

The Raelian Movement

The Raelian movement has recently come to the limelight due to its claim that it has produced a human clone. In late 2002 and early 2003, television and radio were full of interviews and commentaries about this new movement that claimed to have a message from extraterrestrials. These Raelians, as they are called, the followers of the founder of the movement named Mr. Claude Vorilhon, are seeking to use cloning as a way to gain immortality.

The Raelian movement claims 55,000 members in over 80 countries. Mr. Vorilhon, a Frenchman, says aliens contacted him and have revealed to him many new and startling revelations about the origins of life on earth. As a result, Mr. Vorilhon has written several books detailing his revelations from these extraterrestrials. He claims to have been appointed by them to build an embassy in Jerusalem and to prepare the world for their arrival which will help to develop a one world government, a single language, and a single currency. This new movement claims that life originated not by evolution or by creation, but by genetic manipulation from extraterrestrials who planted life on this earth more than 22,000 years ago. Soon, these extraterrestrials will return.

The Raelians radically reinterpret the Bible and other religious works and insert into them alien-centered interpretations. They have a web site at rael.org where much of their doctrines are taught. Like any movement that has theological aspects, the Christian should be aware of what this group says and what the potential consequences are.

Biblically speaking, God has revealed Himself in the Bible and through His Son Jesus Christ to tell us and provide for us deliverance from our sins so that we might dwell in the presence of God forever. But what the Raelians teach is counter to most every Christian concept. Raelianism is another non-Christian, anti-Christian movement whose doctrines lead only to damnation since they deny the plain teachings of God's word.

It is not our intention to bring mockery or sarcasm to the analysis of this movement. Instead the goal is to document their doctrines and errors that contradict biblical revelation. This is especially necessary since the Raelians speak of God, the Bible, and Jesus frequently.

I hope that you enjoy the analysis of this movement from the Christian perspective and that through it you gain a better understanding not only of what the Raelians teach, but also why they are not of God."

Raelianism in a nutshell

(Note: As you read through this nutshell version of Raelian teaching, please notice the biblical references. These references were specifically explained by the "alien" as it reinterpreted the Bible in its discussions with Mr. Claude Vorilhon. I have inserted parenthetical comments to designate the aliens reinterpretation of biblical statements.)

About 22,000 years ago aliens from another world had reached a very sophisticated level of technological advancement. On their home planet they had been experimenting with the creation of life. The result of one experiment was a creature that escaped and killed several of their people. So, they decided to find a planet suitable for their experiments. They found earth and their experiments in DNA manipulation continued. They created all life on earth, both plant and animal. In fact, some of the scientists created monstrous life forms which are now known as dinosaurs. But ultimately, they created human beings who were "made in their image." They grew in intelligence and knowledge.

But, the humans were kept in ignorance regarding advanced technical knowledge particularly how to prolong their life spans (called the tree of knowledge of good and evil in the Bible) because some of the alien creators thought that the humans shouldn't know too much lest they become dangerous. On the other hand, there was a group of alien creators (called the serpent in the Bible) who thought that the humans should know as much as possible. So, they helped the humans gain a great deal of knowledge. Unfortunately, this displeased the home world government who then exiled these alien creators to earth for a period of time and sent the others home.

Nevertheless, when the humans learned that they had the capacity to be like their creators (be like God), they realized they had been kept in ignorance and became angry. This upset the research and development on earth even more. Therefore, their ability to gain more knowledge was stopped (kicked out of Eden) and alien soldiers with atomic disintegration weapons guarded the entrance to the creators' residence (Tree of life) to prevent human beings

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from getting more scientific knowledge.

But, later some of the aliens who were in exile on earth took for themselves wives among the human women (Genesis 6). Their offspring were mighty and strong and desired to gain the same level of knowledge as their creators. But this displeased the leaders on the home world who then decided to destroy all life on earth with nuclear missiles. But the creators who had been exiled on earth heard of this plan and instructed Noah to build a spaceship in which he could keep people from every race as well as all the genetic information, in cellular form, safe (Noah's Ark). This he did and while the earth was destroyed by nuclear weapons (the flood was a giant tidal wave resulting from the explosions), Noah hovered above the earth in his spaceship, preserving life. He then landed after the radioactive levels had dissipated sufficiently to allow him to return to earth and reestablish life on it. The creators eventually learned that the humans meant no harm to them, so the creators promised to never again destroy the earth.

After the races were reestablished, the most intelligent of them, the Jews, built a space ship (The Tower of Babel) in order to travel to the distant home world. But this frightened them. So, they took all of the most intelligent of people and scattered them among primitive tribes so as to confound their language and prevent further technological development.

From this point on, communication with the people on earth was kept to a minimum. The exiled creators were allowed to return to their home world. But, the creators kept in contact with humans by sending them different "prophets" at different times and places. These prophets (Abraham, Moses, Muhammad, Jesus, etc.), were specially prepared by the creators to have abilities above those of normal humans.

A spaceship appeared to Moses to give him messages, to help him escape the oppression of more numerous oppressive tribes who had not suffered the scattering of their people as had the Jewish people. Samson was a telepathist and was instructed to not cut his hair because hair functions as antennae which aided telepathy. It was through telepathy that the aliens kept in contact with and guided Samson. The Ark of the Covenant was a small nuclear device. Jonah's great fish was a submarine. Women with flying suits appeared to Zechariah.

Ultimately, the aliens will return to earth and reveal themselves as the true creators of life on earth, establish a one world government, one language, and one currency. But, earth isn't the only place where life was created. In fact, there were three worlds. "Of the three worlds where life has been created, the one which makes the most progress will receive the inheritance. The ones which have not progressed, will be dominated by the other, and eliminated. This is also true on Earth between nations," (Rael, Claude Vorilhon, *The Message give by Extra-Terrestrials: At last science replaces religion*, (Canada: The Raelian Foundation), 2001, p. 68).

The Raelians and Jesus

The Raelians, like so many other groups who seek validity, need to claim Jesus as one of their own. The story given to Mr. Claude Vorilhon by the alien continues. "Christ's role was to spread the truth of the Biblical scriptures throughout the world so that they could serve as proof for all of humanity when the age of science would finally explain everything. The creators therefore decided to arrange for a child to be born of a woman of the Earth and one of their won people. The child in question would thereby inherit certain telepathic faculties which humans lack."¹ So, now we can see that Jesus was not the Son of God, the creator of the universe (Col. 1:16-17). Instead, he is the half breed offspring between an alien and a human woman. Therefore, Jesus had telepathic abilities.

On page 60 the book quotes Matt. 1:18 where it says that Mary was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. This means that she was the one chosen. When the angel of the Lord appeared to her, it was really one of the creators appearing to explain that Mary would bring forth a son of "God", a being that is half alien and half human. At Jesus' baptism in Matt. 3:16-17 where the Father spoke, it was the aliens revealing to Jesus who He really was and what His mission was to be. Being led into the desert to be tempted by Satan is interpreted to mean that Satan tested Jesus to see if His "intelligence was positive and if he really loved and respected his creators," (p. 61). Thus, after Jesus passed His test, He went on to perform many miracles which were really the application of scientific techniques which He learned from the creators. Additionally, Jesus was able to "speak convincingly through a type of telepathic group hypnosis," (p. 62).

In the Lord's Prayer ("Our Father who art in heaven," etc.), heaven is the creators' planet. The ministry of Jesus was to spread the true word of the creators. "He continued to heal the sick with the help of the creators who directed concentrated beams from a distance," (p. 62). When Jesus healed the leper and paralytic, this was done through via an operation that used "a concentrated ray, like a laser."

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Attempts to make life

The parable of Matt. 13:24-30 is about the sower who went out to sow seed in a field and how some seeds were eaten by birds has a very interesting interpretation. In the story, seeds fell into different areas. Some seeds fell on rocky ground so when they grew, they were scorched by the sun. Some seeds fell among thorns which grew and were choked by plants. Some seeds fell on good ground and bore much fruit.

The Raelians interpret this parable to mean that there were three failures by the aliens to create life on earth. The birds represent the closeness of earth to the original planet where creators felt threatened by human life and tried to destroy life on earth. Another attempt took place on a planet too close to our sun; therefore, the heat scorched the planet and destroyed the life. The third attempt, among the thorns, was made on another planet that was too humid and allowed the plant life to overpower animal life.

The last judgment

The earlier attempts of creating life resulted in two other planets near earth (not specifically told where or which) with human forms on them. This means that there are three planets that have life on them which have been created by the alien beings -- alluded to by Matt. 13:33 where heaven is likened to a woman who took and buried three measures of flour. "The three planets, on which life has been created, have been set in competition against one another. The planet on which humanity makes the most scientific progress, thereby proving its intelligence, will receive the benefit of their creators' inheritance on the day of the 'last judgment' - so long as they do not behave aggressively towards their creators," (p. 63). Because on earth our intelligence is close to the level of the creators, the day of judgment is very close.

Jesus walked on water

When Jesus walked on water, He was able to do this because the creators "supported him using an anti-gravity beam," (p. 66). This beam created a turbulence which was interpreted as a storm but when Jesus entered the boat, the beam stopped and so did the storm.

Jesus' transfiguration

Matthew 17 contains the account of Jesus transfiguration where the glory of God shined upon Jesus and Moses and Elijah appeared to Him and God the Father says, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!" (Matt. 17:5). The alien stated to Mr. Vorilhon that Jesus was actually "illuminated by powerful searchlights" from a spaceship. Moses and Elijah stepped out of that ship. They were still alive because they had partaken of the Tree of Life, which is really the scientific knowledge that makes physical immortality possible (p. 67).

Jesus' death

The death of Jesus served only to make known the truth of the origin of life via the creative work of the aliens. There is no efficacious atonement. But, Jesus was resuscitated with the help of the creators who used their technology to bring Him back from the dead.

As you can see, the Raelians radically reinterpret the Bible to get whatever meaning that can out of it that might agree with their belief system. Spiritually, this is a dangerous group.

1. Rael, Claude Vorilhon, *The Message give by Extra-Terrestrials: At last science replaces religion*, (Canada: The Raelian Foundation), 2001, p. 60.