

The Sun: An “Average Star” or God’s Design?

by Brian Mariani

It's become fashionable these days to minimize the significance of our place in the universe along with the elements and conditions that make this possible. The highly acclaimed and influential cosmologist (and atheist) Carl Sagan expressed it this way:

“We live on an insignificant planet of a humdrum star lost in a galaxy tucked away in some forgotten corner of a universe in which there are far more galaxies than people.”

But, is our star, our beloved sun, simply humdrum or average?

Some of you may be blessed to observe the upcoming solar eclipse crossing our nation from Texas to the northeastern states on April 8th. Historically, solar eclipses have been viewed as extremely mysterious and magical events. Today, they are significant for our scientific advancement. For example, some of Einstein's hypotheses have been confirmed by solar eclipses.

In addition, eclipses help us better observe what's happening on the surface of the sun. Of particular interest are solar flares – localized emissions of radiation being ejected from the sun. Maybe some of you are nerdy like me and get updates regarding solar flare activity. This phenomenon is significant because any large solar flare could interfere with our satellite communications systems.

Despite its seemingly volatile activity, Spike Psarris, former NASA engineer, indicates, ***“Our sun is very stable and has small flares. If the flares were bigger they could rip away our atmosphere and fry the earth...A superflare could be deadly, but there is no evidence of any superflares...our sun is very unusual because of this.”***

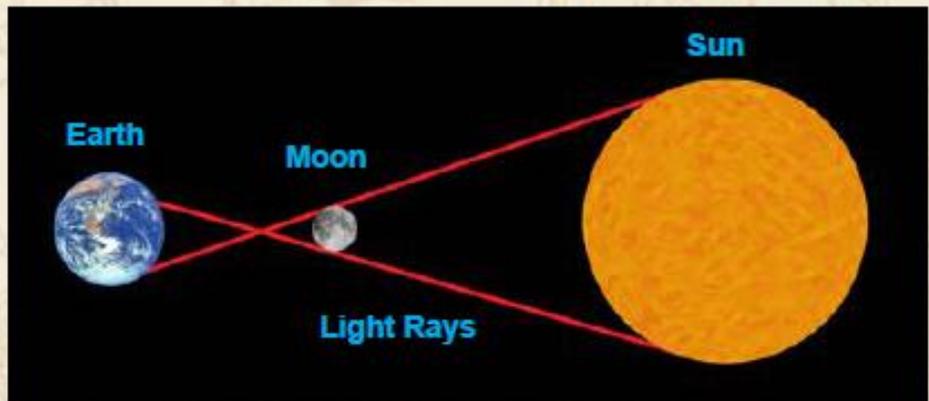
Additionally, as Charles Seife, in New Scientist magazine, writes, ***“Sun-like stars normally produce a bright superflare about once a century...a consensus is emerging that our sun is extraordinarily stable.”***

Think of that! For supposedly 3 to 4 billion years, the earth's temperature needed to be very stable for things to “evolve.” It seems miraculous that the sun has not erratically changed the earth's temperature, nor scorched off its atmosphere over that long epoch of time. There are many problems posed by belief in an ancient sun. One in particular, is the Faint Sun Paradox. It is widely accepted that the sun is fueled by the fusion of hydrogen gas and burns progressively hotter over time. An “early” sun then, would have been dimmer and caused colder Earth temperatures

to be the perfect distance from the moon and the sun! The earth has to be the right (and very consistent) distance from the sun so we don't freeze or melt every year. The moon is the perfect distance to create the necessary tides on the earth to refresh our oceans.

I have never experienced a solar eclipse, but many testify that it is a very “religious” or “spiritual” experience. Unfortunately, there will be many observers of the eclipse that will worship “the creature” or this created world “rather than the Creator” (Rom 1:25). Wherever we are when it happens, hopefully, we are taking advantage of where God has us in order to, like the moon, reflect the SON's light in this dark world.

For those in the path of the solar eclipse, there will be an influx of people to your area coming for a common interest. On our website, we have posted this article along



resulting in an icy planet!

So, is Carl Sagan right? Is our sun just average? Or, did God create it perfectly for us here on the earth? The more we learn about our universe, the more it requires a lot of faith to believe that we have simply been really lucky with our sun. Notice the design. For an eclipse to be viewed on Earth, the earth has

with other information and a Gospel message for you to download, print, and give to your family, friends, or those you encounter. See www.DiscoverCreation.org/Eclipse.

i Sagan, Carl, Cosmos, Episode 7, “The Backbone of Night”

ii Spike Psarris, What You Aren't Being Told About Astronomy, Vol II Our Created Stars and Galaxies, Creation Astronomy Media, DVD, 2012.

iii Seife, Charles, “Thank Our Lucky Star,” 1999, New Scientist 2160:15.

The Conclusion or the Beginning...

At www.DiscoverCreation.org/Answers - I covered the major questions and issues about life and God based on the Bible, logic and reasoning, and the confirmation of history and science (See some of my favorites here: www.DiscoverCreation.org/Evidence). You have clear evidence that helps prove God and the trustworthiness of His word and so you are “without excuse” – there is no excuse not to follow God (Rom 1:18-25).

We know that Adam and Eve disobeyed God’s command – they sinned and now humanity is separated from God. It is because of that sin that now we need to do something to atone for our sins. God set up the Jewish laws that they had to sacrifice (blood of animals) so often and in very specific ways. But that was just a temporary fix and a looking forward of what Jesus would do because it is not what we can do, but what God did. Jesus lived a human life perfect and without sin, yet his creation, humanity (you and me), crucified Him on the cross (the last blood sacrifice). That was God’s plan, because He loves and wants to be reunited with us, no matter how “bad” or “evil” we are.

John 3:16 says that

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Romans 5:8 tells us that

“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

So, Romans 10:9 now tells us that

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.”

I pray that God is calling you right now to saving faith and the choice is up to you.

Remember the proverbs, be wise, give up your pride and selfishness, and follow Jesus. It does nothing for you to try to prove me wrong, because you are in reality rejecting Jesus and His free and gracious gift of salvation.

Jesus says in John 14:6

“I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh to the Father, but by me.”

Jesus does not say that He is one of the ways; He is the way! The way is exclusive to those that believe, but the invitation is open to all!

This is a big step...a big change – to repent and believe and follow Christ! If you are ready for this step, truly consider the following prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus,

I admit that I am a sinner. I have done many things that don’t please you. I have lived my life for myself. I am sorry and I repent. I ask you to forgive me. I believe that you died on the cross for me, to save me. You did what I could not do for myself. I come to you now and ask you to take control of my life, I give it to you. Help me to live every day in a way that pleases you. I love you, Lord Jesus, and I thank you that I will spend all eternity with you. Amen

If you honestly trust Him, Jesus says in John 6:47 that *“...He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.”* 2 Peter 1:10 says *“...give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:”*

Treasure God’s Word daily, pray daily, and find a good Bible based church.