

Dear Alice,

Thank you for writing us at Christian Questions Radio. You wanted to know if Satan has any influence or ruling power in the universe as he does on the earth. You specifically inquired if Satan was using UFOs to try to tempt people away from God.

We know that Satan is “the prince of the power of the air” (Ephesians 2:2), “the prince of this world” (John 12:31 and 16:11). Whether he has any influence in the universe is not mentioned in the Bible. What the Bible does say is that after the Flood, God cast the disobedient angels (those who sided with Satan) into Tartarus (a name for earth’s atmosphere) where their powers have been restrained. The scriptures say that these angels are to remain in the earth’s atmosphere until their time of judgment (2 Peter 2:4, Jude 6). Although we do not know if Satan and his angels are permitted to use UFOs to try to tempt people away from God, we do know that in the last six thousand years Satan has used all the powers at his disposal to undermine God, first by lying to Eve in the Garden of Eden saying that she would not surely die (Genesis 3:4), and then attempting to thwart God’s plan of redemption by having the first born males of Israel killed (Exodus 1:22), and years later having all two year old males of Bethlehem slain (Matthew 2:16). These and many other efforts by Satan have failed. God’s plan has continued to move forward. Jesus fulfilled his mission on earth by sacrificing his perfect human life thereby redeeming the entire fallen human race. The last two thousand years have been a time for calling out a special people to reign with Christ in heaven. Soon this heavenly class will be completed and God’s kingdom on earth will be ushered in.

Satan knows that his reign as prince of this world is fast drawing to a close. His desperation is illustrated in the parable of the strong man (Mark 3:23-29) where, in the last days, Satan is actually opposing himself. “And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand: his end has come.” (Mark 3:26) This parable shows the restraint that will be put upon Satan. His reaction to this binding is to fight against it in a furious, yet futile attempt to detain God’s kingdom as well as his own demise (Revelation 20:10). We are admonished to resist him and stand firm in the faith (1 Peter 5:9). Although Satan is a wily adversary, he is no match for God. If we stay close to God in prayer, relying on God’s strength, not our own, Satan will flee. “Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you.” (James 4:7-8)

We hope we have shed some light on your question. Please write us again.

Sincerely,
Christian Questions Radio