mountain. And those that came down from the mountain, what did they want to do?

[00:08:24.090] - Graeme

Cast off restraint. Forget God.

[00:08:28.300] - Terrie

Forget God and no law. Now they've found a nice place to settle and they've come down to the plain. They're forgetting their creator. They want to. That's their desire. No Creator, no law. They shall be as God. No God with a big g. They'll be gods with little g's. Thank you, Graeme.

[00:08:56.630] - Terrie

Marie, paragraph five.

[00:09:02.650] - Marie

Sure.

[00:09:06.330] - Marie

Here they decided to build a city, and in it a tower of such stupendous height as should render the wonder of the world. These enterprises were designed to prevent the people from scattering abroad in colonies. God had directed men to disperse throughout the Earth, to replenish and subdue it. But these Babel builders, determined to keep the community united in one body and to found a monarchy that should eventually embrace the whole Earth. Thus, their city would become the metropolis of a universal empire. Its glory would command admiration and homage of the world and render the sounders illustrious. The magnificent tower reaching to the heavens was intended to stand as a monument of the tower and wisdom of its builders, perpetuating their fame to the latest generations.

[00:10:12.830] - Terrie

Thanks, Marie. What points did we bring out of this paragraph?

[00:10:23.730] - Marie

They didn't want to do what God was asking. They wanted to stay a community all in one place, and they wanted to build this tower as a solution to their dilemma, which was the flood.

[00:10:43.370] - Terrie

We don't see that in this paragraph, though. Just pull out of this paragraph. What do we get from this paragraph?

[00:10:53.300] - Marie

True, I'm cheating. I'm sorry.

[00:10:55.930] - Marie

Okay. Yes, they want a monarchy and they want this to be this illustrious kingdom that's going to shine forth to all generations. To be honest, I can't remember what was brought out, only that it's a monarchy. And they don't want to expand. They want to stay in this one place.

[00:11:29.030] - Terrie

Okay. Did they want to stay in the one place forever?

[00:11:33.290] - Marie

No, they want that fame like that magnificence of what they want to become, to go from there out to the ends of the earth.

[00:11:45.630] - Terrie

Yes. First local, then global. They do want to create a universal empire, but they're starting with this city and tower, but with the hope of it becoming global. They found a monarchy. Does anybody remember who's their king?

[00:12:09.750] - Marie

Nimrod.

[00:12:11.910] - Terrie

Nimrod. He's their king. And the purpose of the tower according to this paragraph? Anybody? What's the purpose of the tower according to this paragraph? You can put your hands up in the chat if you like. Graeme!

[00:13:04.160] - Graeme

It's to stand as a monument that perpetuates their fame. Continually represents their fame to following generations.

[00:13:21.540] - Terrie

Do they want their memory lost?

[00:13:25.240] - Graeme

No, they want it to continue.

[00:13:29.960] - Terrie

Yes, go on.

[00:13:33.480] - Graeme

It's almost like they're rewriting history.

[00:13:39.980] - Terrie

Yes. Okay. Good point. Rachel, did you have anything to add?

[00:13:50.460] - Rachel

Pretty much the same as what Graeme said. I think just when I was looking at both versus. The first group stayed in the mountain. I was thinking they left their faith and practice. And when they left God, they left to come down to make their own faith and practice. They left God so they can make their monument and write a new history, like Graeme said.

[00:14:36.700] - Terrie

Yeah. That's an interesting point, Rachel. Their faith has changed. They no longer have faith in a creator. Their faith is in who, Rachel?

[00:14:47.120] - Rachel

I guess the builders, or in the tower.

[00:14:54.180] - Terrie

In themselves. Their practice is going to demonstrate that. The practice is going to demonstrate who their faith is in. And so they're going to build this tower, that they will never be forgotten. Which means if they're never going to be forgotten, they're eternal you should be as gods. They want it to be a memorial to generations. They want their fame perpetuated. Perpetual, remember the daily? Continual, perpetual. They want to be recognized continually even after they die. And it will be demonstrated in this engineering feat. Josephine, I think they covered all the points that I had. Rachel and Graeme and you did a good job. We see one purpose of the tower. The purpose of the tower is to build them up and perpetuate their name. Rachel, would you like to read this paragraph? Sure.

[00:16:35.920] - Rachel

Can you hear me okay, Terry?

[00:16:38.560] - Terrie

Yes, I can. Thank you.

[00:16:43.760] - Rachel

Dwellers of the plain of Shinar disbelieved God's covenant that he would not again bring a flood upon the earth. Many of them denied the existence of God and actually the flood to the operation of natural causes. Others believed in a supreme being and that it was he who had destroyed the antediluvian world. And their

heart, that of Cain, rose up in rebelling against him. One object before them in the erection of the tower was to secure their own safety in case of another deluge. By carrying the structure to a much greater height than was reached by the waters of the flood. They thought to place themselves beyond all possibility of danger. They would be able to ascend to the region of the cloud. They hoped to ascertain the cause of the flood. The whole undertaking was designed to exalt still further the pride of its projectors and to turn future generations away from God, lay them into idolatry.

[00:17:59.560] - Terrie

Thank you, Rachel. What other purpose did this tower have?

[00:18:07.660] - Rachel

That last bit that they lead them into idolatry. Is that you're looking for?

[00:18:18.780] - Terrie

I would suggest that they're already idolatrous. The ones that want to lead into idolatry are future generations. The minute you turn away from God, you worship something. That's the whole point of atheism. We're seeing that it's still a worship. It's just, what are they worshipping? They've built this tower to pretty much worship themselves. Ye shall be as gods. They'll be worshipping themselves and they want to affect future generations and lead them into idolatry. What other purpose is this tower for? It's a memorial, a monument to their wisdom and greatness. Anyone?

[00:19:28.400] - Rachel

It as to do with the flood, it is to ascertain the cause of the flood. Sorry, Marie's, put her hand up.

[00:19:34.520] - Terrie

Okay, well, we'll go with Marie.

[00:19:38.040] - Marie

That's all right, Rachel. I think I was going to say something similar anyway. I was going to say it was to protect them from the flood. That they had that gold. That they could secure themselves without God.

[00:20:01.850] - Terrie

Thank you. And Graeme, are you going to add something to that?

[00:20:06.910] - Graeme

No, just say the same thing. To secure their own safety.

[00:20:11.630] - Terrie

Right. What did they know? They're refusing to know God. They don't want to know God. But what do they know? Ray.

[00:20:26.150] - Raymond

They all knew that there had been a flood.

[00:20:29.590] - Terrie

They knew there'd been a flood.

[00:20:31.530] - Raymond

They didn't want another one.

[00:20:34.630] - Terrie

Say again?

[00:20:36.870] - Raymond

They didn't want another one to come and kill them?

[00:20:40.550] - Terrie

Yes. Is there going to be another one to come and kill them?

[00:20:46.490] - Raymond

No. They didn't believe God's promise.

[00:20:50.490] - Terrie

No. There isn't going to be one. But they don't believe God's promise. They don't believe there's a God. And if there is one, don't like him anyway. Then the evidence is there, that there's been a flood. That's what they know. Therefore they're worried there will be another one. So leaving off their creator, they are left with no other choice than to worry about their future. Because they know what's happened in the past. They can see the record of the destruction. It's evident for us today. How much more evident would it have been back then? Even though the plain is beautiful, there was enough record that they know that this flood had taken place. One object before them was to secure their own safety in case of another deluge. They needed to be able to save themselves. Josephine?

[00:22:09.710] - Terrie

They want to ascertain how the flood happened so that they can save themselves. They hope to ascertain the cost of the flood. We got two practical reasons. One, it will save them, and two, it will also take them up high enough that they can work things out and possibly stop the deluge.

[00:22:43.430] - Terrie

They can work out how to intervene, they can work out how these deluges come about. Then they might be able to intervene. We've got a tower for the purposes of self exaltation. We've got a tower for the purpose of salvation, of preventing and or escaping a global catastrophe. Would anybody like to add anything more from this paragraph?

[00:23:30.150] - Terrie

Okay, well, we'll stop share there. We noted a few things from the passages. The people have come down from the plain. We've got two groups of people. They've built a city and a tower. They want to stay united, but it's short term because eventually they want a universal empire. But first local, then global. They've got a monarchy under Nimrod. They've built this tower to perpetuate their fame in their honor. And also its protection from the flood. And also for research. We might think of a better name. If anyone wants to think of a better word there. The flood is going to provide them safety, but also knowledge on how to either escape and or stop a future global catastrophe. If we went back I had to rub out the board.

[00:24:52.220] - Terrie

I needed to use the board this week, so I rubbed out the side that was the most messiest. We go back to what we wrote up about Daniel 8. When we saw the counterfeit, we saw that the two cultures at war here. We can see that the culture that has created Babel is very much a demonstration of Satan's kingdom. We can see self promotion, horns. We can see self exaltation. Can we see a host? What a host have we got down there on the plain? Any thoughts?

[00:25:54.740] - Graeme

It they wanted to start as a city and then they wanted to branch out as an empire across the world.

[00:26:04.500] - Terrie

Yeah. You've got a band that they've solidified as a people with common object in mind, that is to build the city and the Tower and to have global domination. They might not be as an army, as we think of today, but there's an organized group of them so we could recognize a host. Can we see a sanctuary?

[00:26:40.480] - Josephine

Yeah. The tower.

[00:26:48.750] - Terrie

Okay, let's go over to the True. God had a sanctuary. Remember, there's two sanctuaries in Daniel, a Quodesh and a Miqdesh. The Qodash is always, every time, God's sanctuary. What's the purpose of the sanctuary? I think we looked at that. Anybody remember the purpose of the sanctuary? We looked at a verse that said, what separates us from God? Sin separates from God. And God said, Let them make me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them. What does the sanctuary do?

[00:27:49.010] - Josephine

It brings God to them. To dwell with them. To worship.

[00:27:54.630] - Terrie

How is that possible? What separates us from God? Marie?

[00:28:08.080] - Marie

The question is, what separates us from God? Or how does he dwell with us? Sin separates us from Him, so he sets up a system in the sanctuary so that can remove that separation.

[00:28:32.280] - Terrie

What does it remove?

[00:28:34.840] - Marie

It removes the sin.

[00:28:37.180] - Terrie

Removes the sin. The sanctuary deals with the sin problem. You deal with the sin problem, and God can dwell with his people. The sanctuary solves the problem, and it's the problem of salvation. If we look at the counterfeit. The counterfeit sanctuary. What's it going to do? It's going to solve a problem and bring about the idea of being saved. Where do we see the sanctuary in our story of Babel? Do I see your hand up, Ray?

[00:29:27.970] - Raymond

Yeah, I was going to say that the sanctuary deals with the same problem.

[00:29:33.970] - Terrie

Okay.

[00:29:38.610] - Raymond

I'm not sure if you're talking about how there were temples inside the Tower that they kept idols in. But I might be looking at it the wrong way.

[00:29:51.850] - Terrie

No. What is the tower?

[00:29:55.850] - Raymond

It's a temple of sorts in and of itself.

[00:30:02.430] - Terrie

It is the tower. The Tower becomes their sanctuary, in two ways. It's there to worship themselves because it's going to be a monument to their own brilliance, but it's also going to provide a way of salvation. That they can get above the flood and work out why the flood has come in the first place. When we look at the true, what does the sanctuary do? It shows us the plan of salvation. It provides a way, and it also shows us what the problem was in the first place and how to deal with it. We see a way of salvation there in Babel. So far we can tick all the boxes as far as the culture of Satan's kingdom is right there in the city of Babel, which we would expect. What about this? We saw two princes. We had to go to Daniel 9, but it is there in Daniel 8, but it's not he's not named. In Daniel 8 we've got and Daniel 9, we've got prince with a capital P. It's Christ. How do we know it's Christ when it's got a capital P? What's the other word that goes with Christ in Daniel 9?

[00:31:52.770] - Terrie

What's the word? It doesn't say Christ in Daniel 9? Something... the Prince. Anybody? Daniel 9. Is it Daniel 9:26. I'll get my bible. What is he referred to as?

[00:32:42.030] - Josephine

Messiah the Prince.

[00:32:44.670] - Graeme

Messiah.

[00:32:45.850] - Terrie

What did you say? Josephine?

[00:32:47.950] - Terrie

The Messiah.

[00:32:50.270] - Terrie

Yeah, verse 26. Messiah. What does Messiah mean? Messiah means? Anyone? Deliverer. Can we see that in the counterfeit? What did Titus do? According to Daniel 9, he destroyed the city and the sanctuary. Jesus said, Destroy this temple, and I'll raise it up in three days. So we can make comparisons to what happened to Christ. And what Titus did. Christ died. He showed that he was the type met antitype, that he was the antitype. And once he died, then that sanctuary and the city lost all its meaning. And of course, what did the Jews do? They kept sacrificing anyway. So Titus has to come along and literally destroy the city and the sanctuary. But Titus also, we understand as a Roman general, not a nice guy, not pretending in any stretch of the imagination that he was a nice guy, but he also delivered them. What was going on in

Jerusalem at that time was civil war inside that city, they were imploding, they were dying. They may as well die at the hands of Titus. He was actually coming to bring peace to Judea because the whole area was a mess.

[00:35:01.880] - Terrie

In that sense, Titus was a deliverer. Very ugly look deliverer, but a deliverer nonetheless. When we go to the story of Babel, do we have a prince, a deliverer, a messiah? Graeme I'll go to you.

[00:35:32.100] - Graeme

Is it Nimrod?

[00:35:34.740] - Terrie

Yeah, because what's Nimrod doing, graeme?

[00:35:41.800] - Graeme

He's going to act as the ruler. They're taking on the monarchy.

[00:35:52.680] - Terrie

And in doing that, what's he hoping to achieve?

[00:35:59.900] - Graeme

To deliver them from the possibility of a flood.

[00:36:05.660] - Terrie

Yeah, of dying, of being wiped out. If you're familiar with the story, the purpose of the city was to deliver him from the wild animals, too. He they saw in him as a protector, as a deliverer. Josephine?

[00:36:31.880] - Terrie

I was just going to say deliver from the wild animals, just like you said. Okay. You're familiar with the story. Marie?

[00:36:47.180] - Marie

I only wanted to say that he was the deliverer.

[00:36:54.160] - Terrie

Thank you. We can see in the story of Babel that it's certainly that the culture of Satan's kingdom is very evident there. In the city and in the tower and in their monarch. The city and the tower are there to exalt them and to save them, they need to have a hero. Then, we came down to our history. Let me draw this

up here! Let's think about this. We're atheists. We want to forget about our Creator. Everything that happens in the past has been from natural causes. There is no God. And if there was, then it's not very nice, because look at all the bad things that happen in the world. We are atheists and we're living in 2022. And of course, we don't believe we've left off our creator. There's been no creation. We've evolved. And if we look at the geological record, then mammals have been around roughly, depending on when you want to start them, 1 million years. That's mammals. Each of these markers represent 100,000 years. That's how long mammals have been around.

[00:39:21.300] - Terrie

How long has have humans been around? Any guesses? Or you might know. If mammals have been around for about a million years, they might be 1.25, maybe a bit less, depending on where you mark them. What about humans? One, two, three at most, between two or three, depending on who you ask. We'll go 300,000 years. Given that we're a mammal, we should at least have another 700,000 years left. Okay. When we talk about extinction, it's something very common to this Earth's history. Something like 99% of all species that were ever created have become extinct over these millions of years. Extinction is nothing new. Lots of mammals have gone. It's extinct. But the average life of a mammal is about a million years. We've been around for 300. We should have another 700 left. 700,000 years left. But what are the scientists, and people of learning are saying today? How long do you think the great men of the Earth today think we've got left before we go extinct? You think we got another 100,000 years left.

[00:42:00.070] - Terrie

There's some hands in the chat out. Josephine?

[00:42:14.820] - Josephine

No, I think I'm short on that.

[00:42:17.860] - Terrie

Okay. Graeme, did you have your hand up?

[00:42:23.320] - Graeme

No, I saw Greg's hand go up.

[00:42:27.800] - Terrie

Okay. I'll go to Marie and then Greg. Marie, swing the bat.

[00:42:34.060] - Marie

Well, I had my hand up prior to this question. And I don't know the answer. But I have been reading a little bit of science, that's been coming up. It's not exactly the answer, but they're just saying that they're concerned that human demand is exceeding regeneration capacity in the biosphere and population growth.

Yes, overconsumption, overexploitation, all those things. I guess with climate change, what they're predicting now, it seems that there's no time left.

[00:43:28.900] - Terrie

Thank you, Marie. When we say no time, how much time, Greg?

[00:43:39.930] - Greg

Between 20,000 and 100,000 years, at the maximum.

[00:43:44.280] - Terrie

Yeah, that's about it. If you think these represent 100,000 years and here we are standing here, they don't think we got much to go. That line is too big. Anywhere between 30 and 100. They can't see us living past that. Remember, we are atheists. Existential risk, global catastrophe, very real to a lot of people today. We want to know what are they escaping or what are they afraid of? They're not afraid of a flood. And what are the towers that they're building to escape from this flood? That was homework. We are going to look at anthropogenic risks. Anthropogenic meaning man caused. I should write humans, actually. Let's do that. And nongenic. Which is natural. What did we find? What have you thought through the week? Did anybody see any articles? Look anything up? What would be a natural cause for concern today? Graeme.

[00:46:08.460] - Graeme

The big one would be climate change.

[00:46:12.560] - Terrie

Okay. Climate change, but it's not the big one. But we'll put it down. Which one will we put it under?

[00:46:27.790] - Graeme

I guess humans cause that.

[00:46:38.190] - Terrie

How do humans cause that?

[00:46:43.310] - Graeme

Through pollution. Through destroying the Earth.

[00:46:50.690] - Terrie

Yeah. There's one thing in particular that they want stopped. What do they want stopped?

[00:47:00.550] - Graeme

Carbon emissions, I think.

[00:47:03.110] - Terrie

Yes. The burning of fossil fuels, the burning of non renewables, because they have a finite amount of them and they release the carbon dioxide into the air, et cetera. Climate change is a threat because the Earth is warming. It has a lot of we're all noticing the effects of climate change, but when it comes to climate change being a global catastrophe, it's called runaway. Let me put it this way, runaway global warming as it stands at the moment, it's all it's annoying and at its best and it's devastating and it's worst. But it's not going to wipe us out unless it becomes global what do I say? Runaway global warming, then it has the potential to wipe us out. But it also could be caused by natural causes. We can write climate change or global warming under natural, because of volcanoes that erupt. Volcanoes, if they spew a lot of particles into the stratosphere, then it stops the light coming through and it affects the climate. Volcanic eruptions can cause climate change or global warming. Thank you, Graeme. We've got Marie.

[00:49:07.820] - Marie

I was just going to comment on the natural cause there, the non anthropogenic. I was wondering whether it would be the impact of a falling extraterrestrial object.

[00:49:28.080] - Terrie

That's the top natural one there, Marie. An asteroid. The risk impact from an asteroid. They say that it's asteroids 65 million years ago that killed the dinosaurs. But it's only relatively recent that they recognize that asteroids have done a lot of impact on the Earth. It was in 1960 that they worked out that what we now know as meteorite craters were actually from asteroids. They thought they were volcanic. It's only 1960 that asteroids have really come into scientists radar. In 1980 they worked out that it was the asteroids that killed off all the dinosaurs millions of years ago. And did anybody see in the news, I think it was in September, it's called DART. Sorry. What did NASA do? What have we got? I'm not sure. Who's answering who? Greg, did you know what NASA did? It wasn't that long ago. It's called DART.

[00:51:30.920] - Greg

DART or HART.

[00:51:34.420] - Terrie

DART.

[00:51:36.830] - Greg

I've heard of it, but I'm not sure I can't remember off the top of my head. Sorry. No, I had my hand up to answer the question that you're asking.

[00:51:45.500] - Terrie

What question were you answering?

[00:51:52.240] - Greg

The ones about anthropogenic and non anthropogenic.

[00:51:57.910] - Terrie

You're going to add to the list?

[00:51:59.600] - Greg

Yes.

[00:52:01.220] - Terrie

Okay. All right. Asteroids is a big one. Marie it was even in the news again this week because they found one hiding in beams of light from the sun. They are scanning the solar system for asteroids, and they sent out a satellite. I'm just trying to figure out what DART stood for. It's not coming up. But they hit the asteroid to try and deflect it so that it would go off the path. It's just like the movies. What they want to do is either blow them up or deflect them. And so they sent the satellite, and it worked. There were two asteroids close to each other, and they hit one. And they knew that it took them a few days to work out that it did actually work, and they were able to change its trajectory. If you want to do something fun, because you've got lots of time to waste, google NASA asteroid Deflection. I'll just write it here. NASA asteroid deflection. Won't work on a phone. You got to do it on your computer anyway. That's just a bit of fun. Okay, so asteroids are a big one.

[00:53:33.060] - Terrie

They are constantly scanning for them. But when we look at these risks, they do consider them an existential risk. But it's like one in a million chance. One in a million. Greg, what were you going to add to the list?

[00:54:03.260] - Greg

First of all, Graeme's written what that stands for. Double Asteroid Redirection Test.

[00:54:10.700] - Terrie

That's it. Thank you. Because there were two asteroids. One was called Demopolis and the other something different. There were two related asteroids and they hit one of them. Go on.

[00:54:26.260] - Greg

I was going to say under natural is, resources. We're running out of resources. Natural resources.

[00:54:39.640] - Terrie

Okay. Is that an existential risk? Because what's causing global warming?

[00:54:56.910] - Greg

The way we use resources?

[00:55:00.190] - Terrie

Yes. We actually want to stop the use of those resources and use renewables?

[00:55:07.890] - Greg

Yes, but at the moment the only way we make renewables is with coal and nuclear fusion, that stuff. Even to make renewable resources at this stage, we're using oil and coal.

[00:55:28.510] - Terrie

Okay, what would you like me to write down? It's not one that they're particularly worried about, but I'll put it on the list.

[00:55:38.290] - Greg

I was thinking resources like iron and oil, coal, those sort of things. Gas, natural gas. We're always looking further a field to find these things.

[00:56:04.170] - Terrie

We need to come up with replacements. Don't we, we need. We might be in trouble. Thank you, Greg. Josephine?

[00:56:25.430] - Terrie

I don't know if these are going to go to your list, but I'll just say them. How about nuclear war or disease? Yes, and Tiny's written that in the list. Which one does it go in? Nuclear war? Well, humans would do the nuclear war, wouldn't it? And what would be the problem with a nuclear war that would be catastrophic? Like existential kill everybody. We've got two types of nuclear weapons, strategic nuclear weapons and tactical nuclear weapons. Hiroshima, Nagasaki. Strategic nuclear weapons. Was there a danger of the whole Earth being destroyed?

[00:57:21.060] - Terrie

Not in what happened at Hiroshima. That's a targeted one, right?

[00:57:34.760] - Terrie

And strategic is when you dump it on another country, that's away from you, and you're not actually in battle with. And it's large, usually. Tactical is what they're talking that Putin might use in the Russia

Ukraine war. It would be local. There's different ways they could use them. What would be the concern for nuclear war as far as killing us all off?

[00:58:13.940] - Terrie

Ray, do you know? Sorry, Josephine, do you know?

[00:58:19.880] - Josephine

Probably what I know is not right, but I'll say it.

[00:58:31.100] - Terrie

You qualify all your answers. We have to have a talk. Josephine.

[00:58:43.680] - Terrie

I thought it might be the gas. Well, okay, you're on the right track. Nuclear winter, with all the dust and gas and particles again. It's much like the global warming that would happen over here under a volcano, and then the Earth would get dark and crops would fail and everybody would starve. It would affect the whole Earth. If you hit ten cities with large nuclear weapons, you could create a global winter. That's the catastrophic effect of a nuclear war or nuclear weapons. Raymond?

[00:59:49.220] - Raymond

I thought if somebody uses a strategic nuclear weapon, then the other side is going to use it back and you have that mutually assured destruction, which results in the nuclear winter.

[01:00:04.360] - Terrie

Yeah. You'd need about ten of them. Boom, boom, boom boom boom boom boom depending on what they use and how big. It would take more than two. It wouldn't be just one bomb that would destroy the Earth, but that's the fear. Is this what it would do to the atmosphere? And then we'd all starve. Ray, you got your hand up twice.

[01:00:38.260] - Raymond

That was for the DART.

[01:00:41.880] - Terrie

Okay. Brodie? No, that's a different one. Oh, I see. Any others? Okay, let me give you a few. What they're worried about. Okay. Under natural. Radiation from nuclear weapons. Thank you. Brenden. Yes, that would come under here. Radiation. Whether it would be enough to destroy, like, totally make the world extinct. You would need a certain amount of them. Brodie.

[01:01:42.660] - Brodie

Global pandemic.

[01:01:45.380] - Terrie

Yes, pandemic. And we'll put them under both. Because they do worry about natural and what if I put it over under humans, what would I call it? We'll call it bioterrorism. Oh, that's spelt wrong. I know that spelled wrong. Let me go look at it.

[01:02:15.870] - Rachel

Is it bio weapons?

[01:02:18.590] - Terrie

Bio weapons. Thank you. I can spell that. Thanks, Rachel. Yeah, good one. Greg.

[01:02:35.200] - Greg

Overpopulation.

[01:02:40.800] - Terrie

Actually, the scientists aren't worried about overpopulation. We'll discuss that. We're not going to discuss that tonight. But their answer to all these problems is not that, we actually need more people, believe it or not. We're thinking from an atheistic point of view. I don't know if that helps. If we had said overpopulation, where would we put it? We'd have to put it over here, wouldn't we? We'll put it down. Thank you, Greg. Anything else, Greg?

[01:03:33.040] - Greg

Destruction of resources again. I thought places like the Amazon and natural jungles and forests and stuff.

[01:03:45.040] - Terrie

We put that environmental degradation. Yes, because that would eventually have an effect on global warming. Josephine?

[01:04:13.420] - Josephine

How about food? Not a problem?

[01:04:24.550] - Terrie

Well, what about food? Are you talking bioweapons? What would that come under humans? I mean biotechnology. We do muck around a bit with different food types, but if some malignant person, some company, some person decided to do something nasty, you could do a lot of damage, and people would

starve, crops would fail, et cetera. That would come under bioterrorism. Yes, food sources are concerned. Thank you, Josephine. Rachel?

[01:05:36.120] - Rachel

I did have a similar thinking. The quality of air, water and food quality. I also had another thought, and I'm not too sure how to communicate it. But I was thinking from an atheistic standpoint, how they're wanting women in traditional roles. That under population is the thing they are worried about, because women are deciding not to have children as much. I was just thinking, I'm not too sure if that's relevant or not, but I just keep thinking that.

[01:06:13.940] - Terrie

It is relevant. Too big a topic for tonight, but we will come back to it. You've picked up a relevant point there. What we are talking about is not really an existential threat, it's how what's involved in building this tower to save us from these. Hold on to that thought. Rach. Good one, Ray?

[01:06:47.440] - Raymond

I'm not sure if this one is valid, but are they worried about an invasion from intelligent life or extraterrestrials?

[01:07:00.960] - Terrie

Yeah, you shouldn't qualify your answers. Yes. What kind of extraterrestrials? Hostile. Just think of all the movies you watch before you're an Adventist. Hostile extraterrestrials where they're going to go out there and smash the asteroid out and the extraterrestrials come down. Sorry, Rachel.

[01:07:40.540] - Terrie

Jack said aliens.

[01:07:42.690] - Terrie

Aliens? Yes. Bad aliens. Thank you, Ray. Good one. And Moli.

[01:07:54.220] - Moli

I was just thinking about famine.

[01:07:59.360] - Terrie

We haven't put this one down, actually, super volcanic eruption. Not just an ordinary volcano, which is bad enough, isn't it, Moli? But a super volcanic eruption, and they can track just how many hundreds of thousands of years ago there was the last supervolcanic eruption because there's been five extinctions, mass extinctions in the Earth's history. One of them was from a volcanic eruption, one of them was from an asteroid. It was the asteroid that killed the dinosaurs, et cetera. Yes, volcanoes, global warming, a lot

of these things have to do with how it will affect the atmosphere and then affect water, food, et cetera. All those things that air quality, things that are necessary for life. Thank you, Moli. Tinny is it the big one? What does he said? AI. When scientists think of all these natural stress risks, it's around the one in 1 million mark. When they talk about artificial intelligence being an existential threat to human beings, it is one in six. It's quite a jump. What they're mostly frightened of is artificial intelligence.

[01:10:03.270] - Terrie

We will spend time on artificial intelligence won't be tonight, of course, and it might not be next week. We've missed one over here in the natural, the sun turning into a giant red star. The sun is in it's in middle age at the moment. If you can think of the star being about late 30s maybe it's starting its 40s, but it's only got about 5 billion years left to live. It's been around for maybe 5 billion. It's about middle aged. What will happen is it will burn itself out, it will burn all the hydrogen and explode. Excuse my layman's language, but when it explodes, it's just going to get bigger and it will absorb planets. It may even come as far as Earth, but it's only got a shelf life of another 5 billion. The problem is as it starts to break down, because just like us, we age prior to death, it would affect the Earth in 1 billion years' time. We've only got a billion years to sort something out. The sun will eventually destroy itself, but also destroy part of our solar system.

[01:11:57.410] - Terrie

Earth would become uninhabitable in a billion years, and we would have to move back. Where would we have to go? How could we survive the sun exploding? Can't stay on her earth. Where would we have to go?

[01:12:54.170] - Raymond

Have to go to Mars.

[01:12:55.650] - Terrie

Thank you. I should have scrolled. Marie.

[01:13:05.210] - Marie

I was just going to say Mars too.

[01:13:08.330] - Terrie

Okay, thank you. All right, so my bad. I should have scrolled. Okay, so we've got a fair list here of our floods. The things that we would be concerned about. These are all concerns, but we're keeping an eye on them and the risk is fairly low. But there are scientists involved in all of these areas. Over here with the human risks, these are the highest risks. And we really want to talk about artificial intelligence. We've identified the flood. What we need to identify is the tower, what are the safety mechanisms, what is being built? And I don't mean necessarily being built in a literal sense, but what is being created to save us and who is doing that. It's overtime. Does anybody have any questions before we'll leave it there for tonight?

We'll come back and we'll revisit these, but we want to look at what the mechanism is and the mindset behind the attempts to save us from these existential risks. Josephine.

[01:15:05.820] - Josephine

I was just going to make a comment. Just looking at the list and what we're going through. In my mind I was thinking, when you don't have God, you have all these fears of natural disasters, and then you have these fears of humans attacking each other. Just a lot of fears. Then, knowing God is a great blessing because you don't have to worry too much about all of that.

[01:15:42.040] - Terrie

And that's where it's hard for us to really separate ourselves from our Christianity. Because we know the Earth is waxing old like a garment. We know that things are breaking down. We know there 'll be wars and famines, et cetera. They've all been prophesied of. But we also know that the shelf life isn't about the Earth so much as it's about us staying here. We know the story. The people on the mountain also knew the story. The people on the plain, either if they did it, did know it, they don't want to know it anymore, or they've just completely lost it. They're absorbed about the flood and there isn't going to be one. What's going to happen is they'll just implode upon each other. We need to look at this and think, does any of this scare us? What is reality here? And what is science fiction? Because science fiction is wrong stream of information, if it's fiction. There's a science that is real. I mean, asteroids are real.

[01:17:02.230] - Terrie

They're floating around there. But is that what is a threat for humans. Artificial intelligence, how much of a threat is that really? Because people are very concerned. And the thing is, what we will have to do is define what is intelligence, what makes something intelligent? All of these things have been created by humans, science and technology. And it's that very science and technology that they're afraid of destroying themselves with. But it's that very science and technology that they want to use to save themselves. I can only liken it to I was raised a Catholic, and when you don't know certain things, when you're really in darkness, I know what it's like to be in darkness. I know what it's like to not know what happens when you die. Just don't know what happens. And then you become an Adventist and it's like, oh, I know what happens now. You can't get that out of your head. Now you know, knowledge is so powerful, it just dissipates the darkness. These are people that do not know. They they do not know what's going to happen tomorrow.

[01:18:42.020] - Terrie

The future is how long? We say 700,000 years. But we're not ordinary mammals. We're mammals that have knowledge of science and technology. We have the capability of maybe living billions of years after that, even trillions, if we can harness the science and technology. Their mind is that we could live forever perpetuate our fame. But how do they go about doing that when the very things they're building are they're worried that it's going to destroy them? As you said, we're it can seem like nonsense to us because we understand prophecy and we're Christians, but it's it's hard to do is to step out of that. And ask, what if I didn't? What if everything was that scary? Something to think about. And thank you, Tinny,

for your comments. And we might close in there for tonight. Ray, would you close in prayer for us this evening?

[01:20:13.940] - Raymond

Dear loving Lord, we come before you at the opening hours of the Sabbath to take time out from the things that have preoccupied our minds throughout the week and to reflect on all that you have done. As we take this time throughout the Sabbath which you gave us as a memorial of creation all the way back in Eden. Help our minds to meditate on the implications of that. Of the Eden that you are calling us to live every day. We pray that you will be with our leaders, with Elders Tess and Parminder. Be with Elder Terry and various leaders around the world. Be with those in our movement who are preparing for the Sabbath as well. And help us to understand the importance of the former rain. The solemn solemnity of the work that you are calling us to. And the tools that you have given us to seek clearly through the complexity. We thank you for our blessings. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.