

Science Christians Need to Know

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- **Biblical basis for studying science**
- **Great scientists trusted God to reveal truth**
- **God's awesome creative and sustaining word**
- **Life is fearfully and wonderfully made**
The unexplainable interactive computer systems in life
- **Creation vs. evolution scientific evidence**
- **Darwinism & its replacement: Extended Synthesis**
- **Intelligent design vs creationism**
- **Legal issues: religion can be theistic or atheistic**

Biblical Basis for Science Study

- "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." Mt. 22:37
- "For the Lord gives wisdom, and from His mouth come knowledge and understanding." Pr. 2:6
- "Come ... let us reason together,' says the LORD" Is 1:18
- "Paul ... reasoned with them from the Scriptures" Acts 17:2
- "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." 1 Peter 3:15
- "Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:32 (all NIV unless indicated otherwise)

Isaac Newton



- **World's greatest scientist**
- **Laws of motion and gravity**
- "Gravity explains the motions of the planets, but it cannot explain who set the planets in motion. God governs all things and knows all that is or can be done."
- "I have a foundational belief in the Bible as the Word of God."
- **Newton spent more time studying Scripture than studying science.**
- "He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning." Danl 2:21

Johann Kepler



- **Father of Physical Astronomy**
- **Kepler's Laws: Three mathematical laws of planetary motion**
- **Defended sun-centered solar system**
- "I was merely thinking God's thoughts after him. Since we astronomers are priests of the highest God in regard to the book of nature, it benefits us to be thoughtful, not of the glory of our minds, but rather, above all else, of the glory of God." newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Johannes_Kepler
- "For the LORD gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding." Pr 2:5-7

Blaise Pascal



- **Mathematician, physicist, calculator inventor, and religious philosopher**
- **Developed probability theory, his most influential contribution to mathematics**
- "Belief is a wise wager. Granted that faith cannot be proved, what harm will come to you if you gamble on its truth and it proves false? If you gain, you gain all; if you lose, you lose nothing. Wager, then, without hesitation, that He exists."
- "Faith is different from proof; the latter is human, the former is a Gift from God."
- **Believers:** Faraday, Kelvin, Maxwell, Boyle, Pasteur, etc.

God's Creative Word

- **Science has no explanation for the origin of mass/energy**
- **Steven Hawking (6/7/10 20/20 interview): "I want to know why the universe exists, why there is something greater than nothing."**
- **LAW of conservation of mass and energy says Universe's 3×10^{55} g or 3×10^{68} joules is constant**
- **Mass can be converted ($E=mc^2$) to energy, & vice-versa (1 gram equivalent to 90,000 Gjoules = 2700 MWHrs)**
- **Hiroshima A-bomb converted 6.4 mg of nuclear mass 4,400,000 bombs equivalent to 1 ounce**
- **1 drop of water equivalent to 10 bombs**
- **All yearly US residential power from a bowling ball's mass**

Amazing Power of God’s Spoken Word

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” Gen 1:1

“By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.” Heb 11:3

“All things were created by him and for him.” Col 1:16

God is omnipotent, "easily" converting His power

“The voice of the Lord is powerful” Ps 29:4

“And God said, 'Let there be ...' and there was.” Gen 1

God's creative word in Hiroshima bomb energy equivalents:
520,000

God’s Sustaining Word

“His work has been finished since the creation of the world.” Heb. 4:4

“The Son is...sustaining all things by this powerful word.” Heb. 1:3

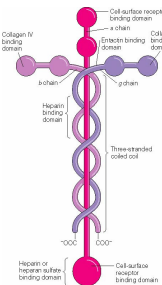
“By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire ... the elements will be destroyed by fire.” 2 Pet 3:7-10

The repulsive forces in a nucleus “should” make it explode

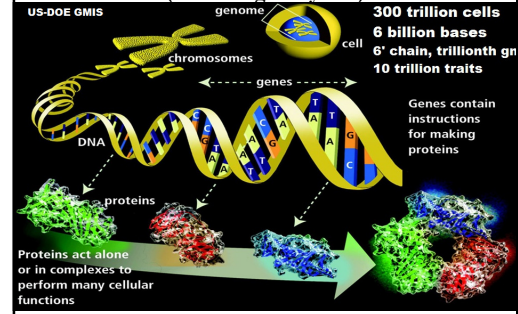
(“gluons” are proposed as a solution)

“In him all things hold together.” Col 1:17

Laminin protein assemblies are integral parts of the structural scaffolding in almost every tissue of an organism.



Simplified Genetic Code for Constructing Proteins (Including Enzymes)



Life is “fearfully and wonderfully made” Ps 139:14

Digital (base 4, ACGT) self-correcting encoded information
Information in 1 teaspoon of DNA: all people + all books
DNA/RNA/proteins must be fully-formed/functional
Each of >100,000 proteins is program execution output

In each of 300 trillion cells, there are multiple OSs, multiple programming languages, encoding/decoding hardware and software, specialized communications systems, error detection and correction mechanisms, specialized input/output channels for cell component control and feedback, and variety of specialized “devices” to accomplish the tasks of life

100 billion neurons in human brain, each linked to 10,000 other neurons
Brain performs 10¹⁶ ops/sec (> all computers in the world)
1 sec of optic nerve's data: hours on supercomputer

Interesting Observations

“Human DNA is like a computer program but far, far more advanced than any software we’ve ever created.” Bill Gates, The Road Ahead, 1995, p.228.

“Physics books may be complicated, but ... the objects and phenomena that a physics book describes are simpler than a single cell in the body of its author ... organized with intricate architecture and precision-engineering into a working machine capable of writing a book... Each nucleus ... contains a digitally coded database larger, in information content, than all thirty volumes of the Encyclopedia Britannica.” Dawkins, *Climbing Mt Improbable*, Dawkins, *The Blind Watchmaker*, p. 1:

“Biology is the study of complicated things that give the appearance of having been designed for a purpose.”

“Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like man and birds and animals and reptiles.” (Rom 1:22)

Biblical Origin of Life

“Then God said, 'Let the land produce vegetation’” Gen 1:11 (day 3)

“And God said, 'Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky.’” Gen 1:20 (day 5)

“And God said, 'Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds.’” 1:24 (day 6)

“Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image'... in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them... God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.” Gen 1:26-27 & 2:7 (day 6)

Neo-Darwinian Biology

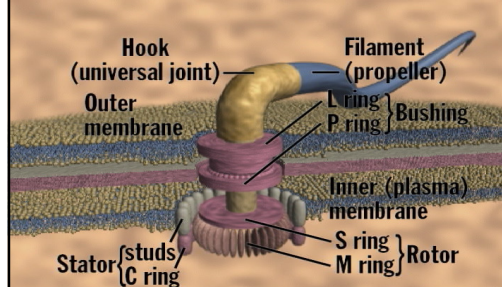
“Each successive change in the gradual evolutionary process was simple enough, relative to its predecessor, to have arisen by chance.”
(Dawkins, *The Blind Watchmaker*, 1996, p43)

“If it could be demonstrated that any complex organ existed which could not possibly have been formed by numerous, successive, slight modifications, my theory would absolutely break down” Darwin, *Origin of Species*, p154

“The failure to observe even one mutation that adds information is more than just a failure to support the theory. It is evidence against the ... neo-Darwinian theory.” (Spector, *Not By Chance*, p160)

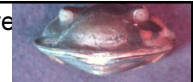
Bacterial Flagellum: Irreducibly Complex

48+ proteins (>30 unique): < 1 in $10^{5,250}$ probability
Each protein produced by execution of a program



Lowest Stratum Trilobite Eye

• Transparent calcium carbonate



• “Trilobites had solved a very

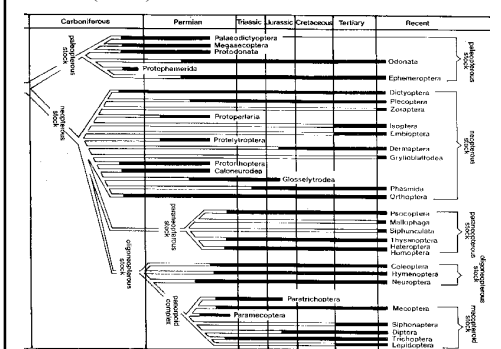
elegant physical problem and apparently knew about Fermat’s principle, Abbe’s sine law, Snell’s laws of refraction and the optics of birefringent crystals.” Clarkson & Levi-Setti, “Trilobite Eyes and the Optics of Des Cartes and Huygens,” *Nature*: 254, 4/24/75, p663 - 667

• “These lenses optimize both light collecting and image formation better than any lens...that optical physics has ever been able to formulate.” N. Eldredge, “A Trilobite Panorama in Eastern North America,” *Fossils Magazine*: 1, 1976, p58-67

• “The design of the trilobite’s eye lens could well qualify for a patent disclosure.” R. Levi-Setti,

Trilobites: A photographic atlas (2nd edition), 1993, p58

Actual (black) vs. Presumed Connections (77 Ency. Brit.)



Sudden Appearance and Fixity of Kinds

“according to their kinds” (Gen 1)

“Most of the animal phyla that are represented in the fossil record first appear, ‘fully formed,’ in the Cambrian... The fossil record is therefore of no help with respect to the origin and early diversification of the various animal phyla.” Barnes, Clow & Olive, *The Invertebrates*, 2001, p9–10

“It is as though they were just planted there, without any evolutionary history.” Richard Dawkins, *The Blind Watchmaker*, 1996, p229

The fossil record supports creation with:

Multitude of life in the oldest fossil-bearing rocks

Fixity of species over “eons” of time

NO transitional forms, though claimed – Tiktaalik

10 million years older tetrapod found! *Nature* (463). 2010. p43-48

Darwinism Revisited

- “The complexity of biology has seemed to grow by orders of magnitude... Biology’s new glimpse at a universe of non-coding DNA has been fascinating and befuddling... the signaling information in cells is organized through networks of information rather than simple discrete pathways. It’s infinitely more complex.” E. Hayden, “Life is Complicated,” *Nature*, 4/10, p664-7
- “Much of the vast neo-Darwinian literature is distressingly uncritical... Natural selection has shown insidious imperialistic tendencies.” Fodor & Piattelli-Palmarini, “Survival of the fittest theory: Darwinism’s limits,” *New Scientist*, 2/3/10
- Extended Synthesis: Likely Neo-Darwinism replacement

Creation Evangelism

- “We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made heaven and earth and sea and everything in them.” Acts 14:15
- “The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth.” Acts 17:24
- “Keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called.” (1 Tm 6:20-21 KJV)

Intelligent Design vs Creationism

- ID “holds that certain features of the universe and of living things are best explained by an intelligent cause, not an undirected process such as natural selection. Through the study and analysis of a system's components, a design theorist is able to determine whether various natural structures are the product of chance, natural law, intelligent design, or some combination thereof.” (Discovery Institute Website)
- Creationism holds that the Bible is true, and science must conform to the facts presented in the Bible, with any disparity due to incomplete human understanding.

Evolution and Religion

- “As the creationists claim, belief in modern evolution makes atheists of people. One can have a religious view that is compatible with evolution only if the religious view is indistinguishable from atheism.” Will Provine, “No Free Will,” 1999, in *Catching Up with the Vision*, pS123
- Evolution is “a full-fledged alternative to Christianity... Evolution is a religion. This was true of evolution in the beginning, and it is true of evolution still today.” Michael Ruse, “Saving Darwinism from the Darwinians,” *National Post*, 5/13/00

Pertinent US Court Rulings

- 1980 Supreme: implications of material alone do not make a religion even if they “coincide or harmonize with the tenets of some or all religions.”
- 1961 Supreme: “Among religions in this country which do not teach what would generally be considered a belief in the existence of God are ... Secular Humanism.”
- 2005 Appellate: “Atheism is religion, and the group... was religious in nature even though it expressly rejects a belief in a supreme being.”
- 1961 Supreme: “religious beliefs... are based... upon a faith to which all else is subordinate Some believe in a purely personal God, ... others... as a way of life”

Goals of This Presentation

- Science supports the insights in the Bible
- The Bible IS reliable and can be trusted – “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching...” (2 Tim. 3:16)
- Christian faith is fact-based, not “blind” or “anti-logic” – “You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (Jn. 8:32). Study and “Always be prepared to give an answer”
- Our knowledge on any subject is limited – “Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror.” (1 Cor 13:12).
- The world is blind to many truths (Rom. 1:18-32, 1 Cor. 1:18-2:16) – “They exchanged the truth of God for a lie.”
- Proven reliability increases confidence in accuracy of predictions (Heaven, Hell, judgement, salvation, etc. are based on faith).

Useful ID References

- *Probability's Nature and Nature's Probability*, Don Johnson (2 versions: 2009 Lite/2010 revised Scientists')
- *Programming of Life*, Don Johnson, Oct 2010
- *The Privileged Planet*, Gonzalez & Richards, 2004
- *Darwin's Black Box*, Michael Behe, 1996
- *Signature in the Cell*, Stephen Meyer, 2009
- *Uncommon Dissent*, William Dembski, 2004
- arn.org, intelligentdesign.org, uncommondescent.com, scienceintegrity.net (PDF available at www.djgo.info)
- **Creation/Biblically-based References**
- answersingenesis.org, creation.com, icr.org, reasons.org
- *The Case for A Creator*, Lee Strobel, 2006
- *I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist*, Geisler, 2004