

Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence

In a TV ad voiced by the matchless Morgan Freeman, the SETI institute claims that finding life beyond earth is no longer a dream; it says the discovery will “probably” be made in our lifetime. Upon what basis is that assertion made? The ad doesn't say.

SETI stands for “Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence.” The institute posits that at this time Mars is the most likely place other than earth to locate life. At this very moment Perseverance, a nuclear-powered robot, is searching for possible fossils in and around a Martian crater that might (maybe, perhaps, possibly) be evidence of past life such as colonies of microbes (bacteria and the like). Nasa acknowledges that such a scenario is wildly optimistic. I would add that even if it turns out that there once were bacteria colonies on Mars, that falls quite a bit short of having found intelligence.

Pardon this untrained novice if I remain skeptical. Should it turn out that life exists on Mars or anywhere else than Earth, that's ok with me! In fact, I already know that extra-terrestrial intelligence exists, but it's not the variety for which the SETI institute is searching. I refer, of course, to Almighty God, the creator of the heavens, the earth, and all things therein. This very same God who endowed the SETI scientists and all of us with intelligence also created intelligent angels to serve His purposes. Sad to say, some of them rebelled against Him, becoming Satan and his demons. Evil though they are, they still possess intelligence. Colossians 1:16 puts it this way: “For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

So yes, extra-terrestrial intelligence exists! If SETI or anyone else discovers some form of life on Mars or elsewhere, we'll just add that to the list of things we already know our infinitely intelligent God created.