#### ST KOSMAS CATECHETICAL SCHOOL

### THE ORTHODOX SURVIVAL COURSE

Lecture five: The Phenomenon of UFOs and Transhumanism

#### Review

## 1. Tracing Historical Events

- a. Scholasticism: Peeling away from reliance of Divine Revelation and the beginnings of obsession with rationalism.
- b. Renaissance: The emphasis on material man and reason begins to turn against religion. A fascination with paganism, the "celebrity man," and occultic phenomena. Scientism takes shape and replaces scholastic thought, but still relies on alchemy, astrology, and magicians.
- c. Enlightenment: The rise of corrupting philosophies about man and the world. Descartes, Diderot, Voltaire, etc. implant the idea that God is a distant being, unconcerned with creation. Rejection of religion and the "old order" becomes overtly hostile. Deism comes to life and we see the birth of Free Masonry and Bovarian Illuminati.
- d. French Revolution: The destruction of the "old order" and the attempt to build a new world of "progress." The worship of the goddess of reason and the desecration of churches. Napoleon as the modern antichrist.
- e. Age of Revolution: More corrupt philosophies and the plunge into dehumanized cultures. "Progress" takes on new brutality. We see the faces of Marx, Engels, Nietzsche and others who implant soul destroying concepts in the consciousness of modern man.
- f. Modern Art: We see a plunge into subhumanity. The spiritual sickness of being separated from divine life takes a toll on mankind and leads him into darkness. He not only sees his world as cold, dead, and lonely, but sees himself as a mere machine. All reality of man as the crown of creation is lost.
- g. Spiritualism: Devoid of genuine spirituality, mankind is chained to physical phenomena. His mind is no longer lifted up, but obsessed with signs, wonders, and miracles to escape the cold dead world he has been thrown into.

# 2. What is the spiritual reality of all of this?

- a. The movement away from the divine life of the Church and lead man into utter darkness and chaos. He suffers from his fallen state without medicine to help him, and is captive to the doomed philosophies of the past—thinking in vain that these things will produce a cure.
- b. Fr Maximus Constas points out three points of the inversion of human perception and cognition that occurred at the Fall:
  - i. The disproportionate power of the senses
  - ii. The mind's attachment to surface appearances
  - iii. The subjugation of reason to irrational sensations

c. Without the Church, the hospital, mankind suffers from these illnesses and is not able to cure himself.

## "Signs from Heaven": UFO's

- 1. As fascination in Eastern religion cults in America starts to blossom, we see at the same time the occurrence of UFO sightings and "close encounters." This fascination affects us society today.
- 2. How serious is all this?
  - a. Not just a fringe "conspiracy theory" but something that has invaded modern culture and cinema.
  - b. Government agencies have lead full investigations to these sightings, encounters, and "abductions."
    - i. US Department of defense released the establishment of the "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force" (UAPTF) on August 14<sup>th</sup> 2020 and declassified videos taken from military aircraft of UAP's.
    - ii. Numerous government projects and reputable scientists began to investigate UFO's after reported "waves" of sightings in the early 1950's and lasted many years. One of which was "Project Blue Book" by the US Air Force.
  - c. There are too many reported cases and findings to discard them all and sweep them under the rug.
- 3. Why are we interested?
  - a. Orthodox Christians should be aware of the *mentality* that has created both obsession surrounding these sightings and encounters as well as what has caused them.
    - i. The formation of Science Fiction
    - ii. The advance of the demonic realm
- 4. What are these encounters?
  - a. Dr Allen Hynek, the chief scientific consultant of the "Blue Book" described six categories of encounters.
    - i. 1. Nocturnal lights; 2. Daylight Disks; 3. Radar-visual; 4. CE-1; 5. CE-2; 6. CE-3.
    - ii. The greater the degree, or the closer the person is to the "object" or "being," the more disturbed their emotional and physical state.
  - b. Encounters are bound up with paranormal (occult) activity, and many "CE-3" experiences are related under hypnosis.
    - i. Before sightings, strange dreams will occur, knocks on the door or windows when nobody is there, etc. Afterwards people have increased paranoia, receive "telepathic messages" from creatures, become obsessed, and suffer tragic phycological effects: depression, personality deterioration, insanity, and suicide.
  - c. Increased psychological distress in cases has lead researchers to search for similarities between occult phenomena, noting similarities between 19<sup>th</sup> c spiritism (which combined psychic phenomena with technology).
- 5. Explanation from an Orthodox Worldview

- a. The effects of these encounters are nothing strange to those who are familiar with the lives of the saints.
- b. Scientists do not have the framework to truly explain these phenomena, because it is a spiritual condition. They use terms like "multi-dimensional paraphysical phenomenon..." and "interlocking universes" not knowing exactly what they are describing.
  - i. What they are describing is the demonic realm.
- c. A few spiritual symptoms to note:
  - i. Control of belief
    - 1. Obsession and unhealthy attachment to "beings"
    - 2. One writer (a skeptic), Dr Vallee, even compares those who experience "Close Encounters" to have similar experiences of those hypnotized by eastern cult gurus, or who have undergone occult initiation rituals that "open the mind" to "new symbols."
  - ii. Extreme psychological distress
- d. The lives of the Saints give us insight to what these encounters really are all about, including and explanation to the "technology" of these demons.
  - i. Life of St Martin of Tours
  - ii. Life of St Nilus of Sora
  - iii. Various other stories that awe, shock, and seduce the beholder.
- 6. UFO's are the result of a failure to recognize genuine spirituality
  - a. There is no compass to reveal that these encounters are in fact evil (even though evidence even leads to it) because true divine revelation has been categorized with satanically inspired spiritism and occult phenomena.
  - b. Mankind is enslaved to his spiritual sickness and cannot lift his mind past the passionate life which has chained him looking down to the world.
    - i. The "otherworld" he longs for is now experienced through the "miraculous" which is where the devil takes advantage of a undeveloped person.
  - c. Our world has lost all that it means to be Christian and now passively allows for signs and wonders to sweep him away.
- 7. The meaning of UFO's
  - a. The outpouring of apostasy and the effects of a new demonic age.
    - i. Just one part of many "paranormal" events in modernity, yet ties into the spirit of the times that is preparing to greet the coming anti-Christ.
    - ii. It is a new deception (or rather re-packaged), appearing at a time when there is no longer a worldview to prevent it.
    - iii. "Perhaps, never before since the coming of the Christian era have demons appeared so openly and extensively as today."-Fr Seraphim Rose
  - b. They are a new occult experience, which take on a more sinister motive: to be seen as the "savior and evolved being."
  - c. "Signs from Heaven" (Luke 21:11), our Savior said are signs of the end times.

## Age of the Man-god: Transhumanism

1. Philosopher Julian Huxley is said to be responsible for coining the term in an essay entitled "Transhumanism"

- a. The idea that mankind should and could seize an evolutionary destiny and move into a "new consciousness" by means of technology, science, eugenics.
- b. Descartes: "Render ourselves the masters and possessors of nature" and "The world is a machine and we must gain control over it."
- c. Today, the movement is dominated by the idea to merge man with machine.
- 2. The search for the "super-man" who is now able to advance after being freed from religious constraint. This "freedom" allows for the prevailing philosophy of today:
  - a. Man lacks any metaphysical reality
  - b. Man has no substantial nature
  - c. He must take control of his own destiny
- 3. The contemporary figures pushing this movement:
  - a. Elon Musk
    - i. Nuerolink: with the specific aim of merging the human brain with artificial intelligence, "connecting humans with computers."
    - ii. Does not pray and does not think religion and science and co-exist
  - b. Deepak Chopra (New age guru)
    - i. "A cyborg future is coming" and that "Man's relationship with machine is merging and machines are an extension of our own intelligence," allowing the possibility to evolve into a new age of consciousness.
  - c. Martin ("Martine") and Bina Rothblatt
    - i. Terasem movement
      - 1. "Mindfile" and "Mindware"
      - 2. Downloaded into a robotic being who will have "rights"
    - ii. Robot in image of his wife and has been collecting memories
    - iii. "Coming of the great singularity"
      - 1. When computers acquire consciousness
- 4. Why must we be on guard?
  - a. As with all scientific movements toward a "higher consciousness," it is mixed with satanically fueled philosophies and concepts.
  - b. It is a war on Christianity, for we promote the "old regime" and stand in the way of the "new," which impedes the coming of our evolution. All understandings of Christian anthropology must be abolished.
  - c. We must resist this worldview that is leading to a new religion and "paradise" on earth.
  - d. We must promote true evolution, that is a spiritual one.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.neuralink.com

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Rise of the Biobot," by Reuven Coen, Jan 10<sup>th</sup> 2014. (https://www.forbes.com/sites/reuvencohen/2014/01/10/the-rise-of-the-biobot-mixing-biology-and-technology/#1f0e77ab53f5)