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Viewsletter

MASS. SPACE AND TIME

The So Very Little We Know: Man Has Much To Learn

It is well accepted, today, that mass, space and time are related to one another.

It is one of the essential rules that has been found, tested, and fully accepted in respect of aspects of the universe, thanks to the work of Albert Einstein's theory of general relativity.

Scientists, today, are attempting to discover much more of that which must be the rules of the universe — for they must exist, it is well accepted.

Today, it is well known that the collapse of formerly giant stars in the universe, for one reason or another, is one or more of the reasons for the creation of black holes in regions of space.

A black hole is defined as being regions in space that gravity, just beneath its surface — named formerly as 'event horizon,' is sufficiently strong that nothing — not even light — can escape.

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At the centre of a black hole — it has been given the nomenclature, 'singularity,' — but scientists, the world over, have little information of this point, being infinitively small and infinitively dense.

Scientists are well aware that they know very little about the universe, how stars are created and, seemingly, how stars 'die,' and why and how, try as they may, it might be many billions of eons for them ever to learn how giant stars were — and are — created — as we know them, today — and what, if any, there are life forms — as we know them in man's thinking, today — on some or the many millions of stars, about which they know absolutely nothing.

Many of the aspects, mentioned above — and there must be many more aspects, of course — might be likened to that which many world-be loquacious scientists and economists try to make seemingly determinations which, to some degree, seem to have quintessential aspects, whereas that which they make claims that, to a very great degree, are, at best, garrulous.

The following are some of the aspects about which man acknowledges in that which are thought to be today's great pool of man's simplicity knowledge, compared to that of the empty void of the universe yet to be understood.

Part One

Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost Is Named: Pope Leo XIV

On or about Thursday, May 8, 2025, after a little more than 24 hours of anticipation, the telltale white smoke rose from the Sistine Chapel on that special day — signalling that the Roman Catholic Church's 133 eligible cardinals had come to a two-thirds majority vote on to whom is to be the next living pope.

And so, the bells of St. Peter's Basilica chimed and a huge crowd, waiting at St. Peter's Square, waved flags of different continents, and chants with that which could be heard: "*Viva il Papa!*" (Long live the Pope.)

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Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost is the first American to be declared the role of Pope.

He was, formerly, considered but a Cardinal from Latin America because of the many years that he had spent as a missionary in Peru, prior to becoming a Bishop there.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1955, to parents of Spanish and Franco-Italian descent, he served as an altar boy; he was ordained as a priest in 1982.

Although he moved to Peru three years later, he returned regularly to The United States of America, inter alia, in order to serve as a pastor and a prior in his home city.

About an hour after the telltale white smoke rose from the Sistine Chapel, the 69-year-old Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost emerged on the central balcony of the basilica in Vatican City as the new leader of the world's largest Catholic denomination, wearing the white papal cassock for the first time.

It is said, by many of the religious faithful, that he choked back his tears as he emerged on the central balcony of the basilica.

Throngs of priests, nuns and Vatican employees could be seen on the surrounding rooftops, trying to catch a glimpse of their new spiritual father of the faithful.

His chosen papal name is today: Leo XIV.

He will, now, lead more than one billion Catholics around the world — including 53 million American Catholics.

“*Peace be with you, all,*” he said in Italian and Spanish from the balcony in his first public remarks.

It is traditional for a new pope to offer blessings from the balcony to the city and the world before a few additional remarks that often indicate how he plans to lead the faithful.

Amongst his opening orations to the faithful, Leo XIV talked about building (human) bridges and remaining “*close to those who suffered.*”

Leo XIV emphasised peace and unity.

Of all things in the world, today, the concept to a great many people who listened to his words, the newly-acclaimed leader of more than one billion Catholics, he has been accepted as their omnipotent leader.

Good Friends Still: Remembering War Years

On or about Thursday, May 8, 2025, it was reported that The People's Republic of China desired to work with The Russian Federation in order ‘*to maintain the stability of global multilateral trade and supply chains.*’

Mr Xi Jin Ping (习近平), the President of The Peoples Republic of China, in his speech in Moscow to his Russian counterpart, President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, the leader of 1.41 billion Chinese stated:

‘China is willing to work with Russia to shoulder the special responsibilities entrusted

by the times and maintain the stability and smooth operation of the global multilateral trading system, industrial trains, and supply chains.'

President Xi Jin Ping, also, said that China and Russia had a special responsibility to oppose unilateral and power politics.

Continuing his speech at the Kremlin, President Xi Jin Ping said, inter alia:

'Today, in the face of unilateralist backflows and acts of power politics and bullying in the international stage, China will join Russia in shouldering our special responsibilities as major countries and permanent members of the United Nations Securities Council.'

For his part, President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin said:

'Together with our Chinese friends, we firmly stand guard over the historical truth, protect the memory of the events of the war years, and counteract modern manifestations of neo-Nazism and militarism.'

It had to appear to many of the people of the world that President Xi Jin Ping and President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin are amongst the gentlemen to be worthy of their high political positions, higher that is, to the thinking of people who accept an imaginary deity that is unknown other than that is written by scholars in eons gone by.

What Is About To Happen: Without Question !

While questions have been asked, of late, as to whether or not more intense feelings of fear or disgust are about to materialise, for one reason or another, there is one aspect that is without question: A number of various shocks shall be felt, some at home, while other shocks are quite likely to be felt in a number of corners of the world.

On equity markets, the world over, they are quite likely to be shaken to their very rigid structures, requiring alignments, considerations of various differing work allocations, as well as changes in daily designs, ungenerous stints, and tasks.

For those investors, having material amounts of equities, they have to ponder as to what action, if any, they should take.

To do nothing is to play with fire: It stands to reason that there must be a solution to every problem.

Recently, Mr Nigel Green, the Chief Executive of deVere Group, has taken on the task to attempt to ameliorate situations as to they seem to be, today, and or are to be able to be found in the future.

The following are Mr Nigel Green's determinations:

Global financial markets are likely to suffer a rapid and sharp selloff if The United States of America launches direct military strikes against Iran.

Mr Nigel Green maintains that markets have remained surprisingly steady in recent weeks, even as tensions in the Middle East have escalated.

‘But if The United States of America joins the conflict militarily, that calm will break.’

Investors are currently positioned for rate cuts, stable energy prices, and an orderly global outlook. A sudden and serious expansion of this conflict would force a violent repricing of risk across all major asset classes.

Mr Nigel Green’s warning comes as oil prices trade nearly nine percent higher since Israel’s initial strikes on Iran, with energy markets increasingly pricing in the chance of deeper supply disruptions.

A direct US military intervention could push crude significantly higher, especially if key infrastructure or shipping lanes are affected.

The world economy is not in a strong position to absorb another energy shock.

If oil spikes from here, inflation expectations will shift, interest-rate cut expectations will fade, and that would create a double blow for equities already priced for perfection.

The US dollar has gained against the yen and Swiss franc over the past week as investors cautiously seek protection, and Treasury yields have dipped, signalling a turn toward safer assets.

While these movements have been measured, Mr Nigel Green warns, they may accelerate sharply if The United States of America formally enters the conflict.

The moment that The United States of America is involved, equity markets will react immediately.

This is not about long-term fundamentals. It’s about a rapid shift in sentiment and positioning.

High-beta stocks, tech, emerging markets, and risk-sensitive currencies are likely to be the first casualties.

Mr Nigel Green notes that market timing could amplify the shock.

He went on to state:

‘If a US strike happens suddenly or outside of regular trading hours, investors will scramble to adjust. That’s when gaps widen, liquidity dries up, and losses deepen.’

The broader concern is how unprepared markets currently seem to be.

Despite increasing headlines and diplomatic tension, investor behaviour has continued to reflect optimism: Allocations to risk assets remain high, positioning is geared toward lower rates, and volatility levels are subdued.

‘This is a dangerous disconnect,’ Mr Nigel Green warns.

If a broader war breaks out, there is no reason to believe markets will process that information gradually.

‘The initial reaction will be fast and disorderly.’

Mr Nigel Green adds that the effects will not be limited to defence or energy sectors.

‘This kind of event drags on confidence and forces institutions to de-risk quickly. It pulls down assets indiscriminately in the early stages.’

Markets have already begun to show signs of early caution, but it is expected that the tone to shift dramatically in the event of US military action.

‘We’re entering a zone where every headline matters. A change in posture from Washington could move global markets within minutes.’

The financial advisory group urges investors to review current portfolios and prepare for heightened volatility while maintaining long-term discipline.

‘This is not a call to panic! But it is a call to prepare.’

Geopolitical shocks can’t always be predicted, but their impact can be mitigated with the right risk management and forward-looking asset allocation.

If oil pushes significantly higher, central banks could be forced to pause or reverse rate cuts that are currently expected. That would place additional pressure on equities and credit.

Washington has not confirmed any change in its military posture, though recent reports suggest an increased presence in the region.

Markets remain on edge; and, investors are carefully watching for signals:

The first move will be sentiment-driven;

The second will be repricing across sectors;

And the third will be the hunt for safe assets.

If the United States of America gets involved, one may expect a sharp, global reaction.

Investors need to be one step ahead, not caught off guard!

**A Very Important Aspect Of The Government
Of The Hongkong Special Administrative Region
Of The People’s Republic of China**

On May 28, 2024, the Government of The Hongkong Special Administrative Region of The People’s Republic of China published and disseminated the following four paragraphs, which appear to be self-evident:

‘The Government announced today (May 28, 2024) the reappointment of 54 members of the

Chief Executive's Policy Unit (CEPU) Expert Group and the appointment of five new Expert Group members, with the term to be effective for one year starting from May 30, 2024.

‘As an advisory body, the CEPU Expert Group was established in May 2023 and consists of members of different backgrounds including business, finance, professionals, think-tanks and academia to provide expert views and new ideas to the CEPU on various topics. To facilitate the work of the Expert Group and its conduct of more focused discussions, members of the Expert Group are assigned into three broad streams, namely the Economic Advancement Expert Group, the Social Development Expert Group and the Research Strategy Expert Group.

‘The Head of the CEPU, Dr Stephen Wong, expressed his gratitude to the Expert Group members for their valuable insights and innovative ideas with a zeal for Hong Kong in their respective fields over the past year, and welcomed the new members on board.

‘He said:

“The CEPU and the Expert Group members maintained positive and efficient interactions over the past year. We have conducted four plenary meetings, three group meetings, and more than 20 individual meetings to consult the views of Expert Group members on various topics. The CEPU has also organised forums, seminars, sharing sessions, visits and more other activities to enhance the exchanges and interactions between CEPU and the Expert Group members.

“I look forward to the Expert Group members working together in tendering expert views and new ideas for the longer-term development of Hong Kong in the coming year. The CEPU will also continue to reach out and tap into the views from all walks of life in society to assist the Government in forging ‘A Vibrant Economy for a Caring Community’.”

Great things may come in very small packages, it must be held.

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