



*Design  
From a  
Benevolent  
Creator*

*By  
John B. Loiodice*

# Design From a Benevolent Creator

## **Design From a Benevolent Creator**

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Published by PVOL, Inc.  
Bibleweb.Info – A Christian Bible Study Collection  
[www.Bibleweb.Info](http://www.Bibleweb.Info)

Printed in the United States of America - First Printing

A Christian Bible Study Collection  
[www.Bibleweb.Info](http://www.Bibleweb.Info)

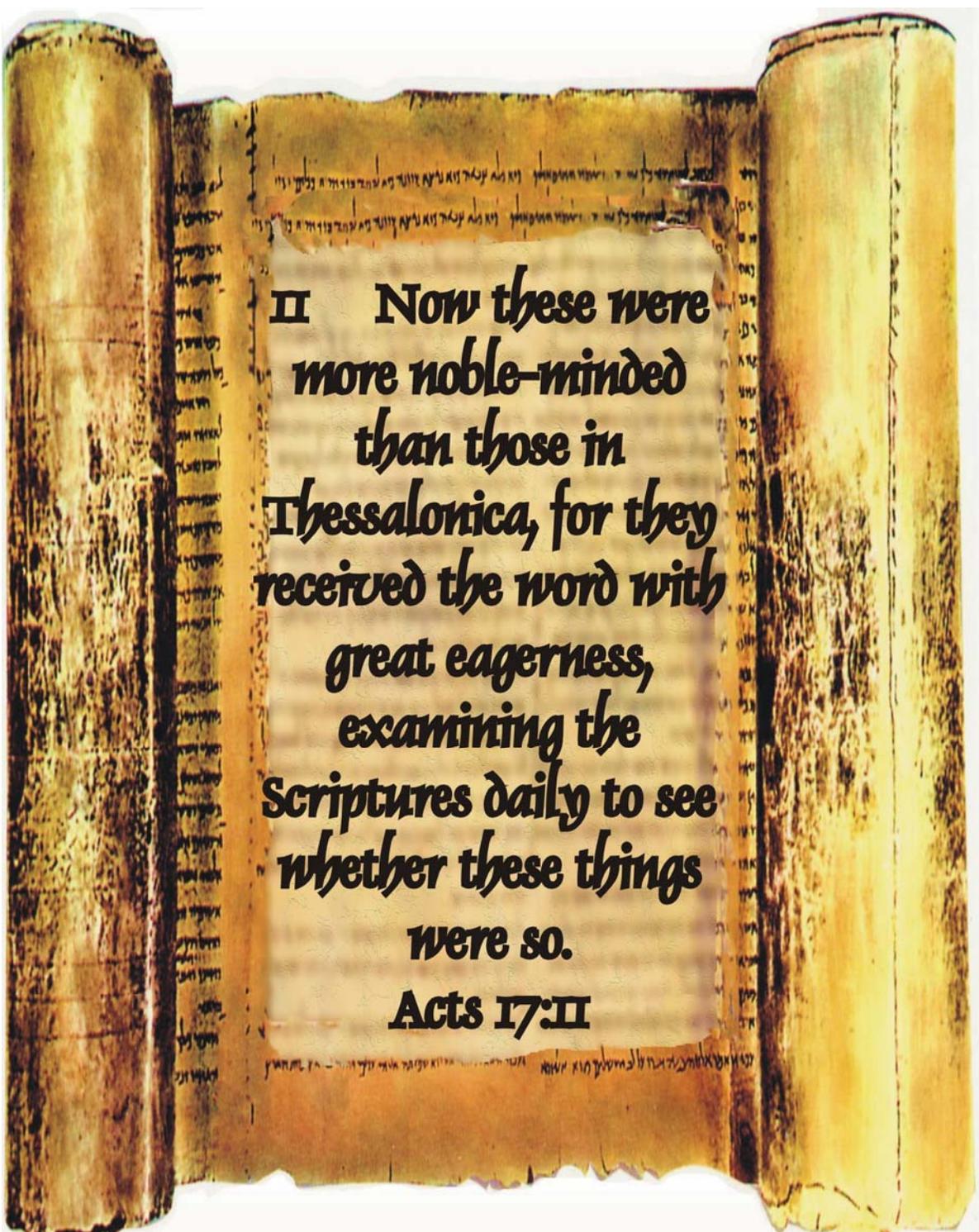
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A little girl was lying on the floor with her crayons and a large drawing pad when her father came into the room and asked, "What are you drawing, honey?" Without looking up, she replied, "I'm drawing a picture of God." Her father smiled and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without a pause, she retorted, "They will when I am finished."

An open, aged manuscript with a central parchment insert. The insert contains the following text:

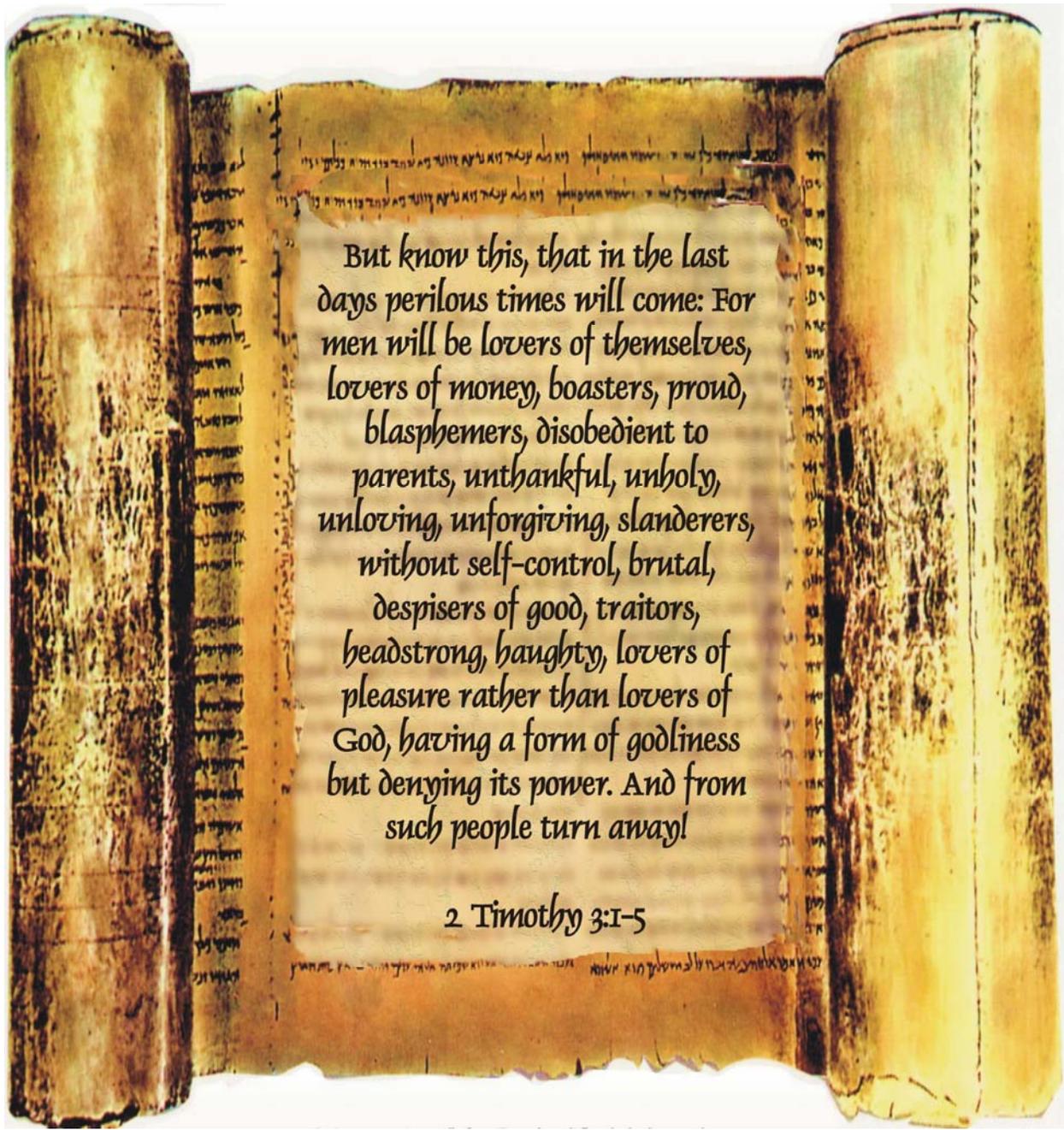
**II** Now these were  
more noble-minded  
than those in  
Thessalonica, for they  
received the word with  
great eagerness,  
examining the  
Scriptures daily to see  
whether these things  
were so.

**Acts 17:II**

I will worship toward Your holy temple  
and praise Your name for Your loving-kindness  
and for Your truth and faithfulness;  
for You have exalted above all else  
Your name and Your word and  
You have magnified  
Your **word** above all Your name!

Psalm 138:2

# *Perilous Times and Perilous Men*

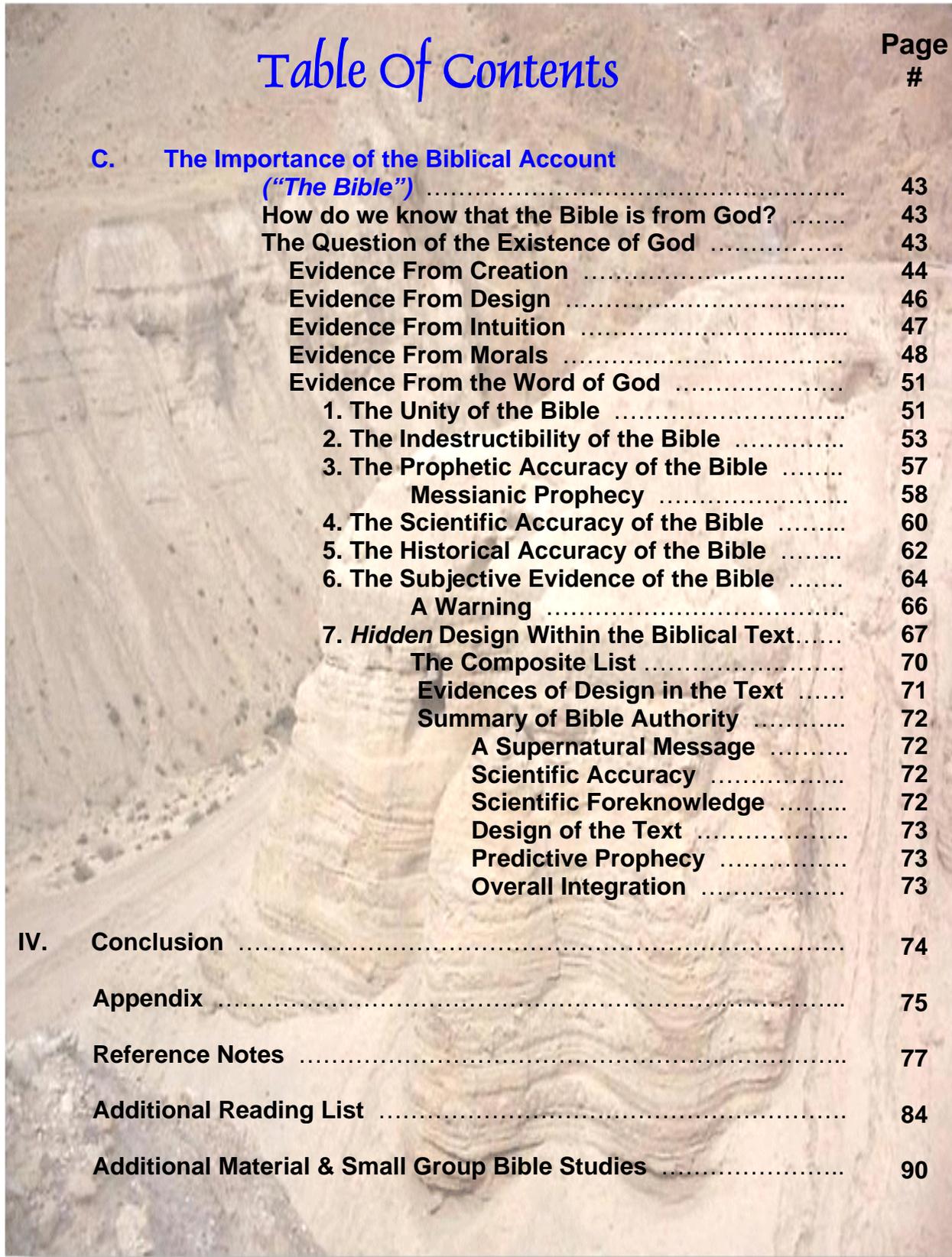


But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

2 Timothy 3:1-5

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# Design From a Benevolent Creator

## Thesis Statement

*The view, not only from our vantage point, but from any point in the entire cosmos, clearly demonstrates that all creation, in the universe is a product of a magnificent design from a Benevolent Creator, also known as God.*

Let's break this statement down into an outline form, and elaborate..

- I. **All Creation (“There’s No Place Like Home”)**
  - A. **The Anthropic Principle**
    1. **From Our Vantage Point (Earth)**
    2. **From Any Point (The Entire Cosmos)**
  - B. **All creation (Heavens & Earth, Life, Humans)**
- II. **All Creation is a Product of Design**
  - A. **Creation versus Evolution**
  - B. **Probably and Mystery of Life**
    1. **The DNA, Chromosome Molecules & Cells**
    2. **The Human Anatomy & The Real You**
- III. **From a Benevolent Creator (God)**
  - A. **Is the Universe Eternal Or Was the Universe Created?**
  - B. **A Personal Caring Creator God – His Plan For Our Redemption**
  - C. **The Importance of the Biblical Account (“The Bible”)**
- IV. **Conclusion**

## I. All Creation (“*There’s No Place Like Home*”)

*"The Earth is a very small stage in a vast cosmic arena... Our posturings, our imagined self-importance, the delusion that we have some privileged position in the Universe, are challenged by this point of pale light." (Carl Sagan, Pale Blue Dot, 1994)*

Carl Sagan has been greatly deceived, and has deceived many.

### A. The Anthropic Principle

**(Anthropic comes from the Greek "anthropos" which means "man".)**

This view has been noted by such venerated observers as Augustine, Maimonides, Aquinas, Newton, Paley, and others. This idea was dubbed the “**Anthropic Principle**” by Paul Dirac in 1937 and by Robert Dicke in 1961. Simply stated, it is the appearance that the universe was designed for Man. In constructing a mathematical model of what we believe we know about the universe, there are hundreds of delicate ratios that, if altered the slightest, would render life impossible (some as little as 1/10-55!).

*It seems as though somebody has fine-tuned nature's number to make the Universe... **The impression of design is overwhelming.***

Paul Davies

#### 1. From Our Vantage Point (Earth)

- Most astronomers are amazed that the universe is accessible to the human eye and partially the mind. You put observers in the best place for observing, and that is exactly what has been done for us here on earth.
- The “perfect solar eclipses” have played a very important role in scientific discovery. They have helped to reveal the nature of stars, and the natural environment for measuring the solar flash spectrum and several discoveries about the sun, prominences, starlight deflection, and earth’s rotation. (page 18)
- Discoverability of the universe is something that we didn’t need for survival, but it seems that it has been granted to us so that we can continue to discover.

- The type or placement in the galaxy, the type of star we are around, and even the placement in this particular solar system, has been delicately designed for optimum life and observance of the heavenlies.

There is just something about the universe that cannot be explained just about the universal forces of nature and atoms collating with atoms, so you have to reach for something beyond the universe to account for it.<sup>1</sup>

## 2. From Any Point (The Entire Cosmos)

Our location within the solar system and the galaxy is uniquely positioned for both life and discovery. Most of the places in the galaxy are much less hospitable for life.

**(Location is everything.)** We are located in the best setting in our galaxy.

*“The most incomprehensible thing about the universe is that it is comprehensible”*  
-- Albert Einstein

*Ironically, our relatively peripheral position on the spiral arm of a rather ordinary galaxy is indeed rather fortunate. If we had been stationed in a more central position – say, near the galactic hub – it is likely that our knowledge of the universe of other galaxies, for example might not have been as extensive. Perhaps in such a position the light from surrounding stars could well have blocked our view of intergalactic space. Perhaps astronomy and cosmology as we know these subjects would never have developed. -- Micheal J. Denton<sup>2</sup>*

---

<sup>1</sup> Guillermo Gonzalez & Jay Richards, *The Privileged Planet: How Our Place in the Cosmos is Designed for Discovery*, (Regnery Publishing, Inc., copyright 2004), ISBN: 0895260654, 464 pp., excerpt taken from the DVD.

<sup>2</sup> Denton, Michael, *Nature's Destiny*, (New York: The Free Press, copyright 1998), page 13., Also from *The Privileged Planet: How Our Place in the Cosmos is Designed for Discovery*, (Regnery Publishing, Inc., copyright 2004), ISBN: 0895260654, Chapter 8, page 143.

## B. All creation (Heavens & Earth, Life, Humans)

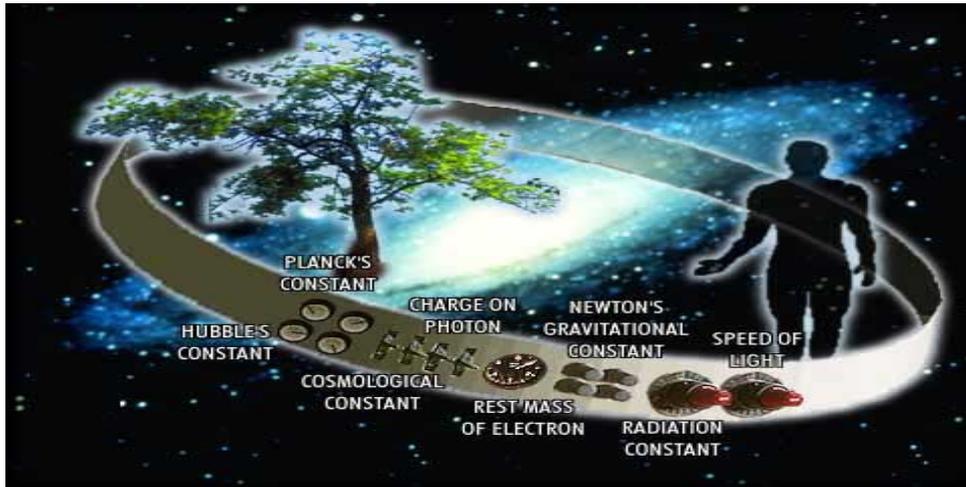


Figure 1. Components That Make Up The Universe

In the early 1980s, scientific papers on physical constants were presented at the meeting of the Royal Society of London. One was on the anthropic principle and its implication for biological evolution. **The conclusion was reached that it is the specific values of the constants that make the universe and life what they are.** The speed of light, the quantum of action, the force of gravity, the ratio of the proton and electron masses, the balance of the charges between the electron and the proton, and the ratio between the masses of the electron and the neutron are some of the constants. Physicists are recognizing that the 'just-so' values and the physical laws associated with them could not have arisen by chance or accident but had to have been designed.

Evidence from biology that supports this theory began to emerge in the mid-1980s. Using the information content of structures, the American biochemist **Charles Thaxton** put them into three categories:

- a) *aperiodic and unspecified,*
- b) *periodic and specified, and*
- c) *aperiodic and specified.*

To the first group belong systems whose parts are arranged at random. Examples are flotsam on a beach and letters of the alphabet or words written haphazardly. The

information content in these is zero. Examples of the second kind in which the pattern is repeated over and over again are found on wallpaper or floor design, and in crystals, and the pattern below. Here the information content is very low.

Our planet is exquisitely fit not only to support life, but also gives us **the best view of the universe**, as if: *Earth and the universe itself were designed both for life and for scientific discovery*. In fact, *earth is a lot more significant than virtually anyone has realized*.

"Earth's conditions allow for a stunning diversity of measurements, from cosmology and galactic astronomy to stellar astrophysics and geophysics; they allow for this rich diversity of measurement much more so than if Earth were ideally suited for, say, just one of these sorts of measurement."<sup>3</sup>

#### **The unique significance of the earth in the universe.**

- The earth is precisely positioned in the Milky Way-not only for life, but also to allow us to find answers to the greatest mysteries of the universe.
- Striking ways in which water doesn't behave like most other liquids-and how each of its quirks makes it perfectly fit for the existence of creatures like us.
- The harmony of Earth and the Moon: how they work together to sustain Earthly life as one intricate system-and how that system produces the best solar eclipses just where there are observers to see them.
- The Earth's atmosphere helps protect us from harmful radiation, yet has a tiny window open to the radiation crucial for life and scientific knowledge.
- Jupiter and Saturn protect Earth from cataclysmic destruction.
- The best scientific evidence refutes the misnamed Copernican Principle-the widely held idea that there is nothing special about Earth or its place in the universe.
- The laws and constants that govern the universe must be narrowly fine-tuned for the existence of any complex life.

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<sup>3</sup> Guillermo Gonzalez & Jay Richards, *The Privileged Planet: How Our Place in the Cosmos is Designed for Discovery*, (Regnery Publishing, Inc., copyright 2004), ISBN: 0895260654, 464 pp., excerpt taken from the DVD.

- Copernicus: the popular idea of his achievement and its significance contains more ideologically skewed myth than historical fact.
- The sheer number and size of galaxies does not mean that Earth's capacity to sustain life is just the result of blind chance.

### The Solar Eclipse – A Key To Understanding The Universe

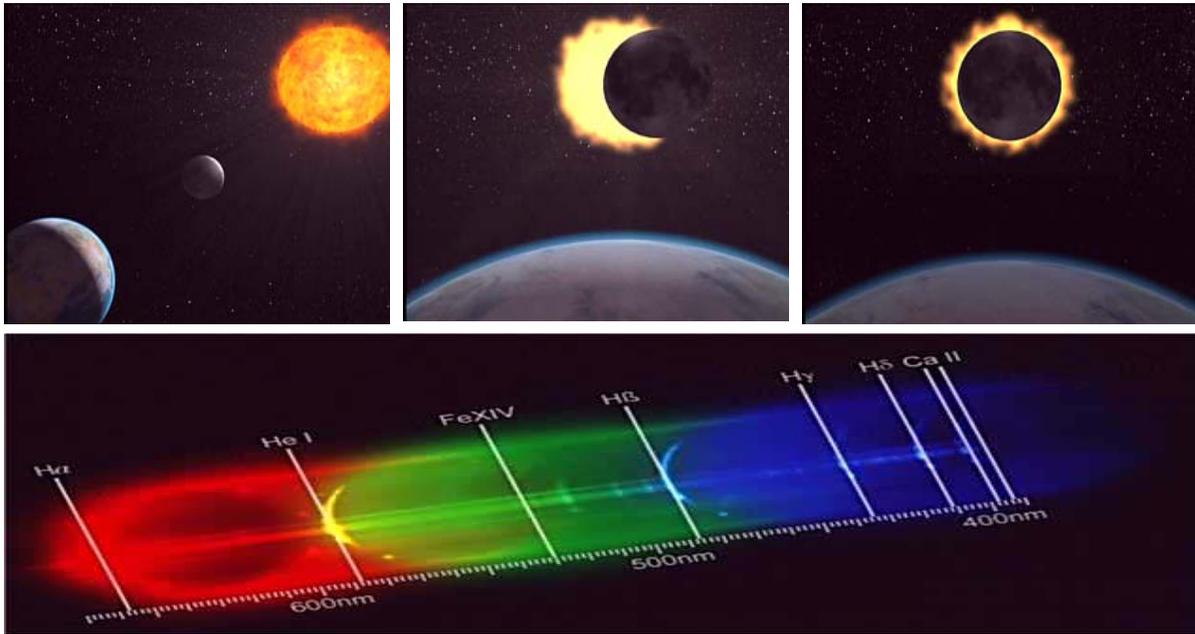


Figure 2<sup>4</sup>

The total phase of a solar eclipse is very brief. It rarely lasts more than several minutes. Nevertheless, it is considered to be one of the most awe inspiring spectacles in all of nature. The sky takes on an eerie twilight as the Sun's bright face is replaced by the black disk of the Moon. Surrounding the Moon is a beautiful gossamer halo. This is the Sun's spectacular **solar corona**; a super heated plasma two million degrees in temperature. The corona can only be seen during the few brief minutes of totality.

***There is a direct correlation between life and discovery.***

***The same narrow circumstances that allow us to exist also provide us with the best overall setting for making scientific discoveries.***

***The composition of the earth's atmosphere is directly related to our ability to discover.***

4 Guillermo Gonzalez & Jay Richards, *The Privileged Planet: How Our Place in the Cosmos is Designed for Discovery*, (Regnery Publishing, Inc., copyright 2004), ISBN: 0895260654, 464 pp., excerpt taken from the DVD.

## II. All Creation is a Product of Design

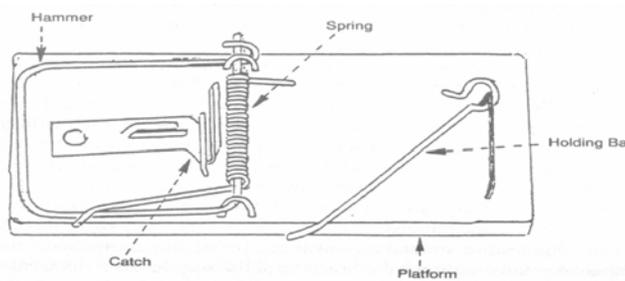
### A. Creation versus Evolution

#### Irreducible Complexity

Michael Behe, a well-known bio-chemist, explains in his acclaimed book “**Darwin’s Black Box**” about the **irreducible complexity** of isolated systems, either living or nonliving, with an illustration of a mousetrap.

Most biological systems are integrated units. **You cannot take away one element of the system and still have the system work.** For instance, a mousetrap has a platform, a spring, a holding bar, a catch, and a hammer. It is designed to do one thing: to kill a mouse. **If you take away any part of the trap—the spring, for example—the mousetrap simply will not work as designed and is therefore useless.** *There is a purposeful arrangement of the parts.*

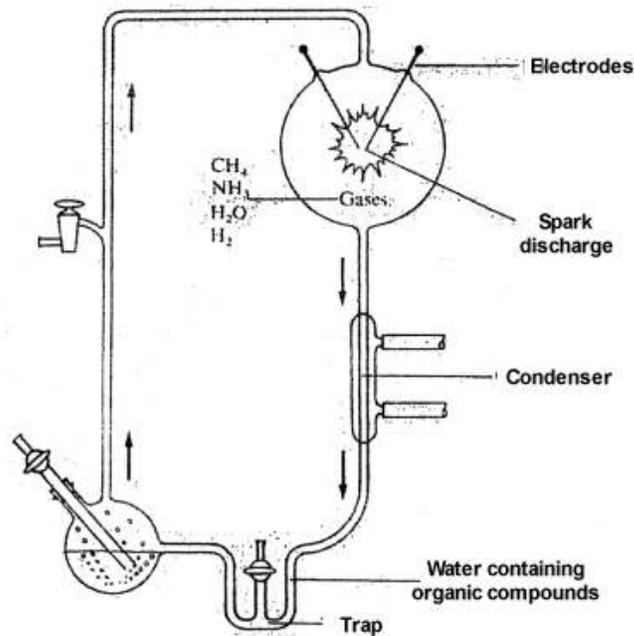
No one coming across a mousetrap would imagine that it had been put together without a specific purpose in mind. In the same way, irreducibly complex systems by their nature *imply a design.*<sup>5</sup>



<sup>5</sup> Richards, L. (1998). *Every miracle in the Bible*. Includes indexes. (Page 4). Nashville: T. Nelson.

## Abiogenesis

Abiogenesis - An **attempt** to create life from inorganic materials. **Abiogenesis has never taken place in the past or ever will take place in the future.**<sup>6</sup>



**FIGURE 1. The Miller "origin of life" apparatus<sup>7</sup>**

would have contained only 10% as much water as the present ocean, that would still amount to about 35 million cubic miles of water. **Efficient methods of producing these compounds would have had to exist, then, since many billions of tons of each would have been required to give a significant concentration in such a vast body of water.**

In 1953 Stanley Miller announced the first successful synthesis of amino acids and of a few other simple organic chemical compounds under assumed primitive earth

<sup>6</sup> Hodge, C. (1997). *Systematic theology*. Originally published 1872. Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.icr.org/pubs/imp/imp-031.htm>

conditions.<sup>8</sup> Miller circulated a mixture of methane, ammonia, hydrogen, and water vapor through an apparatus containing an electrical discharge chamber. Products of the reaction were collected in a cold trap. After circulating the gases for about a week, Miller analyzed the aqueous solution in the trap. He found that it contained glycine and alanine, the two simplest amino acids, plus small amounts of two other amino acids, glutamic acid and aspartic acid. In addition to these amino acids, which are constituents of proteins, several other non-protein amino acids, as well as a number of amines and acids were found.

Since Miller's experiment, other origin of life chemists have produced a variety of amino acids, sugars, purines, pyrimidines, and other compounds under a variety of conditions and using various gases.<sup>9</sup> **Evolutionists have generally accepted these results** uncritically, hailing them as providing sure evidence that naturalistic processes would have provided the pre-biotic "soup" necessary for the origin of life. Kenyon and Steinman state, for example, "The experiments discussed indicate that a rich variety of biologically important molecules could have been synthesized on the primitive Earth by simple means."<sup>10</sup>

---

8 S. L. Miller, "A Production of Amino Acids under Possible Primitive Earth Conditions," *Science*, Vol. 117, pp. 528-529 (1953), also from: <http://www.icr.org/pubs/imp/imp-031.htm>

9 A. P. Kimball and J. Oro, Eds., *Prebiotic and Biochemical Evolution*, North-Holland, Amsterdam, 1971.

8 D. H. Kenyon and G. Steinman, *Biochemical Predestination*, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1969, page 158

10 L. Margulis, Ed., *Origins of Life: Chemistry and Radioastronomy*, Springer, New York, 1973.

11 A. I. Oparin, *The Origin of Life on the Earth*, Academic Press, New York, 1957.

12 J. Keosian, *The Origin of Life*, Reinhold Pub. Co., New York, 1964.

13 J. D. Bernal, *The Origin of Life*, World Pub. Co., Cleveland, 1967.

14 M. Calvin, *Chemical Evolution*, Oxford U. Press, New York, 1969.

15 D. H. Kenyon and G. Steinman, *Biochemical Predestination*, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1969.

16 S. W. Fox and K. Dose, *Molecular Evolution and the Origin of Life*, Freeman Pub. Co., San Francisco, 1972.

17 S. L. Miller and L. E. Orgel, *The Origins of Life on the Earth*, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 1973.

## Biogenesis

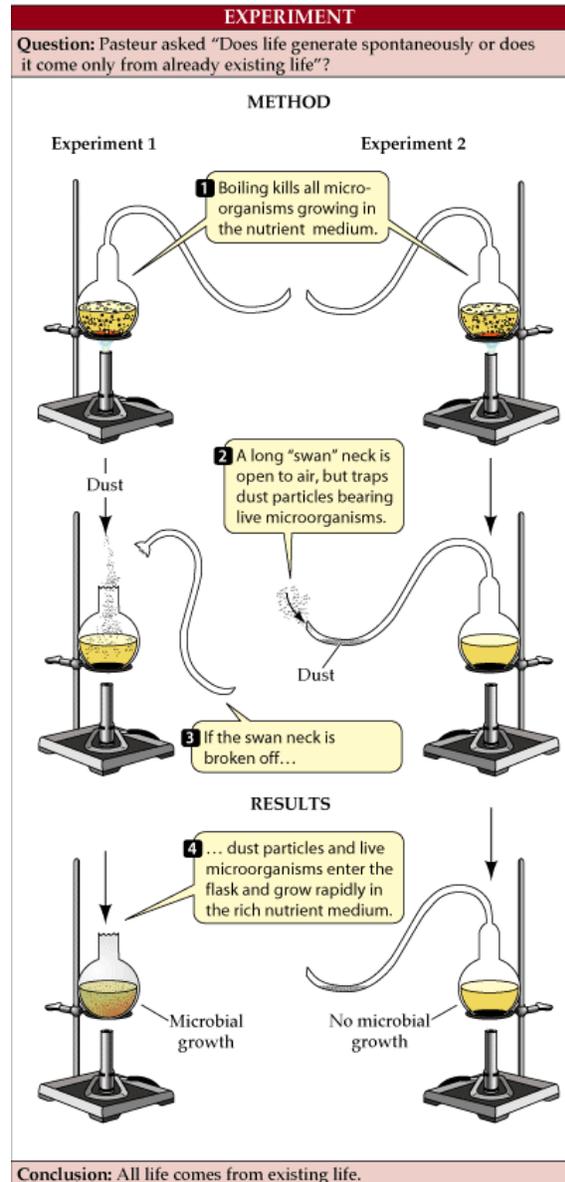
Life does not just appear when the physical conditions are right. **Louis Pasteur**, often called the greatest scientist of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, pioneered immunization and developed the **Law of Biogenesis** (*life comes only from life*) was strenuously opposed to Darwin's theory.

### Law of Biogenesis

Life does not just appear when the physical conditions are right. Louis Pasteur, often called the greatest scientist of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, pioneered immunization and developed the **Law of Biogenesis** (*life comes only from life*) was strenuously opposed to Darwin's theory.

The **Law of Biogenesis** is still a barrier. This law demands that "*life comes from life.*" Life must come from an external engineer, designer or meta-physical cause who is alive! An external engineer sets the mousetrap and also creates the life or meaning to "ride" on the cell organization.

*The food canning industry confirms the point. When food is completely sterilized before canning, the can of food will last forever.*



## B. Probably and Mystery of Life

### **Synthesis of Relatively Simple Organic Chemical Compounds.**

The metabolism of even the simplest form of life imaginable would have required a wide variety of metabolites for its energy sources and other needs. Furthermore, **vast quantities of amino acids, the building blocks or subunits of proteins; purines, and pyrimidines, constituents of DNA and RNA; and sugars, constituents of complex carbohydrates and of DNA and RNA, would have been required.** Even if the dubious assumption is made that a primitive ocean system would have contained only 10% as much water as the present ocean, that would still amount to about 35 million cubic miles of water. Efficient methods of producing these compounds would have had to exist, then, since many billions of tons of each would have been required to give a significant concentration in such a vast body of water.

## 1. The DNA, Chromosome Molecules & Cells

### **The DNA Code**

Our DNA is a 3-out-of-4, error-correcting, self-replicating code, consisting of over 3 *billion* elements defining the manufacture and arrangement of hundreds of thousands of devices; each device consisting of unique assemblies selected from over 200 proteins; each protein involving 3,000 atoms in 3-dimensional configurations, all defined from an alphabet of 20 amino acids!

### **The cell as a self-replicating collection of catalysts**

From a chemical point of view, a cell is a special collection of molecules, enclosed by a membrane, that has the ability to reproduce itself from the molecules in its surroundings. This reproductive process occurs in two steps: cell growth and cell division. In the first step, the cell ingests certain simple molecules from its surroundings

by selectively transferring them through its plasma membrane. Once inside the cell, these molecules are immediately subjected to the action of a large number of highly specialized catalysts, substances that speed up chemical reactions without undergoing permanent change themselves. The catalysts act by binding their surfaces to molecules in specific ways that increase the molecules' reactivity. In a living cell, each catalyst is a large, elaborately folded molecule (called a macromolecule) composed of thousands of precisely arranged atoms. The sculpted surface of the macromolecule binds tightly to one or more small molecules, distorting the chemical bonds between their atoms in a way that speeds up a particular chemical reaction—typically increasing its rate more than a million fold. These sophisticated catalytic macromolecules are found only in the biologic world, and nothing outside of cells even remotely approaches their specificity of action.<sup>11</sup>

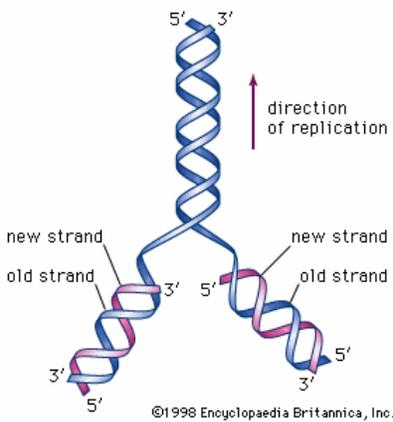


Figure 1:

The initial proposal of the structure of DNA by James Watson and Francis Crick, which was accompanied by a suggestion on the means of replication.

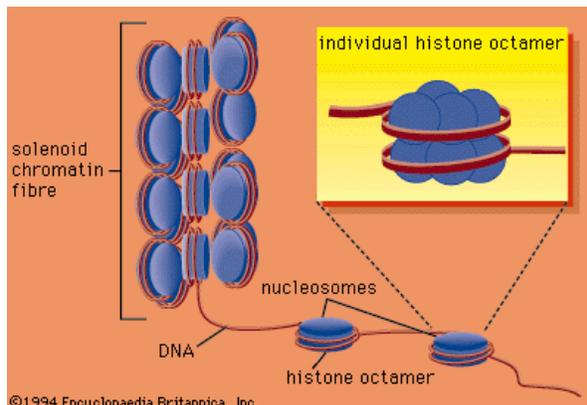


Figure 2:

DNA wrapped around clusters of histone proteins to form nucleosomes, which can coil to form solenoids.

After B. Alberts et al., *Molecular Biology of The Cell* (1983); Garland Publishing, Inc.

<sup>11</sup> Simplified from the following resources:

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Encyclopædia Britannica Library, (Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.), Encyclopædia Britannica 2005 Ultimate Reference Suite DVD Version: 2005.00.00.000000000

### **DNA From a Higher Source<sup>12</sup>**

It was front page news nationwide, “Genetic Code of Human Life Is Cracked by Scientists”, the *New York Times* announced on June 27, 2000. This marked the first time the whole human DNA code ( **the blueprint of life**) had been mapped. This enormous project, formally called the **Human Genome Project**, involved hundreds of scientists in a multibillion dollar experiment funded by medical research grants from several countries. They found the exact sequencing of 3.2 billion chemical building blocks (called base pairs and abbreviated with the letters A,T,C, and G) in the DNA of a human cell. All sorts of wonderful benefits were predicted with this discovery, including a cure for cancer.

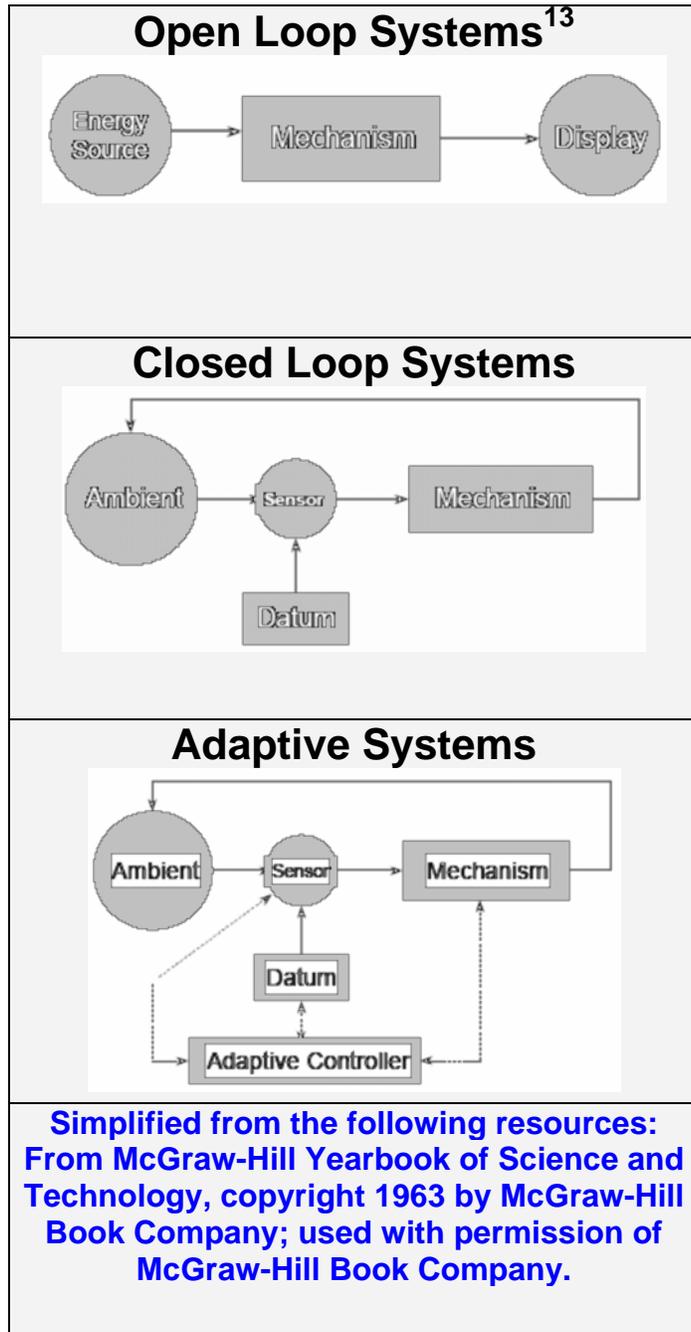
Unfortunately, the press reacted too quickly. Now it appears that there is a long road ahead, with many difficult hurdles to clear. What was really uncovered was similar to four letters in the alphabet strung out in a DNA sequence of 3.2 billion base pairs. Much work still has to be done to understand the meaning of those letters. The term “cracking the genetic code” implies that scientists understand what the code means. The mapping of all human genetic information is a great accomplishment, but to say that is understood? This is nothing but a puffed up exaggeration by the press.

Scientists have concluded that out of the billions of bits of DNA base pair data, only 5 percent are actually used. Beyond that extremely small percentage, the rest has been called “junk” DNA, or evolutionary “leftovers”. This so called “junk” DNA is something we don’t understand at the present time, but as research continues, it may reveal new insights as to its genetic function. Creations argue that junk DNA is highly misunderstood and could have been used to enable a rapid post-Flood biological adjustment.

**Clearly, the genetic code is extremely complicated.**

---

12 DeRosa, Tom, Evidence for Creation: Intelligent Answers for Open Minds, (Coral Ridge Ministries, copyright 2003), page 49-50.



## Generalized Systems<sup>14</sup>

### A Watch versus the Wrist

Watch = a simple open loop system.  
Wrist = a complex, closed-loop, servo system that adapts to ambient conditions, fights off invaders, and is self-repairing!

*The watch, with its gears, springs, and other mechanisms could never arise by the actions of random chance alone.* -- Bishop William Paley, 1818

*Living systems only have the appearance of machines. Unless it can be proven that living systems are indeed machines at the molecular level, then Paley's watchmaker argument is irrelevant.* -- David Hume (from Thomas H. Huxley's *Commentary*, 1894)

**Modern microbiology has revealed that even the simplest organisms are complex machines beyond our imagining. Science has refuted Hume and totally vindicated Paley.**

*The speculation of The Origin of the Species turned out to be wrong. It is ironic that the scientific facts throw Darwin out, but leave Paley ... the ultimate winner.* --Sir Fred Hoyle, 1981

<sup>13</sup> Missler, Dr. Chuck, *The Book Of Genesis*, (Koinonia House, Inc., copyright 2004), MP3 Commentary & Notes, ISBN 1-57821-252-9, pages 74-77.

<sup>14</sup> Encyclopædia Britannica Library, (Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.), Encyclopædia Britannica 2005 Ultimate Reference Suite DVD Version: 2005.00.00.000000000

**Life is not simple.** Even the simplest components of the cell are complex, as is the simple cells of plants and animals. Attached ([see Appendix](#)) are basic diagrams of plant and animal cell structures. See for yourself that they are complex.

## **Hierarchy of Design<sup>15</sup>**

As figured in the last section, there is a **Hierarchy of Design** for all machines.

- Open Loop Systems
- Closed Loop Systems
- Adaptive Systems
- Self-modifying Systems
- Intelligent Machines

Each level of design requires *additional information* to be added.

**Intelligent Machines** possess many of the following attributes.

- Self-modifying Systems
- Self-programming Systems
- Self-diagnostic Systems
- Self-repairing Systems
- Self-reproducing Systems

These are found in nature, and the more advanced have yet to be fully achieved by human design.

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15 Missler, Dr. Chuck, *Cosmic Codes—Hidden Messages from the Edge of Eternity*, (Koinonia House, Inc., copyright 1999), page 12-17.

## 2. The Human Anatomy & The Real You

### The Incredible Human Body

Look at the human body. Examine the functions of the eyes, the ears, the heart, the lungs and the brain. It contains a reciprocating pump, an automated cooling system, a multi-faceted sensory system and the most diverse and imaginative computer known to man. Did a design like this come about by chance? Let's preview a few of the human body functions.

#### Actual Chromosome Molecules

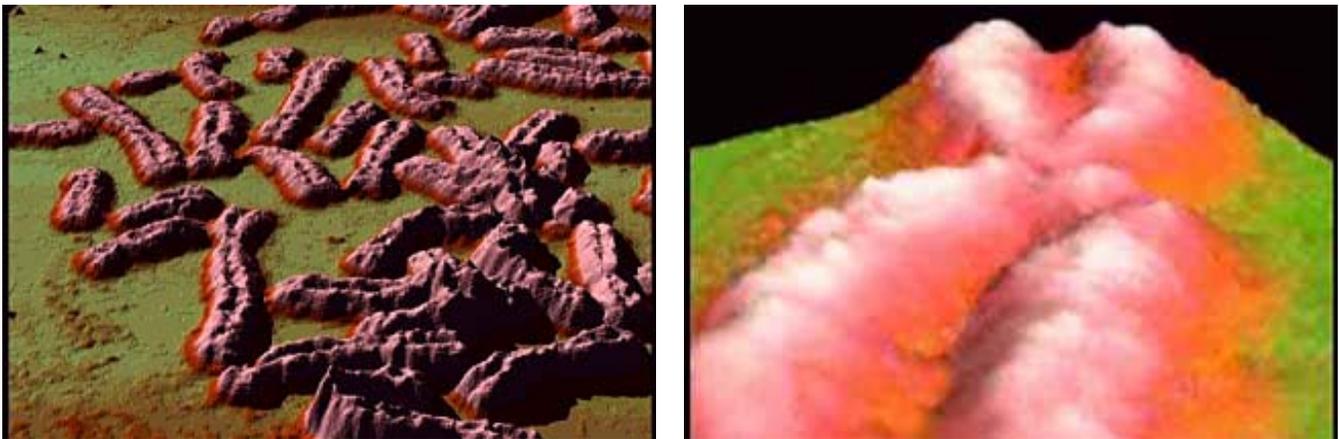
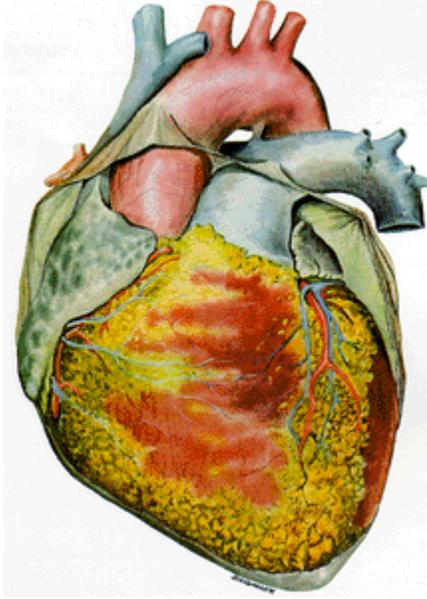


Figure 3<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> National Geographic, *The Incredible Human Body*, (National Geographic, DVD, MGT Inc., copyright 2002)

## The Heart, Blood, Circulatory System



*Human heart, frontal view  
(Carolina Biological Supply  
Company.)*

### Blood Circulatory Systems

The human heart is a muscular pump. While most of the hollow organs of the body do have muscular layers, the heart is almost entirely muscle. Unlike most of the other hollow organs, whose muscle layers are composed of smooth muscle, the heart is composed of cardiac muscle. All muscle types function by contraction, which causes the muscle cells to shorten.

The circulation of the blood serves to move blood to a site or sites where it can be oxygenated, and where wastes can be disposed. Circulation then serves to bring newly oxygenated blood to the tissues of the body. As oxygen and other chemicals diffuse out of the blood cells and into the fluid surrounding the cells of the

body's tissues, waste products diffuse into the blood cells to be carried away. Blood circulates through organs such as the liver and kidneys where wastes are removed, and back to the lungs for a fresh dose of oxygen. And then the process repeats itself. This process of circulation is necessary for continued life of the cells, tissues and even of the whole organisms.

## The Blood Vessels

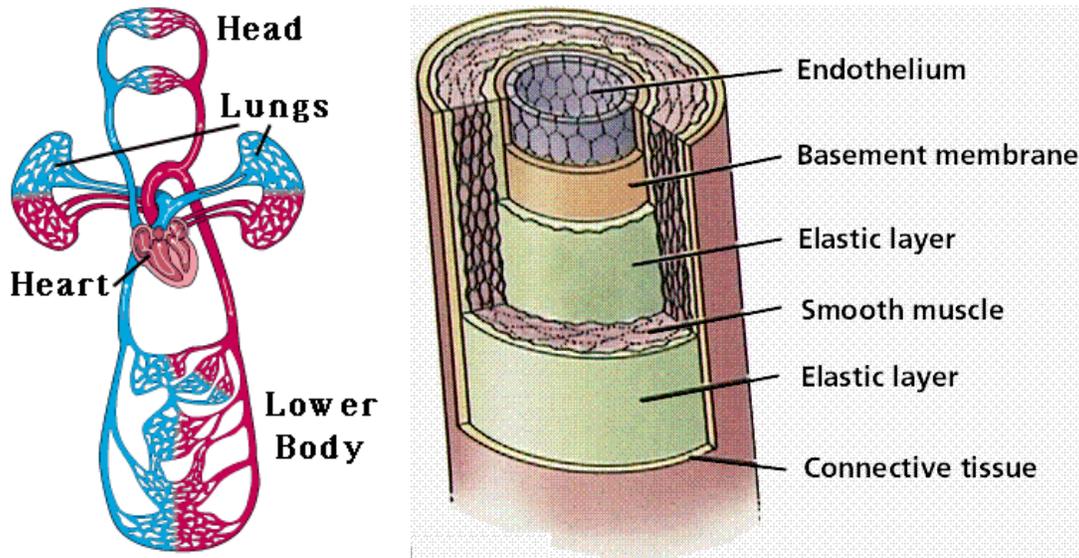


Figure 4<sup>17</sup>

There are three types of vessels - **arteries**, **veins**, and **capillaries**. Arteries, veins, and capillaries are not anatomically the same. They are not just tubes through which the blood flows. Both arteries and veins have layers of smooth muscle surrounding them. Arteries have a much thicker layer, and many more elastic fibers as well. The largest artery, the aorta leaving the heart, also has cardiac muscle fibers in its walls for the first few inches of its length immediately leaving the heart. Arteries have to expand to accept the blood being forced into them from the heart, and then squeeze this blood on to the veins when the heart relaxes. Arteries have the property of elasticity, meaning that they can expand to accept a volume of blood, then contract and squeeze back to their original size after the pressure is released.

A good way to think of them is like a balloon. When you blow into the balloon, it inflates to hold the air. When you release the opening, the balloon squeezes the air back out. It is the elasticity of the arteries that maintains the pressure on the blood when the heart

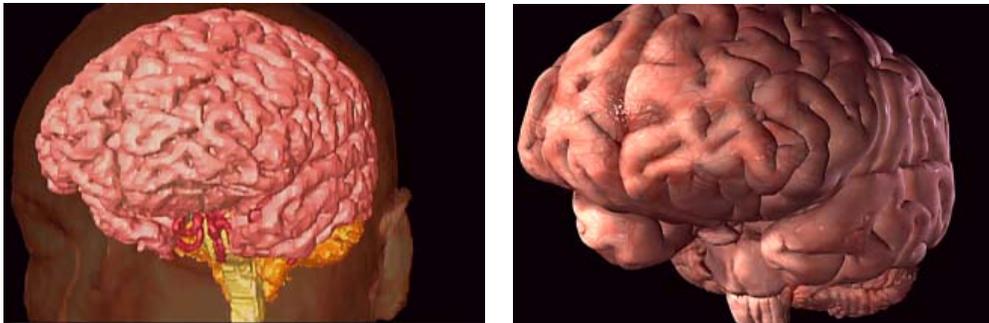
<sup>17</sup> Image from Purves et al., *Life: The Science of Biology*, ( 4th Edition, by Sinauer Associates), Volume I: The Cell & Heredity (Chapters 1, 2-18), also ISBN 0-7167-9856-5

relaxes, and keeps it flowing forward. if the arteries did not have this property, your blood pressure would be more like 120/0, instead of the 120/80 that is more normal.

*If you took all of the blood vessels out of an average child, and laid them out in one line, the line would be over 60,000 miles long! An adult's vessels would be closer to 100,000 miles long!*

## The Human Brain

*"The Brain is a swarm of cells in which everything is seemingly connected to everything else. The connections, though, follow a plan, an order, the large elements of which we are just the beginning to see and understand." -- Mark Cosgrove, Ph. D. (1987, p. 145)<sup>18</sup>*



## Brain Neurons Firing



Figure 5<sup>19</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Cosgrove, M, Ph. D., *The Amazing Body Human: God's Design For Personhood*, (Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, MI., copyright 1987), page 145.

<sup>19</sup> National Geographic, *The Incredible Human Body*, (National Geographic, DVD, MGT Inc., copyright 2002)

## **The Brain.**

The brain has three major structural components:

1. the large dome-shaped cerebrum,
2. the smaller, somewhat spherical cerebellum,
3. and the brainstem.

Prominent in the brainstem are the medulla oblongata and the thalamus. The cerebrum is responsible for intelligence and reasoning. The cerebellum helps to maintain balance and posture. The medulla is involved in maintaining involuntary functions such as respiration, and the thalamus **acts as a relay center for electrical impulses traveling to and from the cerebral cortex.**

The pituitary gland secretes hormones that control the activity of other endocrine gland and regulate various biological processes. Its secretions include growth hormone (stimulates cellular activity in bone, cartilage, and other structural tissue); thyroid stimulating hormone (causes the release metabolism-regulating hormones); antidiuretic hormone (which causes the kidney to excrete less water in the urine); and prolactin (which stimulates milk production and breast development in females). The pituitary gland is influenced both neurally and hormonally by the hypothalamus.

The autonomic nervous system directs all activities of the body that occur without a person's conscious control, such as breathing and food digestion. It has two parts: the sympathetic division, which is most active in times of stress, and the parasympathetic division, which controls maintenance activities and helps conserve the body's energy.

The **“Mind”** is not just the organ of the “Brain”. The **Human Brain has  $10^{10}$  nerve cells**, each with  $10^4 - 10^5$  connecting fibers; this approaches  $10^{15}$  connections, which is equivalent the following totals: 50,000 leaves/tree; 10,000 trees/sq. mile; 2 million square miles; **a forest the size of the USA!**

**The Human Brain Network.**

A highly organized network of uniquely adaptive communication channels; if only 1% of the connections were specifically organized pathways, it would still represent a greater number of connections than the entire communications network on the Planet Earth.

**Memory Mapping.**

- Wilder Penfield: Memories have specific locations in the brain.
- Karl Pribran: Memories not localized.
- Paul Pietsch: 700 operations on salamanders confirm Pribran.
- John von Neumann: Capacity: 2.8 x 10<sup>20</sup> bits (1000 bits/sec for 10 billion years)

**The Real You**

Let's compare the two architectures of a complex computer system to that of man.

Architecture	
Computer System	Human Being
<p><b>Architecture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hardware</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Microcircuits</li> <li>– Memory</li> <li>– Wires, resistors, etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Software</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Operating System</li> <li>– External Interface</li> <li>– Language</li> <li>– Messages, etc.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p style="color: red; text-align: center;"><b>The Structural Components of Man</b></p>

## The Architecture of Man

*And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**(1 Thessalonians 5:23):**

**23** Now <sup>a</sup>may the God of peace <sup>b</sup>Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your <sup>c</sup>spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, <sup>d</sup>without blame at <sup>e</sup>the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>20</sup>

*“... **spirit** and **soul** and **body**...” : **Trinity of Man.***

### **נֶפֶשׁ Nephesh: Soul**

Soul, self, life, creature, person, appetite, mind, living being, desire, emotion, passion... It occurs 751 times.

### **רוּחַ Ruach: Holy Spirit**

- Breath, wind.
- God’s Spirit, the Holy Spirit.

**Physical Life.** An animal is called a *nephesh* as long as it is living. A dead animal is never called a *nephesh* because its body would be devoid of the life principle. It is used this way 150 times in the Old Testament. Adam’s body was complete yet unanimated until God placed in it “the spirit of life” (Gen 2:7).

**The Soul.** The Inner Being, the transcendent self, which departs at death and returns with life at the resurrection (Gen 35:18; 1 Kgs 17:21, etc.). That to which is attributed

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a Rom 15:33

b 1 Thess 3:11

c Luke 1:46f; Heb 4:12

d James 1:4; 2 Pet 3:14

e 1 Thess 2:19

<sup>20</sup>New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (1 Th 5:22). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

reason, emotion, will, and worship [Brown, Driver, & Briggs, *A Hebrew Lexicon of the Old Testament*]. Rabbinic literature understood the soul to be invisible and immortal [Babylonian Talmud (Ber. 59, AZ 21), Midrash (Gen 409, 516, 549; Num 733; Ecc 83, 229); et al (Morey, p.50).] All Jews except the Sadducees believed in the immortality of the soul [Josephus, *Wars of Jews II*, 154- 159, 1632, 166]. The doctrine of “soul sleep” was invented by 3rd century heretics [Eusebius, E.H. VI, C37].

We are more than energy and matter. There is **information**. **Some** of this information is stored in our DNA and has **no mass**. Our example of this would be a computer storage disk. If you were to weigh it Before anything is written on it (**No Information**), and then write to it, and weighing it again, it would weigh the same. The information is no dependent upon the physical media, and neither is our information.



### The Probability of Life By Chance

Since all life requires mass, energy, AND information, we have no other choice but to eliminate the “chance” or mere happenstance of its creation. As illustrated, life is complex, and requires much more detailed design considerations than anything man is capable of devising. The creation of life requires a more superior intelligence than that of our own.

**The Probability of a single cell of life by chance is:**

**( $1 \times 10^{40,000}$ ) or basically: Zero, “0”, nada, impossible, no chance,**

***All Life is Designed.***

### III. From a Benevolent Creator (God)

#### The Benevolent Creator “In The Beginning”

Instinctively, all of us recognize that anything that has a beginning has a cause or creator. If the sun is moving to deplete its energy supply and since the supply is not exhausted and there is no known source of new energy, it had to have a beginning. Christians infer that the beginning was caused by an enormous conversion of energy into matter by a transcending, metaphysical source of energy. Christians believe that God spoke the universe into being seemingly out of nothing but actually from his own inexhaustible store of energy. God is a rational Uncaused First Cause. **God is**

#### **The Eternal One.**

There are **only two world views**: either everything is a result of a cosmic accident, or we are the result of a deliberate design by a Designer. There are also four basic questions common to every individual: **Who am I? Where did I come from? Why am I here? and, Where am I going when I die?**

#### **A. Is the Universe Eternal Or Was the Universe Created?**

Either the Universe had a beginning, or it did not. But all available evidence indicates that the Universe did, in fact, have a beginning. If the Universe had a beginning, it either had a cause or it did not. One thing we know assuredly, however: it is correct—logically and scientifically—to acknowledge that the Universe had a cause, because the Universe is an effect and requires an adequate antecedent cause. Henry Morris was correct when he suggested that the Law of Cause and Effect is “universally accepted and followed in every field of science”. The cause/effect principle states that wherever there is a material effect, there must be an adequate antecedent cause. Further indicated, however, is the fact that no effect can be qualitatively superior to, or quantitatively greater than, its cause. Since it is apparent that the Universe is not eternal, and since likewise it is apparent that the Universe could not have created itself, the only remaining alternative is that the Universe **was created** by something, or Someone, that:

- (a) existed before it, (i.e., some eternal, uncaused First Cause);
- (b) is superior to it—since the created cannot be superior to the creator; and
- (c) is of a different nature, since the finite, contingent Universe of matter is unable to explain itself.

As Hoyle and Wickramasinghe have observed: “To be consistent logically, we have to say that the intelligence which assembled the enzymes did not itself contain them”. In connection with this, another fact should be considered. If there ever had been a time when absolutely **nothing** existed, then there would be nothing now. It is a self-evident truth that nothing produces nothing. In view of this, **since something does exist**, it must follow logically that something has existed forever!<sup>21</sup>

The central message of the cosmological argument, and the Law of Cause and Effect upon which it is based, is this: Every material effect must have an adequate antecedent cause. The Universe is here; intelligent life is here; morality is here; love is here. What is their adequate antecedent cause? Since the effect never can precede, or be greater than the cause, it then stands to reason that the Cause of life must be a living Intelligence which Itself is both moral and loving. When the Bible records, “In the beginning, God,” it makes known to us just such a First Cause.<sup>22</sup>

By a simple and direct manner, **and without appealing to the sacred writings**, we have established the existence of Deity - an all-powerful, all-wise, eternal Being. This is the God of the Bible, the attributes of Whom must be learned from that sacred volume. Reason, logic, and observation prompt reasonable and thoughtful men to the obvious conclusion that God exists. In the light of these facts, does anyone doubt the existence of a divine being? Yes. David identified such a person in this fashion:

**(Psalm 14:1).**

**1** *The fool has<sup>a</sup> said in his heart, “There is no God.”*<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> Thompson, Bert, Phd., & Jackson, Wayne, Ma., The Case For the Existence of God, (Apologetics Press, Inc., Second edition copyright © 2001), ISBN: 0-932859-28-3, page 7.

<sup>22</sup> Thompson, Bert, Phd., & Jackson, Wayne, Ma., The Case For the Existence of God, (Apologetics Press, Inc., Second edition copyright © 2001), ISBN: 0-932859-28-3, page 42.

<sup>a</sup> Ps 10:4; 53:1

<sup>23</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ps 14:1). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

## B. A Personal Caring Creator God – His Plan For Our Redemption

### Who is This Benevolent Creator?

A little girl was lying on the floor with her crayons and a large drawing pad when her father came into the room and asked, "What are you drawing, honey?" Without looking up, she replied, "I'm drawing a picture of God." Her father smiled and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without a pause, she retorted, "They will when I am finished."

### Now we will start to appeal to the sacred writings.

The Bible starts very "matter of fact". And it starts with God. "**In the beginning God...**" There is no argument for His existence. There is no listing of His attributes. Instead, we are introduced to Him through **His actions**. That is how we usually describe God. We know Him by what **He does**.

But there is something else that I want you to see from this passage. It is so simple that you might miss it. It is that, "**In the beginning, God was already there**". This is seen in a parallel passage in the New Testament.

**(John 1:1-3):**

### *The Deity of Jesus Christ*

- 1 <sup>a</sup>*In the beginning was* <sup>b</sup>*the Word, and the Word was* <sup>c</sup>*with God, and* <sup>d</sup>*the Word was God.*
- 2 <sup>1</sup>*He was in the beginning with God.*
- 3 <sup>a</sup>*All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.*
- 4 <sup>a</sup>*In Him was life, and the life was* <sup>b</sup>*the Light of men.*
- 5 <sup>a</sup>*The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not* <sup>1</sup>*comprehend it.*<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>a</sup> Gen 1:1; Col 1:17; 1 John 1:1

<sup>b</sup> John 1:14; Rev 19:13

<sup>c</sup> John 17:5; 1 John 1:2

<sup>d</sup> Phil 2:6

<sup>1</sup> Lit This one

<sup>a</sup> John 1:10; 1 Cor 8:6; Col 1:16; Heb 1:2

<sup>a</sup> John 5:26; 11:25; 14:6

<sup>b</sup> John 8:12; 9:5; 12:46

## He Built the Place!

Scientists today still don't know how the atom holds itself together. According to what we understand in scientific physics, the basic structure of an atom should cause it to repel or explode. THE most basic element in the universe cannot be explained (science attempts to explain this by referring to it as "cosmic glue"). But there is a simple answer: **Jesus Christ** holds the whole universe together. Col. 1:17 says ". . . in Him all things hold together."

### (Colossians 1:15-18):

<sup>15</sup> He is <sup>d</sup>the image of the invisible God, <sup>e</sup>the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup> For <sup>f</sup>by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or <sup>g</sup>dominions or <sup>5</sup>principalities or <sup>6</sup>powers. All things were created <sup>h</sup>through Him and for Him. <sup>17</sup> <sup>i</sup>And He is before all things, and in Him <sup>j</sup>all things consist. <sup>18</sup> And <sup>k</sup>He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, <sup>l</sup>the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.<sup>25</sup>

Verse 16 states conclusively that the Lord Jesus is not a creature, but the very Creator. In this verse we learn that **all things**—the whole universe of things—**were created** not only **by Him** but **through Him and for Him**. Each of these prepositions conveys a different thought. First of all, we read that **by Him all things were created**. Here the

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<sup>a</sup> John 3:19

<sup>l</sup> Or overpower

<sup>24</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Jn 1:1). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

<sup>d</sup> 2 Cor. 4:4; Heb. 1:3

<sup>e</sup> Ps. 89:27; Rev. 3:14

<sup>f</sup> John 1:3; Heb. 1:2, 3

<sup>g</sup> [Eph. 1:20, 21; Col. 2:15]

<sup>5</sup> rulers

<sup>6</sup> authorities

<sup>h</sup> John 1:3; Rom. 11:36; 1 Cor. 8:6; Heb. 2:10

<sup>i</sup> [John 17:5]

<sup>j</sup> Heb. 1:3

<sup>k</sup> 1 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 1:22

<sup>l</sup> Rev. 1:5

<sup>25</sup> The New King James Version. 1996, c1982 (Col 1:15). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

thought is that the power to create was in His Being. He was the Architect. Later in the verse we learn that **all things were created through Him**. This speaks of Him as the Agent in creation. He was the Person of the Godhead through whom the creative act was performed. Also, all things were created **for Him**. He is the One for whom all things were created, the goal of creation.<sup>26</sup>

**1:16-17.** The third characteristic of Christ is that **by Him all things were created**. In fact **all things were created by Him** (*di' autou*, instrumental Cause) **and for Him** (*eis auton*, final Cause), and **in Him** (*en aut* ) they **hold together** (He is the constituting or conserving Cause). Christ is not only the One through whom all things came to be, but also the One by whom they continue to exist.<sup>27</sup>

### The Prophecy of the Seed.

The first prophecy of a coming Messiah was not made to either the man or the woman, but to the serpent.

#### (Genesis 3:14-15):

14 *The LORD God said to the serpent, <sup>a</sup>Because you have done this, Cursed are you more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you will go, And <sup>b</sup>dust you will eat All the days of your life;*

15 *And I will put <sup>a</sup>enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; <sup>b</sup>He shall <sup>1</sup>bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel.<sup>28</sup>*

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<sup>26</sup> MacDonald, W., & Farstad, A. (1997, c1995). Believer's Bible Commentary : Old and New Testaments (Col 1:16). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

<sup>27</sup> Walvoord, J. F., Zuck, R. B., & Dallas Theological Seminary. (1983-c1985). The Bible knowledge commentary : An exposition of the scriptures. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

<sup>a</sup> Deut 28:15-20

<sup>b</sup> Is 65:25; Mic 7:17

<sup>a</sup> Rev 12:17

<sup>1</sup> Or crush

<sup>28</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ge 3:13). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

The Lord begins speaking to the serpent. But it seems evident that there comes a time when He is not just talking about snakes, but is addressing the real power behind the serpent - the Devil.

"I Will Put Enmity..."		
The Serpent	Between	The Woman
His Seed		Her Seed
Shall be bruised on the head		Shall be bruised on the heel.

This is the beginning of a spiritual war. The initial antagonists of this war are a serpent versus a woman. The war extends to their progeny. And their progeny includes everyone that exists. This is why there is a need for a redeemer.

This is the story of the entire human race. All people are in either one of two groups. They are following one of two seeds. The seed of the serpent is Satan. He is the way of rebellion against God. He is the voice of independence. The seed of the woman is **Jesus Christ (Our Benevolent Creator)**. He is the One whose "heel" was crushed by Satan.

**(Isaiah 53:5-6):**

5 *But He was <sup>1</sup>pierced through for <sup>a</sup>our transgressions, He was crushed for <sup>b</sup>our iniquities; The <sup>c</sup>chastening for our <sup>2</sup>well-being fell upon Him, And by <sup>d</sup>His scourging we are healed.*

6 *All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To <sup>1</sup>fall on Him.<sup>29</sup>*

---

<sup>1</sup> Or wounded

<sup>a</sup> Is 53:8; Heb 9:28

<sup>b</sup> Is 53:10; Rom 4:25; 1 Cor 15:3

<sup>c</sup> Deut 11:2; Heb 5:8

<sup>2</sup> Or peace

<sup>d</sup> 1 Pet 2:24, 25

When Jesus Christ died upon the cross, it was no mere human death that He died. His death was special. It was special because it also involved a spiritual death. He was judged by God as if He were a guilty sinner. Our sins were laid upon Him.

**(2 Corinthians 5:21):**

21 He made Him who <sup>a</sup>knew no sin to be <sup>b</sup>sin on our behalf, so that we might become the <sup>c</sup>righteousness of God in Him.<sup>30</sup>

He is the One whose coming crushed the head of Satan. Through His death, the work of Satan in plunging the human race into sin was overturned. And that is not all. His victory can be your victory.

**(Romans 6:20a):**

20 <sup>a</sup>*The God of peace will soon crush <sup>b</sup>Satan under your feet.*<sup>31</sup>

**A new definition for A Benevolent Creator.**

**be•nev•o•lent**<sup>32</sup> \-l nt\ *adjective*

**1 a** : marked by or disposed to doing good 〈a *benevolent* donor〉 **b** : organized for the purpose of doing good 〈a *benevolent* society〉

**2** : marked by or suggestive of goodwill 〈*benevolent* smiles〉

For me, this is the most perfect definition “**A Benevolent Creator**” there is

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<sup>1</sup> Lit encounter Him

<sup>29</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Is 53:4). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

<sup>a</sup> Acts 3:14; Heb 4:15; 7:26; 1 Pet 2:22; 1 John 3:5

<sup>b</sup> Rom 3:25; 4:25; 8:3; Gal 3:13

<sup>c</sup> Rom 1:17; 3:21f; 1 Cor 1:30

<sup>30</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (2 Co 5:20). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

<sup>a</sup> Rom 15:33

<sup>b</sup> Matt 4:10

<sup>31</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ro 16:20). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

<sup>32</sup> Merriam-Webster, I. (1996, c1993). Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary. Includes index. (10th ed.). Springfield, Mass., U.S.A.: Merriam-Webster.

(John 3:16-17):

16 “For God so <sup>a</sup>loved the world, that He <sup>b</sup>gave His <sup>1c</sup>only begotten Son, that whoever <sup>d</sup>believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

17 “For God <sup>a</sup>did not send the Son into the world <sup>b</sup>to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.<sup>33</sup>

This is one of the best known verses in all the Bible, doubtless because it states the gospel so clearly and simply. It summarizes what the Lord Jesus had been teaching Nicodemus concerning the manner by which the new birth is received. **God**, we read, **so loved the world. The world** here includes all mankind. God does not love men’s sins or the wicked world system, but He loves people and is not willing that any should perish.

The extent of His love is shown by the fact **that He gave His only begotten Son**. God has no other Son like the Lord Jesus. It was an expression of His infinite love that He would be willing to give **His** unique **Son** for a race of rebel sinners. This does *not* mean that everyone is saved. A person must receive what Christ has done for him before God will give him eternal life. Therefore, the words are added, “**that whoever believes in Him should not perish.**” There is no need for anyone to perish. A way has been provided by which all might be saved, but a person must acknowledge the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Savior. When he does this, he has eternal **life** as a present possession.<sup>34</sup>

John 3:16 is exactly twenty-five words long, and in these twenty-five words, Jesus communicates the Father’s heart, the Father’s plan, and the Father’s will....

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<sup>a</sup> Rom 5:8; Eph 2:4; 2 Thess 2:16; 1 John 4:10; Rev 1:5

<sup>b</sup> Rom 8:32; 1 John 4:9

<sup>1</sup> Or unique, only one of His kind

<sup>c</sup> John 1:18; 3:18; 1 John 4:9

<sup>d</sup> John 3:36; 6:40; 11:25f

<sup>a</sup> John 3:34; 5:36, 38; 6:29, 38, 57; 7:29; 8:42; 10:36; 11:42; 17:3, 8, 18, 21, 23, 25; 20:21

<sup>b</sup> Luke 19:10; John 8:15; 12:47; 1 John 4:14

<sup>33</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Jn 3:15). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

<sup>34</sup> MacDonald, W., & Farstad, A. (1997, c1995). Believer’s Bible Commentary : Old and New Testaments (Jn 3:16). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

- His heart: He loved the world.
- His plan: He gave His only begotten Son.
- His will: Whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Although I know it is somewhat coincidental, I find it interesting that in our English translation of this verse, the middle word is Son. It is no coincidence, however, that those who have experienced God's presence most powerfully are those who have made the Son the center of their lives. Just as **Jesus Christ** is the center of the greatest verse in all Scripture, He must be central in our hearts and lives if they are to have meaning, purpose, and impact (Ephesians 1:10).<sup>35</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> Courson, J. (2003). Jon Courson's Application Commentary (Page 459). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson.

## A Tribute to THE KING

### Our all loving and caring Benevolent Creator.

This is inspired by a wonderful Pastor named S.D. Lockridge.

I have had the privilege to recite this a few times in public, and still find it difficult not to weep.

- **Jesus Christ** is:
  - King of the Jews that is a (*racial Statement*);
  - King of Israel (*national*);
  - King of all the Ages;
  - King of Heaven;
  - King of Glory;
  - **King of Kings**;
  - ..and **Lord of Lords**.
- So the issues is never do you know your Bible, it's ***Do you know Him?***  
***Do you really?***

Here is who the Bible says that He is.

- He is A prophet before Moses;
- A priest after Melchizedek;
- A champion like Joshua;
- An offering in place of Isaac;
- A king from David;
- A wise counselor above Solomon;
- A beloved/rejected/exalted son like Joseph.

*And yet far more...*

The Heavens declare His glory... and the firmament shows His handiwork..

Jesus is He who **is**,  
who **was**,  
and who **always will be**;

The first and the last  
He is the **Alpha** and **Omega** the **Aleph** and the **Tau** the **A and the Z**;  
He is the first fruits of them that slept.

- He is the "**I AM that I AM**"  
*The voice of the Burning Bush!*

- the Captain of the Lord's Host
- the conqueror of Jericho
- He is enduringly strong;
  - entirely sincere;
  - eternally steadfast;
- He is immortally graceful;
  - imperially powerful;
  - impartially merciful

In Him dwells the fullness of the Godhead bodily;  
The very God of very God.

**He is our Kinsman-Redeemer** and He is our Avenger of Blood;

He is our City of Refuge;  
Our Performing High Priest,  
Our Personal Prophet,  
Our Reigning King.

- He's the loftiest idea in Literature;
- He's the highest personality in Philosophy;
- He's the fundamental doctrine of Theology;
- He's the Supreme Problem in "higher criticism"!
- He's the Miracle of the Ages;

The superlative of everything good

**We are the beneficiaries of His love letter: It was written in blood, on a wooden cross erected in Judea 2,000 years ago.**

***He was crucified on a cross of wood; Yet He made the hill on which it stood.***

***By Him were all things made that were made; without Him was not anything made that was made;***

***By Him are all things held together!***

What held Him to that cross?

*It wasn't the nails!*

(At any time He could have declared, "I'm out of here!")

Was it ten thousand angels?

***It was His love for you and me.***

He was born of a woman so that we could be born of God;  
He humbled Himself so that we could be lifted up;  
He became a servant so that we could be made co-heirs;

He suffered rejection so that we could become His friends;  
He denied Himself so that we could freely receive all things;  
He gave Himself so that He could bless us in every way;  
*He is available to the tempted and the tried;*  
*He blesses the young;*  
*He cleanses the lepers;*  
*He defends the feeble;*  
*He delivers the captives;*  
*He discharges the debtors;*  
*He forgives the sinners;*  
*He franchises the meek;*  
*He guards the besieged;*  
*He heals the sick;*  
*He provides strength to the weak;*  
*He regards the aged;*  
*He rewards the diligent;*  
*He serves the unfortunate;*  
*He sympathizes*

and **He saves!**

*His Offices are manifold;*  
*His Reign is righteous;*  
*His Promises are sure;*  
*His Goodness is limitless;*  
*His Light is matchless;*  
*His Grace is sufficient;*  
*His Love never changes;*  
*His Mercy is everlasting;*  
*His Word is enough;*  
*His Yoke is easy and His burden is light!*

- *He's indescribable;*
- *He's incomprehensible;*
- *He's irresistible;*
- *He's invincible!*

*The Heaven of heavens cannot contain Him;*  
*Man cannot explain Him;*  
*The Pharisees couldn't stand Him, and learned that they couldn't stop Him;*  
*Pilate couldn't find any fault with Him;*  
*The witnesses couldn't agree against Him.*

*Herod couldn't kill Him, death couldn't handle Him,  
The grave couldn't hold Him!  
He has always been and always will be;  
He had no predecessor and will have no successor;  
You can't impeach Him and he isn't going to resign!  
His name is above every name;  
That at the name of **Yeshua**  
Every knee shall bow  
Every tongue shall confess  
That **Jesus Christ** is Lord!  
His is the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory... for ever, and ever. ...Amen!*

“With the Spirit we say, “even so, come Lord Jesus”

## The Interdependence of Spirit and Body

### The Biblical and Theological View

The real issue here is if **God is Benevolent**, (*a personal and knowable God*) or is He an impersonal (unknowable) God. From here we will focus on the Biblical account of creation, the Bible itself and what the rest of the account is all about.

If **God is Sovereign** and has appointed to each of his redeemed children a specific life work, and if each of us is a duality of body and spirit, then it follows of necessity that both the genetic endowment of the body and the life experiences that mold the spirit must equally have been divinely ordained. Task and talent have to match if the plan is to work out.<sup>36</sup> **God never calls us individually to a lifework for which He has not also equipped us both physically and spiritually.**

### Chosen and ordained by God

In **John 15:16-17** the Lord said to his disciples:

16 ***<sup>a</sup>"You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and <sup>b</sup>bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that <sup>c</sup>whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.***

17 ***<sup>a</sup>This I command you, that you love one another.***<sup>37</sup>

When we add to this Ephesians 2:10, "We are his workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works which God has before ordained that we should walk in them," we have

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<sup>36</sup> Or as Gladden put it: "Heredity is God working in us and environment is God working around us" (quoted by A. H. Strong, Systematic Theology, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, Judson Press, 1907, p.624).

<sup>a</sup> John 6:70; 13:18; 15:19

<sup>b</sup> John 15:5

<sup>c</sup> John 14:13; 15:7; 16:23

<sup>a</sup> John 15:12

<sup>37</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Jn 15:17). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

to assume that the prerequisite endowment must in every way form part of that ordination.<sup>38</sup>

David, in **(Psalm 139:13-17)**, seems to have in mind a genetic endowment that is specifically planned for. Thus he wrote:

**13** For You <sup>a</sup>formed my <sup>1</sup>inward parts; You <sup>b</sup>wove me in my mother's womb.

**14** I will give thanks to You, for <sup>1</sup>I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

<sup>a</sup>Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well.

**15** My <sup>1a</sup>frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the <sup>b</sup>depths of the earth;

**16** Your <sup>a</sup>eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in <sup>b</sup>Your book were all written The <sup>c</sup>days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was not one of them.

**17** How precious also are Your <sup>a</sup>thoughts to me, O God! How vast is the sum of them!<sup>39</sup>

We might even see the same thought expressed succinctly in **(Psalm 47:4)**:

**4** He chooses our <sup>a</sup>inheritance for us, The <sup>b</sup>glory of Jacob whom He loves.<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> Howard A. Synder put it this way: "It is not too much to say that God in his foreknowledge has given to each person at birth those talents that he later wills to awaken and ignite. A spiritual gift is a God-given ability that has caught fire" ("Misunderstanding Spiritual Gifts", Christianity Today, vol. 18, 12 Oct. 1973, p.17).

<sup>a</sup> Ps 119:73; Is 44:24

<sup>1</sup> Lit kidneys

<sup>b</sup> Job 10:11

<sup>1</sup> Some ancient versions read You are fearfully wonderful

<sup>a</sup> Ps 40:5

<sup>1</sup> Lit bones were

<sup>a</sup> Job 10:8-10; Ecc1 11:5

<sup>b</sup> Ps 63:9

<sup>a</sup> Job 10:8-10; Ecc1 11:5

<sup>b</sup> Ps 56:8

<sup>c</sup> Job 14:5

<sup>a</sup> Ps 40:5; 92:5

<sup>39</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ps 139:13). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

<sup>a</sup> 1 Pet 1:4

<sup>b</sup> Amos 6:8; 8:7; Nah 2:2

In the context of the rest of the passage, this could indeed be taken to mean even our antecedents.

**Why not?** Is any thing too hard for the Lord? We are not merely redeemed spirits in an inconsequential body that we shall be glad to be rid of, but whole persons with a potential in both spirit and body to play an appointed role in God's plan for the Universe. But what a wonderful assurance this should provide to the humblest child of God, that he was the object of the Father's special concern from the moment of his conception - indeed, long before that. For we were chosen in Him before the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 1:9; Revelation 17:8),<sup>41</sup> and foreordained to a unique role in the unfolding plan of redemption, a role for which, according to 1 Peter 4:10,<sup>42</sup> each of us has been equipped with gifts.

The very angels are sent to minister to them who *shall be* heirs of salvation (Hebrews 1:14<sup>43</sup>) - a fact to which every saint who reflects upon the circumstances of his or her pre-Christian experience can bear witness. In retrospect, have we not all been aware of the hand of God molding our circumstances long before we became members of his blameless family? It is a testimony to the truth of Exodus 19:4, "I bare you on eagle's wings, and brought you unto myself."

How blessed it is to know what we are here *for!* No wonder that Paul should lay such emphasis upon both body and mind in **Romans 12:1-2** when we seek to find the Lord's will for our life:

*1 Therefore<sup>a</sup> I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to<sup>b</sup> present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice,<sup>1</sup> acceptable to God, which is your<sup>2</sup> spiritual service of worship.*

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<sup>40</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ps 47:3). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

<sup>41</sup> "According as he has chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him." Ephesians 1:4.

"But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God has from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth. . . ." 2 Thessalonians 2:13.

<sup>42</sup> "As every man has received the [a, so the Greek] gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." 1 Peter 4:10.

<sup>43</sup> "Are they [angels] not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?" Hebrews 1:14.

<sup>a</sup> 1 Cor 1:10; 2 Cor 10:1-4; Eph 4:1; 1 Pet 2:11

<sup>b</sup> Rom 6:13, 16, 19; 1 Cor 6:20; Heb 13:15; 1 Pet 2:5

2 And do not <sup>a</sup>be conformed to <sup>b</sup>this <sup>1</sup>world, but be transformed by the <sup>c</sup>renewing of your mind, so that you may <sup>2d</sup>prove what the will of God is, that which is good and <sup>3</sup>acceptable and perfect<sup>44</sup>

**Since God is Sovereign**, how could it be otherwise than that his chosen vessels will not only be kept through all the vicissitudes of life by his providential care but will also have been prepared in *body and spirit* for the part they are to play in the unfolding drama. When that part is fulfilled, and when we shall ourselves have been brought to maturity by the very performing of it, why should we not be ready to go home? So then, as Augustine rightly observed, "a man is immortal until his work is done".

*The biblical picture of our constitution means that as to physical endowment, as to spiritual gift, and as to the "schooling" of life, there will be a matching "fit" that is perfect because it is divinely ordained.*<sup>45</sup>

This does not mean that the needs of the body are to be either pampered or suppressed. It means they are to be brought into subjection. Hugo St. Victor (1096 - 1141) tells how this subjection relates to man's calling:

*To understand the spiritual state of man, the creation and constitution of the whole world must be taken into consideration. For the world was made on account of man; the spirit for God's sake, the body for the spirit's sake, and the world . . . for the body's sake. . . that the spirit might be subject to God, the body to the spirit, and the world to the body.*<sup>46</sup>

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1 Or well-pleasing

2 Or rational

a 1 Pet 1:14

b Matt 13:22; Gal 1:4; 1 John 2:15

1 Or age

c Eph 4:23; Titus 3:5

2 Or approve

d Eph 5:10, 17; Col 1:9

3 Or well-pleasing

44 New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ro 12:1). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

45 Custance, Arthur C., Journey Out of Time, (Doorway Publications, copyright 1981), ISBN: 0919857019, Chapter Nine, The Nature of Man.

46 Hugo St. Victor, De Sacramentis Christianae Fidei, Book 1, prologue, chapter 3.

## C. The Importance of the Biblical Account (*“The Bible”*)

### ***Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth***

*You can only come to know God through His word - the Bible.*

This is the final apologetic. It is the evidence from the Word of God.

### **How do we know that the Bible is from God?**

OR: IS ANYBODY UP THERE?

### **The Question of the Existence of God**

What does God think of people who don't believe in Him? The Bible does not ever attempt to present evidence for the existence of God. It does not begin in Genesis 1:1 with a five point outline on how we can know that there is a God. Instead the Scriptures assume that God does exist in the same way that any modern book naturally assumes the existence of its author.

The Bible assumes the existence of God. The handful of verses that even mention the concept of atheism deal with it in this manner.

#### **(Psalm 14:1a):**

1 The fool has <sup>a</sup>said in his heart, “There is no God.”<sup>47</sup>

This is not to say that such evidence for the existence of God is lacking.

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<sup>a</sup> Ps 10:4; 53:1

<sup>47</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ps 14:1). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

## The Evidence From Creation

This line of evidence deals with the principle of first cause. In theological circles it is called the "**Cosmological Argument**", taken from the Greek word **kosmos**, meaning "universe." It is concerned with the origin of the universe. The principle is set forth in

**(Romans 1:20):**

*20 For<sup>a</sup> since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, <sup>b</sup>being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.<sup>48</sup>*

The first line of evidence for God's existence is seen in the existence of the universe. You don't have to look in every corner of the world to find evidence for God. Such evidence is not hidden. It is plain for all to see. Paul says that it is **clearly seen**. The universe is an effect that demands an adequate cause.

Every cause has an effect that in turn becomes the cause of another effect. If we trace this back to the original cause, then we find a cause that has no prior cause.



Does there have to be a first cause? Is it possible that there was ever a time when there was nothing? If there was ever a time when nothing existed, then there could be nothing now.

### Nothing + Nothing = Nothing

This is basic math. The fact that there is something today indicates that there has always been something.

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<sup>a</sup> Mark 10:6

<sup>b</sup> Job 12:7-9; Ps 19:1-6; Jer 5:21f

<sup>48</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ro 1:20). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

This brings us to another question. Is it possible that the universe has always been here - that matter is eternal in nature? Interestingly enough, there have been scientists who have recognized the need for a first cause and, rather than admit the existence of God, they have suggested that the universe has always existed. The *atheist* Carl Sagan used to say, "**The cosmos is all that is and ever was and ever will be.**"

If this is true, it means that the universe is infinitely old. We are not merely talking about being very old or even about being billions and billions of years old, for there is an infinite gap between anything that is very old and something that is infinitely old. If the universe is infinitely old, then everything that could possibly ever happen in the universe has already happened in the past. History has repeated itself on a planet just like this one an infinite number of times and with infinite variations. Each variation has been repeated in exactly the same way an infinite number of times. This is true of necessity if the universe is indeed infinitely old.

While such a belief staggers the imagination, it still cannot answer the problem of first cause - it only postpones it indefinitely.

The critic is quick to retort, "But who created the Creator? If there is a God, then where did He come from? Was there another God who existed earlier than God and who created Him?"

The **Bible** provides the answer to such a question (**Isaiah 43:10**):

10 "You are <sup>a</sup>My witnesses," declares the LORD, "And <sup>b</sup>My servant whom I have chosen, So that you may know and believe Me And understand that <sup>c</sup>I am He. <sup>d</sup>Before Me there was no God formed, And there will be none after Me.<sup>49</sup> God is eternal. He has had no beginning and He will have no end. He has always existed. There has never been a time when He did not exist. The fact that the universe is here points to the fact of His existence.

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<sup>a</sup> Is 44:8

<sup>b</sup> Is 41:8

<sup>c</sup> Is 41:4

<sup>49</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Is 43:10). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

## The Evidence From Design

This line of evidence deals with the order and design of the universe. It is called the "**Teleological Argument**". The term "teleology" is a compound from of the Greek words teleos ("final") and logos ("word" or "purpose"). **It is the argument from design.** It carries the Cosmological Argument one step further to point to the order and design of the universe.

Cosmological Argument	Teleological Argument
The fact of the existence of the universe points to a first cause: God	The presence of order and design in the universe points to an intelligent designer: God

The principle of design is illustrated in (**Psalm 19:1-3**).

- 1 *The <sup>a</sup>heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their <sup>b</sup>expanse is declaring the work of His hands.*
- 2 *Day to <sup>a</sup>day pours forth speech, And <sup>b</sup>night to night reveals knowledge.*
- 3 *There is no speech, nor are there words; Their voice is not heard.<sup>50</sup>*

If one footprint in the sand convinced Robinson Crusoe that a person was on his island, then by the same logic we can be convinced that God created the world, **for He left countless footprints on its surface.**

The astronomer Kepler used to keep a complex model of the solar system in his office. The story is told of how an atheist once came to visit him and, upon seeing the model, inquired who had made it. He replied, "No one made it. It merely came into existence."

"You don't expect me to believe that!" retorted the atheist.

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<sup>a</sup> Ps 8:1; 50:6; Rom 1:19, 20

<sup>b</sup> Gen 1:6, 7

<sup>a</sup> Ps 74:16

<sup>b</sup> Ps 139:12

<sup>50</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ps 19:1). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

"No," replied Kepler, "But you expect me to believe that our entire solar system came about by chance."

I live in a house. It has doors and windows and rooms with various functions. It was obviously designed by a being with a certain degree of intelligence. It would be silly for me to believe that it merely came about by chance. So it is also with the world in which we live.

**(Hebrews 3:4)** states:

4 For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.<sup>51</sup>

### **The Evidence From Intuition**

This is known as the "**Ontological Argument**". It looks at the way man is. Studies in anthropology show that man is incurably God-conscious. He has an awareness within himself that God exists. (This is sometimes called the "**God Void**".)

The concept of God is prevalent in every human culture. It is true that this concept has often been warped by polytheism and idolatry, but the basic idea of the existence of God has been found in every culture.

**(Romans 1:21-23):**

21 *For even though they knew God, they did not<sup>1</sup> honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became<sup>a</sup> futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.*

22 *<sup>a</sup>Professing to be wise, they became fools,*

23 *and<sup>a</sup> exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and<sup>1</sup> crawling creatures.<sup>52</sup>*

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<sup>51</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Heb 3:4). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

<sup>1</sup> Lit glorify

<sup>a</sup> 2 Kin 17:15; Jer 2:5; Eph 4:17f

<sup>a</sup> Jer 10:14; 1 Cor 1:20

<sup>a</sup> Deut 4:16-18; Ps 106:20; Jer 2:11; Acts 17:29

Notice what is said in verse 21: ***They knew God***. Man has a God-consciousness. He inherently knows that God is there. But that is not all. Man has very deliberately turned away from the God who is there to go and to worship a god of his own making.

Man is unique in this area. No one has ever seen a chicken or a dog with a concept of God. No rooster ever built an altar to the Lord. No lion ever asked a blessing on the food he was about to eat. Even a praying mantis does not pray to the Lord.

God has created man in His image and has placed within him the concept of Himself. It is for this reason that men of every culture and nation have demonstrated this same God-concept.

It is also interesting to note how much effort and energy has been expended by atheists and agnostics to deny the existence of God. If there were no reason for man to believe in God, then it is unlikely that there would be so much fuss about it.

The truth is that man has to fight the God-consciousness within himself if he is to hold to the position that God does not exist. Atheism takes real effort. This in itself is an evidence for God's existence.

## **The Evidence From Morals**

Man has a built-in sense of "**ought**". He feels that he ought to do what is right. He was born with this. He did not say at any time, "I think that I ought to have a sense of ought." It is not something that he has brought upon himself. It is universal to every tribe and people.

This does not mean that every man has a proper concept of right and wrong. Rather it means that every man feels that he really ought to do what is right, whatever that may entail.

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<sup>1</sup> Or reptiles

<sup>52</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ro 1:20). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

In his book *Mere Christianity*, C. S. Lewis points out that people are always coming into conflict over some kind of standard of behavior that they expect the other person to observe. The quarrel might be major ("You stole my wife!") or it might be minor ("You can't sit here, these seats are saved"). In each case, one party is trying to show the other that they are wrong by appealing to this sense of right and wrong.

The remarkable thing is that the other party seldom replies that they don't care about the standard. Instead the argument usually ensues over the interpretation and application of that standard.

***If there were no God to establish that there is right and wrong, then it would be illogical to speak of morals.***

There would be no way to say, "This is right" or "that is wrong." Left in this position, you would have to come to the place where you could talk about what is against society or what society does not like or even what you do not like, but you could no longer talk about what is right or wrong.

If there is no God and an Adolph Hitler is able to convince 51% of the population that we **ought** to eliminate a race of people, then who is to say that one group is right while another is wrong?

**If there is no God and if we are not made in the image of God, then what is the difference between killing a man and killing a cockroach?** Does the size become the issue? Or is it intelligence? Does that make it right to kill a moron but wrong to shut off a computer?

All kinds of moral positions are irrational unless you realize that **God exists and that He has made man in His image and has equipped him with a sense of right and wrong.**

**(Romans 2:14-16):**

14 For when Gentiles who do not have <sup>1</sup>the Law do <sup>2a</sup>instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having <sup>1</sup>the Law, are a law to themselves,

15 in that they show <sup>a</sup>the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them,

16 on the day when, <sup>a</sup>according to my gospel, <sup>b</sup>God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.<sup>53</sup>

Even men who do not believe in God are troubled when they are confronted with evil and cruelty. This is the way that God has made them. They feel that to do right is better than to do wrong. They feel that good is better than evil and that truth is better than untruth. This sense that we ought to do right is still another evidence of the existence of God.

<b>Cosmological Argument</b>	<b>Teleological Argument</b>	<b>Intuitional Argument</b>	<b>Moral Argument</b>
Points to the fact of existence and the need for a first cause	Points to the design of the universe requiring the need of a Designer	Points to the God-concept that is found in mankind in general	Points to man's sense of "ought"

These four components of evidence all point to God's existence. But they are **insufficient to tell us about the character of God**. You cannot come to know God through nature or through looking at your own character any more than you can come to know an automobile manufacturer by driving a car that he has produced.

<sup>1</sup> Or law

<sup>2</sup> Lit by nature

<sup>a</sup> Acts 10:35; Rom 1:19; 2:15

<sup>a</sup> Rom 2:14, 27

<sup>a</sup> Rom 16:25; 1 Cor 15:1; Gal 1:11; 1 Tim 1:11; 2 Tim 2:8

<sup>b</sup> Acts 10:42; 17:31; Rom 3:6; 14:10

<sup>53</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ro 2:13). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

## The Evidence From the Word of God.

This is really the **ultimate apologetic** in giving evidence to the existence of God. We know that God is there because He has not been silent. He has spoken to man. It is hard to maintain that someone does not exist when he is talking to you. Can you imagine someone saying to you, "Will you please stop talking so that I can tell people how you don't exist!"

Not only has God spoken, but **He has put down what He wished to say into a book so that He could communicate to all men in all time.**

**This is the most extraordinary book ever written.**

It has been translated into more languages than any other book in the world. No other book has ever come close to the Bible in its impact on human history.

We will use the following points to demonstrate the **Authority of The Bible.**

1. The Unity of the Bible.
2. The Indestructibility of the Bible.
3. The Prophetic Accuracy of the Bible.
4. The Scientific Accuracy of the Bible.
5. The Historical Accuracy of the Bible.
6. The Subjective Evidence of the Bible.
7. *Hidden Design Within the Biblical Text.*

1. The Unity of the Bible.

**From the very start**, Genesis stands second to none in its importance for proclaiming **"the whole will of God"** (Acts 20:27). It presents the literary and theological underpinning of the whole canonical Scriptures. If we possessed a Bible **without**

**Genesis**, we would have a “**house of cards**” without foundation or mortar. We cannot insure the continuing fruit of our spiritual heritage if we do not give place to its roots. The first verse declares the metaphysical assumption, that is, a present transcendent Creator-God, that acts as the philosophical cornerstone of the entire biblical revelation. Just as we have no gospel without the cross, we would have no salvation story without the sacred events of Moses’ first book. Although this is transparent for the ancestral account with its emphasis on the call of Abraham as the recipient of divine blessing (12:1–3), it is also true for the primeval history of chaps. 1–11. Israel’s faith in God as Creator, not just Redeemer, provided “an all-embracing framework, as the fundamental, all-underlying premise for any talk about God, the world, Israel, and the individual.”<sup>1 54</sup>

**In considering the [unity of the Bible](#)** as to its message and composition, we must first note the diverse conditions under which it came about.

- The Bible was written in three different languages: Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek.
- The Bible was written by nearly 40 different human authors.
- These human authors wrote over a period of 1600 years, from about 1500 B.C. to 96 A.D.
- These human authors came from different strata of society: Kings, priests, prophets, a shepherd, fishermen, a tax collector, a physician, a cup-bearer.
- These human authors wrote from different parts of the world: Israel, Egypt, Rome, Babylon, Ephesus, Greece, Syria, Assyria, the island of Patmos.
- These men wrote on hundreds of different topics, many of which were highly controversial.

In spite of all of these factors, **the Bible is a unified book**. It contains no contradictions in any of its teachings.

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<sup>1</sup> R. Rendtorff, *Canon and Theology*, trans. and ed. M. Kohl (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1993 [1991]), 107–8.

<sup>54</sup> Mathews, K. A. (2001, c1995). Vol. 1A: Genesis 1-11:26 (electronic ed.). Logos Library System; The New American Commentary (Page 22). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

If I were to take any ten people at random and ask them to write a paper on ten specific subjects, I would likely be guaranteed to have ten conflicting opinions.

When we examine the diverse backgrounds and settings of those who penned the pages of the Scriptures, we are forced to conclude that **there was a single guiding force behind this writing, [The Holy Spirit](#)**.

## **2. The Indestructibility of the Bible.**

No book in history has come under such violent and thorough attack as the Bible. The Old Testament king Manasseh attempted to obliterate the Bible. He succeeded in leading the people in the worship of the false gods of the Canaanites, but he could not destroy the Scriptures. It was after his death that a copy of the Scriptures was found in the Temple and served as the basis for Josiah's revival.

Antiochus Epiphanes, the Seleucid king who reigned in the days of the Maccabees, declared it illegal to own a copy of the Scriptures.

### **(1 Maccabees 1:54-57):**

*<sup>54</sup> Now the fifteenth day of the month Casleu, in the hundred forty and fifth year, they set up the abomination of desolation upon the altar, and builded idol altars throughout the cities of Juda on every side;*

*<sup>55</sup> And burnt incense at the doors of their houses, and in the streets.*

*<sup>56</sup> And when they had rent in pieces the books of the law which they found, they burnt them with fire.*

*<sup>57</sup> And whosoever was found with any the book of the testament, or if any committed to the law, the king's commandment was, that they should put him to death.<sup>55</sup>*

The penalty for owning a copy of the Scriptures was death. But Antiochus failed to obliterate the Scriptures and he was ultimately driven from Israel by the Hasmonean Revolt.

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<sup>55</sup> The Apocrypha : King James Version. 1995 (1 Mac 1:54). Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.



The ruins of the southern fortress at Masada seen from the air at the very edge of the bare cliff, 450 meters above the Dead Sea, whose western shore is seen in the background. The Hasmoneans built the fortress here because of its geographical location, and Herod later continued and fortified it even more for the same reason. The dramatic story of Masada, which was adopted by the Zionist movement in the 30s as a symbol of heroism and self sacrifice, appears in Flavius' book. In the year 73 A.D., after withstanding a siege for three years, led by El'azar ben Yair, 960 zealots committed suicide together to avoid being taken into captivity by the Romans. Thus ended the last battle of the zealots—followed by total destruction.<sup>56</sup>

**Figure 6 – Messada – Ruins of a Fortress**

In 303 A.D., the Roman Emperor Diocletian ordered all Bibles to be burned. Within a few years Constantine came to the throne and, not only legalized Christianity, but also ordered 50 copies of the Bible to be hand-written at the expense of the state.

The Synod of Toulouse forbade translations of the Bible into the common language as well as private ownership of copies of the Bible. However Christians continued to work at translating the Bible, even though they often paid with their lives.

The French atheist Voltaire proclaimed that within a hundred years from his death the Bible would be a forgotten relic. **A hundred years later, the printing press in his house was being used to print Bibles.**

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<sup>56</sup> sachar, H. (1997). Images of the Holy Land. Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems.

**The Supernatural Survival of The Bible.**

Although the Bible is a book of antiquity, it has survived time and persecution to come into our hands today.

**a. Survival through Time.**

In ancient times, all books had to be written by hand and copied by hand. There were no word processors or printing presses. Copying a book was a long, tedious effort and the expense was costly. This in itself points to the significance of the Bible as literature.

By contrast, there have been many books that have been written but which have not survived. Archaeology has uncovered many ancient writings, but many more are forever lost to us.

Of those books that have survived, many of the extant manuscripts are highly questionable.

<b>Writing</b>	<b>Date Written</b>	<b>Earliest Copy</b>	<b>Time Span Between original &amp; Copies</b>	<b>Number of Copies</b>
<b>Herodotus</b>	<b>450 B.C.</b>	<b>900 A.D.</b>	<b>1350 Years</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Writings of Plato</b>	<b>350 B.C.</b>	<b>900 A.D.</b>	<b>1200 Years</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Julius Caesar's Gallic Wars</b>	<b>44 B.C.</b>	<b>900 A.D.</b>	<b>950 Years</b>	<b>10</b>

On the other hand, the Bible can be verified by literally thousands of manuscripts, portions of which can be dated a hundred or more years before the birth of Christ. This means that the authenticity of the Bible is the most attested in all of history.

When the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1948, they demonstrated that the Bible had not significantly changed in a thousand years of being copied and recopied.

**b. Survival through Persecution.**

The Bible has come to us through a history of intense persecution. From the days of the Roman emperors to the advent of atheistic communism to a strangling intolerance of the Muslim world, there have been those who outlawed the Bible and who have attempted to obliterate the Word of God.

Voltaire, the famous French unbeliever predicted that within one hundred years of his day Christianity would cease to exist and the Bible would be a forgotten relic of the past. A hundred years later, the Geneva Bible Society was using his house and his printing press to produce Bibles.

**c. Survival in Translations.**

The Bible has also survived through translations. In addition to the original Greek and Hebrew texts, there have been thousands of translations made of the Bible into other languages.

The earliest recorded translation was the Septuagint. This was a translation of the Hebrew Old Testament into Greek, the universal language of that day.

Since that time, portions of the Bible have been translated into over a thousand different languages. Almost every tribe and nation on earth has had the word of God translated into its own language.

The Bible has withstood the ravages of time. It has endured persecution. It has overcome the barrier of language. It is the unique book.

### 3. The Prophetic Accuracy of the Bible.

One of the greatest evidences that the Bible is the Word of God is in its prophetic accuracy. The Scriptures themselves refer to this type of evidence.

**(Isaiah 41:21-23):**

- 21 <sup>a</sup>*Present your case,” the LORD says. “Bring forward your strong arguments,”*  
*The <sup>a</sup>King of Jacob says.*
- 22 <sup>a</sup>*Let them bring forth and declare to us what is going to take place; As for the*  
*<sup>b</sup>former events, declare what they were, That we may consider them and*  
*know their outcome. Or announce to us what is coming;*
- 23 <sup>a</sup>*Declare the things that are going to come afterward, That we may know that*  
*you are gods; Indeed, <sup>b</sup>do good or evil, that we may anxiously look about us*  
*and fear together.<sup>57</sup>*

God presents this challenge to any who would claim divinity. He calls on any false gods to meet His argument. ***He presents predictive prophecy as proof of who He is.*** He will predict the future and it will come to pass with complete accuracy.

***There is no other book in the world that contains the sort of prophetic substantiation that we find in the Bible.*** For example, consider the prophecies of the coming of the Messiah. For the sake of brevity, we will mention only a few.

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<sup>l</sup> Lit Bring near

<sup>a</sup> Is 44:6

<sup>a</sup> Is 44:7; 45:21; 46:10

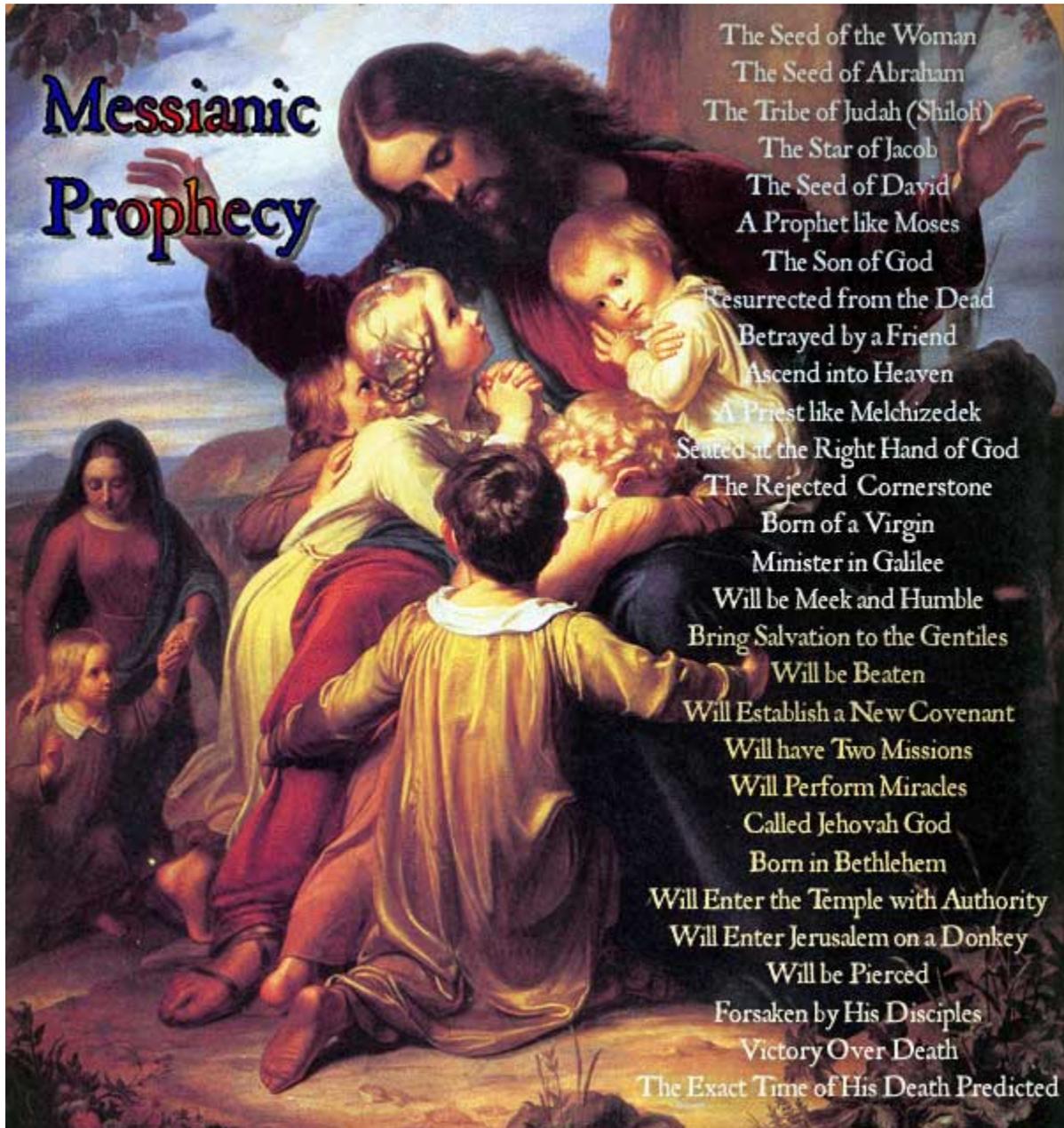
<sup>b</sup> Is 43:9

<sup>a</sup> Is 42:9; 44:7, 8; 45:3; John 13:19

<sup>b</sup> Jer 10:5

<sup>57</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Is 41:20). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

## Messianic Prophecy



### Messianic Prophecy - What Are The Odds of Fulfillment Without God?

Messianic Prophecy is so powerful because of the statistical odds that one man would fulfill every single one of them. If we just analyze **seven of the more specific**

prophecies in the Old Testament, that were later fulfilled in the Person of *Jesus Christ*, we are stunned by the statistical impossibility of such an historical reality. As an illustration, we have inserted some conservative "odds" alongside **seven** established prophecies. Please feel free to propose you own prophecies and your own odds - the dramatic point will still be made!

	<b>Messianic Prophecy</b>	<b>Odds Without God</b>
1.	Jesus would be a descendant of David.	$10^4$ (1 in 10,000)
2.	Jesus would be born in Bethlehem.	$10^5$ (1 in 100,000)
3.	Jesus would be a miracle worker.	$10^5$ (1 in 100,000)
4.	Jesus would present Himself as King riding on a donkey.	$10^6$ (1 in 1,000,000)
5.	Jesus would be betrayed by a friend for 30 pieces of silver.	$10^6$ (1 in 1,000,000)
6.	Jesus would be crucified.	$10^6$ (1 in 1,000,000)
7.	Jesus would first present Himself as King 173,880 days from the decree of Artaxerxes to rebuild Jerusalem.	$10^6$ (1 in 1,000,000)
	<b>Total Probability (without God)</b>	$10^{38}$ (1 in a 100 billion, billion, billion)

**Messianic Prophecy - The Challenge**

Messianic prophecy is phenomenal evidence that sets the Bible apart from the other "holy books." Read a Jewish Tanakh (the Hebrew scripture read in the Jewish synagogues) and read the Messianic prophecies from there. It is dramatic, eye-opening and potentially life-changing!

**The chances of only these seven being fulfilled by any one man are astronomical. The conclusion with which we are left is inescapable. This is the Word of God.**

#### 4. The Scientific Accuracy of the Bible.

**This is probably one of the biggest areas of attack against the Bible today.** It is often argued that the Bible does not agree with science. But I must ask the question, Which science? Is it the science of Plato and Aristotle? How about the science of the Dark Ages? Is it the science of a hundred years ago? How about the science of twenty years ago?

Science is always changing. Science is always finding itself in need of an update. Its errors always stand in need of correction. A science textbook of even ten years of age is completely outdated. It needs to be rewritten.

***The Bible is not like science. It has gone for nearly 2000 years without any need for corrections or revisions. It has stood the test of time. It is as accurate today as it was on the day in which it was penned.***

That is not to say that ***men's interpretation*** of the Bible have always been correct. There have been erroneous interpretations of the Bible that were contradicted by proper science. When Galileo stood against the church and maintained that the earth revolves around the sun, he was contradicting the church and its interpretation of the Bible, but there was no such contradiction with the Bible itself.

It is of interest to see what the Bible does ***not*** say. The Bible does not contain any of the false cosmologies that were taught throughout the ancient world.

- The people of ancient India believed that the earth was a huge tray supported on the backs of three giant elephants who stood on the shell of a great turtle who swam in a cosmic sea.
- The Egyptians taught that the sky was a heavenly Nile along which Ra, the sun god, sailed each day.

- The Babylonians described a disk-shaped earth surrounded by a moat of sea. Beyond the sea, the inverted bowl of the sky held its borders.

In contrast to such views of the "modern science" of that day and age, what does the Bible say about the nature of the earth?

**17 times the Bible declares that God stretched the heavens.**

<b>2 Sam 22:10</b>	<b>Job 37:18</b>	<b>Isaiah 51:13</b>
<b>Psalm 18:9</b>	<b>Isaiah 40:22</b>	<b>Jeremiah 10:12</b>
<b>Psalm 104:2</b>	<b>Isaiah 42:5</b>	<b>Jeremiah 51:15</b>
<b>Psalm 144:5</b>	<b>Isaiah 44:24</b>	<b>Ezekiel 1:22</b>
<b>Job 9:8</b>	<b>Isaiah 45:12</b>	<b>Zechariah 12:1</b>
<b>Job 26:7</b>	<b>Isaiah 48:13</b>	

**(Isaiah 40:22):**

22 It is He who <sup>1</sup>sits above the <sup>2a</sup>circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like <sup>b</sup>grasshoppers, Who <sup>c</sup>stretches out the heavens like a <sup>d</sup>curtain And spreads them out like a <sup>e</sup>tent to dwell in.<sup>58</sup>

Other translations have translated this same passage a bit more literally:

<b>KJV</b>	<i>It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth</i>
<b>NIV</b>	<i>He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth</i>
<b>RSV</b> <b>NASB</b>	<i>It is He who sits above the circle of the earth</i>

<sup>1</sup> Or is enthroned

<sup>2</sup> Or vault

<sup>a</sup> Job 22:14; Prov 8:27

<sup>b</sup> Num 13:33

<sup>c</sup> Job 9:8; Is 37:16; 42:5; 44:24

<sup>d</sup> Ps 104:2

<sup>e</sup> Job 36:29; Ps 18:11; 19:4

<sup>58</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Is 40:21). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

But that is not all. Not only do we see the Scriptures presenting the concept of the circularity of the earth, but Job adds an additional aspect.

**(Job 26:7):**

7 “He <sup>a</sup>stretches out the north over empty space And hangs the earth on nothing.”<sup>59</sup>

The fact that the earth was supported in empty space was taught in the Scriptures at a time when "**modern science**" taught something completely different.

Thus we find that when scientists, in their endless search for the truth, climb their way up the towering heights of knowledge, they finally reach a pinnacle only to find that theologians have been patiently waiting there for hundreds of years.

## 5. The Historical Accuracy of the Bible.

The Bible has come under countless attacks as to its historical accuracy. This has been especially the case among archaeologists. Yet the father of modern archaeology, **Dr William Albright**, although himself *an unbeliever*, had this to say about the **New Testament of The Bible**:

*When all the historical and textual evidence is amassed, it becomes clear that the New Testament was composed at a very early date by eyewitnesses and/or by those who recorded eyewitness testimony. Eminent archaeologist William F. Albright concluded: “In my opinion, every book of the New Testament was written by a baptized Jew between the forties and the eighties of the first century A.D. (very probably sometime between A.D. 50 and 75).”<sup>b</sup>*

*Albright also reported: “Thanks to the Qumran discoveries, the New Testament proves to be in fact what it was formerly believed to be: the teaching of Christ and his immediate followers between c. 24 and c. 80 A.D.”<sup>4 60</sup>*

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<sup>a</sup> Job 9:8

<sup>59</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Job 26:6). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

<sup>3</sup> “An Interview with William F. Albright,” Christianity Today, 18 January 1963.

<sup>4</sup> William F. Albright, *From the Stone Age to Christianity* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins, 1946), p. 29.

<sup>60</sup> McDowell, J. (1997, c1991). *Josh McDowell's handbook on apologetics* (electronic ed.). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

The Hittites, mentioned some fifty times in the Old Testament, were considered for a long time to be a biblically fabricated people. That is, the biblical references to the Hittites used to be regarded as historically worthless. **John Elder** comments on modern confirmation of the Hittites:

*One of the striking confirmations of Bible history to come from the science of archaeology is the “recovery” of the Hittite peoples and their empires. Here is a people whose name appears again and again in the Old Testament, but who in secular history had been completely forgotten and whose very existence was considered to be extremely doubtful....In Genesis 23:10, it is told that Abraham bought a parcel of land for a burying place from Ephron the Hittite. In Genesis 26:34, Esau takes a Hittite girl for a wife, to the great grief of his mother. In the Book of Exodus, the Hittites are frequently mentioned in the lists of people whose land the Hebrews set out to conquer. In Joshua 11:1–9, the Hittites join in the confederation of nations that try to resist Joshua’s advance, only to be defeated by the waters of Merom. In Judges, intermarriage occurs between the Hebrews and the Hittites. In 1 Samuel 26, Hittites enroll in David’s army, and during the reign of Solomon he makes slaves of the Hittite element in his kingdom and allows his people to take Hittite wives. But until the investigations of modern archaeologists, the Hittites remained a shadowy and undefined people.<sup>12 61</sup>*

After examining some of the historical and archaeological evidence in favor of the historical reliability of the Old Testament, we conclude with several observations:

- The persons, places, and events listed during the different periods of Old Testament history match up well with the facts and evidence from history and archaeology.
- Recent developments in textual criticism give examples of reversals by liberal critics who dismissed Old Testament passages for lack of evidence and then were forced by new evidence to accept them as historically reliable.
- We first believe the Old Testament to be historically reliable because of the testimony of Jesus Christ, God in human flesh, whose claims were validated by his resurrection from the dead. Old Testament authority **John Bright** summarized it like this:

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<sup>12</sup> John Elder, *Prophets, Idols, and Diggers* (New York: Bobbs-Merrill, 1960), p. 75.

<sup>61</sup> McDowell, J. (1997, c1991). *Josh McDowell’s handbook on apologetics* (electronic ed.). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

*I am quite unable to get around the fact...that the Old Testament was authoritative Scripture for Jesus himself. Jesus knew no Scripture save the Old Testament, no God save its God; it was this God whom he addressed as "Father."...The very fact that the Old Testament was normative Scripture to Jesus, from which he understood both his God and (however we interpret his self-consciousness) himself, means that it must in some way be normative Scripture for us too.<sup>14 62</sup>*

A more recent example is seen in those minimalists who maintained that King David was only a mythological figure with no basis in reality. Beginning in the 1990's, archaeologists began to uncover several different inscriptions referring to the "house of David."

## **6. The Subjective Evidence of the Bible.**

The Bible has changed the lives of men and women as no other book ever has. It may be argued that this kind of evidence is very subjective. But we have already seen that the Christian has an objective reality to back up his subjective experience.

1. I have given you reasons to place your faith in the **Word of God**, and it alone...!
  - a. The whole counsel of God has been proclaimed!
  - b. We have all things pertaining to life and godliness!
  - c. The faith has been revealed once and for all!
  - d. The Scriptures can make us complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work!
2. Can we trust the Bible...?
  - a. Yes, for it has been faithfully preserved and translated!
  - b. Yes, for it contains the books that rightly serve as our canon (authority)!
  - c. Yes, for it is inspired of God!
  - d. Yes, for it can be understood!

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<sup>14</sup> Bright, Old Testament, p. 77.

<sup>62</sup> McDowell, J. (1997, c1991). Josh McDowell's handbook on apologetics (electronic ed.). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

- e. Yes, for it is an all-sufficient guide for salvation!
3. Those who would deny such things are either...
- a. Atheists and skeptics who wish to reject the Bible which condemns their lifestyle.
  - b. Leaders of cults or man-made religions who desire your full allegiance to themselves.

In the words of the apostle Paul ...

**(Acts 20:32):**

32 *“And now I <sup>a</sup>commend you to God and to <sup>b</sup>the word of His grace, which is able to <sup>c</sup>build you up and to give you <sup>d</sup>the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”<sup>63</sup>*

In the words of **Jesus Christ** Himself ...

**(John 14:6):**

6 *Jesus <sup>\*said</sup> to him, “I am <sup>a</sup>the way, and <sup>b</sup>the truth, and <sup>c</sup>the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”<sup>64</sup>*

***Place your faith and trust in God and His Word alone, and you cannot go wrong!***

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<sup>a</sup> Acts 14:23

<sup>b</sup> Acts 14:3; 20:24

<sup>c</sup> Acts 9:31

<sup>d</sup> Acts 26:18; Eph 1:14; 5:5; Col 1:12; 3:24; Heb 9:15; 1 Pet 1:4

<sup>63</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ac 20:31). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

\* A Star (\*) is used to mark verbs that are historical presents in the Greek which have been translated with an English past tense in order to conform to modern usage. The translators recognized that in some contexts the present tense seems more unexpected and unjustified to the English reader than a past tense would have been. But Greek authors frequently used the present tense for the sake of heightened vividness, thereby transporting their readers in imagination to the actual scene at the time of occurrence. However, the translators felt that it would be wise to change these historical presents to English past tenses.

<sup>a</sup> John 10:9; Rom 5:2; Eph 2:18; Heb 10:20

<sup>b</sup> John 1:14

<sup>c</sup> John 1:4; 11:25; 1 John 5:20

<sup>64</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Jn 14:6). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

## A Warning<sup>65</sup>

**Man is easily deceived.** Henry Morris III states in his book: *After Eden*, a warning that is applicable to all of us now:

The conversation between the serpent and EVE in the Garden reveals humanity's susceptibility to the deception of untruth. The Scripture repeatedly warn humanity against such vulnerability (Psalm 10 & 37; 2 Corinthians 11:3; 2 Timothy 3:31). God's nature is truth and life (John 14:6). Satan's character is lies and death (John 8:44). When Eve allowed herself to be led into deception, she displayed the essence of a self-centered logic that, if followed, will always stray from God's supernatural holiness and omniscience. Focusing on the physical aspects alone (good for food), limited by the observable facts only (was pleasant to the eyes), and compounded by the selfish desire for mental superiority (desired to make one wise), Eve capitulated the deception of Lucifer.

Nothing has changed since then. Whenever we focus on the temporal things to the exclusion of the unseen things of eternity (2 Corinthians 4:18). Our minds are blinded (2 Corinthians 4:4). That deception is hostile to truth. Whenever we exclude faith from our reasoning, we become the victims of deception just as Eve became deceived (2 Corinthians 11:3). The beguiling words of a man's human logic and naturalistic philosophy will spoil us just as surely today as it spoiled our parents in Eden (2 Corinthians 2:4-8).

Pastor Jon Courson abruptly puts it in today's language, and identifies our **hope** is in the **Last Adam**:

Finally, because of Adam's failure, sin continually enters the world. Like the babies tragically born addicted to crack/cocaine because of the sin of their mothers, we have been condemned because of Adam's sin and continue sinning as a result. "You're being pretty tough on Adam," you say, "by placing the rap for all of the sin in the world, all of the death of mankind, all of the junk in my own life on him." Perhaps—but that's the very point Paul is making. Why? Because if all of this negativity happened because one man bombed out, how much good can happen because of one Man coming through?

### Who is that Man?

The Second Man (1 Corinthians 15:47), the **Last Adam** (1 Corinthians 15:45),

**Jesus Christ.**<sup>66</sup>

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65 Morris, Henry III, *After Eden*, (Master Books, Inc. copyright 2003), ISBN 0-89051-402-X, page 137.

## 7. *Hidden Design Within the Biblical Text.* (This is just one, there are many.)

### Meanings of the Names in Genesis 5

The background behind the genealogy in Genesis 5 is one of our most frequently asked questions.

Since the ten **Hebrew** names are proper names, they are not translated but only *transliterated* to approximate the way they were pronounced. The meaning of proper names can be a difficult pursuit since direct translations are not readily available. Many study aids, such as conventional lexicons, can prove superficial when dealing with proper names. Even a conventional Hebrew lexicon can prove disappointing. A study of the original *roots*, however, can yield some fascinating insights. (It should be recognized, however, that the views concerning the meaning and significance of the original roots are not free of controversy and are subject to variant readings. This is why we receive so many questions or comments on variations.)

**Adam** - The first name, **Adam**, comes from *adomah*, and means "**man**". As the first man, that seems straightforward enough.

**Seth** - Adam's son was named **Seth**, which means "**appointed**". When he was born Eve said, "For God hath *appointed* me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew."

**Enosh** - Seth's son was called **Enosh**, which means "**mortal**", "frail," or "miserable." It is from the root *anash*: to be incurable; used of a wound, grief, woe, sickness, or wickedness. (It was in the days of Enosh that men began to defile the name of the Living God.<sup>67</sup> )

**Kenan** - Enosh's son was named **Kenan**, from which can mean "**sorrow**", dirge," or "elegy." (The precise denotation is somewhat elusive; some study aids unfortunately

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<sup>66</sup>Courson, J. (2003). *Jon Courson's Application Commentary* (Page 915). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson.

<sup>67</sup> Genesis 4:26 is often mistranslated. Targum of Onkelos: "...desisted from praying in the name"; Targum of Jonathan: "surnamed their idols in the name..."; Kimchi, Rashi, and other ancient Jewish commentators agree. Jerome indicated that this was the opinion of many Jews of his day. Maimonides, *Commentary on the Mishna* (a constituent part of the Talmud), A.D. 1168, ascribes the origin of idolatry to the days of Enosh.

presume an Aramaic root synonymous with "Cainan.") Balaam, looking down from the heights of Moab, employed a pun upon the name of the Kenites when he prophesied their destruction.<sup>68</sup>

**Mahalalel** - Kenan's son was Mahalalel, from *mahalal*, which means "**blessed**" or "praise"; and *El*, the name for God. Thus, Mahalalel means "the Blessed God." Often Hebrew names included *El*, the name of God, as Dani-*el*, "God is my Judge," Nathani-*el*, "Gift of God," etc.

**Jared** - Mahalalel's son was named **Jared**, from the verb *yaradh*, meaning "**shall come down**". Some authorities suggest that this might have been an allusion to the "Sons of God" who "came down" to corrupt the daughters of men, resulting in the Nephilim ("Fallen Ones") of Genesis 6.

**Enoch** - Jared's son was named **Enoch**, which means "**teaching**", or "commencement". He was the first of four generations of preachers. In fact, the earliest recorded prophecy was by Enoch, which amazingly enough deals with the Second Coming of Christ. (although it is quoted in the Book of Jude in the New Testament):

Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, "**Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,**

***To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against.***"<sup>69</sup>

**Methuselah** - The Flood of Noah did not come as a surprise. It had been preached on for four generations. But something strange happened when Enoch was 65, from which time "he walked with God." Enoch was given a prophecy that as long as his son

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<sup>68</sup> Numbers 24:21,23.

<sup>69</sup> Jude 14,15.

was alive, the judgment of the flood would be withheld; but as soon as he died, the flood would be sent forth.

Enoch named his son to reflect this prophecy. The name Methuselah comes from two roots: *muth*, a root that means "death"<sup>70</sup>; and from *shalach*, which means "to bring," or "to send forth." Thus, the name Methuselah signifies, "**his death shall bring**".

And, indeed, in the year that Methuselah died, the flood came. Methuselah was 187 when he had Lamech, and lived 782 years more. Lamech had Noah when he was 182.<sup>71</sup> The Flood came in Noah's 600th year.<sup>72</sup>  $187 + 182 + 600 = 969$ , Methuselah's age when he died.<sup>73</sup>

It is interesting that Methuselah's life was, in effect, a symbol of God's mercy in forestalling the coming judgment of the flood. It is therefore fitting that his lifetime is the oldest in the Bible, symbolizing the extreme extensiveness of God's mercy.

**Lamech** - Methuselah's son was named *Lamech*, a root still evident today in our own English word, "lament" or "lamentation." Lamech suggests "**the despairing**". (This name is also linked to the Lamech in Cain's line who inadvertently killed his son Tubal-Cain in a hunting incident.<sup>74</sup>)

**Noah** - Lamech, of course, is the father of *Noah*, which is derived from *nacham*, to "**rest**", "comfort", or "to bring relief" as Lamech himself explains.<sup>75</sup>

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<sup>70</sup> "Muth," death, occurs 125 times in the Old Testament.

<sup>71</sup> Genesis 5:25-28.

<sup>72</sup> Genesis 7:6,11.

<sup>73</sup> Genesis 5:27.

<sup>74</sup> Genesis 4:19-25; rabbinical sources, Re: Kaplan, et al.

<sup>75</sup> Genesis 5:29.

## The Composite List<sup>76</sup>

Now let's put it all together:

<i>Hebrew</i>	<i>English</i>
Adam	Man
Seth	Appointed (one)
Enosh	Mortal (frailty)
Kenan	Sorrow
Mahalalel	The Blessed God or God be praised
Jared	Shall come down or descent
Enoch	Teaching or dedication
Methuselah	His death shall bring, or when he dies, judgment
Lamech	The despairing, conqueror
Noah	Rest, or comfort

*“Man (is) appointed mortal sorrow, (but) the Blessed God  
shall come down teaching (that) His death  
shall bring the despairing rest.”*

Here is a summary of **God's plan of redemption**, *hidden* here within a genealogy in **Genesis!** You will never convince me that a group of Jewish rabbis deliberately "contrived" to hide the "Christian Gospel" right here in a genealogy within their venerated Torah!

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76 Morris, Henry M., *The Genesis Record: A Scientific & Devotional Commentary on the Book of Beginnings*, (Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, MI., copyright 1976), ISBN 0-8010-60004-4, page 155.

## Evidences of Design in the Text

The implications of this discovery are far more deeply significant than may be evident at first glance. **It demonstrates that in the earliest chapters of the Book of Genesis, God had already laid out His plan of redemption for the predicament of mankind.**

*It is the beginning of a love story, ultimately written in blood on a wooden cross which was erected in Judea almost 2,000 years ago.*

This is also one of many evidences that the **Bible is an *integrated* message system**, the product of ***supernatural engineering***. This punctures the presumptions of many who view the Bible as a record of an evolving cultural tradition, noble though it may be. It claims to be authored by the **One** who alone knows the end from the beginning,<sup>77</sup> despite the fact that it is composed of 66 separate books, penned by some 40 authors, spanning over 1600 years.

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<sup>77</sup> Isaiah 46:10; Revelation 21:6; 22:13.

## Summary of Bible Authority

1. The Unity of the Bible.
2. The Indestructibility of the Bible.
3. The Prophetic Accuracy of the Bible.
4. The Scientific Accuracy of the Bible.
5. The Historical Accuracy of the Bible.
6. The Subjective Evidence of the Bible.
7. *Hidden Design* within the Biblical text.

### A Supernatural Message

A Benevolent and Transcendent Creator presents some interesting possibilities. Because a Benevolent Creator possesses the sufficient means to act in our space-time domain, He also has the capability to get a message to us. The Bible claims to be that message. The Bible authenticates that its text is an extraterrestrial (outside our time domain), supernatural message system from a Transcendent Creator in several ways.

### Scientific Accuracy

Because the Bible declares that God is omniscient (all-knowing), He possesses a perfect understanding of the physical universe. Consequently, we would expect any book claiming to be the word of God to be 100% accurate when speaking on scientific issues. Indeed, the Bible is without error or contradiction when it speaks on scientific issues.

### Scientific Foreknowledge

Throughout the Bible's text there are highly specific and accurate statements regarding the laws of physics, the nature of our solar system, the planet earth, and its life forms that were penned centuries before this scientific knowledge was discovered by the

scientific community. This phenomenon, called scientific foreknowledge, is present throughout the text of the Bible and is a powerful hint of supernatural authorship.

### **Design of the Text**

Throughout the Bible we find the *“fingerprints”* of a supernatural message system. Numerous design features in the Biblical text defy coincidence and demonstrate that the Bible, which consists of sixty-six books, penned by forty authors over thousands of years, is an integrated message system.

### **Predictive Prophecy**

Finally, because the Creator revealed in the Bible exists outside our space-time domain, He is able to “see,” in effect, the beginning and the end of our time domain simultaneously. Consequently, the Bible authenticates that its message is of extra-dimensional origin through predictive prophecy; i.e., *by writing history in advance!* No other “holy book” on planet earth authenticates its message in these ways.

### **Overall Integration**

The **Bible** is *an integrated message system*, where the New Testament is *concealed* in the Old Testament and the Old Testament is *revealed* in the New Testament, and that has all of the Bible’s key messages solidified within the text, so that no one verse, chapter, or book removed, would loose the intended message from the whole. The Bible is *protected by God*, and is made durable, to withstand all the elements of man and Satan, thus it is made with *“hostile jamming”* in mind and removing a verse, chapter, or even an entire book or epistle would diminish the *“resolution”* but would not change or eliminate any of its multiple unique messages. It is His message to from outside our time domain. The first Book of Genesis describes the Creation, and the rest is His love story, written blood about our redemption, and hope. *It is a testimony of supernatural design from Our Benevolent Creator.*

## VI. Conclusion

Make no mistake about it, this document does not do the subject justice. Perhaps I have inspired you somewhat to refocus your faith in **The Eternal One**, who has created us. We do literally exist through Him. He is not only our Creator, but also our Sustainer. He is the God of the universe, living in us today. **We have the author of the book (The Bible) living in our hearts. We were created for His pleasure**, not for your boyfriend or girlfriend, or your husband or your wife, but **for Him**.

**(Revelation 4:11):**

11 <sup>a</sup>Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You <sup>b</sup>created all things, and because of Your will they <sup>1</sup>existed, and were created.<sup>78</sup>

What a privilege to be a Christian in the Church Age!

- His pleasure is to fellowship with us.
- His pleasure is to exalt you.
- His pleasure is to kind you, and to wash you.
- His pleasure is to redeem you.
- His pleasure is to embrace you.

He compares **us** to ...

- A Shepherd to His flock.
- A Father to His children.
- A Groom to His bride.

All things have issued forth from Him and **Jesus Christ who is the image of the invisible God** and all things are on their way to consummating in Him.

**He is Our Benevolent Creator.**

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<sup>a</sup> Rev 1:6; 5:12

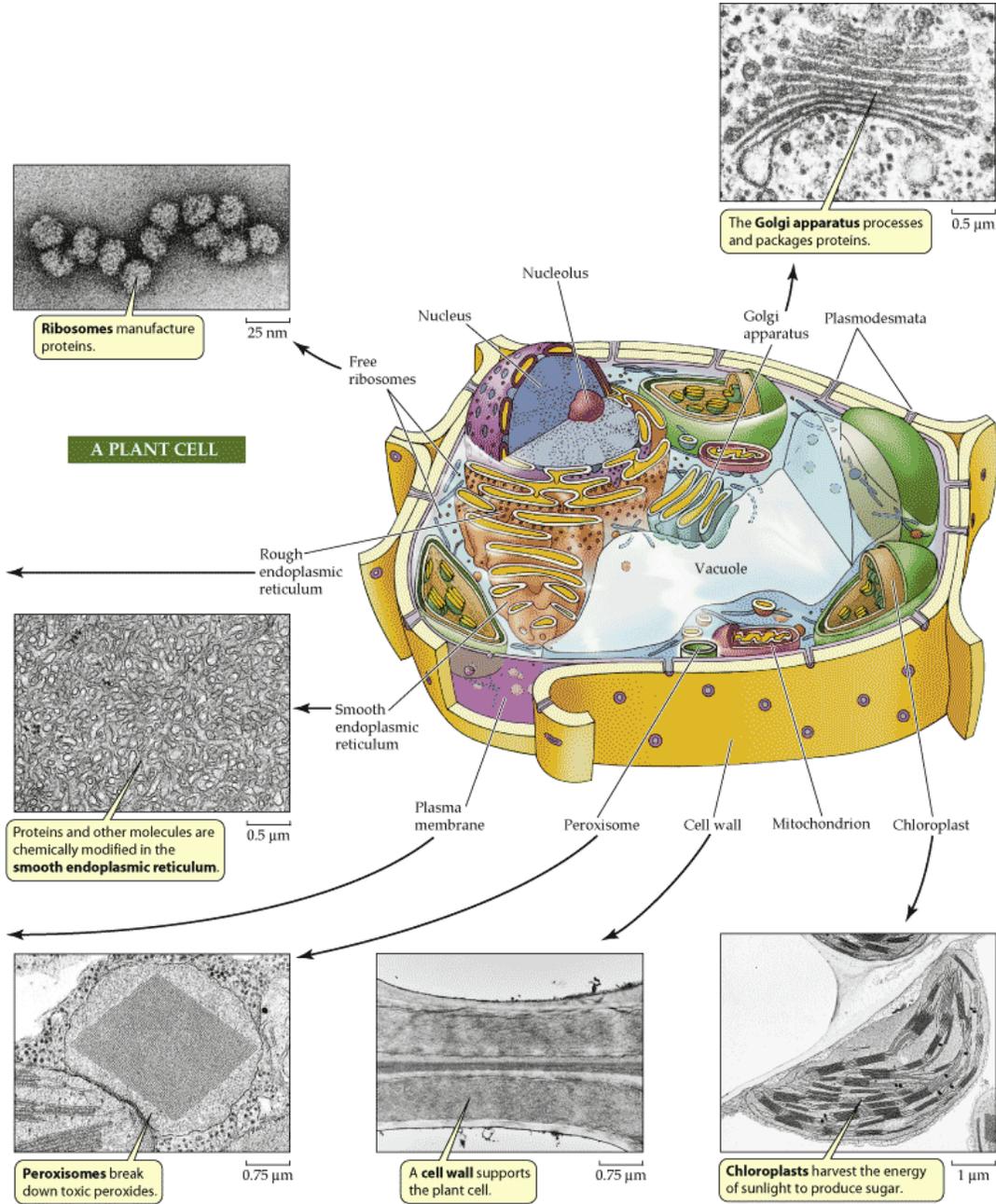
<sup>b</sup> Acts 14:15; Rev 10:6; 14:7

<sup>1</sup> Lit were

<sup>78</sup> New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Re 4:10). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

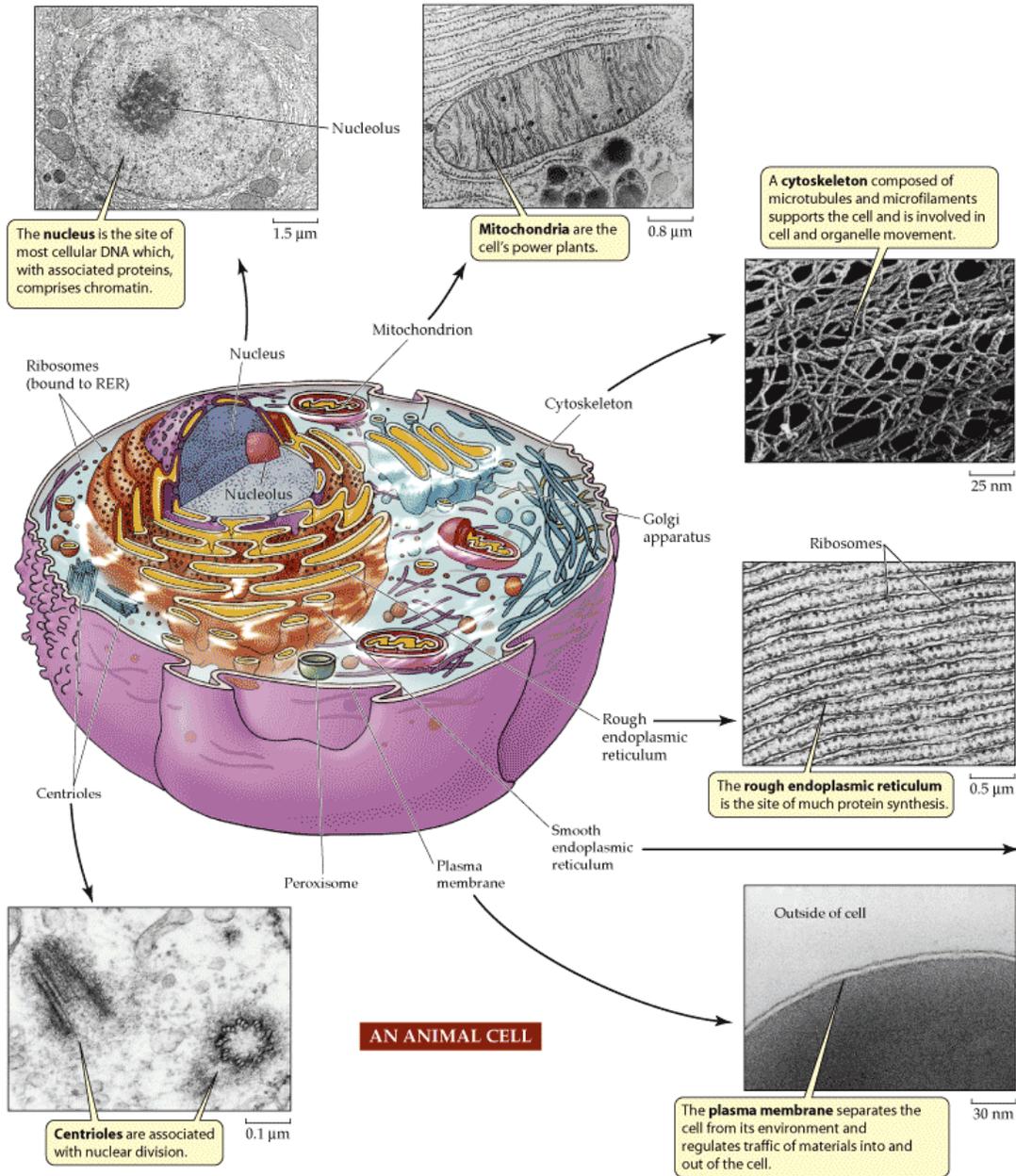
## Appendix

### A Plant Cell<sup>79</sup>



79 Image from Purves et al., Life: The Science of Biology, ( 4th Edition, by Sinauer Associates), Volume I: The Cell & Heredity (Chapters 1, 2-18), also ISBN 0-7167-9856-5

### An Animal Cell<sup>80</sup>



80 Image from Purves et al., Life: The Science of Biology, ( 4th Edition, by Sinauer Associates), Volume I: The Cell & Heredity (Chapters 1, 2-18), also ISBN 0-7167-9856-5

## Reference Notes

These are the original footnotes, placed here for convince.

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- [2] Denton, Michael, *Nature's Destiny*, (New York: The Free Press, copyright 1998), page 13., Also from *The Privileged Planet: How Our Place in the Cosmos is Designed for Discovery*, (Regnery Publishing, Inc., copyright 2004), ISBN: 0895260654, Chapter 8, page 143.
- [3] Guillermo Gonzalez & Jay Richards, *The Privileged Planet: How Our Place in the Cosmos is Designed for Discovery*, (Regnery Publishing, Inc., copyright 2004), ISBN: 0895260654, 464 pp., excerpt taken from the DVD.
- [4] Guillermo Gonzalez & Jay Richards, *The Privileged Planet: How Our Place in the Cosmos is Designed for Discovery*, (Regnery Publishing, Inc., copyright 2004), ISBN: 0895260654, 464 pp., excerpt taken from the DVD.
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- 17 S. L. Miller and L. E. Orgel, *The Origins of Life on the Earth*, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 1973.
- [11] Simplified from the following resources:  
Encyclopædia Britannica Library, (Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.), Encyclopædia Britannica 2005 Ultimate Reference Suite DVD Version: 2005.00.00.000000000
- [12] DeRosa, Tom, *Evidence for Creation: Intelligent Answers for Open Minds*, (Coral Ridge Ministries, copyright 2003), page 49-50.
- [13] Missler, Dr. Chuck, *The Book Of Genesis*, (Koinonia House, Inc., copyright 2004), MP3 Commentary & Notes, ISBN 1-57821-252-9, pages 74-77.
- [14] Encyclopædia Britannica Library, (Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.), Encyclopædia Britannica 2005 Ultimate Reference Suite DVD Version: 2005.00.00.000000000

**[15]** Missler, Dr. Chuck, *Cosmic Codes—Hidden Messages from the Edge of Eternity*, (Koinonia House, Inc., copyright 1999), page 12-17.

**[16]** National Geographic, *The Incredible Human Body*, (National Geographic, DVD, MGT Inc., copyright 2002)

**[17]** Image from Purves et al., *Life: The Science of Biology*, ( 4th Edition, by Sinauer Associates), Volume I: The Cell & Heredity (Chapters 1, 2-18), also ISBN 0-7167-9856-5

**[18]** Cosgrove, M, Ph. D., *The Amazing Body Human: God's Design For Personhood*, (Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, MI., copyright 1987), page 145.

**[19]** National Geographic, *The Incredible Human Body*, (National Geographic, DVD, MGT Inc., copyright 2002)

**a** Rom 15:33

**b** 1 Thess 3:11

**c** Luke 1:46f; Heb 4:12

**d** James 1:4; 2 Pet 3:14

**e** 1 Thess 2:19

**[20]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (1 Th 5:22). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

**[21]** Thompson, Bert, Phd., & Jackson, Wayne, Ma., *The Case For the Existence of God*, (Apologetics Press, Inc., Second edition copyright © 2001), ISBN: 0-932859-28-3, page 7.

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**a** Ps 10:4; 53:1

**[23]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ps 14:1). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

**a** Gen 1:1; Col 1:17; 1 John 1:1

**b** John 1:14; Rev 19:13

**c** John 17:5; 1 John 1:2

**d** Phil 2:6

**1** Lit This one

**a** John 1:10; 1 Cor 8:6; Col 1:16; Heb 1:2

**a** John 5:26; 11:25; 14:6

**b** John 8:12; 9:5; 12:46

**a** John 3:19

**1** Or overpower

**[24]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Jn 1:1). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

**d** 2 Cor. 4:4; Heb. 1:3

**e** Ps. 89:27; Rev. 3:14

**f** John 1:3; Heb. 1:2, 3

**g** [Eph. 1:20, 21; Col. 2:15]

**5** rulers

**6** authorities

**h** John 1:3; Rom. 11:36; 1 Cor. 8:6; Heb. 2:10

**i** [John 17:5]

**j** Heb. 1:3

**k** 1 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 1:22

**l** Rev. 1:5

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**[26]** MacDonald, W., & Farstad, A. (1997, c1995). Believer's Bible Commentary : Old and New Testaments (Col 1:16). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

**[27]** Walvoord, J. F., Zuck, R. B., & Dallas Theological Seminary. (1983-c1985). The Bible knowledge commentary : An exposition of the scriptures. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

**a** Deut 28:15–20

**b** Is 65:25; Mic 7:17

**a** Rev 12:17

**1** Or crush

**[28]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ge 3:13). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

**1** Or wounded

**a** Is 53:8; Heb 9:28

**b** Is 53:10; Rom 4:25; 1 Cor 15:3

**c** Deut 11:2; Heb 5:8

**2** Or peace

**d** 1 Pet 2:24, 25

**1** Lit encounter Him

**[29]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Is 53:4). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

**a** Acts 3:14; Heb 4:15; 7:26; 1 Pet 2:22; 1 John 3:5

**b** Rom 3:25; 4:25; 8:3; Gal 3:13

**c** Rom 1:17; 3:21f; 1 Cor 1:30

**[30]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (2 Co 5:20). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

**a** Rom 15:33

**b** Matt 4:10

**[31]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ro 16:20). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

**[32]** Merriam-Webster, I. (1996, c1993). Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary. Includes index. (10th ed.). Springfield, Mass., U.S.A.: Merriam-Webster.

**a** Rom 5:8; Eph 2:4; 2 Thess 2:16; 1 John 4:10; Rev 1:5

**b** Rom 8:32; 1 John 4:9

**1** Or unique, only one of His kind

**c** John 1:18; 3:18; 1 John 4:9

**d** John 3:36; 6:40; 11:25f

**a** John 3:34; 5:36, 38; 6:29, 38, 57; 7:29; 8:42; 10:36; 11:42; 17:3, 8, 18, 21, 23, 25; 20:21

**b** Luke 19:10; John 8:15; 12:47; 1 John 4:14

**[33]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Jn 3:15). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

[34] MacDonald, W., & Farstad, A. (1997, c1995). *Believer's Bible Commentary : Old and New Testaments* (Jn 3:16). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

[35] Courson, J. (2003). *Jon Courson's Application Commentary* (Page 459). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson.

[36] Or as Gladden put it: "Heredity is God working in us and environment is God working around us" (quoted by A. H. Strong, *Systematic Theology*, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, Judson Press, 1907, p.624).

a John 6:70; 13:18; 15:19

b John 15:5

c John 14:13; 15:7; 16:23

a John 15:12

[37] *New American Standard Bible : 1995 update*. 1995 (Jn 15:17). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

[38] Howard A. Synder put it this way: "It is not too much to say that God in his foreknowledge has given to each person at birth those talents that he later wills to awaken and ignite. A spiritual gift is a God-given ability that has caught fire" ("*Misunderstanding Spiritual Gifts*", *Christianity Today*, vol. 18, 12 Oct. 1973, p.17).

a Ps 119:73; Is 44:24

1 Lit kidneys

b Job 10:11

1 Some ancient versions read You are fearfully wonderful

a Ps 40:5

1 Lit bones were

a Job 10:8–10; Eccl 11:5

b Ps 63:9

a Job 10:8–10; Eccl 11:5

b Ps 56:8

c Job 14:5

a Ps 40:5; 92:5

[39] *New American Standard Bible : 1995 update*. 1995 (Ps 139:13). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

a 1 Pet 1:4

b Amos 6:8; 8:7; Nah 2:2

[40] *New American Standard Bible : 1995 update*. 1995 (Ps 47:3). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

[41] "According as he has chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him." Ephesians 1:4.

"But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God has from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth. . . ." 2 Thessalonians 2:13.

[42] "As every man has received the [a, so the Greek] gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." 1 Peter 4:10.

[43] "Are they [angels] not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?" Hebrews 1:14.

a 1 Cor 1:10; 2 Cor 10:1–4; Eph 4:1; 1 Pet 2:11

b Rom 6:13, 16, 19; 1 Cor 6:20; Heb 13:15; 1 Pet 2:5

1 Or well-pleasing

2 Or rational

a 1 Pet 1:14

b Matt 13:22; Gal 1:4; 1 John 2:15

1 Or age

c Eph 4:23; Titus 3:5

2 Or approve

d Eph 5:10, 17; Col 1:9

3 Or well-pleasing

[44] New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ro 12:1). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

[45] Custance, Arthur C., Journey Out of Time, (Doorway Publications, copyright 1981), ISBN: 0919857019, Chapter Nine, The Nature of Man.

[46] Hugo St. Victor, De Sacramentis Christianae Fidei, Book 1, prologue, chapter 3.

a Ps 10:4; 53:1

[47] New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ps 14:1). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

a Mark 10:6

b Job 12:7–9; Ps 19:1–6; Jer 5:21f

[48] New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ro 1:20). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

a Is 44:8

b Is 41:8

c Is 41:4

[49] New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Is 43:10). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

a Ps 8:1; 50:6; Rom 1:19, 20

b Gen 1:6, 7

a Ps 74:16

b Ps 139:12

[50] New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ps 19:1). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

[51] New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Heb 3:4). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

1 Lit glorify

a 2 Kin 17:15; Jer 2:5; Eph 4:17f

a Jer 10:14; 1 Cor 1:20

a Deut 4:16–18; Ps 106:20; Jer 2:11; Acts 17:29

1 Or reptiles

[52] New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ro 1:20). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

1 Or law

2 Lit by nature

a Acts 10:35; Rom 1:19; 2:15

a Rom 2:14, 27

a Rom 16:25; 1 Cor 15:1; Gal 1:11; 1 Tim 1:11; 2 Tim 2:8

**b** Acts 10:42; 17:31; Rom 3:6; 14:10

**[53]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ro 2:13). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

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**[55]** The Apocrypha : King James Version. 1995 (1 Mac 1:54). Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

**[56]** I sachar, H. (1997). Images of the Holy Land. Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems.

**1** Lit Bring near

**a** Is 44:6

**a** Is 44:7; 45:21; 46:10

**b** Is 43:9

**a** Is 42:9; 44:7, 8; 45:3; John 13:19

**b** Jer 10:5

**[57]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Is 41:20). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

**1** Or is enthroned

**2** Or vault

**a** Job 22:14; Prov 8:27

**b** Num 13:33

**c** Job 9:8; Is 37:16; 42:5; 44:24

**d** Ps 104:2

**e** Job 36:29; Ps 18:11; 19:4

**[58]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Is 40:21). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

**a** Job 9:8

**[59]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Job 26:6). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

**3** “An Interview with William F. Albright,” Christianity Today, 18 January 1963.

**4** William F. Albright, From the Stone Age to Christianity (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins, 1946), p. 29.

**[60]** McDowell, J. (1997, c1991). Josh McDowell's handbook on apologetics (electronic ed.). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

**12** John Elder, Prophets, Idols, and Diggers (New York: Bobbs-Merrill, 1960), p. 75.

**[61]** McDowell, J. (1997, c1991). Josh McDowell's handbook on apologetics (electronic ed.). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

**14** Bright, Old Testament, p. 77.

**[62]** McDowell, J. (1997, c1991). Josh McDowell's handbook on apologetics (electronic ed.). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

**a** Acts 14:23

**b** Acts 14:3; 20:24

**c** Acts 9:31

**d** Acts 26:18; Eph 1:14; 5:5; Col 1:12; 3:24; Heb 9:15; 1 Pet 1:4

**[63]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Ac 20:31). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

**\* A star (\*)** is used to mark verbs that are historical presents in the Greek which have been translated with an English past tense in order to conform to modern usage. The translators recognized that in some contexts the present tense seems more unexpected and unjustified to the English reader than a past tense would have been. But Greek authors frequently

used the present tense for the sake of heightened vividness, thereby transporting their readers in imagination to the actual scene at the time of occurrence. However, the translators felt that it would be wise to change these historical presents to English past tenses.

**a** John 10:9; Rom 5:2; Eph 2:18; Heb 10:20

**b** John 1:14

**c** John 1:4; 11:25; 1 John 5:20

**[64]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Jn 14:6). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

**[65]** Morris, Henry III, *After Eden*, (Master Books, Inc. copyright 2003), ISBN 0-89051-402-X, page 137.

**[66]** Courson, J. (2003). *Jon Courson's Application Commentary (Page 915)*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson.

**[67]** Genesis 4:26 is often mistranslated. Targum of Onkelos: "...desisted from praying in the name"; Targum of Jonathan: "surnamed their idols in the name..."; Kimchi, Rashi, and other ancient Jewish commentators agree. Jerome indicated that this was the opinion of many Jews of his day. Maimonides, *Commentary on the Mishna* (a constituent part of the Talmud), A.D. 1168, ascribes the origin of idolatry to the days of Enosh.

**[68]** Numbers 24:21,23.

**[69]** Jude 14,15.

**[70]** "Muth," death, occurs 125 times in the Old Testament.

**[71]** Genesis 5:25-28.

**[72]** Genesis 7:6,11.

**[73]** Genesis 5:27.

**[74]** Genesis 4:19-25; rabbinical sources, Re: Kaplan, et al.

**[75]** Genesis 5:29.

**[76]** Morris, Henry M., *The Genesis Record: A Scientific & Devotional Commentary on the Book of Beginnings*, (Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, MI., copyright 1976), ISBN 0-8010-60004-4, page 155.

**[77]** Isaiah 46:10; Revelation 21:6; 22:13.

**a** Rev 1:6; 5:12

**b** Acts 14:15; Rev 10:6; 14:7

**1** Lit were

**[78]** New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995 (Re 4:10). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

**[79]** Image from Purves et al., *Life: The Science of Biology*, ( 4th Edition, by Sinauer Associates), Volume I: The Cell & Heredity (Chapters 1, 2-18), also ISBN 0-7167-9856-5

**[80]** Image from Purves et al., *Life: The Science of Biology*, ( 4th Edition, by Sinauer Associates), Volume I: The Cell & Heredity (Chapters 1, 2-18), also ISBN 0-7167-9856-5

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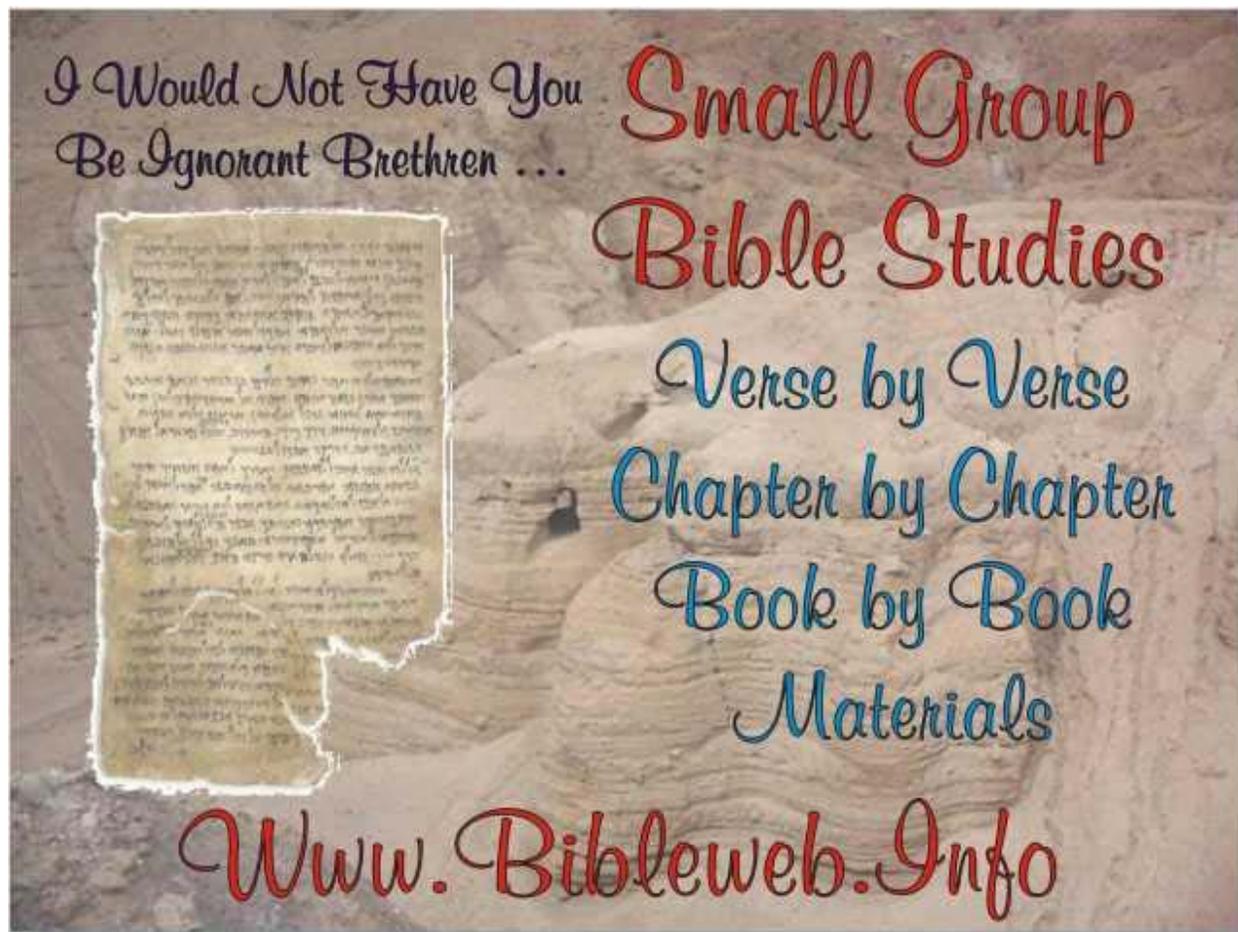
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