

Could Artificial Intelligence Usher in the End Times?

All the of end-time catastrophes don't bother Professor Stephen Hawking much. He's more concerned about artificial intelligence.

It may seem like science fiction to you, but the famed astrophysicist says it could extinguish the human race. That's because, he asserts, the technology would become self-aware and overtake mere flesh and blood.

Think *Terminator*.

"The primitive forms of artificial intelligence we already have, have proved very useful," Hawking told the BBC. "But I think the development of full artificial intelligence could spell the end of the human race."

But that won't happen if Tesla founder Elon Musk has anything to do with it. The billionaire is investing in 37 research projects that aim to control artificial intelligence. "Here are all these leading AI researchers saying that AI safety is important," Musk told the *Daily Mail*. "I agree with them, so I'm today committing \$10 million to support research aimed at keeping AI beneficial for humanity."

Meanwhile, neither seems to be too concerned about end-time prophecy.