Whence Neanderthals?

Neanderthals, the prehistoric subspecies of humans known as Homo sapiens neanderthalensis, are believed to have been muscular, thicker-skulled, erect creatures similar in intelligence to anatomically modern humans (the subspecies Homo sapiens sapiens). The Neanderthal has been considered, according to prevalent paleontological myths, a squat, powerful hunter who dominated Europe for more than 100,000 years, but then disappeared forever when modern humans evolved in Africa and moved to the other continents.

Neanderthal DNA Analyzed

Much controversy has raged over whether the muscular, heavy-boned Neanderthals played a role in the development of modern humans. In recent reports, scientists claim to have successfully extracted mitochondrial DNA from a Neanderthal bone believed to be 30,000 to 100,000 years old, and have compared a short sequence of it to mitochondrial DNA from modern humans, including Africans, Europeans, Asians, Native Americans, Australians, and Pacific Islanders.

The researchers have stated that the high degree of variation between the Neanderthal DNA and the DNA of modern humans suggests that Neanderthals were not ancestral to modern humans - despite fossil evidence indicating the two groups coexisted in close proximity in Europe as recently as 30,000 years ago - and that an evolutionary split occurred some half million years before modern humans first emerged.¹

The sudden and mysterious disappearance of Neanderthals around 30,000 years ago would presumably be due not to a merging of the two human groups through interbreeding but more likely to some catastrophic event. (A flood, perhaps?) Furthermore, Richard Klein of Stanford University recently wrote in the prestigious journal, Science, that the Neanderthals may now be regarded as a fascinating, but extinct, side branch of humanity.²

This new view, again based on genetic and fossil studies, contradicts the previous studies that have suggested extensive interbreeding between the Neanderthals and modern humans. Those previous studies, based on a comparison of Neanderthal fossils and modern human bones, had concluded that Neanderthal genes were a part of a European heritage.

"There is no convincing evidence," says Klein, "that Neanderthals and modern humans ever mixed in substantial numbers, which means that when the Neanderthals died out, so did their genes." He said modern studies of mitochondrial DNA from Neanderthal fossils suggest that the modern humans and the Neanderthals may have had a common ancestor about 500,000 years ago. But he said the studies do not support the notion that there was interbreeding after modern humans evolved in Africa and invaded Neanderthal habitats, starting about 45,000 years ago. "The Neanderthal was a highly successful species," said Klein, "but the reasons they became extinct are still unknown."

"There is little to suggest that Neanderthals could behave in a modern ... way," Klein writes in Science. "This inability may explain why they disappeared so quickly and completely."

It is interesting that now that we have DNA techniques, it has been proven that we did not come from the "Neanderthals." Yet the Neanderthal had been advanced as one of the major proofs for Evolution in the first place. But now what is being suggested is that they were a separate race that was ultimately wiped out by modern man after having dominated Europe for 100,000 years. This is a prime example of circular reasoning: First they use the Neanderthal to "prove" Evolution; yet, when modern DNA testing indicates that we are not genetically similar, is Evolution thus "disproved?" Of course not. The results of the DNA tests are now simply forced into their Evolutionary model.

In actuality, the Neanderthal may have been simply contrived from scattered bits of evidence; or, perhaps, he may have been derived from the Nephilim.

Post-Flood Nephilim

The Nephilim were the strange hybrids of Genesis 6, apparently the principal reason for the judgment of the Flood of Noah's time. However, Genesis 6:4 also includes the haunting phrase, "...and also after that...." Apparently these strange events were not confined to the period before the Flood.

We find that there seems to be some recurrence of those bizarre things which resulted in unusual "giants" appearing in subsequent periods later in the Old Testament narrative, specifically the giant-races of Canaan.

There were a number of tribes such as the Rephaim,³ the Emim, ⁴ the Horim,⁵ and Zamsummim⁶ that were giants.⁷

The kingdom of Og, the King of Bashan, was the "land of the giants."⁸ Later, we also find Arba,⁹ Anak, and his seven sons (the "Anakim"¹⁰) also as giants, along with the famed Goliath¹¹ and his four brothers. ¹²

When God had revealed to Abraham that the land of Canaan was to be given to him, Satan then had over 400 years to plant his "mine field" of Nephilim in his attempt to thwart the plan of God.¹³

When Moses sent his twelve spies to reconnoiter the Land of Canaan, they came back with the report of giants in the land. ¹⁴ (The very Hebrew term used was Nephilim.) Their fear of those terrifying creatures resulted in their being relegated to wandering in the wilderness for 38 years. When Joshua and the nation Israel later entered the land of Canaan, they were instructed to wipe out every man, woman and child of certain tribes.¹⁵ That strikes us as disturbingly severe. It would seem that in the Land of Canaan, there once again was a "gene pool problem."

These Rephaim, Nephilim, and others seem to have been established as an advance guard to obstruct Israel's possession of the Promised Land. Was this also a stratagem of Satan?

Jesus warned us,

But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. - Matthew 24:37

This is one of the reasons why some conjecture that the UFO phenomena may be a contemporary manifestation of a recurrence of these same hybrids.¹⁶

Foreclosing Hyperdimensionality?

Our working premise in this series of articles has been that the "real" UFOs are demonic in nature, and that they enjoy some apparent ability to transit dimensions into and out of our own physical reality. If these premises are correct, we can expect that the roles of these alien encounters may substantially increase as we plunge into the "end times."

In Revelation Chapter 12, we learn that Satan will apparently lose his current access to heaven and will then be confined to the earth:

And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him...Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. -Revelation 12:7-9,12

If Satan, and his angels, thus lose their current freedom from dimensional constraints, does that mean that the UFOs and their occupants will lose theirs? Will the sky suddenly be filled with strange craft as we approach the final climax of this cosmic drama?

The late Dr. Walter Martin loved to quote Luke:

And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. - Luke 21:25, 26

With "those things which are coming on the earth," he would always gesture with his hand, as if a flying saucer was landing. (As one of his board members, we tried to keep him off this subject in public for fear it would cloud his credibility for his more vital ministries, but he would rarely miss an opportunity to discuss this provocative area!)

"And the powers of heaven shall be shaken." As we approach the end times we can expect "spiritual warfare" to increase and become ever more visible. The Restrainer is undoubtedly restraining far more than we can possibly imagine.

Your Weapons

In addressing these issues, one doesn't try to use a Geiger counter or a telescope; it is absolutely essential to have your spiritual armor on! Twice Paul emphasized that we must "put on the whole armor of God."¹⁷ But of what does this armor consist? It is more crucial than ever to truly understand these seven elements of spiritual armor detailed in Ephesians 6:10-18, and then be diligent and vigilant!

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