Marsianism:
The New Mars Religion
by
Tom Klehm

A 21st Century Faith in Mars Colonization
The Marsian Creed

I believe in humanity and the pioneering spirit that dwells within us.

I believe science is the final authority of all human knowledge.

I believe colonization of our solar system is paramount for our survival.

I believe Mars, The Red Planet, is our stepping stone to the Cosmos.

I devote my life to the colonization of Mars and the advancement of humanity for the goodness of all.

I am a Marsian.
this book is dedicated
to my children and their
children’s children
yet to be born
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INTRODUCTION

What I am about to present to you will not be accepted by everyone. I realize that. Faith is a taboo subject. We live in a cynical time when many people have become disillusioned with faith. Any notion of religion is relegated by many to be only for the crazy people. However, let me ask you, why should crazy people have a monopoly on faith? Even the most cynical of us seek a sense of purpose. The desire for meaning in life is a natural human instinct. Without meaning, breath is like a clock ticking. There is no greater feeling than waking up every day with a reason to live. I hope this book will kindle a new fire of life inside of you and inspire you to dream impossible dreams.

I am not an expert. I am neither a scientist nor theologian. I am not even an acclaimed author. To be honest, this is my first book. What I am is an observant and thinking human who sees the perils and opportunities facing us. This is my humble attempt to expand awareness and inspire those who seek to strive for a better future for humanity.

Tom Klehm
Founder of Marsiansim
marsian.org
EARTH IS DOOMED

Earth is doomed.
I repeat.
Earth is doomed.

After reading that, you might be questioning my sanity. If not my sanity, you may be thinking that I am being slightly over dramatic. You have a positive outlook on life because you have faith in humanity. You believe we will solve our problems and humanity will continue to thrive and advance into a positive future. Fine. For the sake of argument, let us take a moment and paint the most positive picture we can of our future and see if you are right.

Let’s say we do everything right and solve our problems. Humanity agrees to set aside its profit motives and do what is required to slow down the effects of climate change. We reverse the rapid decline of Earth’s ecosystem. We remedy all self-destructive symptoms of overpopulation. Every attempt by terrorist groups or rogue nations to weaponize viruses that could potentially wipe out a population using advanced biotech innovations, such as the CRISPR-Cas9, is thwarted. The superpowers solve their political differences and avoid the devastation of a thermonuclear war. We prevent rogue scientists from creating and accidentally unleashing out-of-control self-replicating weaponized nanobots that could consume all life on Earth leaving in its wake a mass of grey goo. We successfully manage to contain inevitable super AI technology and prevent it from deciding to exterminate us. We solve all the diseases that plague us, design the human body to be smarter and stronger and greatly extend our longevity.

Even if humanity accomplished all of this... we are still doomed.

We face existential threats that cannot be avoided. There have been five mass extinction events during Earth’s history. No one knows how or when the next event will happen. Supervolcanoes have the
potential to erupt and release massive amounts of particles into the air that could block enough light from the Sun to kill all vegetation. An asteroid colliding with Earth could also cause similar devastation. This is what likely caused the extinction of the dinosaurs. A massive gamma ray burst, the most powerful singular event in the universe, could hit Earth without warning at any moment. These threats are difficult if not impossible to detect and mitigate. Humanity has been lucky so far and may remain lucky, but should we rest the fate of our extinction on luck? It is not a matter of if it will happen, but when.

Am I trying to scare you? Yeah, maybe a little. This is a wakeup call. The reality of these threats do not seem tangible to the average person. They are busy living their daily lives with no concern with how fragile our existence on Earth truly is. They focus their attention to causes or efforts to support political leaders that will not matter in light of these threats. All of this talk of doomsday scenarios is filtered out of their minds and dismissed since the pending threats do not imminently affect them. It is lumped together with all of the science fiction they have seen from Hollywood. They just do not take it seriously. Just as an unsupervised child playing on a train track day after day without a care in the world, one day “a train” will come and hit us by surprise. All of the warnings we had previously received will flash through our minds as we face our pending doom... but it will be too late.
We must never take for granted how valuable we are as a species. Are we gods? No. Are we perfect? No, but humanity is unquestionably the crown jewel of the evolutionary process in our solar system. For millennia, we have sacrificed and paid homage to invisible gods while we neglect to recognize the magnificence of our own visible evolutionary triumphs. Failure to exhaust all efforts toward securing our preservation would be indefensible. It is extremely naive to think that humanity will successfully mitigate every existential threat we face here on Earth. We need a backup plan. We need risk insurance. We need to spread out. We need to colonize beyond Earth and become a multi-planetary species.

Great minds in the fields of physics and cosmology agree. Dr. Stephen Hawking, world renowned theoretical physicist and cosmologist, predicted humanity's extinction within 100 years during the BBC program "The Search for a New Earth" if we fail to colonize another planet. In Slate Magazine David Grinspoon, astrobiologist and Senior Scientist at the Planetary Science Institute warns, "As long as we are a single-planet species, we are vulnerable to extinction by a
planet wide catastrophe, natural or self-induced." Former NASA Administrator and physicist Michael Griffin noted during a Rolling Stone interview in 2006 that a single-planet species will not survive. In his book, *Pale Blue Dot: A Vision of the Human Future in Space*, the legendary Carl Sagan declares, "All civilizations become either spacefaring or extinct." English physicist Dr. Paul Davies explains how humanity will benefit from a Mars colony in his 2004 *New York Times* article, "In time, the [Martian] colony would grow to the point of being self-sustaining. When this stage was reached, humanity would have a precious insurance policy against catastrophe at home."

Even if there were no risks at all, we should not be satisfied with limiting our potential. This is the time for dreaming big. We must seize this moment while it is in our grasp. Pretending that everything will automatically improve is far more foolish than pursuing our most ambitious aspirations. We stand at a crossroads. The irrevocable decisions we now make may seal our fate.
WHERE SHOULD WE GO?

We know we should colonize space, but where? Let’s consider the options.

The Moon is an obvious choice because it is so close to Earth. Having a Moon base would be beneficial but unfortunately, the Moon does not contain the resources required to support an autonomous civilization. One would think Venus is an option since it is the closest planet to us and it shares a similar size and gravity, but life cannot survive on its surface due to its high pressure and temperature. Venus would be a great candidate for a floating base but it is not a feasible choice for building a civilization. Mercury, being the closest planet to the Sun, is out of the question due to its extreme heat. The outer planets are not an option due to having no ground surfaces. A favorite by some is Titan, one of Saturn’s moons. It has an atmosphere and similar air pressure to Earth. The problem with Titan is its distance. With our current technology, it would take about seven years to arrive there not to mention the lack of sunlight needed for plants to grow. Titan will be an excellent choice for future colonization efforts in the event our technology and spacefaring expertise improves, but most experts agree, our first choice is Mars.

Why Mars? Mars is relatively close to us. A trip using current
propulsion technology can get us to Mars in about six months, maybe less. The optimal travel window opens up every 26 months. The temperature is reasonable compared to other alien environments. Its climate is comparable to Antarctica. Most importantly, Mars has water, a lot of water. After examining Mars with robotic rovers for many years, scientists believe that Mars was once covered with lakes and a great ocean in the northern hemisphere. Due to its cold temperatures today, almost all of the water on Mars is frozen beneath the dusty surface. It will be easily accessible by colonists upon arrival. Mars also contains all the minerals and raw materials needed for building an autonomous civilization. It is also a great candidate for terraforming, which is possible using our existing technology. Melting the frozen carbon dioxide at the polar ice caps could stimulate a runaway greenhouse effect and begin to raise the temperature on Mars. Terraforming is a long-term aspiration. It may take centuries. Regardless, we will find a way to permanently live on Mars. There will be many challenges to overcome including the effects of low gravity, radiation and low atmospheric pressure. Mars is a dangerous place but we must face these challenges and overcome them if we ever hope to become a multi-planetary species. The fate of our long-term survival depends on it.

The scientific details supporting Mars colonization is beyond the scope of this book. I highly recommend reading Dr. Robert Zubrin’s book for more information:

The Case for Mars: The Plan to Settle the Red Planet and Why We Must
NASA’s SLS is an advanced, heavy-lift rocket that will provide an entirely new capability for science and human exploration beyond Earth’s orbit.

**SPACE RACE 2.0**

We are living in exciting times. Efforts toward Mars colonization have been in the works for decades, but new variables have recently accelerated the pace. The advent of privatization in the space industry has infused new life and enthusiasm. Visionary billionaires like Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos and Richard Branson have kindled a new spirit of competition that is driving innovation. In addition, we are now seeing more state sponsored programs pursuing Mars missions. The US and Russia, who have been in the game for many decades, are not the only players anymore. China, Europe, Japan, India and the United Arab Emirates have all been developing their own Mars programs. We are witnessing the beginning of a historic new era: Space Race 2.0.
The Vision of Elon Musk

Visionary billionaire Elon Musk started his private aerospace company, SpaceX, back in 2002 with one ambitious long-term goal: Mars colonization. His company has recently been making huge strides, breaking records and outperforming his critics. On September 27, 2016, Mr. Musk gave a stunning presentation at the 67th annual International Astronautical Congress in Guadalajara, Mexico. He outlined his ambitious plan to colonize Mars. During his presentation, he unveiled the design of a massive new reusable rocket/spaceship called the BFR. It would be the largest rocket ever built, even eclipsing the Saturn V rocket of NASA’s Apollo program. Its massive payload capacity could potentially carry 100+ colonists to Mars. His plan is to build a fleet of these ships. He likens his effort to the building of the Transcontinental Railroad in the late nineteenth century which spanned west across the untamed lands of the United States. It opened the door of opportunity for those brave enough to leave their homes and tame a new world with limitless potential.

The most profound aspect of his plan that will affect everyone, especially those desiring to participate in Mars colonization, is the innovation of reusable rockets. In the past, these expensive rockets were abandoned and never retrieved. By reusing rockets, he is driving down the cost of space travel making it eventually affordable for anyone. Imagine if we only used planes for one flight. The cost per flight would be so high that no one could afford to fly. Using planes for many flights drives down the cost per flight. This same principle applies to rockets. By making the BFR reusable, he could potentially lower the cost per trip from the current average rate of $10,000,000,000 per person down to around $200,000 or even less. Doing so would make space travel within the reach of anyone with enough ambition to go.

This changes everything.

In the past, space travel was only accessible to a select group of highly trained specialists sanctioned by governments for very specific purposes. If Mr. Musk’s vision becomes a reality, anyone willing to go will be able to contribute to the colonization efforts on Mars. The
launch window opens up every 26 months when Earth is closest to Mars. His aim is to send the first group of colonists in 2024 and continue sending fleets of ships carrying thousands of colonists at every launch window thereafter. He hopes to see a Mars colony grow to 100,000 inhabitants by 2040 and a million by the 2060’s. If he succeeds, we will witness the full-scale colonization of Mars sooner than most could have even imagined.

We would be building the foundations of a new civilization. All occupations will be needed in a permanent Mars colony. Colonization will not just require scientists and engineers. A fully staffed hospital to include emergency rescue personnel will be needed. Every aspect of food production, from planting, growing, harvesting and meal preparation will need workers. There will be teams entirely dedicated to building habitats and structures using the latest 3D printing technology. Mechanics and engineers will be vital for the programming and maintenance of life support systems and robotics. All manner of legal and civil issues will need to be addressed in a colonial metropolis. Every consumable item will need to be manufactured. After all our practical needs are met, humans desire entertainment. Every industry we have on Earth will be needed in a permanent Mars colony.

Let this next sentence sink in for a moment:

You could be the first [name your profession] on Mars.

This is really happening and it is happening fast. Who will be the first Martians? Are you ready to take part in humanity’s most historic endeavor?
WHY START A RELIGION?

We need a paradigm shift. It is time to start thinking about Mars. We need to inspire a new generation. We need evangelists for Mars colonization. Typically, those who are employed in the space industry or space and science enthusiasts are the demographic that is usually concerned with something like Mars colonization. The average person is not normally that engaged since space exploration does not directly affect them, but all that is changing if Mars colonization becomes a reality. It will soon become a part of everyone’s life. If you will not be going yourself, I guarantee you will know someone who is going or is already there. We are heading quickly toward becoming a multi-planetary species. Along with all of this, there needs to be a new ideological movement, something that unifies us and gives us direction, something that people can believe in.

Humanity needs a fresh start to faith.

The old religions of the past were founded on ethnic mythologies long before humanity acquired knowledge through science. Their non-inclusive natures have caused many problems throughout history. One would think the solution to this would be to discard all forms of religious faith, but doing so is counterintuitive to our nature. We all strive to find purpose and meaning in our existence. This yearning will never be extinguished. Let’s take a rational approach to faith. It is time to discard our differences and believe in each other. More than ever, humanity must unite behind one common purpose.

Mars colonization will be extremely dangerous. It will be life threatening. The first interplanetary pioneers will need a light guiding them through the difficult times. Uniting behind a clear sense of purpose gives us strength. What better purpose can there be than helping to preserve humanity itself?

The tenets of Marsianism also clarify what motivates us. People seeking to take part in Mars colonization may have various reasons for doing so. Some may be motivated by the search for alien life while others are seeking to partake in the ultimate adventure. Nations, on
the other hand, will deploy their pioneers in hopes of fostering national pride. There is no doubt there will also be those who are only motivated by the exploitation of some profit motive. The motive for the Marsian is made clear in the Marsian Creed. It is for the preservation and advancement of humanity for the goodness of all.

Many of you have discarded any notion of religion. Rational thinking people realize that denying scientific knowledge for some ancient mythological teaching that has no factual basis is foolish. After abandoning religious superstitions, many of us find ourselves left with some kind of humanistic worldview while embracing atheism or some loose concept of “God”. We pride ourselves for not being one of the crazy people. However, I ask you, why should crazy people have a monopoly on faith? If I tell you that I believe in you, I have faith in your potential and I believe in what you are doing, does that make me crazy? There is nothing crazy about believing in each other, and at a watershed moment in history like this, there is nothing more important.
WHAT IS MARSIANISM?

First, we need to clarify the difference between a Marsian and a Martian. The definition of a Martian has been well established. It typically refers to an inhabitant of the planet Mars or something “Mars like”. Marsian on the other hand is a new term that refers to a believer in Marsianism. A person can be a Martian and not be a Marsian and vice versa.

What exactly is Marsianism? It is a new religion for the 21st century. It is an honest approach to faith. It is atypical in form. It claims no gods, holy men or holy books. It has no physical location, formal leadership or membership cost. It crosses all ethnic boundaries to include the entire human family. What is it? It is an ideology found in the hearts and minds of its believers. It is faith in the colonization of Mars for the survival and advancement of humanity. Its core tenets are found in the Marsian Creed:

The Marsian Creed

I believe in humanity
and the pioneering spirit
that dwells within us.
I believe science
is the final authority
of all human knowledge.

I believe colonization
of our solar system
is paramount for
our survival.

I believe Mars,
The Red Planet,
is our stepping stone
to the Cosmos.

I devote my life
to the colonization of Mars
and the advancement of humanity
for the goodness of all.

I am a Marsian.

The Marsian Creed belongs to all of us. Copy it, repost it, discuss it
and dwell on it. It is the foundation of Marsianism.

Many of you reading this have believed in these tenets long before
Marsianism was established. None of this is anything new. The only
difference is now is you have a name to describe your beliefs with an
added benefit of being able to find others who also believe the same
as you. The secular community has been fragmented for not having a
unified set of principles. Marsianism attempts to preserve the
beneficial aspects of religion for those who are not typically
“religious”.
You may ask, how exactly do I become a Marsian?

It’s very simple. Just do the following:

*With your dominant hand, point in the direction of Mars with your index finger (or up to the sky), at the same time put your other hand over your heart and say the Marsian Creed.*

That’s it. You are now a Marsian. Welcome to the family.

Why do this? Why does this matter? You are doing this for yourself. You are creating an experience that becomes an anchor in space and time that marks the moment you became a Marsian. It has no mystical power. It is purely symbolic. As humans, we quantify our reality with experiences. It does not matter if you do it alone or in a group, what matters is the experience you created by doing it. You will remember that today is the day you became a Marsian.

Let’s take a moment and look closer at each stanza of the Marsian Creed.
I believe in humanity and the pioneering spirit that dwells within us.
Humans throughout history have gazed at uncharted horizons with dreams and aspirations. Our curiosity and imagination propelled us forward as we elevated our civilization to greater heights. For once, we can believe in a phenomenon that truly has merit, the audacity of the human spirit. By no means are we perfect but we are resilient and pervasive with unbridled aspirations. Humanity is a true force of nature!

Never before have we faced a more ambitious endeavor. We must remember who we are and where we have been. Our contentions in the past have nearly destroyed us. We must set aside our differences if we desire to survive and thrive as a species. Will we always come to agreement? No, but what we have in common is greater than what divides us. We must seek common ground and pursue those ideals together. We should not just be satisfied with reaching the boundary of our potential. We can and will exceed it. When humanity unites behind a single purpose, we can accomplish anything. It is time to start believing in who we are.
A scientist of NASA's Mars 2020 mission holds a slice of a meteorite scientists have determined came from Mars. This slice will likely be used here on Earth for testing a laser instrument for NASA’s Mars 2020 rover; a separate slice will go to Mars on the rover.

II. KNOWLEDGE

I believe science is the final authority of all human knowledge.
Marsianism is a science-based religion. It refuses any notion of divine revelation. As much as you may agree with the words in this book and as much as I believe in them, I make no claims that these words are divinely inspired. They are merely ideas, a framework of a new religious faith. At the same time, neither may any other Marsian do similar. Why does this matter? The human imagination is powerful and it has been the source of many deranged ideas throughout history. Marsianism is not some Kool-Aid drinking cult. Marsians approach all things rationally and do not succumb to fables, anecdotal assertions or emotionally charged hype. The only acceptable form of knowledge is what is scientifically verifiable. I say this with confidence; even Spock would be comfortable with Marsianism (you knew I would reference Star Trek somewhere in this book).

You may be thinking, with this approach, why call this a religion? Where is faith involved? Marsiansim puts faith in humanity itself. Similar to how people put faith in a political ideology, although Marsianism is personal and not intended to function as a political movement. It is a way of life, not a model for human government. If Marsianism ever becomes a common part of culture, it will likely have a political influence but it was never designed to do so.

Some may even compare Marsianism to the philosophy of Humanism. It is true; there are many parallels between them. One can think of Marsianism as an augmented form of Humanism due to its very specific motivations. We are living in a unique moment in history. A generalized approach is not sufficient. Humanity needs an ideology that is laser focused in order to overcome the daunting challenges we face.

The rejection of divine revelation will likely be the most polarizing aspect of Marsianism. Some just refuse to deny the divinity of their so-called holy books that they have been taught. To those who desire a rational approach to faith, it will be a breath of fresh air but to others who cling to superstitions, it will likely be a deal breaker. Hopefully Marsianism can help move humanity forward toward a new era of rationalism.
III. MOTIVATION

*I believe colonization of our solar system is paramount for our survival.*
There is no doubt that much can be learned through space exploration, but let us never forget our primary purpose for Mars colonization: the preservation of humanity.

We must become a multi-planetary species. That does not just mean visiting multiple planets. It means that humanity must build separate autonomous civilizations. In other words, if one were destroyed, we could continue to survive with the other. It may take many generations to develop autonomy on Mars. That is why we must start now. This is our backup plan. This is our risk insurance. This is exactly why the Moon and Venus are not our first choice. They fail to meet the requirements for building a self-sustaining civilization. Everything humanity needs to survive can be found on Mars.
IV. MISSION

I believe Mars,
The Red Planet,
is our stepping stone
to the Cosmos.
This stanza puts Mars in Marsianism. Popular culture has used Mars so frequently in science fiction and entertainment that the sober realities concerning Mars colonization are hard to be taken seriously by some. There are plenty of skeptics and flat earthers out there that scoff at any idea of space colonization. As a Marsian, we cannot let these biases diminish our resolve. We recognize how grave our existential threats are and how vital Mars colonization is to our survival. If there were better options, we would take them. It would be much easier, as stated earlier, to build a base on the Moon. NASA plans to build an intermediary base on the Moon as part of their long-term Mars strategy. A Moon base would be useful but it does not remedy our demise in the event Earth is threatened with a doomsday scenario. Mars was not just chosen arbitrarily. Of all of our options, Mars is our best hope.

As a stepping stone to the Cosmos, Mars colonization is just the beginning. The colony on Mars will eventually become a hub of interplanetary activity. Due to its lower gravity, it would be the smart place to manufacture and deploy spacecraft. A potential lucrative industry in the vicinity of Mars will be the mining of nearby asteroids which are rich in valuable metals. Mars will become a staging area for reaching out further into our solar system. As technology progresses, we may eventually discover a practical method for interstellar travel. Once that becomes a reality, the potential for humanity will truly be unlimited. Those future interstellar pioneers reaching out into the galaxy will look back on us with gratitude for the sacrifices we made today...

...and it all started with Mars.
V. DEVOTION

I devote my life to the colonization of Mars and the advancement of humanity for the goodness of all.
To what are you devoted? Your loved ones? Your career? Maybe you are already actively serving the greater good in some way... but then again... maybe you’re not. Maybe you are not devoted to anything at all. You have been wandering through life like a ship lost at sea going through the motions day-by-day waiting for something to inspire you, something to believe in. This may be what you have been searching for, something worthy of devotion. Today may be your start of a new adventure. You will look back on this day and remember when everything changed. The future has so much potential if only you choose to devote yourself. Nothing is ever accomplished by good intentions alone. You must make the effort. You may believe every word of this book but without making a commitment to take action; this newly found inspiration would be wasted. We have something to believe in that is greater than ourselves. You can make a difference. What you choose to do now is what matters.

You may be thinking, what can I do? Why not consider a career that supports Mars colonization. If you already have a career, apply your talents in your spare time in some way. If you are unable to actively play a role, inspire others. There are people in the space industry who have already dedicated their lives for this cause. At this moment, the Mars One program has volunteers training for their one-way mission to colonize Mars. They should be your heroes. Show them your support on social media. You should know them by name. Share with others your excitement. If you have children, get them excited about space. Buy a telescope and become an amateur astronomer. Organize a trip to visit a rocket launch. Educate yourself on the latest progress of ongoing missions. There is so much going on right now. We are living in exciting times!
What about God? What would a religion be without worshipping some kind of deity? Humans throughout history have always had an infatuation with the concept of God. Ancient beliefs ranged from the paganistic views of God as natural elements and astronomical objects to the monotheistic views of the Abrahamic religions. In modern times, after the advancement of scientific knowledge, the idea of God as an energy force or collective consciousness has become a popular concept. We cannot help but wonder if there is a power greater than we are. We ponder on the Universe, our origins and life itself. Where did we come from? What happens when we die? What does all this mean? We currently do not have the scientifically verifiable answers to these questions. To fill the void, humans create their own superstitious dogmas in an effort to provide some sense of comfort and satisfy their desire for answers. Marsianism makes no claims beyond what science can verify. A Martian will always choose to leave a question unanswered before accepting a contrived answer that has no basis in fact. I hope that one day science will provide us with definitive answers to these questions, but until then, we will resign ourselves to leave them unanswered. As far as deity is concerned, Marsianism remains agnostic to the concept.
of God. Can a person be a Marsian and believe in God? Sure, as long as their belief is not incompatible with the Marsian Creed.
Parallel to the concept of God is the prospect of intelligent alien life. Some even have the belief that "God" may be some sort of alien life form. The quest into space has always included motivations for seeking such life. Even finding primitive life beyond Earth would be profound. It may give us an insight into our own origins. Just as the concept of God, society has been infatuated with this idea of contacting some form of extraterrestrial intelligence. From UFO conspiracies to glorious Hollywood productions, the idea of encountering extraterrestrials has become ubiquitous in our culture. When we think of space travel many of us cannot help but think of Star Trek or...
any of the numerous space exploration fantasies. We cannot let science fiction cloud rational thinking. Just as Marsianism is agnostic to the concept of God, so is it agnostic to the belief in intelligent alien life. Does that mean we don’t search for such life? No, of course we do. We should always seek to expand our knowledge of the Universe especially anything that concerns life. At the same time, we should be careful not to let our imaginations skew our judgement. As the Marsian Creed states, science is the final authority for all human knowledge, not science fiction.
MORALITY

Morality is subjective. In the past, religions used commandments dictated from invisible deities to control the behavior of their populations through fear. This archaic form of control is outdated. Religion should inspire, not condemn. Law and order in society is the role of human government, not religion. Marsianism has no intention of micromanaging an individual’s behavior although it does suggest a simple all-encompassing moral principle.

It is the Marsian Code:

*Goodness for all.*

Goodness encompasses many concepts including love, justice, equality and fairness. Goodness is subjective and is interpreted individually by each of us using our own empathetic conscience. How can one truly believe in the Marsian Creed without empathy? It is obvious that having empathy is a prerequisite for becoming a Martian. “For all” is inclusive and is not limited to humanity. It is also individually defined. There are many ways it can be interpreted. Each person will interpret
it differently. Outside of this code, Marsianism makes no moral
judgements concerning behavior. Each person should be free to live
their life the way they choose.
MEDITATION

“Science cannot solve the ultimate mystery of nature. And that is because, in the last analysis, we ourselves are a part of the mystery that we are trying to solve.”

- Max Planck, Father of Quantum Physics

One of the great mysteries of our existence is consciousness. The quality of our sentience is likely the most profound aspect of our evolution as a species. The ability to question and reason is both a blessing and a curse. It can empower us with the ability to innovate while simultaneously leading us to a crippling sense of bewilderment.

The Measurement Problem in quantum mechanics gives us an insight into the potential role consciousness may play in forming reality. Science has yet to fully comprehend the power of thought. Humans throughout history have used prayer and meditation in a religious context. The power of intention and visualization is not fully
understood. There are many theories regarding consciousness. Marsiansim makes no claims in this regard. It only recognizes the potential value of focused thought.

Add Marsianism to your daily routine. Set aside five minutes a day to meditate on the Marsian Creed. It will help you stay focused, remind you of your purpose and keep you motivated. Sometimes stopping to see the whole forest from the trees can renew our inspiration and strengthen our sense of purpose. Consciousness research is just beginning to scratch the surface of how doing this affects us. One day we may fully understand the impact of focused thought, until then, we can use it as a tool for our benefit.
We are human. Our tribal nature benefits from having special times of the year that we can all share together. Throughout history humanity has set certain dates on the calendar for commemorating significant events. We observe days for celebration, historical remembrance, gratitude, memorialization and patriotism. All of our current holidays are tied to Earth’s calendar. Mars needs its own holidays.

Due to its unique orbit and rotational speed as compared to Earth, Mars has its own measurement for days, seasons and years. A day on Mars is equivalent to 24 hours 39 minutes and 35 seconds on Earth and a year on Mars is equivalent to approximately 684 days on Earth. Mars will have its own clock and calendar. In 1985, Thomas Gangale invented the Darian calendar for measuring weeks and months on Mars although it has yet to be universally accepted. Even without an official calendar, we can measure the seasons on Mars based on its position in relation to the Sun as we do on Earth.
Marsian New Year

Most scientists have accepted the numbering system for counting years on Mars. At the time of the writing of this book, we are in Mars year 34. The first day of “year one” began on April 11, 1955. That day was the Mars Spring Equinox.

The Mars Spring Equinox is the **Marsian New Year**. Just as our New Year’s Day on Earth, it is a time of reflection over the past events of the ending year and a celebration of things to come for the New Year. Here are the following Earth dates corresponding with upcoming Marsian New Years:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Marsian New Year</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>35</td>
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<td>36</td>
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<td>August 8, 2060</td>
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<tr>
<td>58</td>
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</table>
Marsian Thanksgiving

On the opposite end of the Mars year, we have the Marsian Thanksgiving, which falls on the Mars Autumn Equinox. It is similar to autumn festivals celebrated on Earth like American Thanksgiving, Sukkot, Oktoberfest or 中秋节, the Mooncake Festival in China. It is a day for family and friends to join and give thanks for the blessings received over the past year. It is typically celebrated with a feast and special treats. Here are the following Earth dates corresponding with upcoming Marsian Thanksgivings:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<td>54</td>
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Solstices

The Solstices on Mars symbolize the duality between Mars and humanity. Unlike our Mother Earth who gave birth to us and nurtured us throughout our evolution, Mars is like a wild beast that we must tame. As colonists in a foreign world, we struggle daily to create a symbiotic relationship with our new home. The solstices are a reminder to us of this duality.
Day of Humanity

The Mars Summer Solstice is the **Day of Humanity**. Similar to an Independence Day, Mardi Gras or Carnival, it is an exciting day of vibrant colors, music and dancing with spectacular laser light shows. It is a day for celebrating life itself. In addition to celebrations, it is also a day when enemies set aside their differences. Even if those differences cannot be permanently resolved, we can at least live in peace with each other for a day as one human family. Here are the following Earth dates corresponding with upcoming Days of Humanity:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<td>41</td>
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</table>
**Day of Mars**

The Mars Winter Solstice is the **Day of Mars**. Recognizing its beauty and splendor, we pay homage to our new home. During this celebration, we symbolize Mars as the great beast that humanity must tame. Just as we wear green on St. Patrick’s Day, on this day we wear something red/orange in color. For Martians and Marsians alike, it is a day of pride, pride in Mars. Here are the following Earth dates corresponding with upcoming Days of Mars:

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>60</td>
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Day of the Pioneer

Societies honor heroes. From brave military veterans to physicians saving lives, we honor the dedication and sacrifice they make for us all. As brave as these great heroes are, the greatest of them are those who volunteer to be the interplanetary pioneers going to Mars. They will be leaving their homes and risking everything. Not for just a few, but for all of humanity.

The day the first humans land on Mars will one of the most historic days in human history. Marsians will annually remember this day as The Day of the Pioneer. There is no date yet since at the time of writing this book, this event has yet to occur. When it does eventually happen, this day will be the most important day for Marsians. We will also mourn those who paid the ultimate sacrifice. There is no doubt that fatalities will be inevitable. These brave heroes will be forever honored and remembered. We will never forget their sacrifice.
Season of the Void

The window for travel between Earth and Mars opens up approximately every 26 months when the planets are closest to each other. Leading up to this time will be very exciting. Many ships loaded with interplanetary pioneers will be staged in orbit waiting to leave on their treacherous journey through the void of space. When the window opens, their ships will fire their engines and launch into the darkness. They will travel for many months through the void. Leaving everything behind, they set their sights on their new world.

The time between the first ship leaving until the last ship arrives is the Season of the Void. During this time, we decorate our homes with red/orange candles or lights and we wear red/orange armbands or ribbons. This will be a daily reminder to us of those making the long treacherous journey through space. One day we will discover a more efficient propulsion technology that will make this launch window irrelevant. Until then, we will observe this season.

These holidays will be a reminder for those on Earth of the ongoing sacrifices that the Martian colonists are making. It will keep us focused, provide us days to come together as one human family and inspire new generations to become pioneers of space.
As a Marsian, not everyone will agree with your cause. This is an inevitable reality. Some believe we should not leave the Earth at all. They raise concerns of humanity's reputation for destroying things it encounters therefore they assert the position that we should leave these worlds alone. That ridiculous notion puts preserving a dead world in a higher regard than the survival of humanity. Only a misanthrope would consider such a notion. Others may argue that we should focus on our problems here on Earth before spending a fortune trying to colonize the solar system. There is no reason why we cannot do both. They are not mutually exclusive. Then there are the “flat earthers” who believe space is a hoax. If that’s what you believe then you may as well believe you are living in the Matrix. If you see Morpheus, tell him I took the blue pill since the red pill doesn’t exist. The most predictable opposition will be from those who consider Martianism as blasphemous to their religious beliefs. This is unavoidable. The freedom to choose one’s faith should not be debated. Some may accuse us of being blind followers of Elon Musk. The fact that Mr. Musk currently has the most ambitious aspirations for Mars colonization only exemplifies his ability to raise his torch the highest
due to his influence. Many have come before him carrying the same torch, from Wernher von Braun’s Mars Project to Dr. Robert Zubrin’s Mars Direct program to Bas Lansdorp’s Mars One program, the vision of Mars colonization is nothing new. This concept long predates this book. This belief is only now being recognized in this form.

We cannot allow attacks from others to hinder us. The stakes for humanity are too high. We must be bold and brave while avoiding pointless arguments with those that oppose us. It is only natural for humans to disagree. Marsians can rest with a clear conscience that we are on the right side of history. The agreement of all humanity is not required for us to proceed. We only need to support each other, especially those who are making the daily sacrifices toward seeing the realization of Mars colonization.

Some of you reading this book will relegate this entire effort as foolish. You smugly scoff at its naivety. You quickly bring up every reason why you believe it cannot happen. This is a familiar pattern seen throughout human history. Skeptics and naysayers have always scoffed at visionaries, but without visionaries, humanity would have never explored the oceans beyond sight of the shore or flown in the air above the clouds. Some may call us crazy, but we know this; our only hope for saving humanity lies within the success of the so-called naive aspirations of brave visionaries.

Let me ask you, which side of history do you choose? Will you join those who bravely seek to advance humanity to a brighter future or maintain the status quo with the naysayers, which will lead us down the path of our inevitable extinction?

I choose to join the visionaries.
CONCLUSION

Think back to when you were a child, when you first looked up at the night sky. You wondered what was out there. You would dream about the planets and the stars. As you got older, you began to notice the sky less and less... and those dreams faded. Your day-to-day life became your focus. You rarely even noticed the sky anymore. You now go through life with no dreams at all.

It is time to start dreaming again.

I ask you to join us. Let’s dream together. Be a part of this new movement. We must run this race. I pass the baton to you. Will you take it?
Thank you for your time. Please consider giving this book a review on Amazon. If you would like to discuss Marsianism, feel free to connect with me on LinkedIn.

Sincerely,

Tom Klehm
Founder of Marsiansim
marsian.org