

THE LAST BANG



At The End Kate Austin

They tell us that our universe began with the Big Bang.

But how will it end? And when?

Most of us calculate that the collapse of our universe is so far off in the future our minds cannot grasp the concept.

Of course, the author of the Big Bang may have something else in mind. We believe that the author of the Big Bang is not silent and aloof, but among us, closer than our breath---that he also speaks.

And this is his message: things are rapidly moving toward a climax. When the climax arrives, the author of the Big Bang will come out of hiding, so-to-speak, as *his* universe collides with ours.

And here's what science seems to overlook:

The author of the Big Bang is dealing, not only with black holes and dark matter, but with two realities we also deal with every day---good and evil.

In our world good and evil are intertwined. They exist together in each of us, in our nations, in our churches.

The author of the Big Bang tells us that when the climax arrives, good and evil will be split apart. Everything good will become pure goodness. Everything evil

will become pure evil. Good and evil will then part ways forever, as evil sinks into the eternal flames.

The author of the Big Bang has been speaking to the human race through his prophets since the dawn of history, calling us to turn away from the darkness and enter the light, to turn away from evil and open our spirits to the good.

One day the author of the Big Bang paid a visit to the human race in the person of an unassuming prophet, whose words burned with invisible fire. This prophet performed signs of healing and with quiet commands, demonstrated his authority over wind and water.

This prophet announced to his hearers that the climax of history had now begun.

***“The time is fulfilled. The Kingdom of God is at hand.
Turn around and believe the good news.”***

Whenever he spoke of the Kingdom of God, this prophet pointed to a Day when evil would be separated from good forever.

He spoke of weeds secretly sown in a field of wheat---
pulled up and destroyed at the harvest.

He spoke of fish caught in a giant net, brought to shore and sorted--- t
he bad fish removed from the good forever.

To this day the words of this prophet are a sword of division,

***“Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you,
but rather division; for henceforth in one house there will be five
divided, three against two and two against three;
they will be divided, father against son and son against father,
mother against daughter and daughter against her mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law
against her mother-in-law.”***

Luke12

The instant the words of this prophet find their way into the heart, the sword of division begins to split good from evil, as a foretaste of the approaching Day of Accounting.

Black holes and dark matter are no mystery to the author of the Big Bang. Nor is he baffled by the plague of evil which exposes millions on this planet to unspeakable suffering. Like Lazarus at the Rich Man's gate, these suffering ones are destined for "Abraham's bosom."

But what about the rest of us? Are we the Rich Man? Are we in danger?

Possibly.

The prophet has given us the parable of *The Rich Man and Lazarus* (in Luke 16) to warn us that good and evil have consequences. He invites us, even as we read these words, to turn and follow him from darkness to light, the power of evil to the redemptive power of God.

This prophet, whose name is Jesus, is more than a prophet. He is the Messiah, the Son of the Living God. Since the day he stepped out of his tomb, he is the Firstborn of the New Creation. He is the Lord of the coming Climax. And he calls us to follow him into the light. If we follow him, he will guide us through every dark valley until the Day when he will purge us of all evil, free us from all darkness, and welcome us into his magnificent Kingdom.

“Then he showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.”

Revelation 22

God, who knows more about black holes and dark matter than we could imagine, also holds the key to the mystery of good and evil. He tells us clearly that the Day of their final separation is near.

Jesus puts it this way:

“Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come forth, those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment.”

John 5

The Big Bang was an explosion of light that continues to this hour.

The Last Bang will be the ultimate splitting of light from darkness, good from evil.

And each of us will forever be on one side or the other of that split.

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