

Only the *Right* Prayer Can Protect Us from Asteroids

by Richard Lehrberger
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Regarding the possibility of an asteroid colliding with the earth, U.S. Rep. Bill Posey of Florida last month [asked](#) NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, at a March 19 Science Committee hearing on Capitol Hill, “What would we do if you detected even a small one like the one that detonated in Russia headed for New York in three weeks? What would you do?” Bolden replied: “The answer to you is, if it’s coming in three weeks, pray.”

Pray. “That’s about all the United States — or anyone for that matter — could do at this point about unknown asteroids and meteors that may be on a collision course with Earth.” This was *Reuters*’ dire [assessment](#) of the NASA chief’s testimony before Congress. Yet, why would this last resort of prayer ever be necessary if a better solution to the threat of asteroids exists?

The information provided in a SPACE.com [article](#) reveals that a lack of funding was the impetus behind Bolden’s poignant statement to lawmakers. The space agency head spoke critically of Congress and the Obama Administration: “You all told us to do something [about asteroid detection and tracking] ... the bottom line is the funding did not come.” Bolden also said, “... at the present budget levels it will be 2030 before we’re able to reach the 90 percent level as prescribed by Congress [in 2005].” Here, Bolden was referring to 90 percent of the “near-Earth objects that are wider than 87 miles across.” (Of course, monitoring asteroids is one thing. According to *Reuters*, NASA is also “looking at developing technologies to divert an object that may be on a collision course with Earth [see link above].”)

Presented within the context of a discussion over scientific development and congressional funding for NASA, Bolden’s recommendation to pray has the feel to it of a last-ditch effort, especially given the Naturalistic propensities of modern science and the state. (See: [“Do Recent Natural Events Mean Anything?”](#)) Assuming Rep. Posey’s “three weeks” scenario, we would not be able to do anything else but praying because, up to now, not enough money has been allotted to NASA for asteroid detection and threat response. Intended or not, the message sent by the NASA representative is that “present budget levels” have a greater impact than prayer on our safety from asteroids and other celestial bodies; but this message is simply untrue.

We need to know that Catholic prophecy states unequivocally that an asteroid type event — such as the one that “could plausibly end civilization,” to use the [words](#) of White House Science Advisor John P. Holdren — will be a chastisement from God as distinct from an apparent random act of nature.

In the twelfth-century, St. Hildegard of Bingen prophesied that one day a comet, “By its tremendous pressure ... will force much out of the ocean and flood many countries, causing much want and many plagues. All coastal cities will live in fear,” she said, “and many of them will be destroyed by tidal waves, and most living creatures will be killed, and even those who escape will die from horrible diseases. For in none of those cities does a person live according to

the laws of God.”¹

St. John, in chapter eight of the Apocalypse, writes that a “great mountain, burning with fire, was cast into the sea.” (Ver. 8) He then tells of a “great star,” which “fell from heaven, burning as it were a torch . . . And the name of the star is called Wormwood.” (Ver. 10-11) In St. John’s vision, the mountain and the star (possibly a comet) are punishments inflicted upon a sinful humanity, and which follow the sounding of the second and third trumpets, respectively.

These two prophecies² stress that disobedience to Our Lord and His laws will bring about the doomsday scenario envisioned by President Obama’s science advisor, and which Congress and NASA are working together to avoid. Conversely, then, obedience to Our Lord and His laws will prevent that scenario from occurring.

Obedience to God is reflected in prayer, and it is only by one prayer in particular that a peaceful existence from the threat of asteroids, and from all other endangerments (moral as well as physical), can be attained. Furthermore, it is a short prayer of just five minutes which only the Holy Father and the Catholic bishops of the world can recite to bring about this peace: the Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, as prescribed by Our Lady of Fatima.

“The heart of man disposeth his way: but the Lord must direct his steps.” (Prov. 16:9) In other words, man proposes but God disposes. Perhaps a subtle reminder of this truth is represented in the timing of the inaugural Mass of Pope Francis — the only man on Earth who can order the bishops to join with him in prayer to consecrate Russia to Our Lady’s Immaculate Heart. The Pope’s inaugural Mass took place on the same day (the Feast of St. Joseph) that House Representatives and the chief of NASA met to discuss their joint strategy for planetary defense.

¹ Yves Dupont, *Catholic Prophecy: The Coming Chastisement* (Rockford, Illinois: Tan Books and Publishers, Inc., 1973), pp. 16-17.

² Other prophets such as Blessed Sister Elena Aiello (d. 1961), and even St. Peter himself, speak less specifically of an event in which the world will be scourged by fire. According to Sister Elena, “Clouds with lightning flashes of fire in the sky and a tempest of fire shall fall upon the world. . . . Godless persons will be crushed and wiped out.” Father Paul Kramer, *The Mystery of Iniquity*, 3rd ed. (Liberty Lake, Washington: Unmasking Iniquity Association, 2012), pp. 29-30. St. Peter writes in his Second Epistle: “Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished. But the heavens and the earth which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of the ungodly men.” (2 Peter 3:6-7)