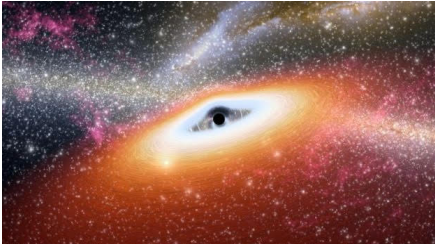




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God or the Scientist - Whom do YOU believe????



While I scanned the news reports online recently, I saw the following headline on a **BBC article**.

"Katie Mack: 'Knowing how the universe will end is freeing'"

I quickly glimpsed through it (as you do when you come upon evil-smelling rubbish) and thought that I must write something in which I would set over against the ravings of this woman the glorious TRUTH of God!

The article tells us that Katie Mack grew up in Los Angeles. That city is home to the 'Hollywood entertainment industry', the epicentre of myth and fairytales and every unclean fantasy of mankind! It is in keeping with such an environment that a citizen of that location should propound the nonsense that is to be found in this BBC article.

Here are some of the statements found in it.

"Terms like 'heat death', 'big rip' and 'vacuum decay' don't sound all that inviting. And they aren't.

They describe a few of the theories scientists have about how our universe will one day die.

But when cosmologist Katie Mack thinks about the end of everything, it gives her peace.

'There's something about acknowledging the impermanence of existence that is just a little bit freeing,' she tells Radio 1 Newsbeat.

Katie can still remember vividly when she first realised the universe could end at any moment - she was with her classmates and university professor.

'I was sitting on Professor Phinney's living room floor with the rest of my undergraduate astronomy class for our weekly dessert night, while the professor sat with his three-year-old daughter on his lap,' she writes in her new book, The End of Everything.

She learned that scientists have no idea why the early universe expanded in the way it did - what's called cosmic inflation - and that means they also have no way of saying space won't start violently, rapidly ripping apart again at any moment.'

This then is the 'joy' this woman would proclaim to the world and have us share in her 'peace' and 'freedom'! "Our universe will one day die" is her source of serenity. This is what she is looking forward to!

How different is the believer in God's infallible Word!

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works," Titus 2:11-14.

Surely there is something much more peaceful and freedom-inspiring about such words as these than the nonsense Katie Mack believes!

I say NONSENSE for the woman is a scientist of some sort! Scientist's words are not to be believed until substantiated by time and testing. We have had an opportunity to see 'scientists' today in the midst of this coronavirus crisis as they truly are! They are unable to agree on the effectiveness of a medical face mask! Whether or not it can help us avoid infection from the virus is the subject of loud public debate! There are



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those who take up cudgels on both sides of the debate, blind, it appears, as to how foolish they portray themselves to be!

The truth is man is basically AN IGNORAMUS whose investigations and searchings after 'truth' are highly flawed. He is totally unable to come to the untainted truth!

Isaiah the prophet said: "Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding," 40:28. Man cannot search out an 'understanding' of the Creator nor indeed of His creation. The history of scientific research is one of loud 'Eurekas' one day, only for a quiet retraction and a replacement of yesterday's truth with today's 'correction'!!

Paul warned Timothy of such for the ravings of 'scientists' are nothing new. "O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen," 1 Timothy 6:20-21.

'Profane and vain babblings' have often been passed off as 'science' or as the word means, 'knowledge'!

Never was this more true than in the case of the babblings of Katie Mack!

Just what is the Lord's purpose for His universe? Katie Mack will never have asked this question since she has moved only in those blinded circles which believe in one form of evolution or another. There are many contradictory theories on that 'scientific' topic, so she has a choice of 'truths' to pick from! But whatever form of 'evolution' she embraces, she would not believe that there is a 'Creator' and therefore His purpose for His creation is of no significance to her and her ilk.

For the Christian, however, what the Lord says is all important. We need to shut out the 'changeable as the weather' bletherings and heed only what God's infallible Word says.

That the 'Universe' is God's creation, Genesis chapter one states plainly. "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." That is a repeated truth, endorsed by the prophets and inspired writers. The Psalmist declared: "By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth," Psalm 33:6. John the apostle stated in his gospel: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made," John 1:1-3. The Saviour Himself endorsed these truths in the statement He made in Mark 13:19 regarding the 'great tribulation'. "For in those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be."

What saith the Scriptures?

Was the creation that came forth from God's hand a temporary production or was it intended to be eternal?

When the Lord wished to underscore the immutability of His promise of a future redemption and restoration of their own land to the people of Israel, He said:

"Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: but this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; after those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordi-



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nances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; the LORD of hosts is his name: if those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever. Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD. Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the city shall be built to the LORD from the tower of Hananeel unto the gate of the corner. And the measuring line shall yet go forth over against it upon the hill Gareb, and shall compass about to Goath. And the whole valley of the dead bodies, and of the ashes, and all the fields unto the brook of Kidron, unto the corner of the horse gate toward the east, shall be holy unto the LORD; it shall not be plucked up, nor thrown down any more for ever," Jeremiah 31:31-40.

Please take note of the words I have underlined. The Lord clearly sets forth the permanence of God's creation as an illustration of the unchangeableness of His promise of redemption to Israel.

This illustration appears again in a following chapter in Jeremiah.

"And the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah, saying, Thus saith the LORD; If ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season; then may also my covenant be broken with David my servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers. As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me. Moreover the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying, Considerest thou not what this people have spoken, saying, The two families which the LORD hath chosen, he hath even cast them off? thus they have despised my people, that they should be no more a nation before them. Thus saith the LORD; If my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them," Jeremiah 33:19-26.

The second advent

The Lord is saying in both these portions that the eternal character of the 'ordinance' (statute) of creation is indicative of the unchanging decree of His future mercy to the elect people of Israel. That mercy will be displayed at the return of Christ.

"The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him. Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it. In that day, saith the LORD, I will smite every horse with astonishment, and his rider with madness: and I will open mine eyes upon the house of Judah, and will smite every horse of the people with blindness. And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, The inhabitants of Jerusalem shall be my strength in the LORD of hosts their God. In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left: and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem. The LORD also shall save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem do not magnify themselves against Judah. In that day shall the LORD defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the LORD before them. And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his



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firstborn, "Zechariah 12:1-10."

Please consider carefully the words I have underlined. In this passage we are told how it will be before the Saviour returns. He will humble and break the rebellion of Israel by bringing against them the forces of Antichrist. But, as He did with Pharaoh, when He has accomplished His purpose with Antichrist and brought Israel to repentance, He will destroy "all the nations that come against Jerusalem" and at the same time He will "pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced" to the saving of their souls.

But what about Revelation 21:1? "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away."

Yes, there will be 'a new heaven and a new earth' just as there was a new earth after the flood of Noah's day. So much was changed by that flood. The earth that Noah had been born in was gone. There was a new climate. There was a new layout of the land mass on the surface of the earth. There was a new arrangement of the waters of the earth. There was a new structure for the atmosphere surrounding the earth.

But it was still the same basic fabric that had been before!

So it will be again only this time it will not be water that is used to purge and purify the earth, but fire.

"Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: but the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men," 2 Peter 3:3-7.

We have underlined the important words once more. That which took place in Noah's day, in response to man's sinfulness will be repeated but much more extensively and instead of water being the medium of cleansing being water, it will be fire. Out of that conflagration will come the "new heaven and a new earth"!

Peter goes on to give us more details of the great event.

"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen," 2 Peter 3:10-18.

This will take place 'in' the day of the Lord. That day, or period of time, for the word often refers to more than a period spanned by the rising and setting of the sun (see Psalm 18:1, 18, 20:1, 37:3, 50:15, 95:8,



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110:3 etc). It is the time when the Lord will reign over the nations of the earth.

"And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God," Revelation 19:6-9.

"The LORD reigneth, he is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed with strength, wherewith he hath girded himself: the world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved," Psalm 93:1.

"Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldst give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldst destroy them which destroy the earth," Revelation 11:17-18.

Yes, the Lord is upon His Throne but there will come a day when He shall take to Himself His great power and overthrow the usurpation of man and devil and rule over the earth personally. It will be as pictured for us when He took over the land of Canaan, casting down the rule of the idolatrous nations that had long desecrated the land and gave it to Israel. So it will be one day.

"The meek shall eat and be satisfied: they shall praise the LORD that seek him: your heart shall live for ever. All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee. For the kingdom is the LORD'S: and he is the governor among the nations," Psalm 22:26-28.

"Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil. For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth. For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be. But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace," Psalm 37:8-11.

"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth," Matthew 5:5.

So then, the earth is to be the 'eternal' dominion of the glorified saints of God with of course direct access to heaven. Heaven and earth will be as one as is depicted in Revelation 21:1-5.

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful," Revelation 21:1-5.

So Katie Mack, your 'hope', such as it is, is a false and vain hope, without substance. Mankind is not going to come to 'nothingness' as you believe the universe will one day. Rather, "it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment," Hebrews 9:27. That judgment draws ever nearer. "Because he (the Lord) hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead," Acts 17:31.

How sad it is to see and hear people declare their empty hopes and crusade to have others join them in their follies!



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Dear Christian, let not a day go by without humbly and sincerely thanking the Lord for His mercy in saving you from the vanities of the human mind and brought you to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ for "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him," John 3:36.

Rev Ivan Foster (Rtd)

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