

THE FUTURE 2. What does the future hold for humanity?

This question is closely linked to another: Where are all the aliens? (The Fermi Paradox). There is the theory of the five filters, culminating in the Great Filter. The first was passed when life came into being as single cells. The second was overcome when those primordial living things merged and developed into higher-level, multi-cell organisms. **T**he third filter is for those life forms to evolve and to grow into sophisticated beings ... on par with the animals we know today. Conquering the fourth filter means for one of those species to rise above the rest, to develop intelligence and dominate all other beings. This is the phase humans are in and it is possible some civilizations had been at that point of development before in our galaxy. **T**he fifth filter - the Great Filter - is the stage humans are facing and it is distinctly possible it will doom us, as it before has doomed every other culture. It seems no civilization in the past has been able to overcome it ... since we cannot find any aliens. Pay attention now: This is the filter that causes human-like beings to self-destruct; as growth depletes the planet's resources, their habitat is destroyed. **S**o this fate likely befell any alien culture that existed before us ... other than falling victim to asteroid collisions. Their technologies may have pushed the limits too far. They may have caused catastrophic climate change; built weapon systems that got out of hand or created bio-engineered entities and / or Artificial Intelligence (AI) that decided their creators stymied their progress and had to be terminated. **I**f - however - an advanced civilization managed to overcome the Great Filter and will visit us, it could be disastrous for humanity, since it is likely the aliens - or an AI civilization that had replaced their human-like creators - would aim to conquer our planet and use it to replenish their own resources (as we would theirs) ... with fateful disregard for the wellbeing of the human species. **B**ut perhaps there aren't - and never were - any aliens ... we are alone.

I would like this essay to be read not as a dooms-day scenario, rather it is a warning to humanity, to our politicians, leaders and other influencers: Beware technology ... do not let it get out of hand.

*go to the appendix and my blog 941 with the videos
Why Alien Life Would Be Our Doom
Where Are All The Aliens?
by KURZGESAGT.org*

see also THREE THOUSAND

In Stephen Hawking's book Brief Answers to the Big Questions is a chapter Will Artificial Intelligence Outsmart Us? ... says he "Success in creating AI would be the biggest event in human history."

"Unfortunately, it also may be the last, unless we learn how to avoid the risks ... I fear the consequences of creating something that can match or surpass humans ... that could develop a will of its own."