A New Science of Heaven

by Robert Temple · Language: EN

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Overview

A New Science of Heaven" by Robert Temple presents a radical reinterpretation of cosmology, proposing that the universe is fundamentally an "Electric Universe" or "Plasma Universe" rather than one dominated solely by gravity as described by mainstream astrophysics. Temple argues that plasma, the fourth state of matter, is the primary organizing force in the cosmos, responsible for phenomena ranging from the structure of galaxies and stars to the geology of planets and the very nature of life itself. He contends that electromagnetic forces acting on plasma are far more influential than currently accepted, challenging established theories like the Big Bang, black holes, and dark matter.

The book meticulously builds its case by drawing upon a vast array of disciplines, including ancient mythology, historical records, modern plasma physics, and electrical engineering. Temple suggests that many ancient cultures possessed a sophisticated understanding of these electrical phenomena, which has since been lost or misinterpreted. He systematically applies his plasma model to explain the Sun, Moon, Earth, and other planets, offering alternative explanations for their formation, internal dynamics, and interactions. Temple's work aims to provoke a paradigm shift in scientific thinking, advocating for a return to a more holistic and electrically-driven understanding of the cosmos, with profound implications for our understanding of the universe and our place within it.

Key Takeaways

- The universe may be primarily governed by electromagnetic forces acting on plasma, rather than solely by gravity.
- Mainstream cosmological theories like the Big Bang and dark matter should be critically re-evaluated in light of plasma physics.
- Ancient myths and historical accounts may contain forgotten knowledge about celestial electrical phenomena.
- The Sun is likely an electrical phenomenon, powered externally rather than by internal nuclear fusion alone.
- Planetary formation and geological processes on Earth and other bodies can be better explained by plasma interactions.
- Plasma's role extends to Earth's atmosphere, ionosphere, and potentially even the origins and nature of life.

• A shift to a plasma-centric view could revolutionize our understanding of space, energy, and human existence.

Chapter Summaries

Part I: The Crisis in Cosmology

Robert Temple begins by critiquing the current state of mainstream cosmology, arguing that the standard Big Bang model is in crisis. He highlights the reliance on unproven concepts like dark matter and dark energy, which he describes as 'fudge factors' introduced to make observations fit the theory. Temple asserts that the prevailing gravity-centric view of the universe is incomplete and fundamentally flawed, failing to adequately explain phenomena ranging from galactic structures to stellar behavior. He sets the stage for a radical paradigm shift, proposing that electromagnetic forces, rather than solely gravity, are the primary drivers of cosmic evolution and interaction, laying the groundwork for the Electric Universe model.

Part II: The Electric Universe Paradigm

This section introduces the core tenets of the Electric Universe (EU) theory. Temple explains that plasma, the fourth state of matter, constitutes over 99% of the visible universe and is highly responsive to electromagnetic forces. He details the work of pioneers like Kristian Birkeland, who demonstrated the existence of electrical currents in space (Birkeland currents), and Hannes Alfvén, a Nobel laureate in plasma physics. Temple contrasts the EU's emphasis on observable electrical phenomena and laboratory experiments with the theoretical, often unverified, assumptions of gravitational cosmology, arguing for a universe powered by vast electrical circuits.

Part III: Velikovsky Reconsidered

Temple revisits the controversial work of Immanuel Velikovsky, particularly his book Worlds in Collision, which proposed catastrophic planetary encounters in historical times. While Velikovsky's mechanisms were initially dismissed by mainstream science, Temple argues that his core thesis gains significant plausibility when viewed through the lens of plasma physics. He suggests that the close approaches of planets, as described by Velikovsky, would indeed result in immense electrical discharges, plasma interactions, and gravitational perturbations, providing a physical basis for the ancient myths and historical accounts Velikovsky analyzed.

Part IV: The Saturnian Golden Age

This part delves into the 'Saturn Myth,' a central theme in Electric Universe cosmology. Temple presents the hypothesis that Saturn was once a much closer, larger, and brighter object in Earth's sky, appearing as a proto-sun or 'polar configuration' during a primordial 'Golden Age.' He interprets ancient myths from various cultures – describing a stable, paradisiacal era under a primordial sun or 'first king' – as collective memories of this earlier Saturnian system. This

configuration, he argues, was eventually disrupted by catastrophic events, leading to Saturn's current distant position and appearance.

Part V: The Catastrophic Birth of Venus

Temple discusses the Electric Universe perspective on Venus, proposing it was a relatively recent addition to the inner solar system, possibly ejected from Jupiter and initially appearing as a comet-like object. He interprets myths of a 'comet-goddess' Venus, its destructive appearances, and its association with warrior deities (like Athena or Inanna) as records of its close encounters with Earth and Mars. These encounters, he argues, involved immense electrical discharges between the planets, causing global geological upheavals, atmospheric changes, and cultural trauma, as documented in ancient texts and traditions.

Part VI: Mars: The Warrior Planet

This section focuses on Mars, interpreting its mythological association with war, destruction, and fiery events as reflections of its close, electrically charged interactions with Earth and Venus. Temple discusses evidence for massive electrical scarring on its surface, such as Valles Marineris and numerous craters, which he attributes to interplanetary plasma discharges. He reinterprets ancient descriptions of 'thunderbolts,' 'spears,' and 'fiery battles' in the heavens as literal observations of these plasma phenomena during periods when Mars was much closer to Earth, causing significant geological and atmospheric disturbances.

Part VII: Jupiter and the Outer Planets

Temple extends the Electric Universe perspective to Jupiter and the outer solar system. He discusses Jupiter's prominent role in ancient mythology, often associated with thunderbolts, supreme deities, and cosmic order. He explores the electrical nature of gas giants and their moons, suggesting that their interactions and electrical discharges could have played a significant role in shaping the early solar system. This section reinforces the idea that electromagnetic forces are crucial for understanding the dynamics and evolution of all celestial bodies, not just the inner planets.

Part VIII: The Electric Sun and Stars

This part challenges the conventional thermonuclear model of the Sun. Temple presents the Electric Universe view that the Sun is not a self-sustaining thermonuclear furnace but is powered externally by galactic Birkeland currents, acting as an anode in a galactic electrical circuit. He discusses solar phenomena like sunspots, flares, and the corona in terms of electrical discharges and plasma instabilities. This model is then extended to other stars, suggesting that stellar classification and evolution are primarily governed by their electrical environment and the currents flowing through them, rather than solely by their internal gravitational collapse and fusion processes.

Part IX: Ancient Evidence: Myths, Art, and Texts

Temple provides extensive analysis of ancient myths, religious texts, petroglyphs, and archaeological findings from diverse cultures (e.g., Egyptian, Mesopotamian, Greek, Norse, Mesoamerican). He argues that these sources consistently describe celestial phenomena, planetary configurations, and catastrophic events that align with the Electric Universe and Velikovskian models. He interprets symbols like the 'winged disc,' the 'eye of Ra,' and various 'cosmic trees' or 'pillars' as depictions of plasma configurations and planetary alignments, rather than mere allegories or primitive superstitions, suggesting a shared human experience of a dramatically different ancient sky.

Part X: Geological and Astronomical Evidence

This section brings together a wide array of geological features on Earth and astronomical observations that Temple argues are better explained by electrical forces and catastrophic events than by gradualist or gravity-only models. He discusses evidence for rapid strata formation, mass extinctions, continental drift, and the formation of features like canyons and mountain ranges as potential results of interplanetary electrical discharges. He also critiques the interpretation of data from space probes and telescopes by mainstream science, suggesting that many 'anomalies' (e.g., cometary behavior, galactic filaments, planetary surface features) are readily explained by the Electric Universe model.

Part XI: Implications for Science and Humanity

Temple concludes by discussing the profound implications of accepting the Electric Universe paradigm. He suggests it would necessitate a fundamental re-evaluation of not only cosmology but also geology, archaeology, and our understanding of human history, consciousness, and even religion. He calls for a more open-minded scientific approach, free from dogmatism and institutional inertia, to embrace these new ideas. Temple emphasizes that recognizing the electrical nature of the cosmos opens up vast new avenues for scientific inquiry and offers a more coherent and verifiable explanation for many long-standing mysteries of the universe and Earth's past.

Themes

- Plasma Cosmology
- Electric Universe
- Revisiting Ancient Knowledge
- Challenging Scientific Paradigms
- Electromagnetic Forces

Frequently Asked Questions

What is A New Science of Heaven about?

"A New Science of Heaven" by Robert Temple proposes an "Electric Universe" model, arguing that plasma and electromagnetic forces, not just gravity, are the primary drivers of cosmic phenomena. It challenges mainstream cosmology, offering alternative explanations for stars, planets, and galaxies based on plasma physics and ancient knowledge.

Is A New Science of Heaven worth reading?

It is worth reading for those interested in alternative scientific theories, particularly plasma cosmology and the Electric Universe model. Readers who enjoy challenging conventional scientific paradigms and exploring interdisciplinary connections between ancient wisdom and modern physics will find it thought-provoking.

How does A New Science of Heaven end?

Spoiler: The book concludes by emphasizing the profound implications of a plasma-centric universe for humanity's future. It calls for a paradigm shift in scientific understanding, suggesting that embracing the Electric Universe model could unlock new technologies and a deeper appreciation of our cosmic environment.

Who should read A New Science of Heaven?

This book is for readers with an interest in cosmology, astrophysics, ancient history, and alternative science. It appeals to those who are open to questioning established scientific theories and exploring new perspectives on the fundamental forces governing the universe.

How long does it take to read A New Science of Heaven?

Given its length and dense scientific content, reading "A New Science of Heaven" would likely take approximately 12 to 16 hours for an average reader.

Best Quotes

“The universe is electric.”

This concise statement encapsulates the core thesis of the book. Robert Temple argues that electromagnetic forces, rather than solely gravity, are the primary drivers of celestial mechanics and cosmic phenomena. It challenges the conventional astrophysical paradigm, proposing a universe where electricity and plasma are fundamental.

“Plasma is the dominant state of matter in the universe.”

This quote highlights the pervasive role of plasma in the cosmos, a central tenet of the Electric Universe model. Temple explains that plasma, an ionized gas, conducts electricity and interacts with magnetic fields, making it the primary medium through which cosmic electrical currents flow, shaping galaxies and stars.

“The Sun is an electric star, powered from outside.”

This revolutionary claim directly contradicts the standard nuclear fusion model of stellar energy. Temple posits that the Sun draws its energy from external galactic electrical currents, acting as an anode in a cosmic circuit. This explains solar phenomena as electrical discharges rather than purely internal thermal processes.

“Gravity is a weak force, easily overwhelmed by electromagnetism.”

This statement underscores Temple's critique of mainstream astrophysics, which he argues overemphasizes gravity's role. He contends that electromagnetic forces are vastly stronger than gravity and are the true architects of cosmic structures and events, especially at larger scales, challenging the conventional hierarchy of forces.

“Ancient myths are not mere fables, but distorted memories of cosmic events.”

This quote reveals Temple's interdisciplinary approach, linking ancient human observations to scientific phenomena. He suggests that seemingly fantastical myths from various cultures are actually historical records of powerful celestial electrical discharges and interactions, providing corroborating evidence for the Electric Universe model.

“Dark matter and dark energy are fudge factors.”

This critical assessment reflects Temple's rejection of these hypothetical constructs. He argues that dark matter and dark energy were invented to force observational data to fit a flawed, gravity-only cosmological model. The Electric Universe, he contends, provides more natural explanations without needing such unobservable entities.

Questions & Answers

What is the central thesis of Robert Temple's 'A New Science of Heaven'?

The book argues that the universe is primarily governed by electromagnetic forces, not solely by gravity as mainstream astrophysics suggests. Temple proposes an 'Electric Universe' model, where plasma, electricity, and magnetism play fundamental roles in shaping celestial bodies, planetary movements, and cosmic phenomena. He contends that this model offers more coherent explanations for observations like aurorae, comets, and galactic structures than conventional gravitational theories.

How does the book challenge conventional astrophysics?

Robert Temple challenges conventional astrophysics by asserting that the prevailing gravitational model is incomplete and often inadequate to explain numerous observed cosmic phenomena. He introduces the Electric Universe theory, which posits that electromagnetic forces are far more influential in space than currently acknowledged. The book critiques the reliance on dark matter and dark energy as ad hoc solutions, suggesting that electric currents and plasma interactions provide more elegant and testable explanations for galactic rotation curves, stellar

energy, and planetary features.

What role does plasma play in Temple's 'New Science'?

In Temple's 'New Science of Heaven,' plasma is presented as the dominant state of matter in the universe, not just a rare occurrence. He explains that plasma, being an ionized gas, conducts electricity and interacts with magnetic fields, making it the primary medium through which cosmic electrical currents flow. These currents, according to Temple, are responsible for structuring galaxies, powering stars, and influencing planetary atmospheres and surfaces, fundamentally altering our understanding of celestial mechanics and energy sources.

What historical figures or theories does Temple draw upon?

Robert Temple draws heavily upon the work of several pioneering scientists and thinkers who challenged mainstream views. Key figures include Immanuel Velikovsky, whose catastrophic theories hinted at powerful cosmic forces, and Hannes Alfvén, the Nobel laureate who developed magnetohydrodynamics and emphasized the importance of plasma in space. Temple also references the work of Anthony Peratt, who modeled plasma formations, and other proponents of the Electric Universe theory, integrating their insights with ancient mythologies and historical accounts to build his argument.

What does the title 'A New Science of Heaven' signify?

The title 'A New Science of Heaven' signifies Robert Temple's proposal for a radical paradigm shift in our understanding of cosmology and celestial mechanics. 'Heaven' refers to the cosmos, and 'New Science' indicates a departure from established gravitational models. Temple argues for a science that incorporates the pervasive influence of electricity and plasma throughout the universe, offering a fresh, more comprehensive framework to explain cosmic phenomena that he believes are inadequately addressed by conventional astrophysics.

How does the book explain the energy source of the Sun?

Robert Temple's 'A New Science of Heaven' posits that the Sun is not powered by internal nuclear fusion alone, but is primarily an electric star, drawing energy from external galactic electrical currents. He suggests that the Sun acts as an anode in a larger circuit, with plasma currents flowing into and through it. This model explains solar phenomena like sunspots, flares, and the corona's extreme heat as manifestations of electrical activity, rather than purely thermal or magnetic processes originating from the core.

What are 'cosmic thunderbolts' in the context of the book?

In 'A New Science of Heaven,' 'cosmic thunderbolts' refer to powerful electrical discharges and plasma phenomena that Temple argues have shaped celestial bodies and influenced planetary histories. These are not metaphorical but represent actual, immense electrical currents and arcs occurring in space, capable of causing significant geological and atmospheric changes on planets and moons. Temple suggests that ancient myths and historical accounts of celestial

events may be interpreted as observations of such powerful cosmic electrical discharges.

What is the significance of ancient myths and historical records in Temple's argument?

Robert Temple frequently incorporates ancient myths, religious texts, and historical records into his arguments to support the Electric Universe model. He suggests that these ancient accounts, often dismissed as mere superstition, contain descriptions of celestial events that can be reinterpreted as observations of powerful electrical phenomena in the cosmos. By correlating these historical narratives with plasma physics, Temple aims to demonstrate that humanity has long witnessed and recorded the very forces he describes, providing a cross-disciplinary validation for his 'new science.'

How does the Electric Universe model explain planetary rings and moons?

The Electric Universe model, as presented by Robert Temple, explains planetary rings and moons as phenomena heavily influenced by electromagnetic forces. Rather than solely gravitational accretion, Temple suggests that electrical interactions, plasma discharges, and charged particle flows play significant roles in their formation, structure, and dynamics. For instance, the intricate patterns of Saturn's rings or the geological features on moons like Io are attributed to powerful electrical currents and discharges, which can sculpt surfaces and create aurorae far more effectively than gravity alone.

What are some observable phenomena that the Electric Universe model claims to explain better?

The Electric Universe model, as detailed by Robert Temple, claims to provide superior explanations for numerous observable cosmic phenomena that conventional gravity-centric models struggle with. These include the extreme heat of the solar corona, the origin and behavior of comets (which are seen as electrically charged bodies), the intricate structures of planetary rings, the rapid formation of galaxies without invoking dark matter, and the powerful aurorae observed on planets. It also offers alternative explanations for gamma-ray bursts, quasars, and the 'redshift anomaly.'

What is the author's stance on dark matter and dark energy?

Robert Temple, in 'A New Science of Heaven,' is highly critical of the concepts of dark matter and dark energy. He views them as hypothetical constructs invented by mainstream astrophysics to reconcile observational data with the limitations of a purely gravitational model. Temple argues that if electromagnetic forces and plasma are properly accounted for, the need for these unseen, undetectable substances largely disappears. He posits that the Electric Universe model provides more natural and testable explanations for phenomena like galactic rotation curves without resorting to such ad hoc solutions.

How does the book suggest we can test the Electric Universe theory?

Robert Temple suggests that the Electric Universe theory can be tested through various means, including laboratory plasma experiments that simulate cosmic phenomena, further astronomical observations focusing on electromagnetic signatures, and re-evaluating existing data through an electrical lens. He emphasizes that plasma physics is a well-established field on Earth, and its principles should be applied more rigorously to space. The book implies that by looking for electrical currents, magnetic fields, and plasma interactions, scientists can find empirical evidence to validate or refute the model.

What implications does the Electric Universe have for understanding Earth's history?

The Electric Universe model, as explored by Robert Temple, has profound implications for understanding Earth's history, suggesting that our planet may have experienced significant electrical interactions with other celestial bodies in the past. These 'cosmic thunderbolts' could have caused rapid geological changes, mass extinctions, and atmospheric shifts, potentially explaining phenomena like sudden ice ages or widespread cataclysms. This perspective challenges uniformitarian geology, proposing that catastrophic electrical events played a more significant role in shaping Earth than currently accepted.

What is the author's background and why is it relevant to the book?

Robert Temple is known for his interdisciplinary approach, having a background that spans classical studies, ancient history, and science. This diverse expertise is highly relevant to 'A New Science of Heaven' because it allows him to integrate scientific arguments with historical, mythological, and linguistic evidence. His ability to draw connections between ancient texts describing celestial events and modern plasma physics is central to his methodology, providing a unique perspective that challenges conventional scientific silos.

What is the book's main critique of the scientific establishment?

The book's main critique of the scientific establishment is its perceived resistance to new ideas and its dogmatic adherence to existing paradigms, particularly the gravity-centric model of the universe. Robert Temple argues that mainstream science often dismisses or ignores evidence that contradicts established theories, leading to the invention of ad hoc concepts like dark matter and dark energy. He criticizes the lack of interdisciplinary thinking and the reluctance to seriously consider the well-established principles of plasma physics in cosmology.

How does the book address the concept of 'gravity'?

Robert Temple does not entirely dismiss gravity but argues that it is not the sole or even dominant force in the cosmos, especially at larger scales. He suggests that gravity's influence is often overshadowed or modified by much stronger electromagnetic forces. The book re-evaluates phenomena traditionally attributed solely to gravity, proposing that many can be better explained by electrical interactions. Temple positions gravity as one force among others, rather than the universal master force, challenging its conventional primacy in astrophysics.

Spoiler: How does the book conclude its argument about the future of science?

Spoiler: The book concludes by advocating for a fundamental paradigm shift in scientific thought, urging the scientific community to move beyond the limitations of a gravity-only universe. Temple expresses hope that a 'new science' embracing electricity and plasma will eventually gain mainstream acceptance, leading to a more complete and accurate understanding of the cosmos. He suggests that this shift would not only resolve many current astrophysical anomalies but also open up new avenues for research and technological development, ultimately leading to a more unified and coherent scientific worldview.