

The Biological Hurdles to Evolution

By Doug Hamilton

Opening Thought:

As a preacher, I am not an expert astronomer, paleontologist, archeologist, molecular biologist, geneticist, physicist, chemist, mathematician, physiology or any of the other sciences. At best I have been a novice in a couple of those areas. My special area of study and practice has been in the Bible, the gospel and Christianity in general. Even in that I would be more than happy to yield to others who are called “expert Bible scholars” for the sake of pressing on to the primary point of the series. With that in mind, let me ask the following questions:

- Do we as Christians have the right to be EXPERTS in recognizing unwarranted attacks by some hostile scientists?
- Do we as Christians have the obligation to ask EXPERT questions concerning the “expert data” put forth by reputable scientists?
- Using the same evidence do we not have the privilege to build the case for our faith in the Creator of the universe?

I hope you answered “yes” to all those questions. Just as we touched on astronomical and geological evidence for the Christian, let us now reason some of the biological evidence.

Two Different Perspectives

A good way to understand the struggle between Evolution and Creation is not in the evidence, but in the way the evidence is observed.

- The true Evolutionist observes the world and all that is around him from a worldly perspective that does not include God in the picture.
- The Creationist looks at the same from the perspective that God is a Master Designer of all that is around us, not by accident, but through divine planning.

The facts, once disputed and confirmed, remain the same for both groups, but because they have different worldviews in observation of those facts, the conclusions are radically different.

A Worldly Perspective -Psalm 10:3-5 (NIV)

³ He boasts of the cravings of his heart; he blesses the greedy and reviles the LORD.

⁴ In his pride the wicked does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.

⁵ His ways are always prosperous; he is haughty and your laws are far from him; he sneers at all his enemies.

- If a person is holding to a worldly perspective, they are narcissistic in their appetites and behaviors. With pride they dismiss the existence of God while they pursue their earthly ambitions, seemingly free from the concern of judgment. The worldly person looks at the followers of God with contempt and disdain. How do you think they might view biological evidence when confronted with it?

A Creationist Perspective: -Psalm 139:13-16 (NIV)

¹³ For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.

¹⁴ I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

The Biological Hurdles to Evolution

By Doug Hamilton

¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth,

¹⁶ your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

David is speaking from a Creationist perspective in this passage. While under the inspiration of God, David pointed out the following from that perspective:

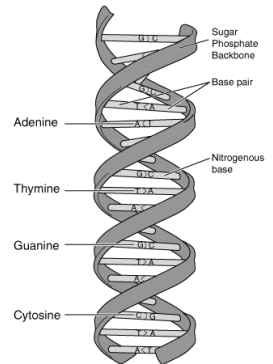
- 1) God plays a part in the formation of people in the womb. In some way God influences the formation of the reproduction process.
- 2) God is able to cause great reverence and awe for His part in our formation. David had no way of knowing the details of how we come together in the womb, but whatever way it was is able to cause reverence for God.
- 3) God is able to see our unformed bodies prior to our genesis in the womb. There seems to be a detailed knowledge of our bodies even before that time of generation and birth.

With that in mind, let us look at a few pieces of factual evidence of molecular biology.

DNA:

The Creationist's View of DNA:

- God designed the average adult human body to contain about 100 trillion cells, depending on the size of the person. These cells are classified into at least 210 different types, including skin, muscle, bone, hormones, organ, brain and dozens of other tissues and secretions.
- The word “cell” simply means “small room”. Try to imagine that you are made up of trillions of tiny biological rooms. Each of those cells has a nucleus in the center. Inside that nucleus is a DNA (Deoxyribonucleic acid) molecule with 46 human chromosomes that contains all the possible genetic information of your body for your entire life.
- The DNA molecule is a double-helix resembling a spiral staircase/ladder. If that one molecule was expanded, it would be about six foot long with about ten billion known rungs of information on this ladder. If you converted to book form the information from this one cell, it would fill a couple of dozen unabridged dictionaries.
- David stated in the previous verse *Psalm 139:13 For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb.* We all start out as one of these human cells when 23 chromosomes from each the mother and the father are combined forming an embryo in the womb. Each human life started out literally smaller than a dot on a page, but within that DNA molecule is all the information needed to develop into a complete unborn baby.
- The DNA molecule has the information for your eye color, hair color, sex, skin color, your body build, potential height, weight, blood type, your genetic strengths and weaknesses. That tiny molecule has all that information and even more..
- That single cell will divide and multiply for the entire lifespan of the human. During cell duplication, the DNA ladder literally “unhooks” and replicates itself. Each cell has the exact same information. This amazing process takes place at nearly one thousand times a second until the birth of the child. The tiny set of blueprints tells the body how to form all the tissues, organs, bones, hormones, hands, feet, hair and everything else that makes a baby.



The Biological Hurdles to Evolution

By Doug Hamilton

- As mentioned in *Psalm 139:16* that He “...saw my unformed body.” As a believer I am persuaded that God knows who we are because He invented DNA as the Master Planner. DNA is a very complex information processing system. In fact, Bill Gates has compared it to a computer program but far, far more advanced than any software ever created.
- *Romans 11:36* For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen. Just because you are born does not mean the process of DNA cell replication ends. Every minute that you are alive, about three billion cells in your body die. You did not notice this because they were literally replaced with new cells, all without your planning.

Those are just some of the facts of DNA. They are not my facts, but from scientists. Based on that, I can look at the evidence and say that God had a part in my formation through His DNA. I can have great awe and reverence for how he designed it. I can without a doubt know that He could know me before my formation because He has recorded it for all to see in the genetic code.

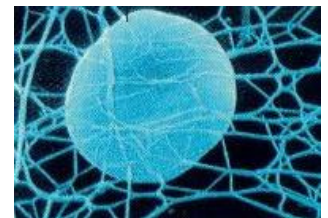
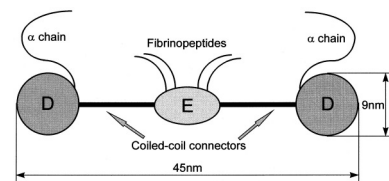
The Evolutionist View of DNA

- Best Possible Answer: It formed through a lightning strike on some muddy water. There was actually a Miller/Urey experiment that attempted to do that very thing in the lab, but failed to do nothing more than make a few lifeless proteins. They discovered what you have probably already figured out: A lightning strike kills life, not creates life.
- Another option that is being floated among the Evolutionist is the Panspermia theory. That is where they propose that a meteor or a group of aliens came down to the earth and planted the seeds of DNA.

These are the facts and the two ways to interpret them. I am compelled to fearfully and wonderfully praise God in light of the evidence without compromise or shame.

The Creationist View of Blood Coagulation:

- *Leviticus 17:11* states 11 “...the life of the flesh is in the blood” That is a remarkably true statement from a biological point of view for our blood in our bodies is filled with life. Take for example Blood Clotting. This is something that often goes unnoticed by us, but to the molecular biologist, it is truly remarkable. Here is what the EXPERTS have discovered about our blood clotting.
- We have a complex protein free-floating in our blood called *fibrinogen*. It is a rod-shaped molecule that resembles a barbell with an extra set of weights in the middle. Normally it remains inactive in the blood until there is a cut in the flesh.
- At that point another protein in the blood called *thrombin* begins to slice off two of those fibrinogen chains and a molecular fibrin meshwork forms to catch the blood cells. What told the *thrombin* to start that process? It was the *Stuart Factor* protein that was activated by the *accelerin*, which was modified by ten amino acid residues called *glutamate*.
- Through several other blood-clotting processes called the *coagulation cascade*, being far beyond the scope of this sermon and this mind, you will not likely bleed to death nor die



The Biological Hurdles to Evolution

By Doug Hamilton

from a blood clot today. God saw fit to design you in such a way to survive the test of coagulation of blood.

- To the simple believer in God, we can look at a scab on our skin and proclaim that we are “fearfully and wonderfully made!”

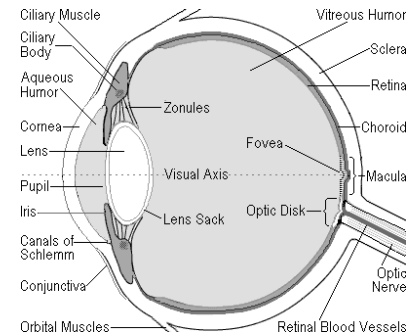
The Evolutionist View of Blood Coagulation

- The Evolutionary molecular biologist is left with the following questions:
 - How did such a complex clotting structure in our bodies come into existence without the host dying out prior to formation?
 - How did the host which houses the intact clotting system survive prior to the evolution of the coagulation cascade?
- As the Professor Behe from Lehigh University wrote concerning the subject from a creation perspective, “The fact is, no one earth has the vaguest idea how the *coagulation cascade* came to be.” They have absolutely no idea.

The next time you receive a paper cut and a scab forms, PRAISE GOD! It is truly masterful of Him to have built this into the blood. We are fearfully and wonderfully made.

The Creationist View of the Human Eye:

- Jesus said in *Luke 11:34* “*The eye is the lamp of your body; when your eye is clear, your whole body also is full of light; but when it is bad, your body also is full of darkness.*” We must remember that before ophthalmology (the science of the eye), people know of the complexity of the eye. It was not an uncommon thing to find people going blind in the first century for a number of reasons.
 - *Matthew 20:30* *And two blind men sitting by the road, hearing that Jesus was passing by, cried out, “Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!”*
 - It is believed that Paul also suffered from a terrible eye condition. *Galatians 4:15* “*...you would have plucked out your eyes and given them to me.*”
- How fearfully and wonderfully are we made? Scientists have discovered much more about the eye since Jesus walked the Earth.
- There are more than 40 separate components of the eye that must work together in order for us to see clearly. If any one of these are not fully “evolved” as the same time as the other 39 or so components, the eye cannot properly see and qualifies as a “bad eye”.
- Take for example a modern ophthalmological discovery of three tiny eye movements referred to as “tremors”, “drifts” and “saccades”. These three micro-movements of the in the six muscles to the outside of your eyes. They are constantly shifting the position of your eyeball without you even know it. The tremor is the tiniest and most intriguing of the movements. Under the microscope it is shown to wobble in a circular fashion measuring $1/70^{\text{th}}$ of the thickness of a piece of paper.
- An even more amazing characteristic of tremors is that the seemingly tireless muscles that produce them wobble your eye 30 to 70 times each second. If sound were involved, that would be fast enough to produce a low-pitched hum. Amazingly, on average, each of your eyes completes one million of these tiny circular motions in 5 1/2 hours. The



The Biological Hurdles to Evolution

By Doug Hamilton

number of tremors taking place in a lifetime is astronomical. If these tremors did not occur, you are left with the “bad eye”.

- There are dozens of parts in the eye that would have had to come into being all at once or risk having a worthless eye. The fact that you are looking at these words on the piece of paper should confirm how fearfully and wonderfully you are made.

The Evolutionist View of the Human Eye

- Charles Darwin also recognized this complexity: 'To suppose that the eye with all its inimitable contrivances for adjusting the focus to different distances, for admitting different amounts of light, and for the correction of spherical and chromatic aberration, could have been formed by natural selection, seems, I freely confess, absurd in the highest degree.' (Darwin, Charles. *The Origin of Species*, J.M. Dent & Sons Ltd, London, 1971, p. 167.) If he only knew how much more complicated it was.
- The evolutionist really does not have a plausible explanation to the facts and how it could have developed. They admit the evidence shows that “eyes” suddenly burst upon the scene in what they call the Cambrian Period. There are no fossilized blind partly evolved eyes on record.

When looking at the facts as the scientists reveal them, it appears to confirm that we are fearfully and wonderfully made by an intelligent Designer. If however you do not want to believe in God, you will continue to look at the same facts with a worldly perspective.

Conclusion:

Only a small slice of the biological evidence has been discussed in this lesson, but I think you get the point. The Christian has nothing to be ashamed when coming to the conclusion that there is a God and He did create.