

The Exponential Surge In Near-Earth Asteroid Traffic

By T.W. Tramm

THIS Saturday, November 10, three asteroids will whizz by Earth.

First, at 9:03 am ET, a nearly 100-foot-wide space rock named 2018 VS1 will fly by at a distance of 861,700 miles. Fifteen minutes later, a slightly larger asteroid (2018 VR1) will pass by at a distance of 3,128,892 miles. Finally, at 1:26 pm, a nearly 60-foot-wide rocky mass named 2018 VX1 will come as close as 237,000 miles, nearer than Earth's own Moon.

The increase in near-asteroid reporting of late is not due to hype or false perception but is, rather, a reflection of reality. A study of near-Earth objects (NEO's) published by the International Astronomical Union reveals the following:

In 2001 only one asteroid passed between the Earth and the Moon.

By 2007, the number had risen to seven.

By 2014 the number of asteroids passing by Earth at less than one lunar distance had risen to 32, representing a 3,100% increase over a 14-year span.

In 2018, the number of asteroids passing closer to Earth than the Moon, many deemed large enough to cause regional devastation on our planet, has more than doubled to a whopping 66.

The bottom line is that over the last 18 years we've seen a stunning 6,500% increase in the number of asteroids passing between the Earth and the Moon.

Disturbingly, the vast majority of near pass-bys came with no warning as NASA was unaware of their presence until they were upon us. A lesser number of close calls were discovered between 24 hours and a week in advance. Saturday's nearest approaching Asteroid VX1, first observed at Mt. Lemmon Survey on November 4, is one of these.

Should earth-dwellers be concerned?

It depends. The Bible says that those who have accepted God's free offer of salvation via Jesus Christ are not appointed to suffer wrath, namely the type of devastation an asteroid impact would visit upon humanity, but will escape judgment via the catching up into the clouds we call the Rapture (1 Thess. 4:13-18; 5:1-11).

Those who have rejected the Lord and His “escape-plan” for believers, however, should be extremely concerned. According to the only book with a 100%-accuracy rate in predicting future events, at least one mountain-sized object now hurtling through space has Earth’s name on it:

“The second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze, was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned into blood, a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed” (Rev. 8:8, 9).

The asteroids buzzing near enough our planet to make headlines are warnings from a merciful God that Judgment Day is near:

“I will give warnings of that day in the sky before the great and terrible day of the LORD comes” (Joel 2:30, 31).

The remarkable surge in number is indicative of how near the Day is.

LINKS:

<https://www.newsweek.com/three-asteroids-whizz-past-earth-one-day-and-one-will-come-closer-moon-1207334>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_asteroid_close_approaches_to_Earth#Timeline_of_known_close_approaches_within_one_lunar_distance_to_Earth

<http://neo.ssa.esa.int/web/guest/neo-chronology>

<https://www.omnicalculator.com/math/percentage-change>