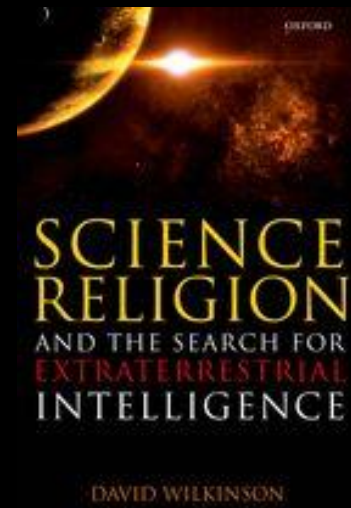
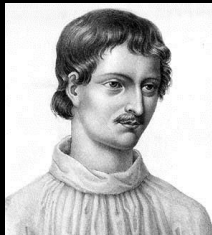
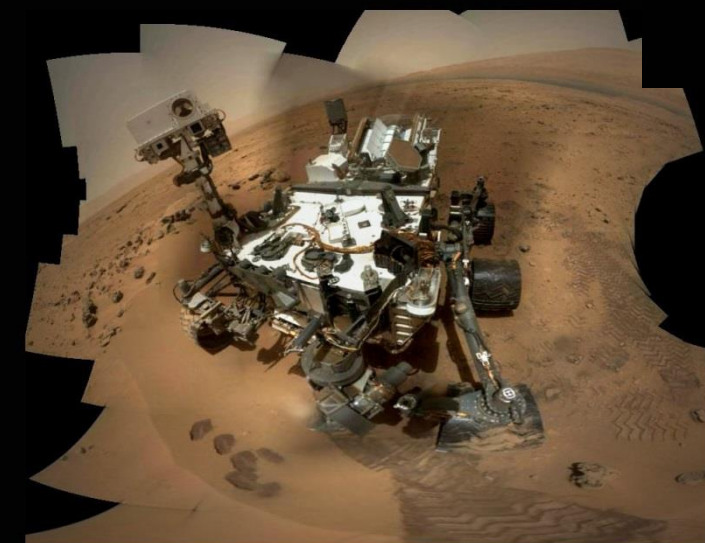


Exoplanets, Creation and Incarnation: Christian faith engaging with SETI





11 July 2013 Last updated at 16:23

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Glass rain may give planet blue hue



The turbulent alien world - seen in this artist's impression - lies some 63 light-years from Earth.

For the first time, astronomers have determined the true colour of a planet orbiting another star.

The world, known as HD189733b, has a deep azure hue - probably the result of silicate (glass) rain in the atmosphere, which scatters blue light.

Details of the discovery, made with the Hubble Space Telescope, are to appear in [Astrophysical Journal Letters](#).

Although it might resemble Earth from a distance, HD189733b is a huge gas giant which orbits close to its host star.

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5 July 2013 Last updated at 17:01

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Jonathan Amos

Science correspondent

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UK astronomers to co-ordinate their search for alien signals

COMMENTS (343)

British scientists are to make a concerted effort to look for alien life among the stars.

Academics from 11 institutions have set up a network to co-ordinate their Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence (Seti).

The English Astronomer Royal, Sir Martin Rees, will act as patron.

The group is asking funding agencies for a small - about £1m a year - sum of money to support listening time on radio telescopes and for data analysis.

It would also help pay for research that considered new ways to try to find aliens.

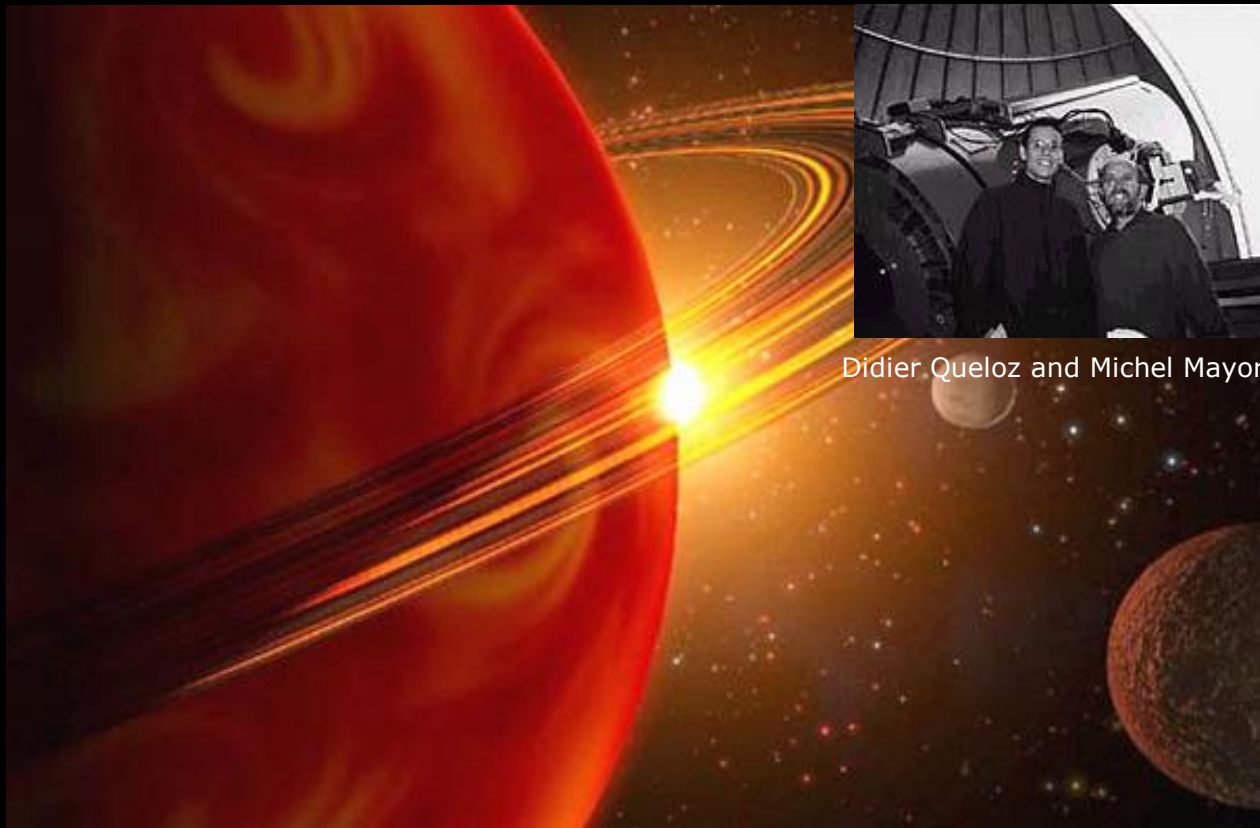
Currently, most Seti work is done in the US and is funded largely through private donation.

UK Seti Research Network (UKSRN) co-ordinator Alan Penny said there was important expertise in Britain keen to play its part.



The scientists believe it is time UK effort was properly co-ordinated

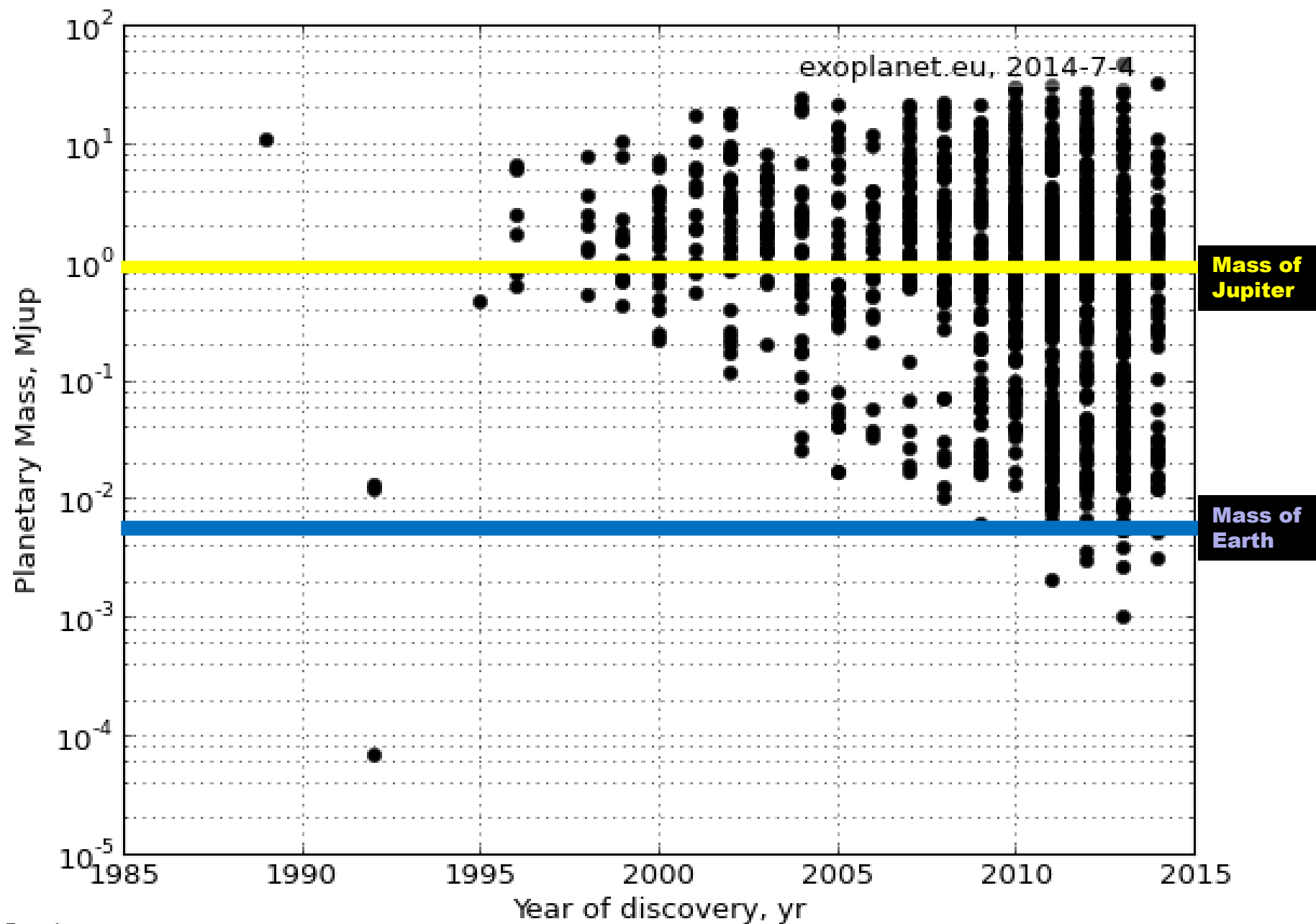
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-23298374



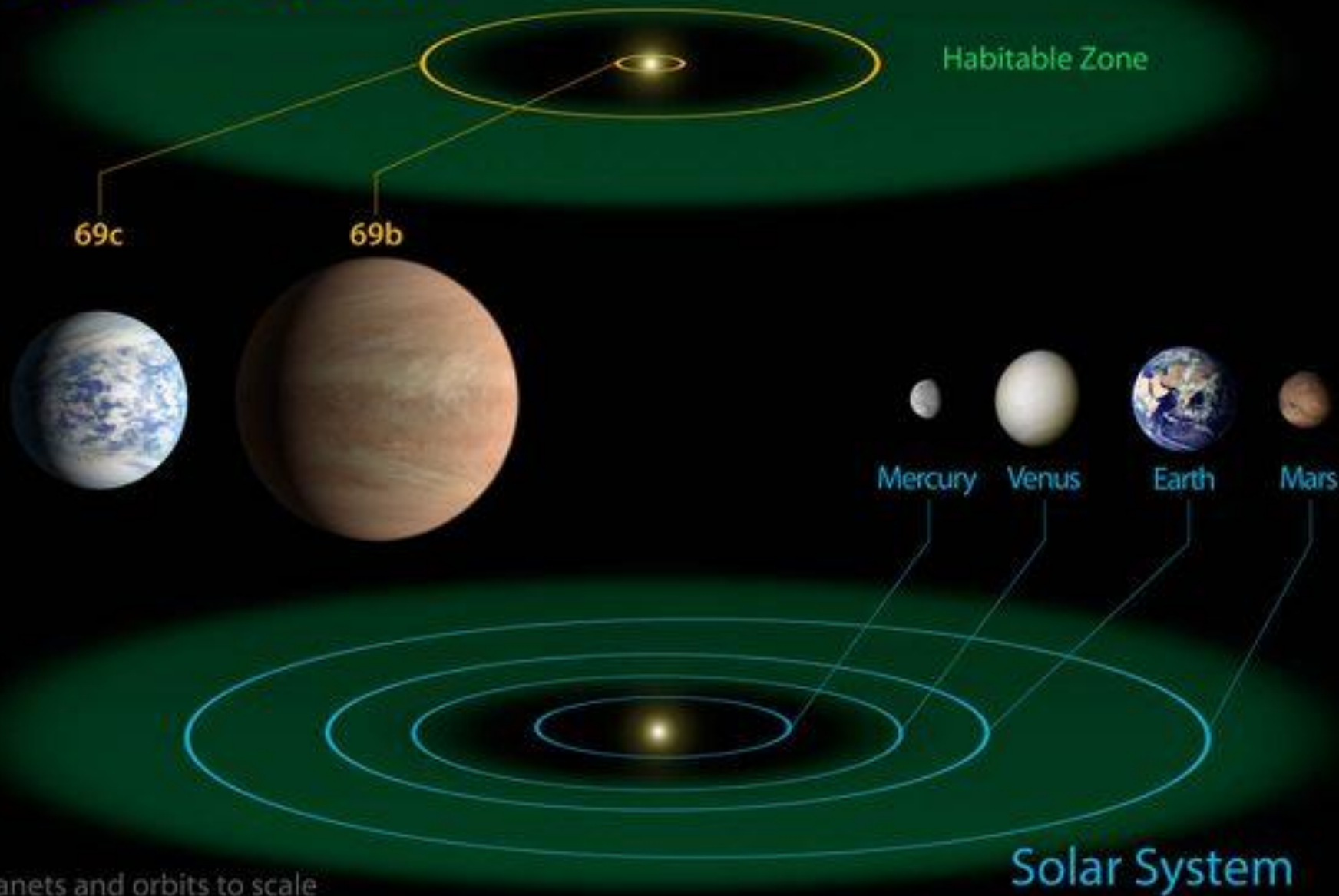
Didier Queloz and Michel Mayor

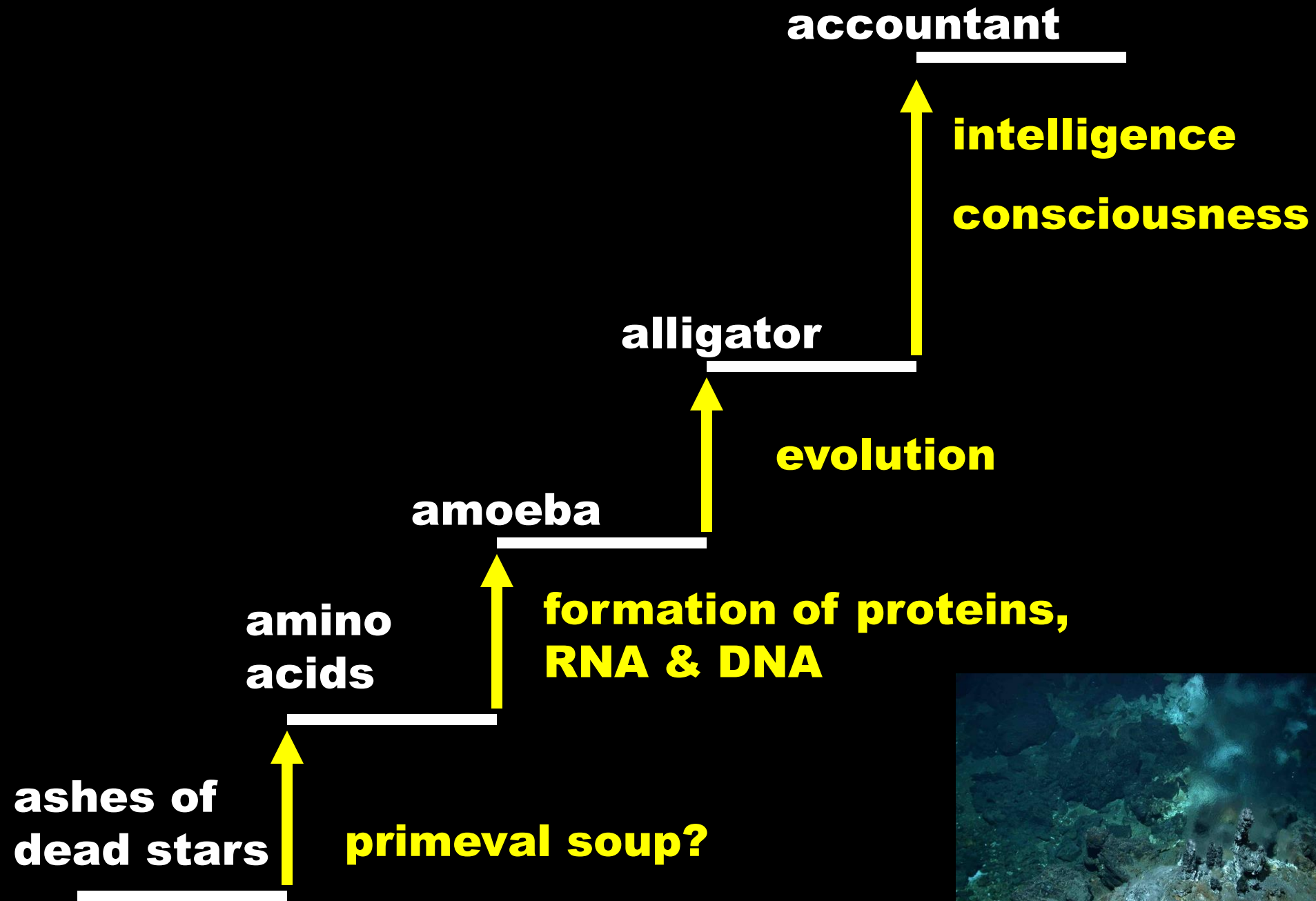
1995: A Swiss team discovers a planet - 51 Pegasi - 48 light years from Earth.

1126 planetary systems / 1811 planets / 466 multiple planet systems

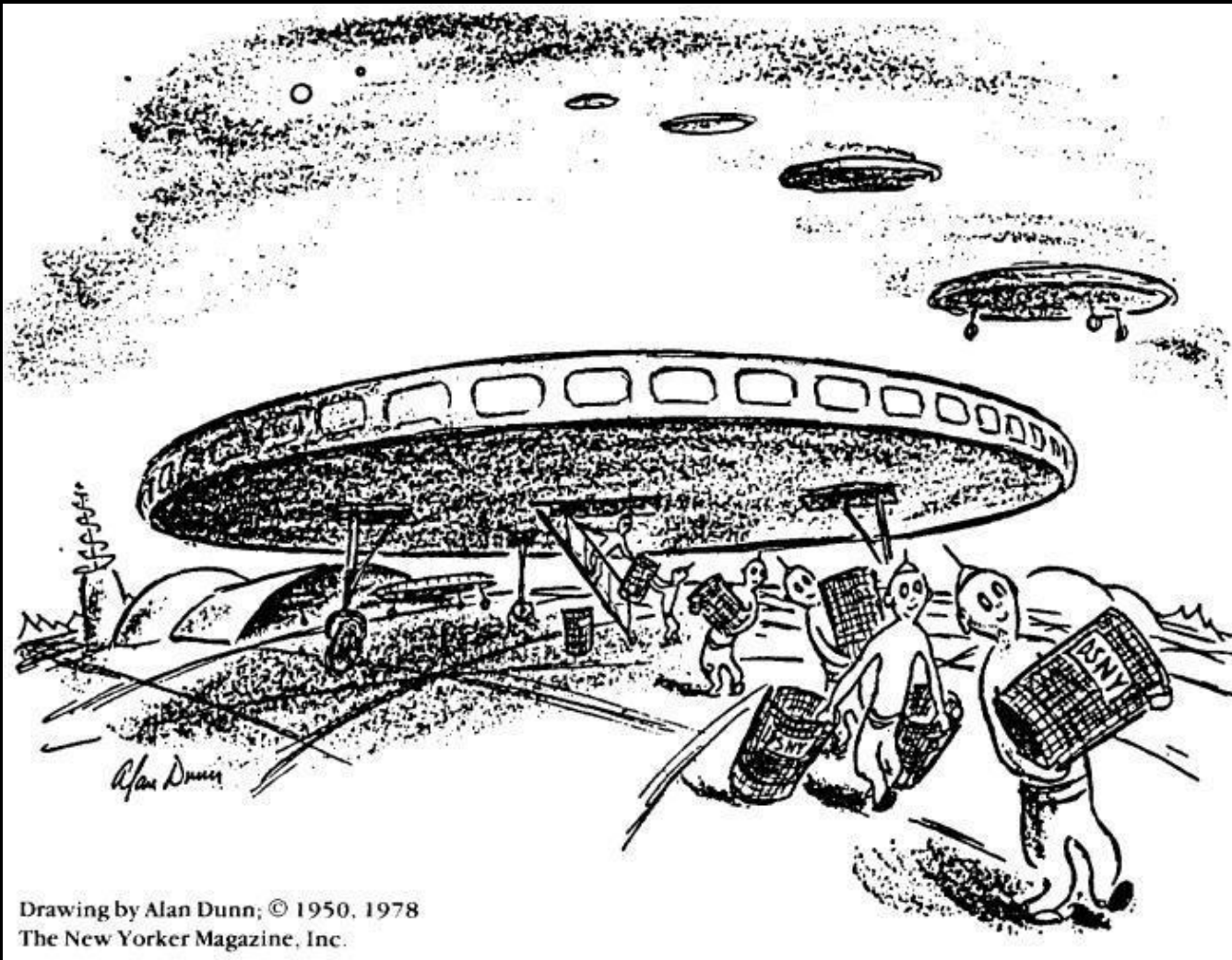


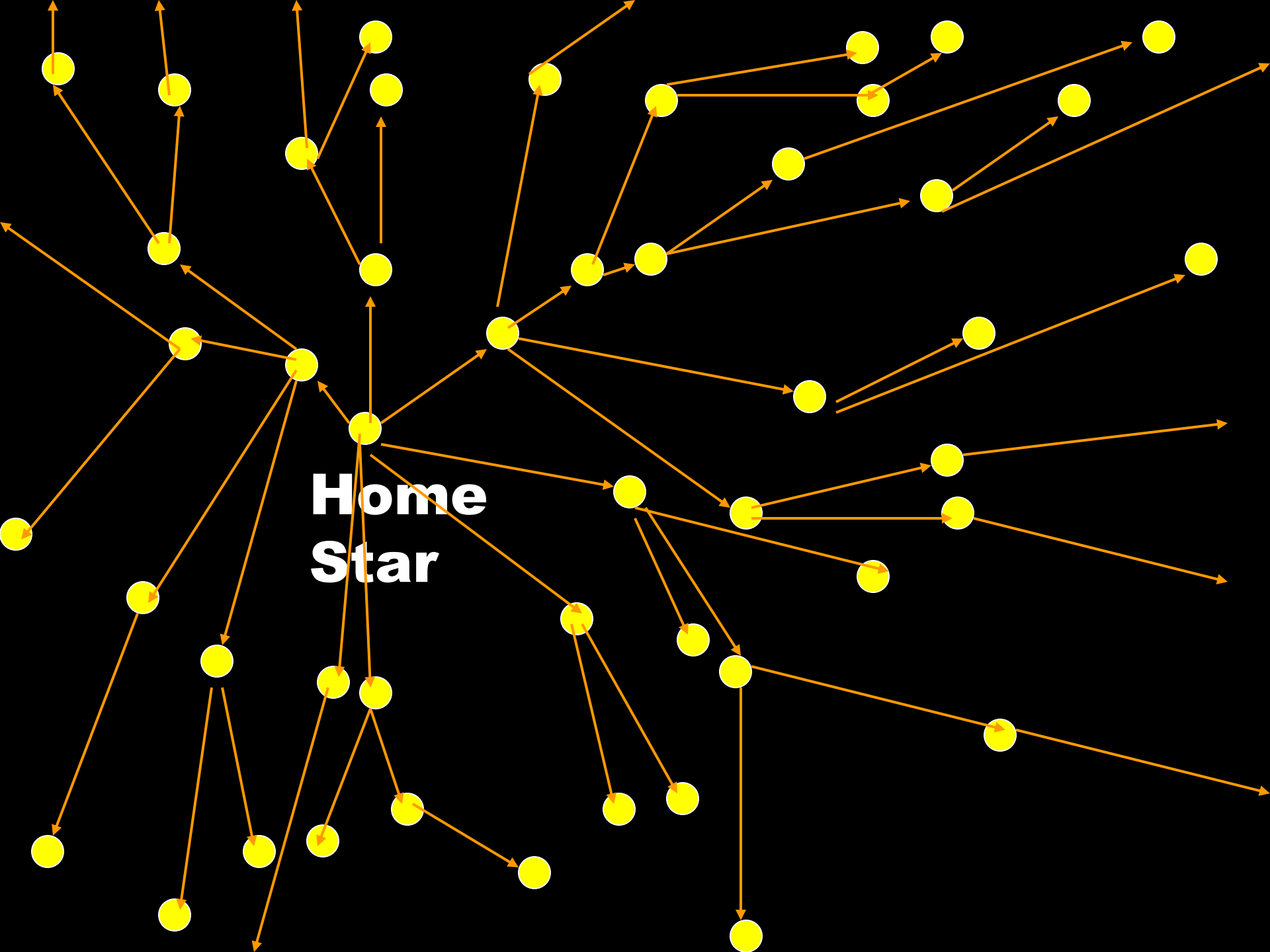
Kepler-69 System





Where is everybody?



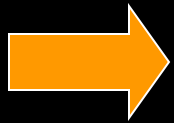




300,000,000 years

10,000,000,000 years

Weighing the evidence?



Alone as intelligent life in the Galaxy



Problem of communication

News > Politics > Government

Vatican preparing statement on extraterrestrial life f Like 777

See also [Government](#) / [Vatican](#) / [Pope Francis I](#) / [Extraterrestrial Life](#) / [Astrobiology](#)



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July 23, 2014

Pope Francis is reportedly preparing a major world statement about [extraterrestrial life](#) and its theological implications. Rosana Ubanell from Voxxi News [today reported](#) that due to advances in scientific detection methods for the discovery of extraterrestrial life, Pope Francis wants to be ready with a statement about "First Contact". Ubanell reports that details have yet to be officially announced but that the [Vatican's](#) interest in extraterrestrial life is well documented through recent [astrobiology](#) conferences the Vatican Observatory has sponsored or participated in. Father Guy Consolmagno, a Jesuit astronomer and one of the leading Catholic proponents for preparing for the scientific discovery of extraterrestrial life, on July 18, [won the Carl Sagan science medal](#) from the American Astronomical Society. Pope Francis, a fellow Jesuit, regularly

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Christian Huygens (1629-95)



Richard Bentley (1662-1742)

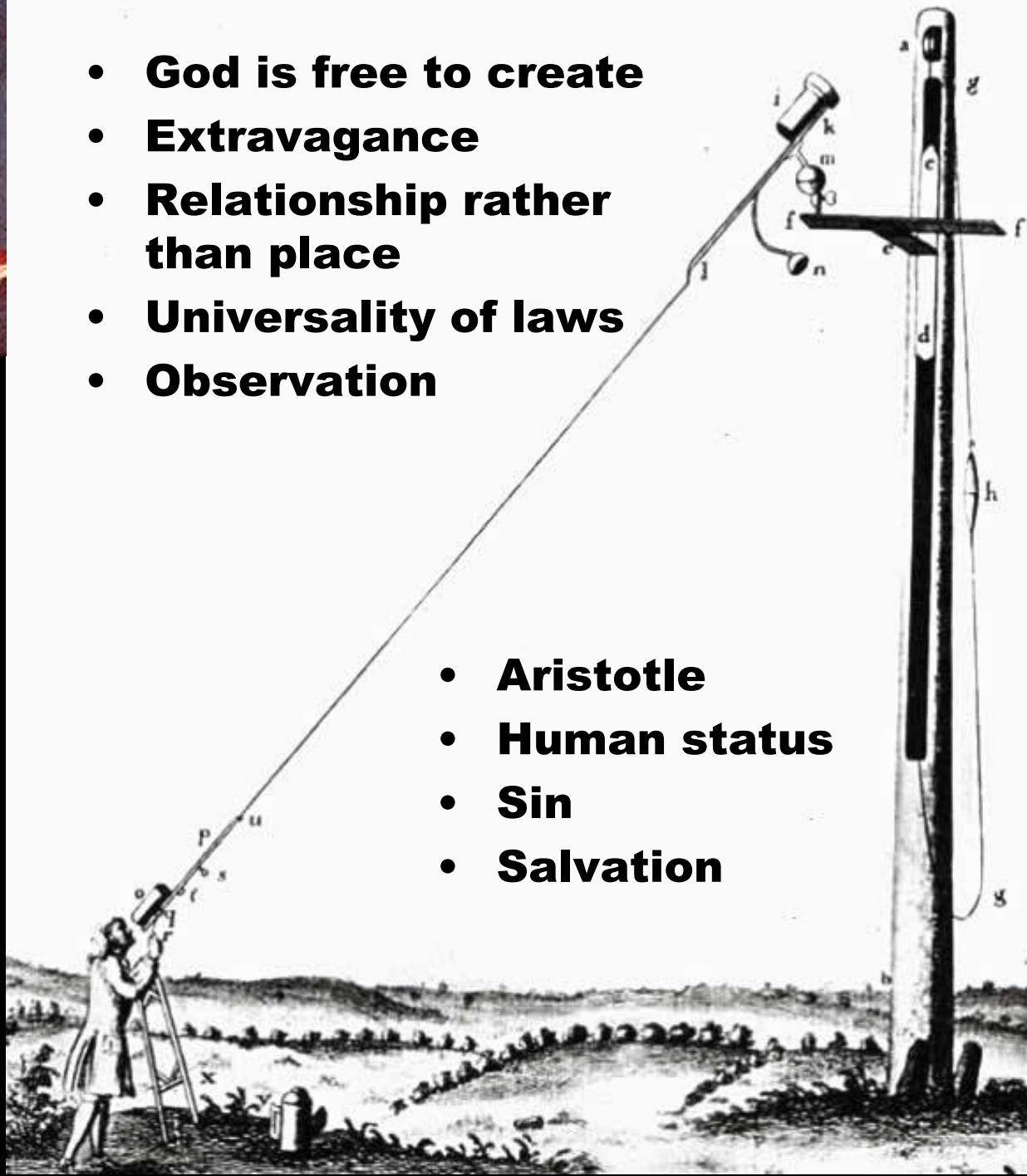




‘You man of Galilee, why do stand you gazing up into heaven?’

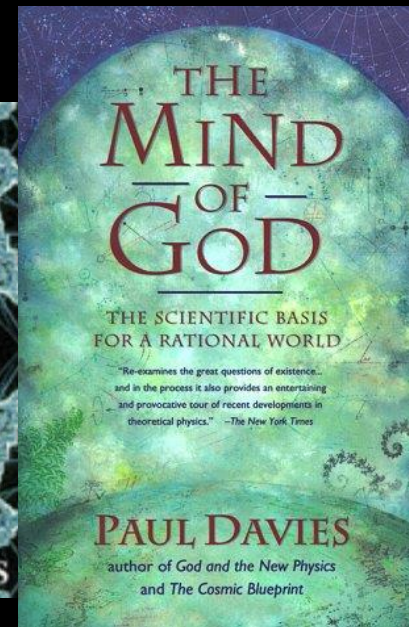
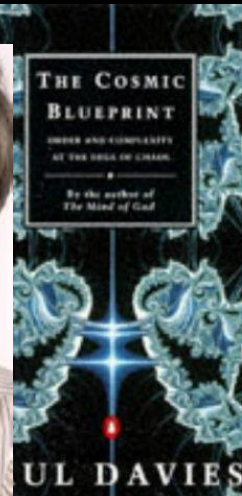
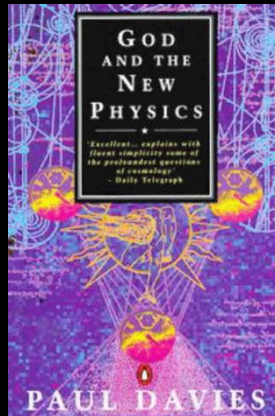
- **God is free to create**
- **Extravagance**
- **Relationship rather than place**
- **Universality of laws**
- **Observation**

- **Aristotle**
- **Human status**
- **Sin**
- **Salvation**



The Religious Implications of Extraterrestrial Intelligence

1. Evidence for Cosmic Design?



'If life is widespread in the universe, it gives us more, not less, reason to believe in cosmic design'

The Religious Implications of Extraterrestrial Intelligence

1. Evidence for Cosmic Design?

2. Contact problems for religion?

'long-lived extraterrestrials either never had, or have outgrown, organised religion'

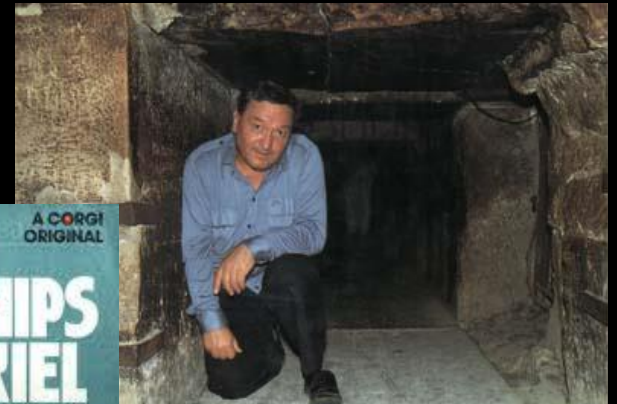
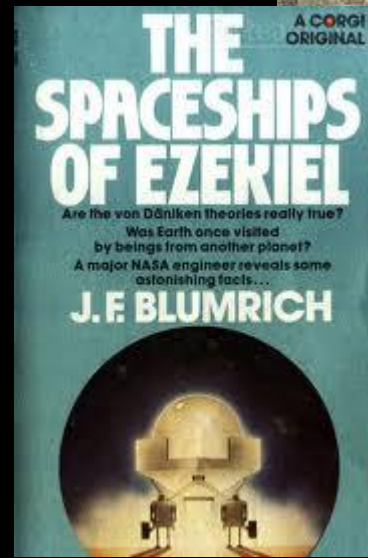


The Religious Implications of Extraterrestrial Intelligence

1. Evidence for Cosmic Design?

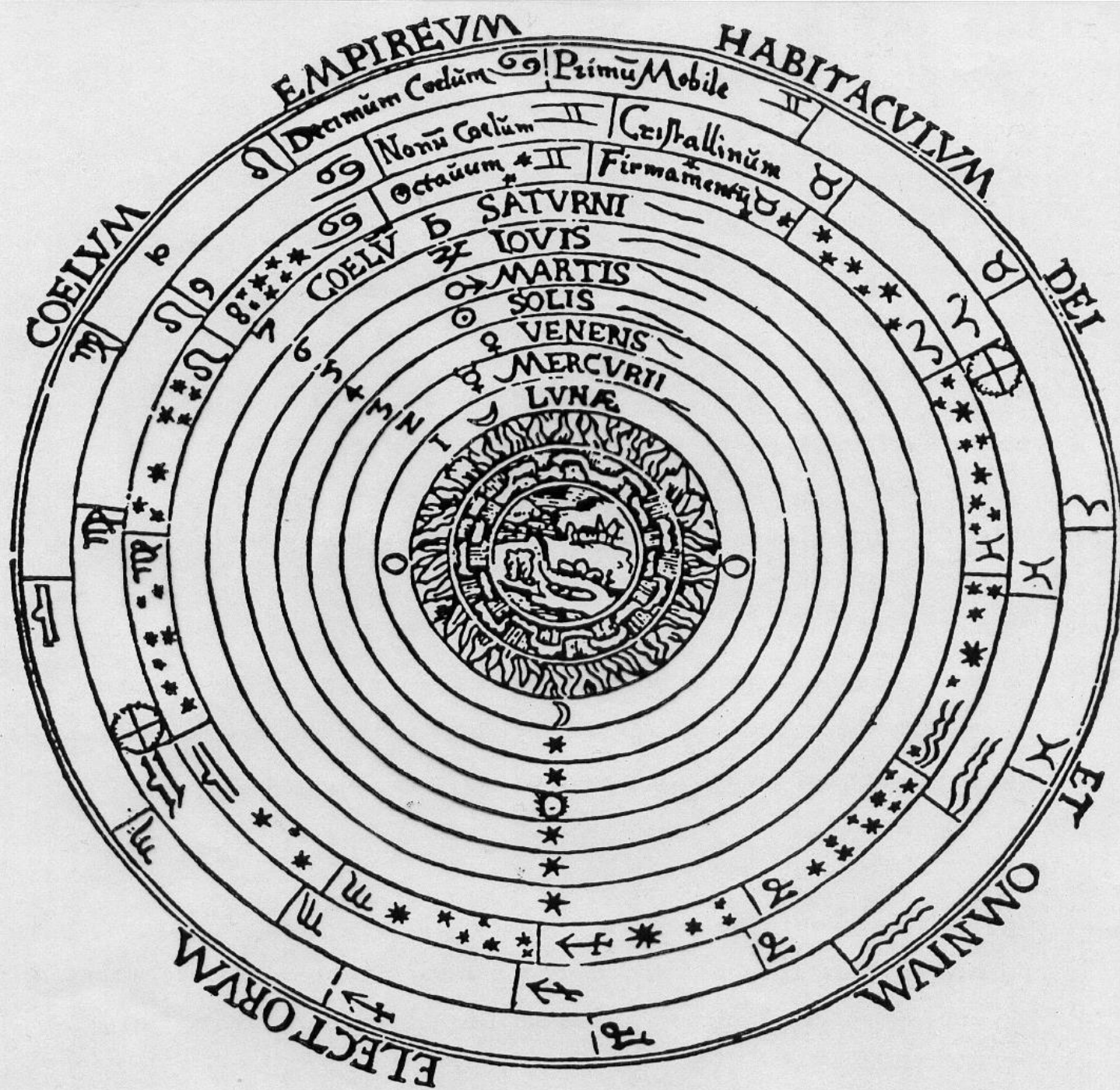
2. Contact problems for religion?

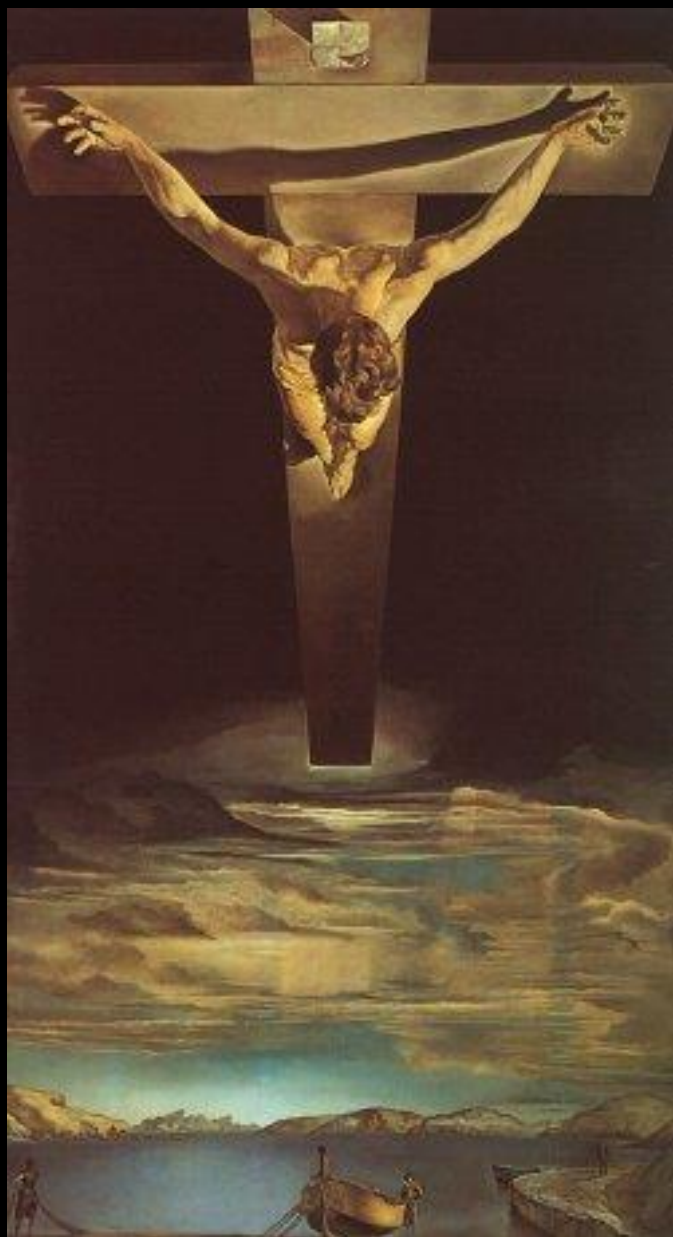
3. Is God an alien?



The Religious Implications of Extraterrestrial Intelligence

- 1. Evidence for Cosmic Design?**
- 2. Contact problems for religion?**
- 3. Is God an alien?**
- 4. Would it be the end for the Christian faith?**





The contribution of theology to SETI

- **Nature of ETI**
- **Consequences of future contact**
- **Encourage and affirm SETI**
- **Ethical dimension**



‘Be not so positive’