

"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created."  
Revelation 4:11

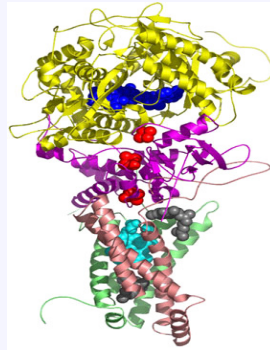
**GATTCGAC**  
Information  
Theory



Carbon 14  
in Diamonds

# How Science Shows There *Must* Be A Creator

Natural  
Selection



Design  
Characteristics

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## Foreword

The basic premise of this pamphlet is simple. Not only did God create the universe and the various forms of life we see around us, He also placed evidence within His creation to show that He did these things. The evidence takes on all kinds of forms and is evident to anyone willing to see it.

This pamphlet discusses many different forms the evidence can take. The issues range from biochemistry, to the relationship between animal hybrids and the fossil record, to discrete jumps in the red shift of starlight, to Carbon 14 in diamonds, plus many more.

One particularly significant issue concerns information. A living cell is an information-based machine. Information is used to make a cell and to control its operation once it has been made. However, by definition information is an abstract entity. Information of the kind used in living systems is the representation of meaning by a coded sequence of symbols. There is no inherent physical relationship between the meaning represented by a coded symbol sequence and the innate characteristics of the symbols themselves. That makes information an abstract entity.

Non-living physical objects do not naturally form abstract relationships with each other. Rather, such relationships are the product of insight and creativity, making them the product of intelligent thought. When God made a living cell an information-driven machine, He demonstrated that the cell was the product of an intelligent mind. We discuss this in detail.

Many evolutionists like to claim that a person cannot have a firm belief in the literal truth of the Bible as God's revealed word and still be an effective scientist. This is simply not true. As chapter 7 demonstrates, almost every major field in science was founded by a Bible-believing Christian. These men studied science believing that the things they discovered revealed God's wisdom. This in turn led to their giving Him even greater glory and honor.

These issues are not neutral. In the Bible we read in Isaiah 42:8, "I am the LORD, that is My name; and My glory I will not give to another." Not giving God the glory rightfully due Him as Creator offends Him. To attribute the intricacies of a living cell to random, mindless processes mocks Him. This is not without consequence for He has stated in Hebrews 9:2, "It is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment." Only a fool would punch a king cobra or an African lion in the face. How much more foolish to mock and offend the living God, who can create galaxies out of nothing. Yet, in His grace God has made provision for even the mocker to be reconciled with Him through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

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## Chapter 1. Introduction

Once, I was passing out free copies of an earlier version of this pamphlet on the Ohio State University campus and offered one to a certain student. After reading the title, he broke out laughing. I asked him, “Why are you laughing? You don’t even know what I have to say.” He responded with, “Okay, you have fifteen seconds.”

I asked him how long he believed it took for random chemical processes to produce the first living cell. He said, “Perhaps about 50 million years.” I asked him to think about any drugs that might be in his medicine cabinet. They all have expiration dates because they spontaneously decay and fall apart. Then I asked him. “How long a period of time is a typical expiration date?” He responded, “About two to five years.” He then broke out laughing as he said this, because of the obvious inconsistency. The chemicals related to life break apart far faster than it would take for them to form a functioning cell through natural processes. I explained to him that this and a lot of similar issues were discussed in the pamphlet. He ended up taking one and said he would read it. (See page 7 for a more detailed discussion about this topic).

On a different occasion I was passing out pamphlets at Penn State University. A lady student who was a biology major disagreed with my premise on the title and refused a pamphlet, but did give me the opportunity to say a few words. So, I told her, “Let’s play a game. We’ll toss a coin and you call it in the air. Every time you win, I give you a penny. Every time I win, you give me a dollar. Want to play?” Of course she didn’t. The longer we played, the richer I would get and the broker she would be. Time would NOT be on her side.

I then talked about how this parallels the situation involving random chemical reactions producing life. Enzymes are the foundational structure of living systems. They are made by joining together long chains of amino acids. However, in nature such a chain is about 100 times as likely to break apart as it is to lengthen by a single additional amino acid. This applies for each new amino acid added. Long chains simply do not form spontaneously and even if one might, it would very quickly break apart. So, natural processes do not form the chemicals of life, they destroy them. In order to believe in a spontaneous appearance of life, a person needs to reject the laws of chemical equilibrium. This is a very stiff price to pay for someone who understands these laws.

Because of the laws of chemical equilibrium, a person who believes life originated as the outworking of natural processes has a problem. He is like a person who believes he can get rich playing the little game we talked about when he is the one paying the dollar and receiving the penny. This issue is talked about in more detail on page 9 of this pamphlet. After hearing this and some other illustrations she took a pamphlet.

On another campus and after hearing my presentation a student responded, “Yes, but the fossil record proves evolution.” No, Darwin in chapter 8 of his *Origin of Species* acknowledged that the fossil record was the biggest argument against his theory. It turns out that the problem

that bothered him so severely has become even more pronounced over time, not resolved. This issue is discussed on page 11 of this pamphlet.

From a superficial, high-level point of view, evolutionary theory can *appear* to make sense. If a person *wants* the theory to be true because of atheistic prejudice, he can easily convince himself of its validity. However, the problems are in the details. The details contradict the theory. In truth wherever one looks he can find contradictions between the observed details of nature and the expectations required by evolutionary theory. In this pamphlet, we will discuss representative samples illustrating this principle.

Science shows clearly how life could never form through the normal outworking of natural laws. Most of the points discussed in the next 3 chapters of this pamphlet illustrate why this is so.

Yet, life does exist. You and I have functioning bodies which are real. If we can NOT be the result of natural processes, then we must have a supernatural origin. Therefore, our very existence testifies of the creative activity of a living God, of One whose works are not limited by natural law. Look in a mirror. Every time you see your image, you see a product of God's handiwork.

Throughout the Bible, God is glorified and praised as Creator: "He has made the earth by His power; He has established the world by His wisdom, and stretched out the heaven by His understanding" (Jeremiah 51:15). This is not a neutral issue, such as a debate over the best opening move in a chess game. That is because God expects to be glorified and honored. The Bible says, "I am the LORD, that is My name; and My glory I will not give to another" (Isaiah 42:8). Evolution denies God His glory as the Creator. As a man looks in awe at the beauty and the detailed organization of the creation, God expects this awe to result in praise and thanksgiving to the Him. When a person instead rejects the Creator and attributes His handiwork to mindless, random activity, it offends Him. This is serious, because the One who has been offended is One who has the innate power to create a galaxy out of nothing. God will hold us accountable for not properly honoring Him. Thus, the Bible declares that "it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27).

## Chapter 2

### Fourteen Points to Ponder

In this chapter and those to follow, we will discuss many roadblocks which seriously interfere with a natural origin of life. Indeed, they make its occurrence impossible. Many of these carry over into macroevolution as well. The roadblocks we talk about are not unique; wherever one looks he can find equally significant ones. A person trained in any field of science relating to evolution and who has any desire to understand and discover truth should easily be able to come up with many additional issues similar to what we present here. That is how serious and pervasive the problem is. However, the things we do present are adequate to make the point for our purposes.

There is a tendency among evolutionists to ignore or explain away any evidence that contradicts evolutionary dogma. Charles Darwin himself set the example for this with the approach he used in his *On the Origin of Species*. Whenever he came across an issue which contradicted his theory, he simply invented an imaginary explanation for it and then placed a higher priority on his imagined evidence than the observed evidence. A few representative examples are his denial of innate limits to the natural scope of variation,<sup>3</sup> his acknowledging and then denying problems dealing with items of insignificance,<sup>4</sup> and his acknowledging and denying problems of great complexity, such as the eye.<sup>5</sup> This pattern is typical of his practice throughout the book as one may confirm by reading it observantly. This approach does not represent science; it is simply biased speculation in the name of science.

The problem is that today's evolutionists copy his example. The attitude of both Darwin and his followers has become in effect, "Since evolution is true, it does not matter how many problems scientific observation presents against it." Now, if the problems against it are minor and few in number, perhaps this attitude is appropriate. However, if the problems are numerous and exist wherever one looks and if they are so serious that it would take only a single one of them to prove fatal to implementation of the theory, then perhaps it is the theory itself that is defective. At least this is an issue which can be discussed rationally.

Let's now look at some "points to ponder," simple, conceptual issues which act as roadblocks against a natural origin of life.

**1. The Medicine Cabinet.** Look in your medicine cabinet. Look in your kitchen cupboard. Notice, essentially everything you see has an expiration date. Now, ask yourself, "How long a period of time did it take from when the first random combinations of chemicals supposedly started joining together until the first information-driven, DNA-based, fully functioning cell appeared? 10 million years? 50 million years? 100 million years?" By contrast, how far into the future do biologically related chemicals last before they break down and become ineffective, as demonstrated by the expiration dates on the chemicals in your own home? Typically, these dates will be well under ten years. This is far, far less than one-millionth of the time it would take for a first cell to form from simple building-block chemicals.

Biological chemicals do not act in isolation. They invariably perform a tiny step as part of an intricate process requiring many specialized components. The whole system is needed for

any one of the components to be useful. Consider, a Super Bowl-winning quarterback could not win a football game against even a mediocre high school team if he were the only player for his side. A single, specialist player cannot do all of the tasks required by a team of different, cooperating specialists. Since useful functions in living systems require cooperative interaction between many chemicals, this issue presents a serious problem for a natural origin of life. An entire group of components needs to appear in a fully-functioning form at the same instant and in the proper physical arrangement with each other. So, if significant breakdown of existing biological chemicals takes place in only a handful of years, then how could a complex system of chemicals properly arranged make its initial appearance? Each of the various components would break down in a minute fraction of the time that it would take random process to form them!

In truth, as we shall discuss in items 8, 10 and 11 on pages 14, 17 and 18, natural processes work against any of the complex chemicals of life *ever* forming spontaneously. Yet, even if one did accidentally appear, in a brief moment of time it would deteriorate and become useless. Getting a system of cooperating, specialized components to appear simultaneously through random processes is absurd. Every time you see an expiration date on a medicine bottle or food package, think to yourself, “This date teaches against the possibility of a natural origin of life.”

**2. Musical, Artistic, and Poetic Abilities.** I am intrigued by man’s sensitivity to beauty and his capacity to create beauty through the arts. There is no rational basis to believe that this sensitivity was acquired through natural selection. Natural selection is sometimes referred to as “survival of the fittest.” At any one time in a population of any species, there will be many, many characteristics competing to have an impact on survival advantage. Only those characteristics which have a significant impact on a creature’s survival will have a significant selection advantage or disadvantage, whatever the case might be.

For animals, survival is typically concerned with issues such as running faster, developing better disease resistance, and eliminating deleterious mutations. It is difficult to picture how aesthetic appreciation can compete with issues which have a more direct impact on survivability.

Man’s capacity for music presents a special obstacle working against an evolutionary origin. The great works of music by composers such as Mozart, Beethoven, and Brahms use sophisticated chord progressions to produce intricate emotional responses in an audience. The different kinds of chords each have their own unique effects on those listening to them. Yet, these chords do not occur spontaneously anywhere in nature. They are only produced by men. Only in recent history have men chosen to produce them and then only because they already had the capacity to respond to them. So, from where did man acquire this aspect of musical sensitivity? There would certainly have been no survival advantage for an ape to have gained the capacity to respond with particular emotions to the sounds of particular chord progressions when those sounds did not exist in its environment. Yet, unless there is some form of survival advantage for a trait, there is no means for it to evolve.

There is a rational explanation provided by the Bible for man's musical and other artistic capabilities: beauty has its origins in God's nature. Indeed, the Bible says, "One thing I have desired of the LORD, ... that I may ... behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple" (Psalm 27:4). Thus, Scripture teaches us that God has beauty and that we have the innate ability to behold or respond to this beauty. When God created man in His image (Genesis 1:26-27), He apparently included within man's attributes the capacity to appreciate beauty. Praise God for His goodness to us in allowing us to appreciate His beauty and the beauty He places in His creation! Even though man's appreciation of beauty makes no sense from an evolutionary standpoint, it makes perfect sense from a Biblical standpoint. This should provide a clear testimony to the evolutionist that there is a living Creator God and that a person is without excuse who will not behold His beauty and respond by giving Him glory.

**3. The Mirror.** Proteins and sugars are polarized, existing in left-handed and right-handed forms. These forms are mirror images of each other. The words *chiral* and *chirality*, taken from a Greek word meaning *hand*, refer to this characteristic. Only the left-handed *chiral* forms of proteins are used in living systems. Scientists have been puzzled by this since the middle 1800s, trying to figure out how living systems use only one form of polarized molecules. Current literature still acknowledges this mystery without giving any solutions. However, the problem is much worse than most scientists realize.

Aspartic acid is the name of a certain amino acid which constitutes an average of five percent of the total amino acid composition in essentially all proteins.<sup>6</sup> A typical protein is composed of about 400 amino acids and will thus average about 20 instances of aspartic acid. The problem is that aspartic acid will regularly, spontaneously flip from one chiral (mirror image) form to another--one flip per year for each 1200 of these molecules. Whenever a particular aspartic acid molecule flips to a right-handed form, the protein molecule containing it denatures (changes shape and loses its ability to function properly.) Denatured proteins kill living cells unless they are detected and disposed of. Alzheimer's disease and mad-cow disease are both caused by denatured proteins accumulating in a cell.<sup>7</sup> Here is the problem posed by aspartic acid: in about 50 years, half of the protein molecules in a cell will be destroyed by polarity flips of aspartic acid unless a cell has the means to detect and dispose of the changed molecules. A cell will die long before this much denatured protein has accumulated within it. Assume that an emerging first cell has not yet acquired the information within its DNA telling it how to detect and dispose of denatured protein molecules. Then, in less than fifty years, the cell will be killed by this problem. Fifty years is not anywhere long enough for random processes to generate the information required for a cell's DNA to deal with this.

**4. Chemical Equilibrium.** Suppose you were to flip a coin with someone. Every time you win, he gives you one dollar. Every time you lose, you give him one hundred dollars. It will be very hard for you to make any money with these rules.

This parallels the situation with amino acids and proteins. Proteins are the building blocks of life. They are made from long strings of amino acids connected by what are called "peptide bonds." However, there is a fundamental problem facing those who believe that natural processes are adequate to account for the origin of physical life. A string of amino acids is far more likely to split apart than it is to lengthen spontaneously. This observation is significant enough to make a natural origin of life effectively impossible.

In 1976, Reven Evard and David Shrodetzki wrote about this problem in the journal *Origins*.<sup>8</sup> Amino acids require an aqueous environment in order to form a proper protein shape. This is problematic, though, because whenever a peptide bond is formed between two amino acids, a water molecule is produced by the reaction and released into the solution. However, this also works in reverse. In the reverse scenario, a water molecule reacts with a peptide bond to split the bond connecting two amino acids. In an aqueous solution, the water molecules will be far more abundant than isolated amino acids. This means that the laws of chemical equilibrium will act to favor the splitting of existing peptide bonds as opposed to isolated amino acids finding the ends of a chain and joining to them.

In 1981 biochemist Dwayne Gish calculated from thermodynamic principles the ratio of splitting versus lengthening. His calculations showed that each time a new amino acid is added to a forming chain, the resulting concentration decreases by a factor of one hundred.<sup>9</sup> This makes it essentially impossible to form a chain longer than a handful of amino acids.

Since then, various experiments have confirmed in principle Gish's theoretical calculations. The results of the experiments vary somewhat depending on the actual amino acids used, the temperatures, the pH of the solutions, and the presence or absence of various metallic ions in the solutions. However, the pattern is consistent with an extremely rapid decrease in product concentration with each additional amino acid added to a chain. For instance, an experiment by Claudia Huber and Gunter Waechtershaeuen reported a maximum detectable chain length of 4 amino acids.<sup>10</sup> An experiment by Ei-Ichi Imei et al. reported a maximum detectable chain length of 6 amino acids.<sup>11</sup> Of course, when a chain is so dilute as to be barely detectable and when it has a relatively short lifetime, it is useless as a component of a prebiotic soup leading to a formation of life.

The very short lengths of these barely-detectable species is important because proteins are made from specific substructures of coils and sheets. Coils usually average about 10 or more amino acids each and sheets 36 or more. A tiny protein of only a few sheets and coils can quickly add up to a hundred amino acids. Typical proteins average about 400. Thus, a chain of only 4 to six amino acids is useless. It is insufficient to form a single typical coil or a sheet, let alone a complete enzyme.

If brilliant scientists using sophisticated laboratory equipment and experimenting to find the most ideal conditions to make chains of amino acids can only produce chains too short to be of use, it is ludicrous to claim that uncontrolled conditions in the wild would give better and more consistent results. The truth is that the laws of chemical equilibrium teach against the formation of the hypothetical soup talked about with such great certainty in the literature.

Chains degenerating about 100 times as fast as they can form is similar to a gambling scenario in which you lose money 100 times as fast as you win it. In both cases, it does not matter how much you start with. Time is your enemy; you will eventually lose whatever you started with. Evolutionists like to claim time is on their side. This is nothing more than wishful thinking; it is not the product of scientific calculation.

Thus, if a person is to believe in a natural origin of life and if he is to reject life as the direct creative efforts of a living God, then he must throw away the laws of chemical

equilibrium. This may not mean a lot to a person who has a limited knowledge of chemistry. However, to a scientist trained in these laws it represents a high price to pay, particularly if he has any intellectual integrity.

In fact, God says that such a person is “without excuse” for not acknowledging Him as Creator (Romans 1:20).

**5. The Fossil Record, Ligers, and Biblical Kinds.** Surprise: the fossil record has a far better agreement with the Biblical accounts of creation and the Noahic flood than it does with evolutionary theory.

The Bible teaches that God created “kinds,” such that a kind has seed within itself (Genesis 1:11-12). Seed is typically used in the Bible to indicate descent (see Genesis 3:15, 4:25, 7:3, 9:9, 12:7, 15:3, 16:10, 21:12, 22:18, etc.). In other words, God placed the capacity for procreation within a kind. Implied is that reproduction does not take place between members of different kinds. So, from a Biblical perspective if two types of animals living today can mate with each other and produce living offspring, then both are descended from the same original creation-day kind.

Modern lions and tigers interbreed to produce ligers. So, from a Biblical perspective, lions and tigers are simply modern-day specialists who have descended from the same generalist creation-day kind. Actually, there are hybrids linking essentially all living cats today.<sup>12</sup> This implies that the entire feline family descended from the same creation-day kind. The same situation applies for dogs/wolves, sea lions, bears, etc.

The fossil record typically shows all manner of closely-related specialists within the various taxonomic families. However, between families are large, systematic gaps. Normally, these gaps are completely void of fossils. Nothing in the fossil record shows a progressive sequence between any two families, where one family evolved into another and where the stages of the sequence are clearly represented by a number of well-preserved fossils. Occasionally, a paleontologist will claim that a certain fossil fragment links two families. Typically, though, the fragment is isolated; it is not part of a well-defined series. It is not well preserved and its characteristics are ambiguous, making it capable of alternate interpretations. In truth the fossil record does not contain a single example of a clearly defined evolutionary sequence represented by a detailed progression of well-preserved fossils connecting any two families.

As a second issue, whenever an individual species first appears in the fossil record, it typically remains unchanged during its scope of appearance. This applies even to fossil species which appear to span across long periods of time.

These two characteristics of the observed fossil record are *not* what one would expect on the basis of evolutionary theory. Darwin was keenly aware of this and it disturbed him greatly. In fact he devoted an entire chapter unsuccessfully trying to explain away his concerns in *The Origin of Species*. In conclusion, though, he reluctantly acknowledged that this problem provided a legitimate argument against his theory.<sup>13</sup> He could only hope that the problem might be go away as more of the fossil record was uncovered.

Yet, the opposite has been the case; time has only intensified the problem. As more and more fossils have been uncovered, they tend to fit into the same families, with a few exceptions where new families have been discovered. The systematic gaps are still there. However, the gaps are now even more pronounced because of the thousand-fold times the numbers of fossils that we have available to us today that were not available to Darwin.

What Darwin did not understand—because he did not understand the nature of Biblical kinds—was that the same characteristics that were so problematic for him concerning the fossil record were actually in agreement with what one would expect if the Biblical accounts of creation and the worldwide flood in the days of Noah were true.

From a Biblical perspective, God created the heavens and the earth. Then, within the span of a few days, He created various *kinds* of plants and animals. The original kinds were created with gene sets containing high degrees of potential variation. Then, in a process called “adaptive radiation,” the original kinds quickly specialized, taking advantage of various environmental niches. As an illustration, specialized forms resembling modern house cats, lions, tigers, ocelots, and pumas could have appeared very quickly, perhaps in less than 50 generations from their day of creation.

Then a day came in which God judged the world with a worldwide flood. The flood lasted a year and its scope was on a scale beyond anything we can observe today.

This model explains a fossil record whose specimens can naturally be sorted into a number of very closely related groups and with large-scale systematic gaps between the groups. It explains why no evolution is observed between particular species within the record. The Biblical model fits the fossil record far better than does Darwin’s theory of evolution.

Notice, nothing in the Bible requires an initial Biblical kind to be the exact equivalent of a taxonomical family. However, it appears that this is often the case, so for the sake of convenience we equate the two. However, we also recognize that historically some of the original kinds might have actually been closer to the level of a genus or an order.)

Steven Jay Gould’s theory of punctuated equilibrium was an attempt to wiggle out of these problems. He essentially claimed that whenever significant evolutionary advances took place, the changes took place faster than the fossil record could record them. However, all that he really did was to confirm that the problems that plagued Darwin had still not been resolved. Furthermore, there is no genetic mechanism capable of providing the extensive, sudden, major changes required by punctuated equilibrium.

There does exist a natural sequence of fossils within the fossil record. However, evolutionary theory is not the only means of accounting for this sequence. There are alternate explanations for it which would still be compatible with the Biblical account. 1. The flood would have occurred in stages. Less mobile creatures and sea creatures would have been buried first. 2. A natural sorting action would have taken place as various animals and plants were transported by the huge quantities of moving water. 3. Buried animals and plants would move

upward or downward due to the compressive and decompression effects of huge waves passing over the deposits containing them. A discussion of these issues is beyond the scope of this pamphlet, but an interested reader can study these things from material provided in the references.<sup>14, 15</sup>

So, the data from the fossil record, honestly interpreted, is more consistent with the Bible than evolutionary theory. Evolution is not a fact.

**6. Limitations on the Effectiveness of Natural Selection.** Evolutionists like to gush over the effectiveness of natural selection as the source of creativity in forming all of the variety in the differing plants and animals we see around us. Notice, though, one never hears about the inherent limitations restricting natural selection's effectiveness. Yet, there are at least eight major issues which severely limit the ability of natural selection to do the things evolutionists attribute to it.

If evolutionists had true scientific curiosity about how natural selection works, it seems that they would want to study and quantify its capabilities and limitations. This is what science is all about. Instead, there is an intense jealousy over protecting it as essentially unlimited in its possible scope. There is an offense against any effort to discuss its limitations. The reason for this is simple: the entire structure of modern evolutionary theory is founded upon an essentially unlimited capacity for natural selection to create totally new processes and structures. If it does not have this capacity, evolutionary theory is dead. Those who proclaim that evolution is a fact understand the importance of protecting natural selection as an all-sufficient mechanism for evolutionary change. Their entire scheme rests upon this sufficiency.

Nevertheless, the following list gives eight limitations concerning natural selection. You will not find these things discussed in any textbook on evolution. If one applies the principles of the list to the observed situations of life, he finds that natural selection is incapable of providing the creativity needed to account for life as we see it today. This in turn leads to the conclusion that there is no known scientific mechanism adequate to account for how evolution could take place.

1. Natural selection cannot select between the better of two failures. This makes the first appearance of something new *a single-step process*. For instance, natural selection cannot choose which of two amino acid sequences is closest to producing a needed enzymatic capability if neither sequence can perform the needed function. This makes the first appearance of anything new a single-step process. For really large enzymes, this is impossible.
2. Natural selection cannot select towards a target before a target exists.
3. Natural selection cannot produce irreducibly complex systems composed of many parts. This is the result of the above two issues.
4. Natural selection works against progress not towards it where progress is discontinuous. If progress towards something new requires an intermediate stage that is fatal or detrimental to survival, then natural selection selects away from it and prevents progress.

5. Natural selection is ineffective if too many issues appear simultaneously. The more items there are which are simultaneously under development, the harder it is for any single one of them to make an impact.
6. Natural selection works best with linear genes, not stacked ones. Genes in mammals are typically stacked. One gene frequently controls 4 or 5 enzymes. Mutating for the advantage of one usually harms the others.
7. Natural selection is ineffective if mutations accumulate too rapidly, and apparently this is the actual situation.
8. Natural selection cannot perform arbitrary selection. (See page 34.)

**7. Carbon 14 in Oil, Coal, and Diamonds.** Evolutionists like to claim that radiometric dating confirms evolutionary theory. However, carbon 14 contradicts this. Carbon 14 has a half-life of 5,700 years. This means that every 5,700 years, the amount of carbon 14 in an unadulterated carbon sample is reduced to half of its initial portion. After several hundred thousand years all of the carbon 14 in any sample of measurable size should have completely disappeared. So, if coal and oil actually were formed at least 150 million years ago and diamonds billions of years ago, there should be absolutely no carbon 14 left in samples of any of these.

Yet, it is impossible to find a sample of oil, coal, or of diamonds or anything else anywhere on earth without its containing some amount of measurable carbon 14;<sup>16</sup> Indeed, most samples measure less than 50,000 years of age.

Thus, according to a chronology based on the existence of carbon 14 in essentially all coal and oil deposits, the Carboniferous coal was formed less than 50,000 years ago, not the 300 million years claimed by evolutionists. Jurassic oil deposits date back less than 50,000 years, not the conventional 150 million years claimed by evolutionists. The problem, of course, is that a period of less than 50,000 years does not provide enough time to account for all of the evolution purported to have taken place in the past 300 million years. Yet, Carbon-14 dating of coal and oil samples indicates that dinosaurs lived less than 50,000 years ago. Therefore carbon 14 dating contradicts evolutionary theory.

**8. The Self-replicating Molecule.** The latest fad in the physical-chemical to living-cell transformation involves what is called a self-replicating molecule. This is an imagined molecule, one which is reputed to have appeared from random combinations of chemicals in a pre-life soup. The proposal is that soup molecules somehow accidentally acquired a chemical composition and structure that gave them a natural ability to copy themselves. Since amino acids can NOT copy themselves and since under certain conditions RNA molecules can, the proposed self-replicating molecule is generally assumed to be made of RNA.

Like so much of evolutionary theory, though, the plausibility of a self-replicating molecule does not logically flow from an analysis of observed data. Rather, it is proposed

because of philosophical necessity. A cell is so complex that it is inconceivable even to an evolutionist--at least an informed one--that a cell could suddenly appear in a single-step as a result of natural processes. In fact, such an event would contradict the very definition of evolution. So, in speculation of what would be required to transform random combinations of chemicals into a living cell, one of the proposed steps is that of a self-replicating molecule.

However, the observed experimental evidence clearly teaches against natural processes ever producing a self-replicating molecule. Here are three reasons.

1. RNA molecules are made from a series of RNA nucleotides joined into a string. The first step in building a self-replicating RNA molecule is to form the needed nucleotides. Without an adequate supply of the right assortment of nucleotides there can be no RNA molecules and hence no self-replicating molecules. However, science teaches against natural processes forming this supply. We will discuss this in more detail in a few paragraphs.

2. Energy requirements favor RNA nucleotides spontaneously breaking up, not forming strings. One needs to discard the principles of chemical equilibrium to propose a natural transformation of raw materials into strings of RNA nucleotides. The things we discussed about chemical equilibrium on page 9 apply to the assembly of nucleotides into RNA molecules just as well as they do to the assembly of amino acids into proteins and enzymes.

3. RNA nucleotides themselves are made of building block components. Since the laws of chemical equilibrium favor disassociation of nucleotides into these components, they will always exist in abundance wherever the nucleotides themselves exist. Yet, these components will readily react with an emerging RNA molecule. When this happens, it prevents nucleotides from stringing together properly. This problem is so serious that whenever biochemists attempt to string nucleotides together in an attempt to form an RNA molecule, they always start with a solution of pure nucleotides purchased from a chemical supply house. Otherwise, everything clumps together into tar and the experiment fails. In a pre-life environment there would have been no chemical supply houses, no scientists using their intelligence to manipulate the chemical reactions taking place, and no RNA molecules spontaneously forming. Everything we know from science about the details of the steps required to form a self-replicating molecule teaches against its possibility.

Let's now look more carefully at the problems involved in forming RNA nucleotides through natural processes. There was a book written a few years ago by Robert Shapiro, a chemistry professor at the University of New York, called *ORIGINS: A Skeptic's Guide To The Creation Of Life On Earth*. Shapiro is also a prolific research scientist, having written over 100 articles that have been published in various science journals.

On pages 182-186 of his book, Shapiro discussed the issue of the contradictory processes required to form RNA nucleotides.<sup>17</sup> In summary, he made the following statement: "Many steps would be required which need different conditions, and therefore different geological locations. The chemicals needed for one step may be ruinous to others. The yields are poor, with many undesired products constituting the bulk of the mixture. It would be necessary to invoke some imagined processes to concentrate the important substances and

eliminate the contaminants. The total sequence would challenge our credibility, regardless of the time allotted for the process.”<sup>18</sup>

I find it interesting that Shapiro, a committed evolutionist but also an informed biochemist, acknowledged that so many contradictory processes are needed to form RNA nucleotides from raw, pre-life chemicals that it would challenge our credibility to assert that it actually happened. The problem is so severe that long periods of time do not help. In other words, in truth, he does not understand how it could happen.

I agree with him, but would state it more bluntly: From a purely scientific perspective the practical impact of so many contradictory processes means that it is unrealistic to expect that a pre-life soup of RNA nucleotides and molecules ever actually existed. This in turn destroys any possibility of a self-replicating molecule spontaneously appearing.

Whenever scientists today run experiments to join RNA molecules together in an attempt to find a suitable example of a pre-life self-replicating molecule, they fake their experiments. They only use laboratory-grade, pure chemicals. This is because if they were to imitate natural conditions, a naturally occurring high portion of “contaminants” would interfere with and render impossible the desired progress. Even Shapiro alluded to this problem in his proposed scenario. So, if the experimenters are to get any kind of useful results, they need to fake the experiment by carefully excluding anything that would contaminate their products and thus interfere with their objectives. Of course, the chemicals referred to as "contaminants" are frequently the raw chemicals needed to build the RNA components themselves. In this case in a true-to-life situation the contaminants would always exist in abundance, otherwise there would be no RNA molecules. What is particularly significant is that even under these artificial conditions, the experimenters still have not been able to get very good results.<sup>19</sup>

Beyond this there are other problems. For instance, to get one RNA molecule to join to another it must first be energized by connection to a phosphate chain. Attaching such a chain by random processes under natural conditions would be like shaking a box of mouse traps until all them were simultaneously set by colliding with each other. This just doesn't happen.

Even if a scientist did somehow manage to construct a reasonable example of a self-replicating molecule, his results would be the product of highly intelligent design and modern technology, not the product of random processes in an uncontrolled, natural environment. There is absolutely no basis for calling a natural origin of life a proven scientific fact. A person who claims such is either ignorant or not honest. The observed evidence contradicts its very possibility.

**9. Uncontrolled Energy Sources.** I once did an experiment using the energy from exploding firecrackers to turn the pages of a large, hardbound book. A single firecracker was normally not powerful enough to turn a page unless it was placed within very narrow limits. However, if I tried to simplify the placement by using more than one firecracker, the explosion would obliterate the page. It was difficult to get the exact amount of energy required to do the task without simultaneously destroying the book.

This parallels the difficulty for a natural, uncontrolled energy source to have sufficient strength to do a required task and yet not simultaneously destroy the chemicals upon which it is working.

One of the major problems concerning a natural origin of life is the matter of energy. Most of the reactions involved in making proteins, DNA molecules, or any other structure require a source of external energy. This energy needs to come in a very, very precise amount. Anything less than this is inadequate to do the job. I do not start a car engine with a flashlight battery. Yet, if there is a surplus, the excess is likely to destroy the chemicals reacting together; it is like turning the pages of a book with a firecracker.

However, in pre-life nature, energy does not come in tiny packets of suitable, precisely defined values. Instead, energy sources tend to distribute the energy across wide ranges. Thus, it is essentially impossible to get enough energy to enable a desired chemical reaction to take place without there also coming simultaneously from the same source higher energy packets which will destroy the reacting components. It is expected that most origin-of-life experiments which fail to produce anything do so because the desired products are destroyed by uncontrolled energy sources faster than they form. Only experiments with carefully designed mechanisms to remove products which have been formed before they can be destroyed, such as Miller's trap, give useful results (see *10. Tar Formation* on pg. 20). Of course, scientists were not around to invent such mechanisms in a pre-life scenario.

As an illustration of just how precise an energy source must be, consider photosynthesis. In this process, visible light provides the energy for a plant cell to convert carbon dioxide into sugars, which the cell can then use to make many other things. However the light must be at a very precise frequency. If the frequency is too low, such as that of infrared light or lower, nothing happens. If it is too high, such as ultra-violet or higher, the light will destroy the chemicals with which it comes into contact. In the case of a plant, excessive ultra-violet light kills it. In the case of randomly reacting chemicals evolving towards the first cell, excessive ultra-violet light will rip apart the various chemicals that have already formed.

Natural light sources such as our sun produce light across a broad range of frequencies, from the low end of infra-red into a significant amount of ultra-violet. It only takes a tiny bit of ultra-violet light to do a lot of damage.

Living organisms use very complicated systems to transform an energy source into the exact, precise amounts that cellular chemical operations need in order to function properly. The laws of chemistry require this precision. In a pre-life environment, these systems would not have been available. Furthermore, the available natural sources of energy would not have been limited to such a narrow range of values. The problems with light as an energy source were illustrated as characteristic of all natural energy sources. A major problem for a natural formation of life is to have an available energy source with sufficient strength to do a required operation while not also being so strong as to destroy any progress already made.

**10. Tar Formation.** Essentially all origin-of-life experiments which purport to start with hypothetical raw materials will either have no results at all or tar becomes the primary

product. In 1953, a University of Chicago graduate student named Stanley Miller found that if he were to mix methane, ammonia, hydrogen, and water in a spark chamber, he could get amino acids. However, he actually made 4 times as much tar as everything else combined.<sup>21</sup> The small portion of amino acids that he did produce would also have joined the tar, except Miller used his knowledge as a biochemist to design a trap which removed some of the amino acids before they became tar. Without the trap, there would have been essentially no free amino acids produced; all of the raw materials would have eventually converted to tar.

Most evolutionists today take a "prebiotic soup" for granted. Yet, there is no scientific basis for this. Experiments such as Miller's have NEVER been able to produce a soup full of building-block molecules of life such as amino acids, RNA nucleotides, and energized phosphates. Instead, they have produced tar plus a few incidental molecules on their way to becoming tar or they produced nothing at all. This is significant. The hypothetical primordial soup so eagerly talked about by so many is nothing more than science fiction. Tar is the normal product of attempted abiogenesis processes.

Notice the discrepancy! The claim is that the laws of chemistry favor the formation of a rich "soup" of building block amino acids and RNA. Indeed, it is claimed that the tendency for such a formation is so strong that even under the widely varying and random conditions of nature, the soup will still inevitably develop.

However, after more than fifty years of attempts to get such a soup, scientists have been unable to do so. Every conceivable mixture of raw materials, energy sources, temperature ranges, and pressures have been used. Some of the most brilliant scientists have done everything they can to *design* an environment capable of producing a representative example of a soup. Yet, all they have to show is fifty years of failure. There is no basis for believing that the much talked about soup could ever have actually existed.

What evolutionists do not like to acknowledge or talk about is that the observed inability to produce a representative pre-life soup is consistent with the principles of chemistry. The pamphlet posted at [www.creationtruthoutreach.org/pamphlet](http://www.creationtruthoutreach.org/pamphlet) is recommended for readers interested in a detailed analysis of these principles.<sup>22</sup> The only reason for continuing with the primordial soup fairy tale is that it provides the foundation for atheistic evolution. Evolutionists are bringing in a new "dark ages" in which known, observed scientific principles are being suppressed because they contradict the atheistic bent of personal convictions. Learning truth is no longer the object for the evolutionist. Rather, explaining everything in terms of natural causes, even when the evidence points otherwise, has become the standard.

**11. Astronomical Odds Against Getting Proper Sequences of Amino Acids in Enzymes.** From a statistical perspective, a natural origin of life is impossible. There are a number of issues making this so.

When Miller performed his famous experiment over 50 years ago, biologists were excited about his results. He was able to make amino acids, the building blocks of proteins and enzymes, using common inorganic molecules like methane, ammonia, hydrogen, and water. This was the first time that anyone had observed the formation of amino acids apart from the

activity of an already living cell. Ever since then, evolutionists have touted the modern fable of an evolutionary sequence of simple inorganic molecules to building-block organic molecules to proteins to living cells. Later on, the step of self-replicating molecules was included in the sequence, with a continuing debate as to whether it should go before or after protein formation.

Now let's quit the philosophizing and look at some experimental evidence. Consider the issue of the kinds of amino acids Miller produced and their relative ratios between each other; then compare this with what is needed in real life. Twenty different kinds of amino acids are used in life.

The most important distinguishing characteristic between the various amino acids is whether they are "water-repelling" or "water-attracting." The chemical reactions in living cells take place in a water environment. Amino acids which are repelled by water get pushed to the inside of a protein, away from the surrounding water. Amino acids which are attracted to water get pulled to the outside. An enzyme's function or chemical activity is determined by its shape. This is why the degree to which a particular amino acid is attracted to or repelled by water is so important.

This is significant because Miller produced 100 times as many water-repelling amino acids as water-attracting. In real life, the ratio between these two tends to be fairly evenly matched, with about half being one kind and the other half being the other kind.

So, consider an enzyme or protein of 400 amino acids, which is a typical, average size. Then, about 200 of these amino acids will need to be water-attracting. These will need to be located at precise positions in the string. At each of these locations the odds will be 100 to one against getting a water-attracting amino acid. The odds of doing this successfully at all 200 locations would be  $100^{200}$ , which has the same value as  $10^{400}$ . This is the number 1 with 400 zeroes after it. This number is so large that the difficulties it represents are insurmountable for random, natural processes.

Evolutionists like to talk as though evolution becomes inevitable if billions of years are available. These numbers teach otherwise. A google is the number one with one hundred zeroes after it. So, then, how big is  $10^{400}$ ? Suppose that a google new enzyme sequences could be formed and tested in a single year. In truth this would be mathematically impossible even if the entire universe were a giant test tube dedicated to the task. Nonetheless, next suppose that a google times a google number of years are allowed to get a needed sequence. Then, the odds are still a google to one against the sequence forming. If this sounds confusing, don't worry about it. Just recognize that it is mathematically impossible for natural processes to form a required sequence of amino acids to produce a useful enzyme.

When I have pointed this out to various evolutionists, they frequently jump on Miller's experiment as the problem. For example, I was once dialoguing in an internet discussion group on the topic of evolution versus creation when this standard reply was made--Miller was first but his results were not the best. However, in this particular case, the person trying to rebut my presentation went on to say that he had in his files reports on over 200 origin-of-life experiments, most of which gave better results than did Miller's experiment. So, why was I using Miller's?

I did not doubt that he had the number of reports he alluded to, but I did doubt that any of them would yield significantly different results. So, my challenge to him was simple: "I can tell you have the background to do the appropriate calculations yourself. Pick any one of the two hundred experiments on which you have articles, use the reported experimental results concerning ratios for water-repelling versus water-attracting amino acids, and report back on which experiment shows the odds are in favor of evolution instead of showing it is impossible. I would like to hear about the experimental approach that was used to get the results." The man completely dropped the subject, as I expected. Nature teaches against a natural origin of life.

There was a good reason for the problems revealed by Miller's results. They were produced by the normal working of the laws of chemistry. The other experiments which were alluded to would also be subject to the same laws. I did not know which experiments he had in mind because he did not say. But, in general, Miller's results are typical of all of them, because the results of all of them are due to the outworking of the same natural laws.

Actually, there are a number of different issues that would keep a usable sequence of amino acids from forming under natural, random, unaided conditions. Chirality issues, getting a usable amino acid sequence out of the 20 possibilities for each position, the problem of cross-linking, the problem of early termination, the problem of hydrolysis or breaking apart too fast--these are all issues teaching against a natural origin of life. The truth is that each one of these issues is single-handedly capable of thwarting any effort to get even a single useful enzyme formed properly through natural, random chemical reactions. A fairly thorough mathematical analysis of many of these issues is available free online in the previously mentioned pamphlet.  
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## **12. Mendel's Accountant: A Computer Simulation of Natural Selection.**

Conceptually, entropy is easy to understand. Wherever a group of objects are organized together in some manner, random changes to their structure will tend to destroy the order, not increase it. The more organized something is, the greater and more pronounced this tendency becomes.

The information stored in a living cell represents an extremely high degree of organization. Hence, conceptually, random changes to cellular information should have an extremely high tendency to destroy its order, not increase it. This is the exact opposite of Neo-Darwinian theory, which teaches that it is trivial and common place for random mutations to provide the source of the new information needed for evolutionary advances.

John Sanford is a retired genetics professor from Cornell University who is one of the key founders of the modern field of genetic engineering. (His background is discussed in more detail on page 44). He and several other scientists have written a software program called MENDEL. MENDEL simulates the long-term effects of mutations in a population. A free copy of the program is available at [www.mendelsaccountant.info/](http://www.mendelsaccountant.info/). In essence, test runs of the program confirm that entropy prevails, that in time mutations will destroy a genome, not become the source for its improvement. See for yourself. Download the program, set up your

own set of assumptions, and track the results. Mutations destroy order, they are not the source of new information. *This program effectively demonstrates that neo-Darwinian evolution is invalid and that it contradicts the laws of population genetics.* Observed data and principles teach against the possibility of mutations as a source of information for new organ development. Macro-evolution is impossible.

"MENDEL's input variables include such things as mutation rate, distribution specifications for mutation effects, extent of dominance, mating characteristics, selection method, average fertility, heritability, non-scaling noise, linkage block properties, chromosome number, genome size, population size, population sub-structure, and number of generations." <sup>24</sup>

**13. Starlight and The Age of The Universe.** In talking with students on various university campuses, frequently they recognize they have no answers to issues such as we have been discussing. Nonetheless, they often do not want to receive what I have talked about. A common response is to attempt to deflect the argument by changing the subject. They often say that "Distant starlight has taken fifteen billion years to reach us. Therefore, the Biblical account of a young universe is irrelevant."

However, they have only heard one side of the argument. There are serious problems with the methods used to calculate these long periods of time. In the space allowed, all we can do is summarize the issues and point a person who is seriously concerned in a direction for further study.

First of all from a Biblical viewpoint it does not matter how far distant galaxies are from us. In Genesis 1:14 in the Bible we read, "Then God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years." In other words God made the stars *to be seen from the earth*, to be for signs and seasons. If God created the galaxies the equivalent of fifteen billion light years away, then, according to this verse He also created fifteen billion years worth of light between the galaxies and the earth. Realistically, this is not any harder than creating the galaxies to begin with.

This concept is called "appearance of age." The early chapters of Genesis in the Bible indicate that as standard procedure God created things with a fully functional maturity. Adam and Eve were created as full-grown adults, not as helpless infants. Trees were created already possessing edible fruit. The ground was created with fertile soil, not as solid granite. We can see light from distant stars from the moment of their creation. This is *not* grasping at straws to get around an issue. It is the pattern God revealed in Scriptures. Since the purpose of starlight is to serve as signs and seasons from the perspective of the Earth, then immediate, visible galaxy light fits the pattern.

Furthermore, the observed data presents serious problems for the evolutionist. The shift in starlight color is the basis for his projected long ages. However, these shifts are not smooth, but occur in discrete steps. This is not consistent with what big bang theory requires. Interestingly, the shifts take place in concentric spheres, with our galaxy apparently at the center of the shifts. Again, this is inconsistent with big-bang theory.

There is another issue. Cosmic radiation has also been held up as a proof of big bang theory along with its associated long ages. Arno Penzias discovered cosmic background radiation. This radiation was perceived as proof of the big bang theory. The Nobel committee considered this so significant that Penzias was awarded a Nobel Prize for his discovery. Yet, inconsistencies within the big bang interpretation have emerged. The observed universe is not homogenous, but lumpy. Instead of existing as diffuse gas such as steam in a room, it consists of stars, galaxies, and galaxy clusters. These could only form if the original big bang matter were lumpy. In this case the cosmic microwave radiation should still reflect this lumpiness. It doesn't. The reality is that although cosmologists speak boldly, they truly do not know what happened. The details of the observed evidence still contradict the "pet" theories of today. There is no *solid* evidence to discount the Biblical account.

**14. The Testimony of the NAS and Minerals.** I have discussed many of the above issues with students on various university campuses across the country. I find it interesting how many of them resist what I have to say. Essentially, they have believed everything their professors had taught them. Hence, they were quick to assume that the things I presented were simply distortions of the facts with no true significance.

However, while doing some research I came across an interesting article in the *Proceedings* of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS). The NAS is an organization representing the most prestigious scientists in our country. Membership is by invitation only. A scientist does not apply for membership; rather, the members ask those of high reputation to join them. The organization is chartered by the U.S. Federal Government not by a state and it functions as an official advisor to the U. S. government on scientific matters. What does the NAS have to say about the issues we have been considering?

In the December 1998 issue of the Academy's *Proceedings*, one of the more acclaimed science journals of the world, I found the following opening statement in an article discussing the origin of life:

"Mineral surfaces were important during the emergence of life on Earth because the assembly of the necessary complex biomolecules by random collisions in dilute aqueous solutions is implausible." <sup>25</sup>

What? The authors were admitting that it is implausible that random processes working on the components of a hypothetical pre-life "soup" could form the molecules of life. Before I could get over the shock of their admission, a few paragraphs down I read more:

"Problems recur with hypotheses for the assembly of the earliest molecules with the properties commonly associated with 'life.' These include the unlikelihood that complex self-replicating molecules such as RNA could form by chance encounters even over geological time; the difficulty of protecting such molecules, once formed, from dilution and destruction by high temperatures, hydrolysis and ultra-violet radiation; and finally the difficulty of imagining how self organization alone could lead to the encapsulation of a complex hierarchy of biochemical reactions in a membrane to form the simplest unicellular organism."

The original article containing these quotes is available free online at <http://www.pnas.org/content/95/26/15173.full.pdf+html> .

These words are amazing. Remember, the NAS has ratified the modern decree that both evolution and a natural origin of life are "fact." One would assume that this means that essentially all of the observed evidence supports the decree and that arguments against it would be few and insignificant--if any. Yet, the above statements from the article contradict this. They acknowledge that if one tries to figure out how life could have originated by natural processes alone, he finds that the natural paths do not lead to an inevitable appearance of life. On the contrary he finds that there are so many serious roadblocks preventing success that it is "implausible," or beyond belief that it actually could have happened.

The opening sentence of the article explains how the authors would this time wiggle out of the problems they so readily acknowledged: "Mineral surfaces were important during the emergence of life on Earth because the assembly of the necessary complex biomolecules by random collisions in dilute aqueous solutions is implausible." Their thesis was that life must have started on mineral surfaces because otherwise its occurrence in the face of known problems was beyond belief even for an evolutionist.

With a little thought, it becomes apparent that this argument is a smokescreen. Mineral surfaces do not offer any solution for most of the known existing problems against a natural formation of the larger molecules of life. Here is a list of some of them:

1. Enzymes and proteins are built from coils and sheets, which are three-dimensional in structure. A chain of amino acids tends to bond to a mineral surface in two dimensions, with all of the amino acids in the chain in contact with the surface. Thus, a chain of amino acids bonded to a mineral surface would not have the required, characteristic three-dimensional shape of an enzyme.

2. The building block components used to make RNA nucleotides or amino acids act as contaminants against chain formation because of cross linking and end termination. That is, they join along the sides as well as at the ends of a chain from the time it starts to form. End termination prevents a chain from growing to its proper length and cross linking interferes with its proper biological activity. If amino acids or RNA nucleotides were ever to form under natural conditions, then wherever they exist, the components used to make them will also be found. Furthermore, since the laws of chemical equilibrium favor disassociation, not formation, there will always be an abundance of the building block components. Yet, it is these very components that act as contaminants against chain formation. This problem is so serious that whenever experiments are done in a laboratory to simulate supposed pre-life synthesis of amino acids or nucleotides into chains, the experimenters use purified end products as a starting point. If they include the building block components, then the experiments invariably fail because of the resulting contamination. Mineral backbones do nothing to alleviate this major issue.

3. Sugars in RNA and DNA are exclusively right-handed. However, whenever natural processes form sugars, equal or nearly equal amounts of both right- and left-handed sugar

molecules are formed. A chain of nucleotides with mixed left- and right-handed sugars takes on unusual twists and shapes, making replication much more difficult. Mineral surfaces do not alleviate this problem.

4. Getting a specifically required sequence of amino acids or RNA bases is just as difficult on a mineral surface as in an open solution. The odds against this are effectively insurmountable and are not reduced by the authors' proposed solution of mineral backbones.

5. A serious problem for the appearance of RNA molecules is that the processes that are needed to form their constituent building block molecules require conflicting conditions—processes which form any single one of the components destroy the others—and these problems are not resolved by assuming life started on mineral surfaces<sup>17</sup>.

Indeed, one could write a book on problems which are not helped by mineral surfaces. Hence, the arguments presented in the journal are meaningless. They avoid the actual issues and come to conclusions contradicted by known facts. At least the authors confirmed that the issues creationists commonly bring up are indeed legitimate.

The truth is that God designed His universe in such a way that natural processes work against a spontaneous formation of life. Life only exists because He willfully brought it into existence apart from normal processes. The laws of science teach this very clearly. According to the laws, we should NOT exist—but we do. The problem is not with the observed evidence, which clearly demonstrates an absolute need for a Creator. The problem lies in the unwillingness of men who hate the God of creation to consider the evidence He has so graciously given them.

### **Summary**

Notice, the issues we have presented in this chapter are serious. Many of them are so serious that the validity of just one would be adequate to prevent a natural origin of life from ever taking place. Even the National Academy of Sciences legitimizes the problems in journals not read by the average person. Yet, the arguments we have presented do not even begin to scratch the surface of what is available and could have been presented. These kinds of issues are so characteristic of the difficulties facing a natural origin of life that a person knowledgeable in any scientific field related to evolution could easily come up with his own equivalent list. This is the exact opposite of what the case should be if a natural origin truly is a fact.

Unfortunately, a belief in evolution has a tremendous deadening effect on a person's ability and willingness to look at observed evidence honestly. This problem started with Charles Darwin himself and is now being copied by his followers. By contrast, one who believes in God can study the things God has made and be in awe of the God who made them. He does not need to worry about what he may discover in his observations. This does not mean he agrees with an evolutionist's spin on how to interpret the data. This does not preclude there being some things he does not yet understand. But, in general, a creationist does not need to suppress observed evidence in the manner that evolutionists are forced to do. What is ironic is how evolutionists claim that they are the free thinkers and that they are the ones motivated to pursue truth for its own sake. In reality, the exact opposite is the case.

## Chapter 3

### Symbolic Information: A Product of Intelligent Activity

We live in what has sometimes been called, “the information age.” The amount of information available at our fingertips is incalculably greater than it was just fifty years ago. But, what is information? Few people have any idea about how to define it accurately. Yet, understanding the nature and limitations of information is important in any discussion of evolution and a natural origin of life, because living cells are essentially information-driven machines. When one understands the true nature of information, the impossibility of a living cell forming spontaneously as a result of random processes acting on raw materials becomes obvious.

Information science is an extremely broad field. However, the kind of information used in living systems is of a specific form. It may be called, “coded symbolic information.”

Coded symbolic information is “the representation of meaning by a set of symbols arranged according to a code. Furthermore, the meaning represented by the symbols is independent of the innate physical characteristics of the symbols.” Information has a number of traits that may be inferred from this definition.

**1. Information is independent of the medium used to represent it.** The physical structure of a set of symbols conveying information is called a medium. I am using letters of the alphabet printed on a sheet of paper as a medium to represent words in the English language. The medium used to represent the letters has nothing to do with the information content of the chapter I am writing. Notice, a particular letter of the alphabet can be represented by a choice of switches on a keyboard. That same letter can be represented by a pattern of light on a computer screen. It can be represented by a sequence of electronic states in a computer memory chip. It can be represented by a sequence of magnetic fluctuations on a disk drive. It can be represented by a pattern of ink dots on a printed page. The switches, computer screen images, memory state bits, disk drive magnetic fluctuations, etc. all represent different kinds of media used to represent the symbols. There is no inherent relationship between how a particular symbol is expressed in a medium and the meaning that is associated with the symbol by the code. In fact, as we have just illustrated, although information is expressed in a medium, it can easily be transferred from one medium to another without losses.

**2. Information is not a physical entity.** Information is NOT a physical entity. It has no mass. It has no momentum or energy. It does not obey physical laws. Because it is represented in a medium, its expression is subject to the physical limitations of the medium. However, that is a limitation of the medium, not of the information. For instance, when a sentence is stored as a sequence of magnetic fluctuations on the surface of a computer disk, the information is hidden from me—my senses cannot detect it. The symbols are in a form to which my eyes are not sensitive. However, if it is converted to a display on a computer screen or a printed page, I can read it. The information did not change, only the physical nature of the symbols used to represent it did. So, information is a strange entity in that its expression is restricted by the physical characteristics of its medium, yet it itself is actually independent of the medium. This is an intriguing philosophical relationship, a consequence of the abstract relationship between information and the symbols representing it, as discussed below.

**3. Meaning is anything which can be represented by a coded sequence of symbols.**

Another intriguing aspect of information is that there are no inherent limitations on the meaning that can be represented by the code. *Meaning* can be as simple as a physical measurement, such as temperature. It can be an intellectual, philosophical concept, such as a treatise on love. It can be an operating system for a computer.

**4. Without a code, it is impossible to tell if a sequence of symbols is merely random or if it has meaning.** Information is the representation of meaning by symbols according to a code. It is the combination of both the code and the symbol sequence that defines meaning, or information. The code gives meaning to a particular sequence of symbols. Without the code, there is no meaning.

If one stumbles upon what appears to be a random sequence of symbols, without a code it is impossible to tell whether the sequence is simply a unique instance of possible combinations generated through random processes or whether it is actually a body of information conveying specific meaning. For example, once I opened a computer file for a JPEG-formatted picture. However, I opened it with a word processing program instead of a graphics processor. All that appeared on the screen was an apparently random sequence of letters, numbers, and symbols. It certainly did not look like the picture I was expecting to see; it appeared as gibberish. It struck me that there was no way to tell if a particular sequence of symbols had meaning simply by examining the sequence itself. Was the sequence information? or was it simply a unique instance of randomness? The only way to distinguish information from a unique sequence of symbols is by applying a proper code to the sequence and see if the result has meaning. So, uniqueness does not represent information. Rather, information is the assignment of meaning to a sequence in accordance with a code.

A unique sequence of DNA codons does not represent information unless there is a code to interpret the sequence.

**5. The relationship between meaning and symbols is abstract.** There is no inherent relationship between symbols and the meaning assigned to them, except as defined by the code. Therefore, the relationship is one of an intellectual assignment. It is abstract. The relationship exists only by definition in the code. This definition is arbitrary and there is no inherent physical property that gives preference for one set of definitions over another.

**6. Abstract, assigned relationships are the product of intelligent thought, not physical forces.** This is a critical concept. Physical forces and non-living physical entities do not assign abstract relationships between objects. Water may respond to temperature in the sense that it freezes when it gets cold, evaporates when it gets hot, and disassociates when it gets yet hotter. However, these are all direct relationships. Water does not understand or respond to indirect, assigned relationships such as love, which can be represented with the letters L O V E. Physical objects respond to physical phenomena, but do not create nor directly respond to abstract entities such as information. It takes intelligence to represent meaning using a body of coded symbolic information.

**7. Because living cells are information-driven systems, the only rational explanation for their existence is creation by an intelligent, living, Creator God.** This Creator God must have had the wisdom to have planned out the genetic code, to have determined intellectually the information to put into the code, to have determined intellectually how to use nucleic acids to store the information, to have determined how to extract and use the information, and must have had the power to actually make such information-driven living organisms. The very existence of physical life as we know it requires a Creator God for its origin. When God chose to make living cells information-driven machines, He made them in such a way that it should be obvious to an informed, unbiased person that these cells did not spontaneously appear by random, natural processes. In the next chapter we will look at this in detail.

**8. Hypothetical self-replicating molecules have nothing to do with the processes in living cells.** Many evolutionary scientists like to speculate that the sequence of events producing a natural origin of life goes something like this:

1. The availability of raw source materials to make small building-block molecules.
2. The formation of a prebiotic soup of either amino acids or ribonucleic acids.
3. Some form of self-replicating molecule.
4. The appearance of interacting groups of self-replicating molecules with increasing forms of specialization and symbiosis (mutual benefits to each other) among members of the group.
5. Appearance of an information-driven fully functioning cell.

Unfortunately, these scientists frequently talk as though reaching stage three is the hardest part and speak as though once this stage has been reached, the eventual appearance of a fully functioning cell is almost a foregone conclusion. Their dialogue appears to be based more on wishful thinking than on carefully dealing with the issues.

By definition, all that a self-replicating molecule does is copy itself. There is no abstract representation of meaning in a self-replicating molecule. Rather, it is its own meaning. There is a direct one-to-one relationship between the meaning and the representation of the meaning.

Thus, a self-replicating molecule does not address the difficulties of implementing the abstract relationships between a sequence of symbols containing information and a decoder to extract and use the information. Evolutionists gloss over the differences between a self-replicating molecule and an information-driven cell, assuming that the first naturally leads to the second. This is simplistic thinking. The steps overlooked and ignored in this scheme are the difficult ones, the ones that are innately beyond the capabilities of random physical processes to perform. It is interesting that in reality the roadblocks against the formation of a soup of self-replicating molecules are essentially insurmountable. Yet, these are, relatively speaking, the simpler steps. In an attempt for a natural formation of life, the process is thwarted long before the hardest parts are ever reached.

Information is used extensively in a cell. It defines the structure of each of the multiple thousands of components required to build the cell and controls all of the activity for normal

cellular operation. Such extensive dependence on information is beyond natural processes to create; hence it points to the working of a living Creator God. This God must be capable of understanding what information to place in the DNA storage medium, must be capable of understanding how to build the components to extract the information from the DNA and to use it, and must have the power actually to make organisms using these things.

## Chapter 4

### **An Information-Driven System: The Cell as an Example Of Irreducible Complexity.**

Cells are information-driven machines. Everything about a cell is controlled by information. This single observation essentially does away with the possibility of an evolutionary origin of life.

The reason for this is simple. An information-driven machine is an irreducibly complex system. There are many, many components to the system, all of which need to work properly for any of them to have functional value. Thus, the first appearance of such a machine is a single-step process. By definition complex structures which make their appearance in a single step are not the product of evolution.

What are the required components of an information-based system? Here are a few:

**1. A medium capable of storing information.** The information the system uses must be stored in a medium accessible to the system. In a computer, this medium could be a hard disk drive. In a living cell it is the cell's DNA.

**2. A body of information stored in the medium.** It is insufficient to simply have a medium capable of storing information. There needs to be sufficient information stored in the medium for the machine to operate satisfactorily to some minimal degree. Since a living cell performs its own reproduction, the minimal amount of information required by a living cell includes all of the information required to build and operate the cell. This is a huge quantity of information, far beyond anything that could be created by random processes in a single step. This is in contrast to a computer, which is built in a factory. A computer only needs to have access to sufficient information to control its components. It does not need to have access to the information required to build it. The amount of information required for use in even the simplest living cells today is staggering.

**3. A means of extracting the information from the medium.** In a computer, this could be various mechanical and electronic components in the disk drive. In a living cell, it takes about one hundred different kinds of enzymes working together to convert the information stored in the DNA into the various kinds of enzymes. Missing a single required enzyme in the information extracting portion of a cell will prove fatal to the cell. If any of the hundred or so enzymes required to process the DNA information is missing, the cell dies. It does not matter whether it is only one enzyme that is missing or all of them. They all need to be present and functioning properly.

**4. An energy production system.** It takes energy to extract the information from DNA and use it. We discussed earlier how the energy source for living processes must provide extremely precise packets of energy. If insufficient energy is available, the processes do not complete. If too much is provided, components are destroyed.

In living systems this problem is solved by supplying tiny packets of energy in certain molecules that go by the initials ATP (adenosine triphosphate). Except for a few anaerobic

bacteria, all living systems from bacteria and fungi to plants to animals use ATP as their primary sources of energy. This complicates cellular design because not only does their need to be a mechanism to handle the various required cellular functions, but these functions also need to be designed such that their energy requirements match that supplied by ATP molecules.

So, if cellular functions use ATP as their primary energy source and if this includes the means to use information, then a minimal requirement for a living cell will be to provide a method to convert fuel sources into ATP molecules. In general cells use sugars and fats as their energy source. It takes many, many very complicated enzymes to extract the energy from these fuels and convert them into ATP. All of these enzymes must be present from the beginning for this system of energy conversion to work properly.

**5. A fuel source.** The sugars used to make ATP need to come from somewhere. Consider an isolated cell living an independent existence. Ultimately, it will need to make its own sugars. It can do this, making sugar out of carbon dioxide and sunlight using photosynthesis, but this is yet another extremely complicated process and also requires a precise interaction of many different components. Not all single-cell organisms use photosynthesis, but those that do not are incapable of independent existence. They need something else to make the things they will consume for nourishment. Hence, they can't be the first to show up. The first cell to appear in an evolutionary scheme must be capable of photosynthesis.

There are certain anaerobic bacteria that do not fit into this pattern. However, they still need a means to convert their unique energy source into ATP molecules.

**6. A waste removal system.** Many waste products are formed in a cell during digestion and energy production. These products need to be removed or they will build up and kill the cell. Thus, this system needs to be in place from the beginning.

**7. A cell membrane.** There needs to be a cell membrane in order to keep the components of a cell within close enough proximity to each other that they can interact with each other. Cell membranes are not trivial structures. They need to maintain the proper concentration of salt within the cell. Small building block components within the cell must not be allowed to pass through the membrane and out of the cell. However, the membrane does need to allow nutrients to pass into the cell and waste products to pass out. The membrane needs to be capable of functioning properly during cell reproduction. If the cell membrane does not perform all of its functions properly from the very beginning, the cell dies.

**8. A Cellular Reproduction System.** There needs to be a fully-functioning means for a cell to make copies of itself. Otherwise, whenever the cell dies all of the advancements it had achieved would disappear.

This is important: in an information-driven cell, every single one of the above components is mandatory from the very beginning. There is a ripple effect, such that having a body of information requires a means to read and use the information, which requires a very precise source of energy, etc. They are all required. None of the systems is useful except as part of the entire system.

Because of all of this the entire first cell needed to make its initial appearance as a single-step process. This is a matter of honest scientific observation. Evolutionary processes simply do not apply to the formation of information-driven systems. Darwin thought that a cell was filled with some kind of “protoplasm” jelly, something simple and not very complicated. He was about as wrong in this as it was possible for him to be.

Therefore, the things we have learned from scientific observation show us that the normal processes of the world we live in are not capable of forming the physical life we see around us. However, life does exist. We *are* here. Hence, science teaches us that physical life is the product of something outside of normal, natural principles and processes.

It is significant that we are not dealing with only a few, minor, isolated issues. Instead, the problems facing evolution and a natural origin of life are the outworking of many, many well-established principles. They have withstood the test of time. The logic required to follow them is straightforward and simple to understand. They are not limited to a specific field of science; rather, wherever one looks he can find examples of them.

At a certain point we need to say enough is enough. The combined impact of all of these problems becomes conclusive. It is impossible for natural processes to create life. Thus, life had to come from a source outside of natural processes. This points directly to a Creator God as the source of life, a God who is intelligent, has a will, and has the power to intervene into the affairs of His creation.

There is a verse in the Bible which directly relates to this conclusion. In Romans 1:20 we read,

“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.”

This verse indicates that God specifically designed the creation to reveal certain things about Himself. Furthermore, from *His* perspective, the message is clear and obvious; indeed it is so clear that a person is without excuse who determines not to see it. We have just seen how an information-based cell requires the existence of a living God who has a will, who has wisdom, and who has power. A trained scientist is in a good position to understand better than anyone else specifically how the principles of science confirm the existence of a living Creator God. If he refuses to recognize these things, it is not because of the way God made things. It is because of the scientist’s own deliberate decision to suppress the evidence God has given him.

I find it intriguing yet grievous to observe how an evolutionist will reject all manner of scientific observation that goes against his beliefs, including issues such as we have discussed in this pamphlet. His rejection is based on the speculation that new experiments and future discoveries will somehow explain away all of the observed difficulties. Typically, this is little more than wishful thinking.

For instance, Darwin thought that a living cell was simply a membrane-like little bag filled with a substance called “protoplasm” and that it was trivial in its structure. By contrast,

we now know that the cell is extremely complex and extremely well organized. This complexity is the basis for many arguments against a natural origin of life and against large-scale evolution. The direction of new discoveries in science is to add to the difficulties faced by the evolutionist, NOT take us back to the days of Darwin and his simplistic models. Yet, this simple observation is ignored by evolutionists.

It is the creationist who is able to deal objectively with the observed evidence. Strangely, though, the evolutionist proclaims himself as the one who is scientific while he condemns creationists as unscientific. Things seem backwards here.

## **Chapter 5**

### **Characteristics of Design**

If the observations of science, honestly evaluated, show us that the normal laws of science make a natural origin of life impossible, can these observations at least give us an indication of where life might have come from? In an indirect manner, they do.

Items that have been designed exhibit certain characteristics. These characteristics typically are the result of insight, understanding, organization, and other attributes of intelligence. Inanimate objects do not possess intelligence and cannot compete with an intelligent being in producing complex objects well suited for a specific purpose. This applies from things designed by man, such as automobiles and computers, to things designed by God, such as the laws of science and living organisms.

Normally, it would be obvious to a person that random, unguided, mindless processes cannot produce organized works with complex interacting relationships. However, the typical evolutionist is so biased against God that he will not allow himself to see the obvious. Thus, his rejection of God is not a demonstration of his intellect, but rather of his decision not to look at all of the evidence objectively.

The following discussion is based on the prior chapters. It assumes that the processes and principles of science truly do work against a natural origin of life. It then makes the case that if the things we look at all around us exhibit characteristics of having been designed by an intelligent being, then these things point to the existence and actions of a living Creator God.

The following discussion gives parallels between certain characteristics observed in things designed by human design engineers and in living organisms. The implication is that an extremely intelligent Designer designed the living organisms so abundant in the world around us. As a professional design engineer myself with over three decades of experience, these are issues that I understand very well and deal with regularly.

#### **Intelligent Design Characteristic Number 1: Irreducible Complexity.**

A characteristic of design is the existence of a number of complex components working together to accomplish a function, where the elimination of even a single component renders the function inoperative. As a result, the first formation of at least minimal performance capabilities of a complex organ or structure becomes a single-step process. In this process, a number of different components need to make their first appearance simultaneously. Even evolutionists normally acknowledge single-step appearances of complex systems to be impossible.

The most obvious example of irreducible complexity concerns the enormous amount of information contained in the DNA along with a mechanism to extract and use it. Both the information and the mechanism to use it must make a simultaneous first appearance; neither has any value without the other. Furthermore, the minimum amount of information to make a decoder and the minimum number of components to extract coded information from a medium is beyond anything that natural processes could make in a single step. When one looks at all of the components that must be in place for an information-driven cell to function, it becomes

obvious that the entire first living cell needed to appear in a single step. Thus, science demonstrates how and why a natural origin of life is impossible.

### **Intelligent Design Characteristic Number 2. Arbitrary Selection.**

Arbitrary selection is the selection of a specific instance when a number of alternative, equivalent choices are available. Because all of the alternatives are equivalent, it does not matter much which choice is made. The assignment of codon triplets in the genetic code is a prime example of this. By definition natural selection cannot perform arbitrary selection, since none of the alternatives offers a survival advantage over the others.

By contrast, design engineers find arbitrary selection a trivial task, one that they commonly and regularly perform. From a design engineering standpoint, a person merely selects specific options from the choices available. Frequently, there are many, many equivalent choices and the important thing is just to select *something* and move on ahead with the task. One cannot allow oneself to get bogged down over inconsequential issues.

The difficulty for natural selection to perform arbitrary selection is magnified when a large number of complex, hard-to-make components need to agree on the same selection choice from the very beginning. For example, the choice of each of the amino acids forming an enzyme is decoded from DNA information by the cooperative efforts of a unique synthetase and unique transfer RNA. To decode 20 amino acids takes at least 40 complicated molecules. All 40 of these need to be consistent with how the information was coded. The actual code associating a DNA sequence with a particular amino acid is relatively unimportant. Having a large body of information along with proper decoders is very important. Natural selection cannot account for the genetic code and molecules used to implement it.

### **Intelligent Design Characteristic Number 3. Design to a Target.**

There are basically two approaches used in design. One is called top-down. The other is called bottom-up. Wherever we look, the things we see in nature give the appearance of a carefully planned, top-down design. These point to the work of an Intelligent Designer.

Top-down design is the approach in which a person has a complete target design specification worked out before anything is actually designed. The first step of the design effort is then to break apart the specification into major functional blocks. An example of this would be how the various functions to make a living man are distributed among various specialized organs. Subsequently, details of the blocks are represented in their own functional overviews, demonstrated by the various tissues comprising each organ. Each step further down is defined in more and more detail. Finally, at the lowest level, the tiniest of details is worked out, such as the structures of individual molecules suitable to perform tiny tasks.

By contrast, a bottom-up design starts with small details and connects them together as an "afterthought." Consider a person building a house one wall at a time and having no idea what the house would look like when it was finished. He would not even know if a room were a bathroom or kitchen until it was almost finished. Repeated backing up would be necessary in

order to compensate for details (doors, windows, insulation, electrical wiring, plumbing, carpeting, etc.) he didn't know would be needed. Bottom-up designs tend to be chaotic, very disorganized and extremely inefficient in their use of materials. Eventually, this chaos becomes so deeply imbedded as to make it impossible to undo.

In industry, the ability to perform a top-down design normally requires a lot of experience. The engineer needs to have an implicit understanding of what can be done at the detailed level so that he can focus at the high levels, all the while understanding how given details can be implemented without needing to work through them first.

On the other hand, junior engineers fresh out of school typically do a bottom-up design. They will start by defining extreme details of some part of a project before they have even considered how it will fit in with the other parts. Then, when they try to join this part to the others, they find that it does not fit and much rework needs to be done. They do not have the experience that allows them to start at a high, overview level of the design and then work their way down to the details.

An experienced design engineer can readily determine the approach used by a designer when reviewing his work. A good engineer using a top-down approach will have a design that is extremely efficient and organized, able to execute complicated tasks with a minimum of materials. Multiple functions can be performed by a common structure. By contrast, a bottom-up design is an organizational chaos. Simple jobs require many materials. Nothing ever seems to work quite like it should.

Conceptually, evolutionary processes represent a bottom-up design approach. Evolutionists like to talk as though evolution is a random walk. In the words of Dawkins, "Evolution has no long-term goal. There is no long-distance target, no final perfection to serve as a criterion for selection..."<sup>26</sup>

Notice, though, there is an awesome beauty in the organizational perfection of living systems, no matter at what level they are studied. When one looks at external form, there is beauty. When one looks at the division of labor by the various organs of the body, there is beauty in its perfect distribution of tasks. When one looks at the various kinds of cells that can be used by the various organs, there is a marvelous perfection. When one looks at cell structure, there is again an overwhelming amount of organization, with a very logical breakdown of tasks into organelles, which are like tiny organs within a cell to perform various specialized tasks. Then, when one analyzes the actual biochemical molecules used to perform some very specific, detailed, low-level task, there is again tremendous organization and efficiency. Truly, there is beauty in the perfection of how function fits form at every level. Regardless of the level at which one looks at a living organism, from how the creature itself fits into its environment to the structure of individual molecules as they perform some tiny task, one finds structures and processes that give the appearance of a very well thought-out, top-down design. What awesome beauty there is in the perfect harmony between top-level function and detailed, molecular implementation!

This awesome beauty displays itself in perfection across all levels of living organisms, from man to bacteria. This perfection is characteristic of a top-down design worked out by an extremely intelligent Designer. It is not characteristic of designs produced by a wanderer who had no idea of where he was headed. It is not representative of the chaotic design of a junior engineer who did not have a sufficient intuitive understanding of options at the detailed level to focus on higher level issues first.

A person may refuse to recognize these things because he does not want them to be true. However, his unwillingness to acknowledge the obvious does not change the fact of their existence. Living organisms at every level give the appearance of something designed by a very good Design Engineer, who had a specific target in mind as he designed it.

#### **Intelligent Design Characteristic Number 4. Multiple Uses of a Common Element.**

Another characteristic of good design is using a single object for many functions. The observance of many structures in a living organism having multiple functions is evidence of an Intelligent Designer. An extreme example of this is the structure of the genetic code, where many different enzymes can be made from the same gene, depending on how gene segments between introns are assembled. Another example would be a man's dual-purpose mouth, which allows the passage of both nutrients and air between the outside world and the interior of his body. Thus, although teeth, lips, and the tongue are primarily involved in food ingestion, they also provide a secondary function of speech. The mouth also provides a high-volume passageway for air during strenuous situations which are beyond the normal capacity of the nasal system. The nasal system normally filters and warms air as it passes into the body and to the lungs. In an emergency or other time of high oxygen demand, these functions are bypassed and a person breathes through his mouth, allowing a much higher volume of air into his lungs than normal. Dual usages are indicative of good planning and design technique.

#### **Intelligent Design Characteristic Number 5. Common Design Approaches Used in Different Applications.**

Another frequent practice among design engineers is to use a common design approach for many different situations. It appears God did the same thing with life. He simply used similar basic approaches for a number of different structures and processes. As the Designer, He then implemented a basic approach in a large variety of ways. In this case, evolution had nothing to do with the observed patterns. The different forms are then a demonstration of God's creativity. Starting with a common basic plan, He can implement it in an almost unlimited variety of situations. An example would be five bones at the tip of a fish's fin and five fingers at the tip of a man's arm. Because of this particular characteristic, many of the supposed evidences evolutionists use in an effort to support evolution are not evidences at all. In truth they could just as easily represent examples of God's deliberate use of a common design approach for many different scenarios.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, if a person is honest in looking at the evidence, he should be able to see that science shows us two things: 1. Natural law makes impossible an origin of life through random, purely materialistic processes. 2. Living organisms exhibit many characteristics of objects that have been designed. These two observations complement each other; it is their combined effects working together that provide such a strong testimony. Indeed, according to Romans Chapter 1 in the Bible, God considers the evidence of His existence so clear from the things that He has made that He counts a person without excuse who refuses to acknowledge it.

A person can harden his heart against receiving the things we have talked about. However, he should be aware that he does this at the risk of offending a Living Creator God, a God powerful enough to speak the universe into existence. He does this with the consequence of suffering eternal judgment for his unbelief. These are not neutral issues.

## Chapter 6 Seventeen Groundbreaking Scientists Who Believed

### 1. Sir Francis Bacon

Sir Francis Bacon was an interesting man. Many scholars believe that he was the actual author of Shakespeare's plays. Bacon was a lawyer; in fact, as a lawyer he held the post of Lord Chancellor during the days of King James the Second of England. The Lord Chancellor was the second most powerful man in England. His power was exceeded only by that of the king himself. He died as a result of a scientific experiment, becoming ill as a result of collecting snow in order to test the ability of cold temperatures to slow down meat spoilage.<sup>27</sup>

Bacon was burdened by the extensive poverty that he saw in England. He believed that much of the poverty and starvation that he saw was remediable. The scientific method that has come to be so effective over the years grew out of Bacon's desire to solve the food shortages he observed.

Bacon was intrigued by a particular verse in the Bible, Genesis 1:28:

Then God blessed them [*man*], and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

It was God's command for man to subdue the earth that intrigued Sir Francis Bacon. He believed that there were underlying truths of how the universe operates, truths that God placed in it when He created it. Bacon reasoned that if man could discover these truths, he could in turn use them to fulfill God's command to subdue the earth. This, in turn, he hoped would lead to greater food supplies and the alleviation of man's poverty.

Thus, the scientific method was developed as a tool to help man obey the Bible more effectively—that is, to subdue the earth efficiently. It was offered as a means of discovering truths which the God of the Bible placed into His creation when He created it.

There are two quotations by Bacon which provide the foundations of what today we call the scientific method.

The first statement was quoted earlier as an improper source of truth:

*"Truth can never be reached by just listening to the voice of an authority."* – Sir Francis Bacon

Bacon had observed that whenever men make bold, audacious statements on the basis of their rank or privilege, they are invariably wrong. Bacon's statement makes a lot of sense, unless of course you are the one in authority making the pronouncements. Typically, most men in authority are more interested in exercising their prestige and rank than in finding truth, particularly new truth. They place more significance on praise from men about their own knowledge and brilliance than in finding truth, especially if that truth contradicts their publicly stated positions.

But, even though Bacon's statement is an interesting observation, it is not particularly overwhelming in and of itself. However, when it is combined with the next quote, it becomes very significant and powerful. I have loosely paraphrased what he actually said, because the Old English in which it was written is hard for us today to understand. Its significance is in the ideas and not their representation in archaic language. Bacon said in effect,

"There are and can be only two approaches to searching into and discovering truth. The first jumps from observations and details to all-encompassing, generalized theories which are then presented as true, fixed, and not subject to alteration. From these, one uses logic to deduce various conclusions in the more detailed areas. These deduced conclusions are likewise considered true and unalterable. This is the way things are currently being done.

"The second approach derives explanations for observed facts in very small realms. It then tests its conclusions with a broader application of data. Finally, after going through this process many times, it arrives at the most general explanations *last of all*. This is the true way, but so far no one has tried it."<sup>28</sup>

Do you understand what is so special about this?

The combination of these two statements defines the modern scientific method. It is the recognition that truth is discovered most effectively by a bottom-up, inductive approach based on experiment, not by listening to men of power make authoritarian pronouncements. (It would be nice for the current membership of the United States National Academy of Sciences to remember this.) The effectiveness of Bacon's suggested new approach has given us penicillin, electricity, automobiles, and telephones. The whole concept behind modern science is that truth is based on experimental observation, not the arrogant pronouncements of a self-appointed authority.

According to the scientific method, a person first examines small details of behavior and gives a proposed explanation for them. Next, he expands the scope of his observation to a broader area and checks to see if his proposed explanation still seems to apply. If it does, he expands it yet more. If it doesn't, he goes back to a smaller area and finds an alternative proposed explanation. Every time a principle is expanded in scope a little bit more, one needs to return to the laboratory to confirm the expansion before advancing to a yet broader scope. This is called a bottom-up, inductive approach.

When Bacon suggested this approach as a method for discovering truth, it was not known whether it had any practical validity or not. Notice, he said that so far no one had actually tried to carry it out in practice. However, the approach did capture the minds of many key thinkers in his day. Therefore, it was in applying Sir Francis Bacon's approach to arriving at truth that modern science was born.

Almost every branch of modern-day science was founded by a Bible-believing Christian. These scientists agreed with Bacon that there were underlying truths about the behavior in the universe which were placed there by the God who created it. They applied Bacon's rules in an effort to serve their God better.

Does this seem strange? Many people have heard that science and faith in God do not mix. This is only a lie preached by those who themselves do not like God and wish it were true in order to justify their personal rejection of Him. The reality is that it was the Bible that provided the motive for Bacon to develop the scientific method, and science as understood by its founders was merely a method of discovering truths placed in creation by the God who created it. Later in this chapter, examples will be given of just who these men were, what they believed, and the branches of science they founded.

The original goal of the early scientists was the discovery of truth, with an underlying conviction that the truths they were discovering revealed God's wisdom and power. The more they saw of the intricacy and logical organization in the things they studied, the more awe they had for their God. Indeed, Psalm 111:2-4 describes their attitudes perfectly:

<sup>2</sup> The works of the LORD are great, Studied by all who have pleasure in them.

<sup>3</sup> His work is honorable and glorious, and His righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup> He has made His wonderful works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.

However, today our culture has largely given itself over to atheism. A modern scientist who, being the product of his culture, is an atheist first and a scientist second, does not understand the mindset of a person who studies the creation as an act of worship for the Creator. He is incapable of understanding this mindset, because first he would need to acknowledge at least the possibility that God exists, something he is unwilling to do. So, he uses "science" to justify his rejection of God and then convinces himself that somehow he is intellectually superior to those who do believe in God.

Having rejected the God of creation as well as the validity of the underlying motivation of early scientists, the modern atheistic scientist needs a new purpose for his study. This is easy for him to do. He would like to use science to justify his rejection of God; consequently, he redefines science as the attempt to explain as much as possible without allowing for the existence of a deity. Indeed, he now loudly proclaims this as the goal of science. The advantage of this goal is that now, by definition, he is guaranteed that all of his conclusions will reinforce his atheistic presumptions.

Notice, true science as defined by Bacon is a methodology to discover truth. Where the truth leads is not an issue. The modern atheistic scientist does not even mention truth in his definition of science. Instead, his entire focus is on justifying his rejection of God. Hence, he is more interested in arguing for his philosophical biases than in discovering truth. This is the reason that he can look at evidences such as we present in this pamphlet and totally discount them. Since his personal definition of science does not allow for God, then in his mind science cannot teach him anything about God.

One very serious problem arises with this view. The living God has revealed Himself in the things He has made. **Word games will not make a living God disappear.** A person cannot honestly study the creation without coming across extensive evidence revealing the Creator. However, since the atheist crafts his definition of science to preclude the possibility of the

existence of such evidence, he discounts it in the guise that in time some suitable alternative explanation will be found. The reality is that in order to maintain his definition, he will reject truth whenever it contradicts his personal biases. Even when the evidence clearly teaches that natural processes are incapable of creating life, he rejects this as unscientific because it does not fit in with how he has chosen to define science. However, the problem is with his phony definition, not the evidence itself. Sadly, his hatred of God becomes so strong that he deludes himself into believing his own rhetoric.

*Men of Science, Men of God* is a little booklet by Dr. Henry Morris. Much of the following material is taken from it.<sup>29</sup> It is available from the Institute for Creation Research in Dallas, Texas. I highly recommend that you get a copy for yourself if these things interest you at all.

These are some of the branches of science founded by Bible-believing Christians:

- Anesthesiology
- Bacteriology
- Astronomy
- Atomic Theory
- Chemistry
- Comparative Anatomy
- Paleontology
- Oceanography
- Geology (stratigraphy—study of stratified rocks)
- Physics—laws of gravity, motion, and light
- Taxonomy – classification of living things
- Physics—electricity and magnetism
- Genetics
- Physics—mechanical equivalent of heat
- Electromagnetic Field Theory
- Thermodynamics and Entropy
- Genetic Engineering

These fields represent some of the most fundamental branches of science. They were founded by the following 17 men, all of whom were strong believers in God, in the Bible, and in Jesus Christ.

**2. Johannes Kepler** (1571-1630) was the founder of physical astronomy. Have you ever wondered how an astronomer can predict the path of a comet or of a planet? What path should a rocket ship take to intercept the moon or a particular planet? To figure these things out, a scientist uses a set of mathematical formulas discovered by Kepler which are known as Kepler's laws. Kepler wrote, "Since we astronomers are priests of the highest God in regard to the book of nature, it befits us to be thoughtful, not of the glory of our minds, but rather, above all else, of the glory of God."

**3. Robert Boyle** (1627-1691) is generally considered to be the father of modern chemistry. Boyle's laws, which describe certain behaviors of gasses, are still taught in chemistry books today. He also was active in financially supporting the spread of Christianity through missions and Bible translations. So, the scientist who founded modern chemistry personally financed foreign missions and Bible translations because of his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

**4. Nicolaus Steno** (1631-1686) was the father of stratigraphy, which is the study of stratified or layered rocks and the fossils they contain. Steno believed that fossils were laid down in the strata as a result of the flood of Noah. Notice: 350 years ago scientists were equating stratified rocks and the fossils in them to the effects of the flood of Noah. It appears that they had more wisdom than their modern counterparts. Steno also wrote many theological works and later in his life took up religious orders.

**5. Isaac Newton** (1642-1727) invented calculus, discovered the law of gravity and the three laws of motion, anticipated the law of energy conservation, developed the particle theory of light propagation, and invented the reflecting telescope. He firmly believed in Jesus Christ as his Savior and the Bible as God's Word. He wrote many books on these topics. Incidentally, while I was a student at UCLA a number of years ago, the main campus library actually had a copy of a book written by Newton which was a commentary on the books of Daniel and Revelation found in the Bible. In his book Newton explained how the Bible taught that the Lord Jesus Christ would literally return to the earth someday in order to rule on earth in power. Implicit in his commentary was his personal conviction of the truth of the Bible and its contents. I came across this book in the library shortly after I had placed my own personal faith in Christ and found it intriguing and assuring. It is interesting that many atheistic scientists today claim that a person cannot be a legitimate scientist and believe in God. According to their claims, Sir Isaac Newton was not a competent scientist. Their foolishness speaks for itself.

**6. Carolus Linnaeus** (1707-1778) was the father of biological taxonomy. His system of classification is still in use today. If you have taken any classes in biology, you probably remember how living things are divided into kingdoms, phyla, classes, orders, families, genera, and species. This system was invented by Linnaeus. It is interesting that one of his main goals in developing this system was to understand the Bible better. The creation account in Genesis chapter 1 talks about how God created various "kinds." Kinds refers to both animals and plants. The primary characteristic of a kind was that reproduction takes place within a kind and not outside of kinds. Linnaeus wanted to systematically classify living creatures in an effort to better understand what the original "kinds" might have been. He firmly believed in the Genesis account as literal history. Thus, whenever you hear terms like phyla and genus and species, you are hearing about a system of classification invented by a Christian in his efforts to apply what he understood from the Bible to the world around him.

**7. Michael Faraday** (1791-1867) was one of the greatest physicists of all time. He developed foundational concepts in electricity and magnetism, invented the electrical motor and generator, and made many contributions to the field of chemistry. I once read an interesting story about how he cut up his wife's wedding dress to use as insulation for the wires in the first electric motor ever built. Faraday was active in the various ministries of his church, both private and public. Faraday had a deep-seated faith in the Bible and in prayer. His belief in prayer

demonstrated that he found no contradiction between scientific truth and the notion of a living God who still intervenes into the affairs of His creation.

**8. Georges Cuvier** (1769-1832) was the founder of the science of comparative anatomy. He was one of the chief architects of paleontology as a separate scientific discipline. Cuvier was a firm creationist, participating in some of the important creation/evolution debates of his time. I find it interesting that most paleontologists today seem to have so little respect for the Bible. I wonder how many of them realize that their very branch of science was founded by a Bible-believing creationist who publicly debated against the theory of evolution.

**9. John Dalton** (1766-1844) was the father of atomic theory, which revolutionized chemistry. Dalton was an orthodox, Bible-believing Christian.

**10. Matthew Maury** (1806-1873) was the founder of oceanography. He believed that when Psalm 8:8 in the Bible talked about "paths of the seas," that there must then be paths in the seas. Maury was a naval officer who yearned for a career captaining a ship. An injury ruined his career and he became stuck with a desk job. He ended up as a cartographer, making the maps used by the U.S. Navy. He dedicated his life to charting the winds and currents of the Atlantic Ocean and was able to confirm that the sea did indeed have paths, just as spoken of in the Bible. By using the "paths of the seas" shown on Maury's maps, ships were able to reduce their time crossing the Atlantic Ocean by almost one-third. Oceanography is a branch of science that not only was founded by a Christian, but came about because he believed and applied what the Bible taught.

**11. James Simpson** (1811-1870). I have a question for you. How would you like to have a root canal without first getting a shot of Xylocain or its equivalent? Every time you go to a dentist or have surgery, you should thank God that James Simpson believed the Bible literally. Simpson was a medical doctor who discovered chloroform. He is one of the primary founders of anesthesiology. He specifically attributed his interest in this field to a fascination in the book of Genesis with Adam's deep sleep during the time in which Eve was fashioned from his side. Yet, he said his biggest discovery in life was finding Jesus Christ as Savior. Every time you go to the dentist and get "numbed up" before the dentist starts drilling, you should thank God that James Simpson believed the Biblical account of Adam and Eve and that this belief led to significant advances in anesthesiology.

**12. James Joule** (1818-1889) discovered the mechanical equivalent of heat, laying the foundation for the field of thermodynamics. Joule also had a strong Christian faith.

**13. Gregory Mendel** (1822-1884) was the father of genetics. He had strong religious convictions and chose to live his life as a monk in a monastery. Mendel was a creationist familiar with Darwin's ideas, yet rejected them.

**14. Louis Pasteur** (1822-1895) was the father of bacteriology. He established the germ theory of disease. He was a Christian with extremely strong religious convictions. Pasteur's persistent objections to the theory of spontaneous generation and to Darwinism made him unpopular with the scientific establishment of his day.

**15. William Thomson, Lord Kelvin** (1824-1907) is considered one of the all-time great physicists. He established thermodynamics on a formal scientific basis, providing a precise statement of the first and second laws of thermodynamics and of entropy. Kelvin was a strong Christian, opposing both the uniformitarian interpretation of geology proposed by Charles Lyell and the theory of evolution presented by Charles Darwin. In 1903, shortly before his death, he made the unequivocal statement that, "With regard to the origin of life, science...positively affirms creative power." Thompson believed the Bible's statement that the creation itself testifies of the existence of a Creator.

**16. James Clerk Maxwell** (1831-1879) developed a comprehensive theoretical and mathematical framework for electromagnetic field theory. Einstein called Maxwell's contributions "the most profound and most fruitful that physics has experienced since the time of Newton." Maxwell rejected the theory of evolution. Remember how God's command to subdue the earth led Sir Francis Bacon to develop the scientific method? Maxwell wrote that God's command to subdue the earth provided his own, personal motivation for pursuing his scientific work. He acknowledged a personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

**17. John Sanford** (1950 - ) was a professor of biology at Cornell University. He is one of the pioneers of genetic engineering. In 1987 he invented a way to inject DNA into the nucleus of a living cell using what he called a "gene gun." He has written over 80 papers in peer-reviewed science journals, many of them describing the biological results of the changes he was able to make in the information content of cellular DNA using his invention. He was an atheist until the mid 1980s, when he identified more and more with theistic evolution. Then, in the late 1990s he became an old-earth creationist. Finally, in 2000 Sanford identified himself as a young-earth creationist, fully rejecting Darwinian evolution in favor of special creation.

In 1998 Sanford sold his biotech companies based on his gene gun patents and was able to retire. Hence, he can now openly speak his convictions as a young-earth creationist and not worry about impacting his career.

For most scientists, it is not like that. The modern creation science movement was founded by Henry Morris, who was at the time chairman of the civil engineering department at Virginia Tech University. Under his leadership, the department grew until it became one of the leading civil engineering departments in the country. However, the faculty at the school was so offended at his creation science writings that they effectively forced him to leave in 1969. They even held his "going away" party the day after he left. God used this event to lead him to found the Institute for Creation Research in 1970, of which he was president until his retirement. He died in 2006.

Ben Stein's recent documentary film, "Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed," demonstrated how evolutionists will do whatever is possible to destroy the careers of those scientists who reject materialistic atheism in favor of any form of creationism.

In his book *Slaughter of the Dissidents* published by the Creation Research Society,<sup>30</sup> Dr. Jerry Bergman provides detailed and extensive exposure of the systematic assault on creationists and other Darwin skeptics who dare challenge evolution's strangle-hold on science. Many teachers and scientists who openly supported creation or Intelligent Design (or simply expressed a dissenting view on evolution) have been professionally censored and even dismissed from their professional positions. Evolutionists have long maintained that these actions were merely because of poor job performance, not because of the individual's view of origins. Dr. Bergman explores the details of many of these cases and frequently finds an intentional "witch hunt" by pro-evolution advocates.

I have personally had some of my material reviewed by a biochemistry professor who is a Christian and is on the faculty at a branch of the University of California. He attends the same church as my daughter. I do not openly refer to him by name because of repercussions if his convictions were made public.

We are living in the dark ages, again, where legitimate scientists cannot openly express what they believe without persecution from those who disagree with their religious convictions. However, this time it is not the Roman Catholic Church doing the persecution, rather, it comes from atheists. Nonetheless, it is religious persecution by those in authority who use their power to suppress an honest inquiry into truth. Any conclusions which do not mesh with their agenda are attacked with vehemence using all of the resources their authority gives them. How well Bacon described the situation even of our day when he said, "I have never seen truth arrived at just by listening to the voice of an authority."

Friend, think about this. Some of the greatest minds of science believed the Bible in its historical, literal sense. They knew the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior. They believed that the order and structure of the universe testified of a Creator. They saw no conflict between what they learned from science and their faith in a living God who continues to work in His creation even until today. Many of their discoveries actually came as a result of things they read in the Bible.

So, there is no conflict between true science and a belief in the Bible. Godly, Bible-believing Christians were among the first to adopt Sir Francis Bacon's principles in the search for truth. They have continued to exist throughout the last several hundred years and there are still many today.

O LORD, how many are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all (Psalm 104:24).

## **Chapter 7**

### **Six Characteristics of an Intelligent Designer**

What are the characteristics of an intelligent Designer, one capable of forming life? In the Bible, we read in Romans 1:20, that God's "invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse..."

According to the Bible, there are certain things we can learn about the Creator simply by observing the things He made. Here are six of them:

#### **Characteristic Number 1. Extreme intelligence.**

There is a structure and beauty to the natural order of the universe which overwhelms all who study it. Even the most complex processes are nothing more than the expression of very simple concepts. This is consistent with the workings of an extremely intelligent Designer, indeed, One of essentially infinite wisdom and understanding. It is not consistent with mindless, haphazard, random forces which do not have an ability to understand the ramifications of alternative possibilities of behavior.

The inherent simplicity of the various natural laws, combined with the manner in which they work in harmony with each other, serve to testify of the Creator's wisdom. This testimony is evident to all who are willing to see it and who do not deliberately suppress it.

"O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all." (Psalm 104:24)

#### **Characteristic Number 2. The capacity to perform miracles.**

Life exists. Yet, as we have seen, according to normal laws and processes, it shouldn't. Therefore, a living God who created living organisms is intrinsically greater than the laws which govern the normal order of the universe. He is not bound by them. It is obvious that a God who designed the laws of the universe out of His wisdom, who brought it into existence out of nothing by means of His inherent power, and who then created physical life and placed it into His universe, can do anything He wants to do. He is a God of order and organization, as is evident from studying the things that He has made. However, as Creator, He can at will step outside of the normal operation of things and do whatever pleases Him.

Some people have a hard time believing that a God capable of working the various miracles recorded in the Bible actually exists. This is foolish. If one wants to see evidence of the activity of a miracle working God, all he needs to do is look in the mirror. Physical life is its own testimony of the intervention of the Creator God into the affairs of the world.

As discussed earlier, living organisms are information based systems. These systems cannot be formed using the step-by-step, gradual sequences characteristic of evolution. This means that the appearance of the first living cell MUST have been a single-step process. All of

the cell's major components needed to appear simultaneously in a fully functioning capacity. Therefore, the very existence of such a cell requires there to be a Creator God. Once a person acknowledges this, then it is not difficult to believe and accept the rest of the miracles in the Bible. The first sentence in the Bible is the key to everything that follows: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

"Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You." (Jeremiah 32:17)

### **Characteristic Number 3. The Designer is eternal.**

If the Designer invented the laws of the universe and brought it into existence out of nothing, then He predates the elements of the universe. Time is a physical quality which deals with relationships between matter and energy. There would be no time before the universe existed. If the Designer predates time, He is eternal.

### **Characteristic Number 4. The Designer has a will.**

The Designer makes choices and decisions. He is sovereign over His creation. His will is revealed in all kinds of arbitrary decisions that He made during the design process. Even the very decision to create life and to create the universe was an exercise of His will.

"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created." (Revelation 4:11)

### **Characteristic Number 5. The Designer has personality.**

He placed beauty in His design. He also made human beings capable of recognizing and appreciating that beauty. It is essentially impossible to comprehend any manner in which the capacity to enjoy and appreciate a beautiful song is based on "the survival of the fittest." It is far more rational to believe that the Intelligent Designer has personality, that beauty is something innate to His character, and that He willfully placed the capacity within man to appreciate it.

"Give to the LORD the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness!" (1 Chronicles 16:29)

### **Characteristic Number 6. The Designer is holy.**

People naturally want to suppress truth about God because of the sin in their lives. The holiness of God is something every man instinctively knows because God placed that knowledge in Him. Yet, man does not really want to know it or to deal with it because it interferes with how he prefers to live his life. A man's sin cuts him off from God. Praise God that in His mercy He has freely provided a means of reconciliation for any and all who are willing to receive it. However, He has made it clear that salvation is on His terms, not ours. He has revealed His will about salvation. We need to understand it and submit to it.

“You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look on wickedness.” (Habakkuk 1:13)

<sup>18</sup> For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, <sup>19</sup> because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.” (Romans 1:18-19)

## Chapter 8. God and Humanism

The entire thesis of this pamphlet can be summarized in a few sentences. A natural origin of life is contradicted by some of the most fundamental, best understood, and best established laws of science. This includes the laws of chemical equilibrium, entropy, statistics, and information theory as we have already discussed. Thus, some of the most well known and established laws of science teach against a natural origin of life. The evidence concerning this is so ubiquitous and so pervasive that the only rational conclusion is that living organisms must have their initial origins apart from the outworking of these laws, i.e., from a supernatural source.

Furthermore, as we study the creation, we can learn things about its Creator. For instance, the abstract manner in which living cells use information teaches us the Creator is extremely intelligent. Indeed, His intelligence is far greater than anything man can comprehend. Beyond this the irreducible complexity of a living cell requires its initial appearance to be sudden and to take place in a single step. Thus, the initial appearance of the first living cell would have been in contradiction to normal scientific laws and processes. This in turn teaches us that the Creator is not bound by the physical laws of the universe. He can directly intervene and override these laws at will. Since the One who created life also exercises authority over the physical creation, the implication is that He is also its Creator. Nothing within the universe has the power to stand against the will of the God who created it.

By contrast, these things do not represent the attitudes and philosophical beliefs of many people in our society today. Instead, they assume that natural processes are all that exist and that such processes are in themselves sufficient to account for the formation of the universe and the life we see within it. They believe that man's own intellect represents the highest possible authority in judging what is right and wrong. They identify themselves as *humanists* and their philosophical belief system is called *humanism*. For all practical purposes, the courts have turned humanism into the official religion of the United States of America concerning public institutions and funding. Modern public universities see their goal as instilling the principles of humanism into their students.

When one limits his ideological exposure to the writings of humanists, the writings can appear to make sense. However, one must never forget that the entire philosophical system of humanism, including its socialistic political and economic applications, is built upon the assumption that a living, Creator God does not exist. This assumption is contradicted by nature itself, which points us towards the Creator and teaches us about Him. Because humanism is founded upon invalid assumptions, its entire train of thought is meaningless and the resulting conclusions are invalid. When one applies this observation to the teachings of a modern secular university, the amount of error being taught as truth is staggering.

The basic tenants of humanism are expressed in three manifestos, written in 1933, 1973, and 2001. Each of these was signed by many of the leading, most prestigious "thinkers" of their times. The most complete and detailed of the manifestos is the second one. It was initially signed by 114 people. Eventually, 147 additional names were added. Some quotations from it reveal the humanist position on traditional religions, including Christianity.

Despite the prestige of those signing the manifestos, humanism simply does not work in real life. Economic and political systems founded on its principles invariably increase the misery of those living under them. In its efforts to make a perfect environment to solve the problems of the world, individual opportunity is stifled and individual freedoms are suppressed.

Even the authors of the second humanist manifesto acknowledged the practical failures of humanism when its principles were put into practice. For example, in the early 1930s, the time when the first manifesto was written, humanists were excited about the future. Both Nazism and communism were the products of humanistic philosophy. At this time period humanists were optimists; they anticipated that the world would soon have showpieces demonstrating the superiority of humanism over any system previously seen in history and particularly over those founded on Biblical principles. However, this excitement was short lived. The opening statement of the second manifesto explain what happened,

“It is forty years since Humanist Manifesto I (1933) appeared. Events since then make that earlier statement seem far too optimistic. Nazism has shown the depths of brutality of which humanity is capable. Other totalitarian regimes have suppressed human rights without ending poverty. Science has sometimes brought evil as well as good. Recent decades have shown that inhuman wars can be made in the name of peace. The beginnings of police states, even in democratic societies, widespread government espionage, and other abuses of power by military, political, and industrial elites, and the continuance of unyielding racism, all present a different and difficult social outlook.”

Notice, even as the world’s leading humanists themselves acknowledged in the second manifesto, it was humanists that led a world that wanted peace into World War II. It was humanists that introduced the modern police state along with its secret police reigning terror on the citizens of the state, citizens who simply wanted to live a quiet and peaceful life. It was humanists that led deliberate attempts for the genocide of an entire race (the Jews) based on the implications of evolutionary theory.

The second manifesto was written in an attempt to address these problems. This attempt would be amusing in its naiveté if the consequences were not so serious. In the second manifesto an attempt is made to prevent dictators from abusing power by declaring that they shouldn’t do so. As if Hitler would disassemble the S.S. because some university professor thought it would be nice for him to do it! As if Stalin would disassemble the K.G.B. because some university professor thought it would be nice for him to do it! Both Hitler and Stalin would be far more inclined to “disassemble” the professors.

The above-quoted opening to the second manifesto nobly speaks of “human rights.” Notice the difference between a Biblical perspective on human rights as opposed to one founded on the principles of humanism.

The Bible teaches that God made man in His own image. By contrast neither animals nor plants nor inanimate objects were made in God’s image. Because even the least among men still carries aspects of the image of God within him, he has far greater innate, intrinsic value than any animal, plant, or inanimate object. Actually, from God’s perspective it goes

beyond this: the way a person treats another person reflects how that person feels about God because man was created in God's image (See James 3:9-10 in the Bible). Anyway, every man has value in God's eyes and God expects men to recognize this innate value. This is what makes abortion wrong. The Bible teaches that every person will give an account to God of the things he has done in this life and that this accounting will have eternal, unchangeable consequences. A person who believes this has a primary motivation to recognize the intrinsic worth of another man.

By contrast a humanist has no real motivation to recognize the rights of others. The manifestos make it clear that from the perspective of humanism, when a person dies he disappears. There is no accountability to an eternal, living God. All that a person receives whether good or bad will be what he receives during his lifetime here on earth. Because of this foundational premise, humanism is powerless to stop the abuse of power by its leaders. Speaking of human rights sounds well when read, but there is no overriding motivation for a leader to recognize the rights of other people at his own expense. It is because of this inherent weakness that humanism does not work and cannot work. Given enough time it will always lead to oppression of people and suppression of their rights.

What process leads to the appearance of dictators? In their initial efforts to gain favor among their people, leaders promise more than they can deliver. Then, when the leaders fail to meet people's expectations, people become restless. As the people start to rebel, the leaders turn to force in order to maintain control. This has been the pattern throughout history. Exceptions are only temporary in duration. Humanism is powerless to stop this progression.

Humanists claim that earlier experiments in socialism failed because the wrong people gained power. They do not understand that human nature combined with the inevitable failures of a humanistic-basic political system to satisfy people's expectations will invariably bring about a Hitler or a Stalin. The failures of Stalin and Hitler were due to the inevitable failures of humanism, not to inappropriate leaders opportunistically working themselves into positions of power. Any human being convinced of humanistic principles would follow in Hitler's or Stalin's footsteps under similar circumstances. The problem was not the person of Hitler or Stalin. It was their placing their faith in an errant and inadequate philosophy of life.

Could anything be effective in preventing a leader who sees his authority disintegrating from turning into a dictator? The only truly effective prevention is for the leader to submit to God's authority over his life and the decisions he makes. Effective prevention comes when he acknowledges that the God who designed the universe and brought it into existence has greater wisdom than he does and when he trusts in the validity of the things that that God has revealed to us. The United States was fortunate to have had such men in positions of leadership in previous generations.

Why do humanists hang on to humanism in the face of the obvious problems associated with it? It is because their only alternative would be to acknowledge the existence and inherent authority of a personal God. This is something they are unwilling to do. Their decision has nothing to do with evidence. It has nothing to do with reason. It has everything to do with a personal hatred of a God who sets standards for their behavior and expects their obedience and submission to Him and His authority.

## **Chapter 9.** **Who is the Creator?**

The Creator is a transcendent God. By this we mean that He exists outside of and independently of His Creation. He existed before it. He brought it into existence because He decided to do so. The things from science we have discussed in this pamphlet teach the necessity of a God who “transcends” natural law.

As its Creator, God can interact and intervene with the events and activities within His creation at His will. What we would consider a “miracle” is nothing to Him; One who can create a galaxy out of nothing and not be exhausted from doing so can intervene into the daily affairs of His creation whenever and however He pleases. It is also true that He is not obligated to override the natural order He placed within creation. He is sovereign over creation and no one and nothing can stand against Him in whatever He decides to do or not to do.

There is an important ramification of God’s transcendence. We cannot know anything about Him unless He first reveals it to us. Human wisdom based on observing the creation and its behavior can surmise only very limited information about a God who exists outside of the creation.

Because of this, philosophical arguments based on human observation and reasoning are doomed from the beginning as an adequate source of truth. Why? They are incapable of dealing with issues involving a transcendent God. Yet, these are the very issues wherein lie the basic truths of man’s origin, purpose, and destiny. Since humanism is essentially a philosophy founded upon the principle that an active, living God does not exist and that man must therefore act as his own God, it is errant and ultimately will leave behind a trail of misery and destruction wherever its concepts are implemented.

We are now faced with a question. Is there any indication that the Creator has revealed to us significant details about His nature and about what He expects from us? Certainly a Living Creator God who can create a galaxy out of nothing and who can at will override the laws of science can also reveal Himself to us if He desires and chooses to do so.

Among the writings of the world’s major religions, the Bible is unique. It alone opens with a statement declaring its God as the Creator: “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” (Genesis 1:1) The first two chapters of the Bible deal with the details of this creation, including the creation of living organisms and of man. The third chapter deals with the origin of man’s sin problem and why there are so many problems in the world. The third chapter also gives a hint of God’s provision for dealing with the sin problem (verses 15 and 21). So, the Bible alone opens with revelation about the creation of the heavens and the earth, the creation of physical life, and the foundational relationships between man and God. If one wants to find if the Creator God has revealed a message for us, the Bible is a rational place to start the search.

The Bible is unique in another way. It alone reveals God as initially creating “kinds” such that seed (the means of descent) is within the kind. The Koran does not do this. The Book

of Mormon does not do this. Hindu Scriptures do not do this. There is major significance to this seemingly trivial comment about *kinds* having their seed within them. This perspective gives us the key needed to provide an alternative explanation for the content of the fossil record. When one looks at the data of the fossil record without preconceived evolutionary biases and notions of long ages, he finds that the actual data itself is consistent with the Genesis account. This was discussed earlier in this pamphlet on page 11.

By contrast, the fossil record is frequently presented by evolutionists as the best evidence supporting their theory. However, in truth the structure of the fossil record actually provides a strong argument *against* evolutionary theory; even Darwin acknowledged this as we mentioned earlier (see page 11). Of all of the religious and secular writings in the world, the Bible alone provides the foundation for us to properly interpret the fossil record in a manner consistent with the details of scientific observation. This is consistent with what we should expect from a book truly based on revelation from the Creator.

Actually, there is yet far greater significance to these opening verses of Genesis. God says that He alone knows what happened in the “former” times, a time which includes the events of creation. He then challenges any person or alternative god to give an adequate explanation of what happened:

<sup>21</sup> "Present your case," says the LORD. "Bring forth your strong reasons," says the King of Jacob. <sup>22</sup> Let them bring forth and show us what will happen; let them show the former things, what they were, that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them; or declare to us things to come." (Isaiah 41:21-22)

<sup>9</sup> Let all the nations be gathered together, and let the people be assembled. Who among them can declare this, and show us former things? Let them bring out their witnesses, that they may be justified; or let them hear and say, "It is truth." <sup>10</sup> "You are My witnesses," says the LORD, "And My servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe Me, and understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, nor shall there be after Me. (Isaiah 43:9-10)

In the passages from which these statements are taken, God is taunting those who reject Him. He is asking them to accurately declare the past or the future, knowing that they cannot do this. He alone can do it. In effect for the purposes of our discussion here God is claiming that apart from His revelation a person can NOT know what happened in the former times. In other words a humanistic, rationalistic explanation of the origin of the universe and of life is DOOMED to failure because God has decreed that He alone has the capability of knowing what happened. He was there, He did it, and He told us what He did. A person who rejects His account will thus be forced into a false explanation, having rejected the true one.

An extension of this thought is found in Romans 1:20 of the New Testament in the Bible:

“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that

they are without excuse.”

In effect, all of the problems, all of the roadblocks, all of the inconsistencies facing the evolutionist are there because God deliberately placed them there. The humanist cannot succeed in a rationalistic explanation of life because God created the universe in a manner that such an explanation will be false and inconsistent with the evidence. God deliberately made the evidence revealing His person so clear that *from His perspective* a person who does not see it is “without excuse.”

Many books have been written giving evidences of why the Bible is an authoritative, accurate revelation from God. In reality, the Bible is a self-confirming book. The evidence establishing its authority is found within itself. Among these evidences is God’s unique ability to declare both the past and the future accurately. In fact, some Biblical scholars have analyzed that about one-third of the Bible was prophetic when it was written. No other book comes even close to containing as much prophecy of future events as does the Bible. Much of the prophecy was fulfilled within the scope of Biblical times. Much of it applies to a much broader scope; indeed, we are seeing much of it fulfilled even before our eyes in current times. Yet other portions apply to events yet far distant in the future. This is all consistent with what we would expect from a God who created the heavens and the earth, who created man, and has a message He has revealed to man.

Why then does everyone not immediately jump at the chance to hear about the Bible? Perhaps an incident that took place on the George Mason University campus in Fairfax, Virginia will answer that. I gave a pamphlet to a student who had previously never heard about a scientific basis for believing in the Creator. He was unaware of how so much of what he had been taught about evolution was known to be contrary to established principles of science. We talked extensively about the issues and he became excited about what he was then hearing for the first time. He said, “Why don’t they teach these things in class?” I explained how many people hate the notion of a Creator and do everything they can to suppress knowledge of Him. He said, “Why?” I explained that the reason was simple. If a Creator God truly exists, then He has an intrinsic right to set standards for our behavior. People do not like these standards. I then mentioned how most of the students on the campus right then were much more interested in thinking about what they would be doing at the party they would be at in a few hours (it was a Friday afternoon) than in seeking out the will of the God who created them. All of a sudden, his face turned red and he mumbled, “I see what you mean.” We parted our ways and I have no idea whether our discussion had a lasting impact on his life or not. But, this little episode summarizes the problem. The sin in our lives deadens our desire to know the Creator. The next chapter will discuss this issue in more detail.

## Chapter 10 Glorifying the Creator

What do you call a Being who has essentially unlimited intelligence, has the power to set aside the laws of the universe and work miracles, has a will and makes arbitrary decisions, has personality, and is holy? **You call Him God.**

The creation itself testifies of His existence.

In the Bible God says, “I am the LORD, that is My name; and My glory I will not give to another...” (Isaiah 42:8). Not recognizing God as the Creator of life denies Him the glory rightfully due Him as the Creator. God counts this denial as sin for which a person must give an account. However, as we shall see, God in His mercy has also provided a means of forgiveness for the sinner who is seeking to turn from his sins and be reconciled with his Creator.

It is amazing that not only has the Creator designed the creation so that it teaches us of His existence, but He has also decreed that we can know Him personally. A very precious universal promise is given in 1 Chronicles 28:9 of the Bible:

“The LORD searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever.”

The living God who created the heavens and the earth promises that a person who seeks Him will find Him. This is good news. It is the most significant promise a person can have. Becoming at peace with the Creator—that is, finding Him and knowing Him—is more important than a job, than a marriage, than health, or a few more years of life, all of which will soon pass away anyway. Along with the promise, though, is responsibility. If a person rejects the light God has given Him, the consequences are eternal. According to the verse, he will be cast off forever.

How do you come to know God? The first step is to believe that He exists and that He will reward you if you seek Him diligently:

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” (Hebrews 11:6)

So, he expects you to believe that He exists, and He expects you to receive the testimony He has given of Himself concerning His existence. Much of this pamphlet has been focused on evidences demonstrating the reality of His person. Once you recognize that He is real, you need to seek Him and do this diligently. Finding Him needs to become your number one priority.

The situation we are in is described in the book of Isaiah,

“Behold, the LORD’S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save;  
Nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear.

But your iniquities have separated you from your God;  
And your sins have hidden His face from you,  
So that He will not hear.” (Isaiah 59:1-2)

The problem is sin. Sin separates us from God. There is a spiritually deadening effect that sin has on a person. We do not need to be told this; we know it from experience. In fact, sin can get such a strong grip on us that we become its slave. A person instinctively knows that sin in his life offends the Creator and for that reason is uncomfortable talking about Him. He does not like to think about Him. He does not seek God even though He knows God exists.

However, the above verse is a verse of hope. Even though our sins separate us from God, God is able to save us from our sins. The question is whether or not we want Him to. The issue is whether or not we are willing to seek Him.

Isaiah also told us how God would go about saving us from sin. We read about this in the 53rd chapter of the Book of Isaiah in the Bible:

<sup>3</sup> “He is despised and rejected by men...He was despised and we did not esteem Him.”

God is going to use a man to save us who was despised and rejected by men. Earlier, in verse 1 this man was identified as the *Servant* of God. We will also call Him by that name for now.

<sup>5</sup> “But he was wounded for our transgressions,  
He was bruised for our iniquities;  
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him.  
And by His stripes we are healed.”

Isaiah speaks of how the Servant was wounded because of our sins. We who are separated from God by our sins can be at peace with God, because His Servant bore the punishment and chastisement that was due us. It is by means of His affliction that we can be healed from sin and its consequences. The next verse continues,

<sup>6</sup> “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”

Again, the problem is our sin. We stray from God. We want to go our own way, not His. We want God to bless us for our sakes; we are not interested in serving Him for His sake. Yet, praise God! In His mercy, He has laid on His Servant our sins. Dropping down to verse 10,

<sup>10</sup> “Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; he has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, he shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.”

God was willing to bruise the Servant, to put Him to grief for a bigger benefit to follow. This was a grief unto death. The Servant was made an offering for sin. An Old Testament offering always required the death of the one being offered. Our sins created a barrier between God and us. That barrier could only be removed by the death of an acceptable substitute. God provided a substitute for us in the person of the Servant.

<sup>11</sup>“He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, for He shall bear their iniquities.”

Was God unfair to lay our sins on the Servant? Not from the Servant’s perspective according to this verse as well as the one preceding it. Although the Servant suffered on our behalf, God resurrected Him after the sacrifice was finished. After the resurrection, the Servant saw the fruit of His labors in the salvation of those who would come to know Him. Upon seeing this, the Servant was satisfied. It was worth it. His death and the suffering associated with it resulted and will result in the salvation of many. He bore their iniquities, and this was a grief. However, when He sees the product of His labors, the salvation of men, He will be satisfied that it was worth the cost.

This is one of the most precious statements in the Bible. My situation is not good. I have sinned against God. My iniquities have separated me from Him. Yet, in His love for me, He has sent His Servant as an offering for my sin. In His love for me, He has saved me. Furthermore, He offers His salvation to anyone willing to receive it on His terms, which are simple. He offers salvation as a free gift to the one willing to receive it.

How does a person receive this gift? The above verse teaches us that it is by coming to know Him. We will discuss this later. Finally, the chapter concludes,

<sup>12</sup>“Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.”

God is going to greatly honor this person, because He poured out His soul unto death as He bore the sin of many and because He made intercession for the transgressors.

Friend, the Servant of God is willing to intercede before God on your behalf, that you might become clean in God’s eyes and counted by Him as righteous—not because of what you have done, but because of what the Servant did for you out of God’s love.

Who is the Servant who offered Himself up for you? Isaiah talks about Him a few chapters earlier, in chapter 42:

<sup>1</sup> “Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, my Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; he will bring forth justice to the Gentiles.”

The Servant is One whom God has chosen to bring forth justice to the Gentiles. The Servant is none other than the Old Testament Messiah, the anointed King that God has promised to send to rule the entire earth. We could say more about this passage, but this is sufficient for now.

A sacrifice had to be perfect. Any blemish in a sacrifice would have made that sacrifice unacceptable. Both Jew and Gentile would need the benefits of such a sacrifice, for we all have sinned before God. There is only One who is perfect, who is without sin. That is God Himself. Somehow, then, God would need to be the one who was sacrificed. How could this be?

The Bible teaches that God has a Son. The Son is God, but distinct from the Father. We read about the Son in Psalm 2 of the Bible:

<sup>2</sup> "The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed...."

<sup>7</sup> "I will declare the decree: the LORD has said to Me, 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You.

<sup>8</sup> 'Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for Your possession.' "

These verses teach us that the Messiah, the Anointed One of God, is also the Son of God. It is His own Son that God will send to rule on the earth.

In Deuteronomy 29:29 we read that,

"The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever...."

In other words, there are some things that God reveals and some things He keeps secret. He has revealed that there is only one God. He has revealed that He has a Son. The Old Testament of the Bible ascribes deity to His Son (Psalm 45:6-7, Micah 5:2), so His Son is God. How can there be only one God, and yet this God have a Son who is also fully God? To the human mind, these things seem contradictory. However, the problem lies in our understanding, not in God's nature.

A person with a submissive spirit towards God will accept what God has revealed and respond to it in faith. He understands that human intellect is not sophisticated enough to fully comprehend God's nature. He will be content to recognize that God's ways are higher than our ways and that there are some things that God chooses not to reveal to us. By contrast, the one who has a rebellious heart will come across something he does not understand and will then use that as an excuse to rebel against God and reject what God has revealed. Such a person places his own wisdom above God's revealed truth. He limits the nature of the eternal, omnipotent, living God who created the universe to what makes sense to himself, a created being. This is foolishness.

Continuing in Psalm 2 we read,

<sup>11</sup> “Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

<sup>12</sup> ” Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.”

How we respond to the Son determines our destiny. Refusing to respond with affection to the Son will kindle His wrath. However, those who are willing to put their trust in Him will be blessed. We will discuss a little later what it means to put our trust in the Son.

Even though the things we have just looked at are remarkable, there is more. Who is the Servant? Well, let’s look at some more verses. In Micah 5:2, we come across something really interesting:

<sup>2</sup> "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting."

This passage speaks of the Messiah, the One who is to be Ruler in Israel. He has existed forever (i.e., He is God.) Yet, He shall be born in the tiny city of Bethlehem. Another interesting passage is found in Isaiah 7:14,

<sup>13</sup> “Then he said, ‘Hear now, O house of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also?

<sup>14</sup> ‘Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.’ ”

How could an eternal God with an eternal Son have that Son be born into the world? To God the solution was simple. A virgin would conceive and bear a Son. He would be called, “God is with us” (Emmanuel). Although modern scoffers have claimed in their disbelief that the word translated *virgin* should be translated “young woman,” their error is easily refuted. The Septuagint is a translation of the Jewish Bible, the Old Testament, from the original Hebrew language into the Greek language. It was made several hundred years before the birth of Jesus by people who actually spoke both Hebrew and Greek in their daily living. The Greek language makes a clear distinction between a woman who is merely young and a woman who is a virgin. The translators had no particular agenda or bias when they translated the passage and they chose a word which explicitly means “virgin.” The reason for this is simple. It is also what the Hebrew word means. The issue is not the meaning of the word. The issue is that many people do not believe what the passage says and want to soften it into something they can believe.

However, in this passage, God was going to give a sign to the entire House of David. It would be a momentous sign. The virgin would conceive and bear a Son who would be called, “God is with us.”

A God who can create the universe and who can create life at will would certainly have no difficulty in fulfilling this verse. The only difficulties are in the mind of man.

There is another key to the puzzle of the identity of the Servant. In Daniel 9:25-26 we read,

<sup>25</sup> "Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times.

<sup>26</sup> "And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself..."

The command to rebuild both Jerusalem as well as its wall took place in approximately 446 B.C., during the 20th year of King Artaxerxes. It is recorded in Nehemiah 2:1-8. From the time of this command until the Messiah is killed (cut off) would be 69 weeks. A study of related passages shows that a week in this context is a period of seven "almost" years—seven periods of 360 days each. Calculations place the time of the Messiah's death to be somewhere in the timeframe of 31 A.D. However, His death would not be for Himself. Indeed, the death of the Servant was to be a sacrifice for us who have gone our own way and sinned against God.

So, we have learned a lot about the Messiah. We have learned that He is the eternal Son of God who would take on human flesh and literally become God in the flesh after a virgin birth. He was to be born in the city of Bethlehem. He will ultimately rule over the entire earth, although the time for that is still future. However, before this He would offer Himself as a sacrifice for the sins of men. He would die somewhere around 31 A.D. and would be raised from the dead. Then, when He sees those who were saved from their sins because of His sacrificial, substitutionary death, He would be satisfied that it was worth all of the grief and suffering it cost Him.

Is there anyone who fits the description of these things? Yes, Jesus of Nazareth, a man who went about doing good, who demonstrated the power of God in His life by working many miracles, who has had a greater impact on world history than any other single man. He is the One described in all of these various verses. Furthermore, He is the only person in history who could have fulfilled the various prophecies, for the decreed time of His death has long since passed.

What is interesting is that every one of the passages we have looked at concerning the Servant, the Messiah, and the Son were written well before the birth of Jesus the Messiah. In fact, the time of authorship ranges from about 500 to 1,000 years before His birth. The Creator had a specific plan in order to redeem man. He told man about what He had decided to do long before He did it. The documents foretelling these things were recorded in a very well known body of writing, the Hebrew Testament. Then, in accordance with His power, God did what He said He would do. He did this at the exact instant He had determined to do it.

There is a verse in the New Testament, Romans 5:8, that summarizes the underlying motive of God in doing these things:

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

The word *Christ* is the Greek word for the Hebrew *Messiah*. The Messiah died for us! He did this because God loves us.

Friend, what will you do with Jesus? Science points to a Creator God. God specifically designed the creation to reveal His person, and we have looked at ways in which it does. Beyond this, the Bible confirms that the Bible is truly His Word by fulfilled prophecy. The scope and magnitude of the prophecies are overwhelming. These are not prophecies of some minor event happening in the life of some inconsequential person. These are prophecies of the Son of God taking on human flesh through a virgin birth and then dying as a sin offering for the sins of mankind. These are prophecies of resurrection after His death and of His ultimate satisfaction over what His suffering accomplished. These are prophecies defining where the Son would be born and the year He would die. Only the Creator could make and fulfill prophecies of this magnitude.

Because God loves you, He sent His Son in the likeness of human flesh that He might make Himself an offering for you, bearing your sins in His body. You have no other hope, because He is God’s only provision. If anything else had been adequate, God would not have gone to the extreme measure of offering His Son as a sacrifice for our sins.

The Son of God offered Himself as a payment for your sins. If you will trust Him, He will bless you eternally. However, if you refuse Him, you will kindle His wrath, for you have despised something extremely precious and costly and which for now is being offered to you freely.

God offers you eternal life. He offers you forgiveness of sins. He gives you the promise of knowing Him on an intimate basis. However, if you forsake Him, if you turn from Him, He will cast you off forever.

The decision is yours. God gives the reward for seeking Him diligently. Putting off the decision is to risk eternal damnation.

So, how do you receive the Son as your Savior? It is explained to us in John 3:16,

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

We receive God’s Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, as our Savior by believing in Him. This verse is really an application of Psalm 2:12 which we looked at a little while ago and which states that, “Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.”

What does it mean to believe in Him? The Greek word translated here as “believe” can

also be translated *trust in* or *rely on*. Believing in Christ as Savior means accepting what God has revealed about His person, that He is the Son of God and will some day rule as King. It means accepting what God has revealed about His work, i.e. that Christ died for our sins, was buried, rose again three days later, and was seen by many witnesses. Finally, it means RELYING on these things for our salvation. We no longer rely on ourselves or on our own works. We rely on Christ's finished work to save us.

We have lived in rejection of God. We have suppressed truth about God so that we could live in sin. But now, we recognize that God is holy and will have nothing to do with sin.

It is our desire to come to Him, to know Him, to be pleasing to Him. Yet, we know that our sins make this impossible and there is nothing we can do about it. Our sins have too powerful a grip on us.

Yet, God loves us and has done all of the work for us. He is willing to receive us if we come to Him His way, which is through His Son Jesus Christ.

As we come to Christ, He reveals our sin to us. We can look to Him to forgive us of our sins or we can turn from Him and go our own way. But, we cannot come to Christ to save us while deliberately determining to continue in our sins. Repentance is the willingness and desire to have Jesus make us clean. It is turning from a life of rebelling against God and from going our own way. Yet, it is not trying to become clean by our own willpower. We do not have the strength to do this. It is yielding to Him to save us and cleanse us.

"God now commands all men everywhere to repent." (Acts 17:30)

Friend, may you cast yourself on the mercy and grace of Jesus, relying on Him to cleanse you and make you acceptable to God.

Jesus said,

"The one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out." (John 6:37)

The Old Testament prophet said that if you forsake God, He will cast you off forever. But, Jesus promises that if you will come to Him, He will not cast you out. You come to Him by believing that He is the Son of God and that He died for your sins and rose again. Indeed, we read in Romans 4:5, "But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness."

Friend, will you come to Jesus now? The following is a suggested confession of faith. May it express your internal decision to trust Christ as Savior:

"Father in Heaven, I have sinned against you. I have not glorified you, I have not honored you, and I have gone my own way, even when I knew better. I am guilty before you and deserve eternal judgment. However, I believe your Word, that Jesus Christ is your Son and that His death paid off my judgment. I believe He rose from the dead after

three days, is alive today in Heaven, and has the authority and power to save me from my sins. I am relying on Your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to forgive my sins and to give me eternal life. Thank you. In the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Amen. "

In 2 Corinthians 9:15 we read, "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!" May this verse truly reflect the attitude of your heart.

If you have just trusted Christ as your Savior, please let us know by sending an e-mail with a brief note telling us of your decision. The address is on the inside back page. We have some material we would like to send you telling you "what's next" and also to encourage you in your service to God.

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## **About The Author**

Tim Stout graduated from UCLA with a B.S. in physics and has done graduate studies at the San Francisco Baptist Theological Seminary. He has over thirty years experience as an industrial design engineer in both the mechanical and electronic fields. Two of his electronic designs have been featured on the covers of trade journals and he has received four U.S. patents for efficient conversion of sea water to fresh water. He also has 19 years experience (some in parallel with work as a design engineer) in the ministry, including twelve years as a church pastor, four years in a campus outreach ministry, and three years devoted to a creation science outreach, proclaiming how God has revealed Himself in His creation. Tim is a member of the First Baptist Church in Troy,

## **Reviews**

Joseph L Henson, Ph.D. in entomology:

The author has provided a wide-ranging discussion, suitable for scientists and non-scientists, with abundant evidence and reasoned arguments which refute evolutionary dogmatism. It is worth careful reading and thoughtful judgment. (Dr. Henson is Chairman Emeritus of the Division of Natural Science, Bob Jones University).

Jerry Bergman, Ph.D., professor of biology and chemistry:

"This excellent well written review of the biochemical, biological, cell biological and other scientific evidence for intelligent design will inform both those with little knowledge of the debate now raging in the United States, as well as those who are very familiar with the relevant issues. This booklet goes beyond the scientific research and findings and explains in some detail the implications of the evidence. One example is the authors attempt to determine the six characteristics of an intelligent designer using both what we know from science and the Scriptural record. Our view of origins has clear implications for religion that must be faced by both believer and nonbeliever alike.... I encourage all to at least consider this timely monograph." (Dr. Bergman is a professor of biology and chemistry at Northwest State College in Ohio.)

Jobe Martin, D.M.D, Th.M.:

"In this little booklet Tim Stout methodically spells out the factual, scientific evidences against Big Bang to molecules to life to man over millions of years type evolution. If you believe in the evolution model and consider yourself to be intellectually open minded then these few pages will be an eye-opener!" (Dr. Martin is a former faculty member of the Baylor Medical School in Texas and is currently president of Biblical Discipleship Ministries.)

Mirren Martin, Ph.D. in history:

"Do science and faith mix? It may be surprising to many that most of the major branches of science were founded by men who believed the Scriptures. Indeed, their faith in God's Word led to the discovery of many scientific truths. As a historian, I greatly enjoyed Chapter Six's concise yet insightful account of many of history's greatest scientists." (Dr. Martin is a staff member of Biblical Discipleship Ministries.)

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