

Perspective

By L. Jim Tuck

November 20, 2025

What is Wormwood?

The 3I/ATLAS comet rocketed into the science spotlight in July 2025 when it was discovered by the Asteroid Terrestrial-impact Last Alert System (ATLAS) station in Rio Hurtado, Chile. It is actually the third major object which is interstellar, hence "3" followed by the letter "I," meaning the third interstellar object ever discovered, after 1I/'Oumuamua was sighted in October 2017, and 2I/Borisov was discovered in August 2019. 3I/ATLAS is likely larger, with a nucleus estimated to be about a kilometer in diameter — around the length of ten football fields. Never before have we been more aware of these behemoth projectiles hurdling through the solar system which if they should strike the Earth, could alter the state of human existence by an Extinction Level Event (E.L.E.). An E.L.E. is an event that results in the extinction of a significant percentage of species on Earth, often caused by a catastrophic occurrence such as an asteroid or comet impact. Is an E.L.E. prophesied in the Bible? Jesus, in speaking of the end times prior to His return said: *"And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken."* (Luke 21:25-26)

3I Atlas is no danger to Earth

3I/ATLAS has shown unusual changes in its chemical composition. Observations from the European Southern Observatory revealed that as the comet neared the sun, the spectral signatures of certain metals in its coma shifted dramatically, with nickel and later iron being detected. This behavior is not typical for comets and has intrigued scientists, prompting further investigation into its origins and composition. What we are told is that a cosmic speed maniac is racing through our solar system at a mind-boggling 130,000 mph. 3I/ATLAS has accelerated and decelerated on its journey through the Milky Way Galaxy.

The comet has sparked significant public interest and speculation, particularly regarding the possibility of it being an artificial object. Harvard astronomer, Avi Loeb, has suggested the comet might exhibit artificial characteristics, such as a sudden "nongravitational" acceleration as it passed the sun. These kinds of public comments have incited debate in scientific circles. However, it is generally believed to be a natural comet.

You need not worry about 3I/ATLAS striking the Earth and extinguishing all life; the nearest it will get to Earth is calculated to be 1.8 AU (astronomical units) or approximately 170 million miles. An AU is the distance measured the Earth to the Sun. By comparison, Mars on average is 140 million miles away or 225 million km.

Apophis is coming

Apophis is a near-Earth asteroid and a potentially hazardous object, 450 metres (1,480 ft) by 170 metres (560 ft) in size. Apophis is the Greek name of Apep, an enemy of the Ancient Egyptian sun-god, Ra. He is the uncreator, an evil serpent that dwells in the eternal darkness of the Duat.

There was a brief period of concern in December 2004 when initial observations indicated a low probability of 2.7% that the asteroid would hit Earth on Friday, April 13, 2029. Astronomers have eliminated the possibility of an impact on Earth in 2029 when it will pass the Earth at a distance of about 19,600 mi above the surface. It will also have a less dramatic encounter with the Moon at 59,030 mi from the surface.

Men will hide themselves in caves and the rocks

The apostle John recorded this profound end time revelation: *"I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, and said to the*

mountains and rocks, 'Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?'" (Revelation 6:12-17)

An article at sciandnature.com titled, "NASA Is Preparing for an Asteroid Impact: New Study Shows That It Will Hit the Earth..." published on February 15, 2025 stated: "In a shocking new revelation, NASA has confirmed that they are currently gearing up for the eventuality of an asteroid collision on Earth. This follows a landmark study that foretells an asteroid, which has been under close observation by space agencies for decades, is headed for a collision with our planet. Although the effect isn't anticipated to occur right away, the study gives a definitive indication of the danger that humanity stands to face in space, and NASA has reacted conclusively and promptly...A team of NASA researchers and independent scientists made the study and have come to the conclusion that an asteroid, now named 2025 VX1, will pass close by Earth soon. The research indicates that, based on its size and path, the likelihood of the asteroid colliding with Earth sometime in the not-so-distant future is highly possible. Though the exact timing and site of impact remain questionable, the prospect has initiated worldwide discussion regarding planet protection and readiness for such a disastrous occurrence. The asteroid measures an estimated 500 meters in diameter, and it is among the bigger space rocks being monitored by NASA. Although smaller asteroids continuously burn up when they enter the atmosphere, the bigger ones, particularly ones this large, could wreak havoc on a global scale. Its impact may produce cataclysmic effects like tremendous shockwaves, tsunamis, and worldwide climatic disruption from the sun's blockage due to dust and debris...One of the most significant initiatives is the continuation of NASA's planetary defense program, which has existed for years but has been made more pressing by the recent study. NASA's DART mission (Double Asteroid Redirection Test) will test ways of deflecting an asteroid..."

Quite a number of the top wealthy 1%, and well-known public figures either have or are building doomsday bunkers. The website at independent.co.uk published a May 5, 2025 article: "US has a \$21 trillion underground network for only the wealthy to hide out in a 'near-extinction event,' official says": "The U.S. has built a secret underground 'city' costing \$21 trillion where the ultra-wealthy can hide out during a 'near-extinction event,' a former government official has claimed. Catherine Austin Fitts, who served as the assistant secretary of Housing and Urban Development under president George H.W. Bush, made the shocking allegation on former Fox News host Tucker Carlson's podcast..."

A catastrophic strike of Earth will occur

The book of Revelation prophesies cataclysmic strikes of celestial origin in the future. John recorded, "*Then the second angel sounded: And something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood. And a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.*" (Revelation 8:8-9) This first strike will hit the sea, and will impact a third of the living creatures in the ocean, as well as one third of the ships of the sea will be demolished. This would indicate a massive tsunami which will sweep across the oceans and destroy many ships and so powerful as to kill sea life.

The second strike will hit a land mass, and John writes, "*Then the third angel sounded: And a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter.*" (Revelation 8:10-11)

The word "wormwood" is used eight times in the Old Testament, and always in a figurative sense. In Jeremiah 9:15, it is compared to water which is bitter. The gallbladder produces bile which is known for its bitterness. In Lamentations 3:15, it says, "*He has filled me with bitterness, he has made me drink wormwood.*"

In the Bible, wormwood serves as a metaphor for bitterness, sorrow, and God's divine judgement on the carnal minded, who reject His laws and way of life. It is associated with great calamity and suffering, which comes as a result and consequence of the sinfulness of humankind.

We cannot run from the consequences which are coming upon the world, but we can still have the protection of God (Revelation 12:13-14) and peace of mind. God's people are admonished to place their trust in Him and to: "*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*" (Philippians 4:6-7)