

# ASTROTHEOLOGY:

## The New Study Shows Connection Between Religious Beliefs and ET Contact

*“A fascinating critical survey of the aerial phenomenon. Highly recommended for reading and reflection.”* —ROBERT ELLWOOD, Professor of World Religions, University of Southern California

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**San Francisco, CA (May 1, 2014)** — A unique analysis of the UFO phenomenon from the perspective of religion and spirituality, Professor Ted Peters’ new book is a breakthrough on the questions surrounding extraterrestrial intelligence. *UFOs: God’s Chariots? Spirituality, Ancient Aliens, and Religious Yearnings in the Age of Extra-terrestrials* offers deep insight and new research into how the UFO phenomenon may reveal to us what is culturally meaningful.

The new Peters book uncovers spiritual dimensions within the world of UFOs, delving into government conspiracies and analyzing the newest models of close encounter interpretation, while answering these and other questions:

- *Are UFOs actually celestial saviors coming to save Earth from self-destruction?*
- *Are UFOonauts advancing human evolution by birthing hybrid children?*
- *Is it time for a new “astrotheology” that balances the facts and the significance of the UFO phenomenon with scientific studies at NASA and SETI?*
- *Can UFOs be a source of transcendence, omniscience, perfection, and redemption?*
- *Are the spiritual experiences of abductees a substitute for belief in God, or are they complementary to religion?*

The book also presents for the first time the results of **The Peters ETI Religious Crisis Survey**, which tested the hypothesis that if contact occurs with an intelligent ET civilization, our historic religious traditions will face crisis and collapse. The survey of self-identified believers--Catholics, Protestants, evangelicals, Jews, Muslims, Mormons, and Buddhists--shows that this thesis is not confirmed, and the majority of religious believers will roll out the welcome mat for new space neighbors.

The author and editor of more than two dozen books on theology and the dialogue between faith and science, Professor Peters has also been a consultant to NASA and SETI on the subject of astroethics; and, he has appeared as an expert in several TV documentaries about aliens and UFOs.

A wide variety of readers will be attracted to *UFOs: God's Chariots?*

- Researchers/scientists who usually avoid UFO literature due to lack of scholarly approaches
- Clergy wanting to understand popular culture
- Ancient astronaut fans seeking the latest critiques of the UFO phenomenon
- Students of science and new religious movements
- Knowledgeable readers of UFO history and the latest UFO news

Peters wrote: "*UFOs should be understood from the perspective of faith in God. A case study of the relationship between science and religion, this book is not only about UFOs, it is about the culture that exists here on Earth, a study of human meaning in light of a scientized worldview. The ancient astronaut theory and contactee theologies offer us a new and respectable way of talking about our deeper spiritual needs. If we are compelled to translate our spiritual concerns into naturalistic or scientific terms, then we need nothing short of the infinity of the stars to capture our speculations. A UFO theology can do this for us.*"

**About the Author:** Ted Peters is Emeritus Professor of Systematic Theology and Ethics at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary and the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California. He has a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago; a M.Div. from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, and a B.A. from Michigan State University.

An investigator of UFOs for more than four decades, Peters served previously as the Louisiana State Director of the Mutual UFO Network. He coedits the journal *Theology and Science at the Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences*, and he has authored and edited more than two dozen books on theology as related to faith and science

The author has appeared in documentaries such as Paramount's "Star Trek" special edition for collectors ("Cosmic Thoughts"); James Fox's "Fifty Years of Denial"; the fifth segment of "Ancient Aliens"; and more recently, "Unsealed."

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