



EDITORIAL

## DESTRUCTION

**W**ar, famine, pestilence, and death. In Christian literature, these are the harbingers of the end times. The four horsemen of the apocalypse mark the beginning of the end, the ultimate destruction of the world. While in the West, we view Armageddon as the ultimate end, the East tends towards a more cyclical view. Rather than a final, abrupt end, our destruction marks the beginning of a new cycle.

In scientific literature, the dramatically named 'ultimate fate of the universe' presents several hypotheses including The Big Freeze, Heat Death, and the Big Crunch. Based on observations and mathematical formulae, researchers theorise that the world might collapse into another singularity or continue expanding until all the stars snuff out. These possibilities depend on the structure and shape of the universe as well as the amount of dark matter and energy, elusive concepts we are only just starting to understand.

While destruction conjures images of explosions, ravaged buildings, and deadly hellfire, destruction also leads to new life. Forest fires revitalise the earth, making way for fresh growth. Armageddon makes way for revelation. Destruction wipes the slate clean, allowing creation to flourish – unless it consumes us in the process!

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