

A Defense For Biblical Science

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Qualifications

- ⇒ Ph.D. in Nuclear Chemistry from the University of Rochester
- ⇒ University Professor From 1990 - 1995
- ⇒ NSF-Sponsored Scientist with More Than \$200,000 In Research Grants
- ⇒ More than 30 articles in the peer-reviewed journals of Nuclear Chemistry
- ⇒ Currently writes junior high and high school science curriculum for homeschoolers.

Consider the Words of These “Experts”

“...creationism -- whether it be old fashioned Young Earth creationism or its Intelligent Design descendant -- is simply not science.” – The National Center for Science Education (<http://ncse.com/creationism/analysis/creationism-versus-science>)

“Creationism is not science and the Academy deplores and opposes any attempt to disguise it as science.”
- The Iowa Academy of Science
(<http://ncseweb.net/media/voices/iowa-academy-science-1981>)

“It is, therefore, our unequivocal conclusion that creationism, with its accounts of the origin of life by supernatural means, is not science.” – The National Academies
(*Science and Creationism*, National Academy Press, 1984)

“Science has proof without any certainty. Creationists have certainty without any proof.”
- Dr. Ashley Montagu (http://www.atozquotes.com/authors/author_10246/quote_116943)

Now Consider the Words of These REAL EXPERTS

“Nature has some perfections to show that she is the image of God...and some defects to show that she is only His image.” – Blaise Pascal (*Pensées*, Section VIII:580, 1688)

“...when, in a word, by the help of anatomical knives, and the light of chymical furnaces, I study the book of nature, I find myself oftentimes reduced to exclaim with the Psalmist, How manifold are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all!” – Robert Boyle (*Seraphic Love*, 1660)

“I saw the infinite, all-knowing and all-powerful God from behind...I followed His footsteps over nature’s fields and saw everywhere an eternal wisdom and power, an inscrutable perfection.”
– Carolus Linnaeus (Dan Graves, *Scientists of Faith*, Kregel Publications, 1996, p. 82)

“The significance and joy in my science comes in the occasional moments of discovering something new and saying to myself, ‘So that's how God did it!’ My goal is to understand a little corner of God's plan.”
– Dr. Henry F. Schaefer, III (<http://www.leaderu.com/real/ri9404/bigbang.html>)

“...the Christian belief in the Creator allowed a breakthrough in thinking about nature. Only a truly transcendental Creator could be thought of as being powerful enough to create a nature with autonomous laws...Once the basic among those laws were formulated science could develop on its own terms...The Christian idea of creation made still another crucially important contribution to the future of science. It consisted in putting all material beings on the same level...Unlike in the pagan Greek cosmos, there could be no divine bodies in the Christian cosmos...Finally, man figured in the Christian dogma of creation as a being specially created in the image of God...Man's reflection on his own rationality had therefore to give him confidence that his created mind could fathom the rationality of the created realm.” – Dr. Stanley Jaki (*Christ and Science*, Real View Books: Royal Oak, Michigan, 2000, p. 23)

“First, science arose only once in history – in medieval Europe. Second, science could only arise in a culture dominated by belief in a conscious, rational, all-powerful creator.” – Dr. Rodney Stark (*For the Glory of God*, Princeton University Press, 2003 p. 197)

What Does A Biblical View Do for Science?

- It tells us about the SOURCE of nature and her laws.
- It gives us a REASON to believe that the universe behaves according to universal laws.
- It gives us a FRAMEWORK for understanding the natural history of the universe.
- It gives us a PARADIGM with which we can work to make theories that have predictive power regarding the natural world.

Creation Model Prediction 1: Amazing Design in Nature

The shark uses an ultra-sensitive, 3-dimensional electrical field sensor to hunt. The sensor hones in on the electronic signals emitted by organisms and pinpoints the origin in three-dimensional space. It has a sensitivity as high as **FIVE BILLIONTHS of a volt per cm.**

(Malcolm Jobling, *Environmental Biology of Fishes*, Springer, p. 32, 1994)

Crematogaster ants live on *Acacia* trees. The trees provide them with food and shelter, and the soldier ants attack any intruders. The tree's flowers release ANT REPELLANT so the tree can still reproduce. When humans tried to “protect” *Acacia* trees from large herbivores, the trees became SICKLY because they stopped putting resources into this relationship.

(Todd M. Palmer, et. al., “Breakdown of an Ant-Plant Mutualism Follows the Loss of Large Herbivores from an African Savanna,” *Science* **319**:192-195, 2008)

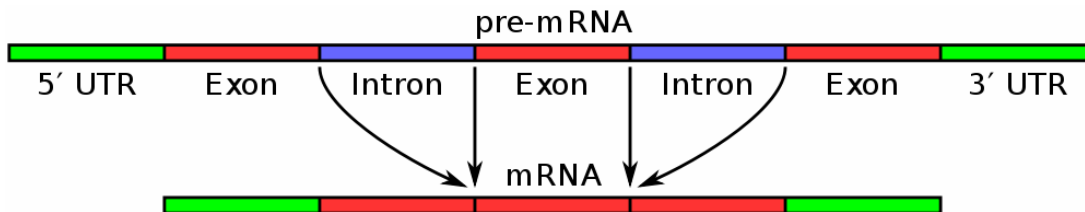
Creation Model Prediction 2: Vestigial Organs are Rare Exceptions

- Darwin pointed to many “rudimentary” organs in human anatomy. He likened them to “silent letters” in a word that are not pronounced but can indicate origin.
- In 1893, an evolutionist produced a list of **83** vestigial organs in humans. [Wiedersheim, R. (1893) *The Structure of Man: An Index to His Past History. Second Edition.*, Translated by H. and M. Bernard. London: Macmillan and Co., 1895.]
- The Creation model predicted that functions would be found for all of them, and with the possible exception of 1 (male nipple), that has been the case. Even the appendix, still errantly listed in many biology and anatomy books, now has a demonstrated, necessary function.

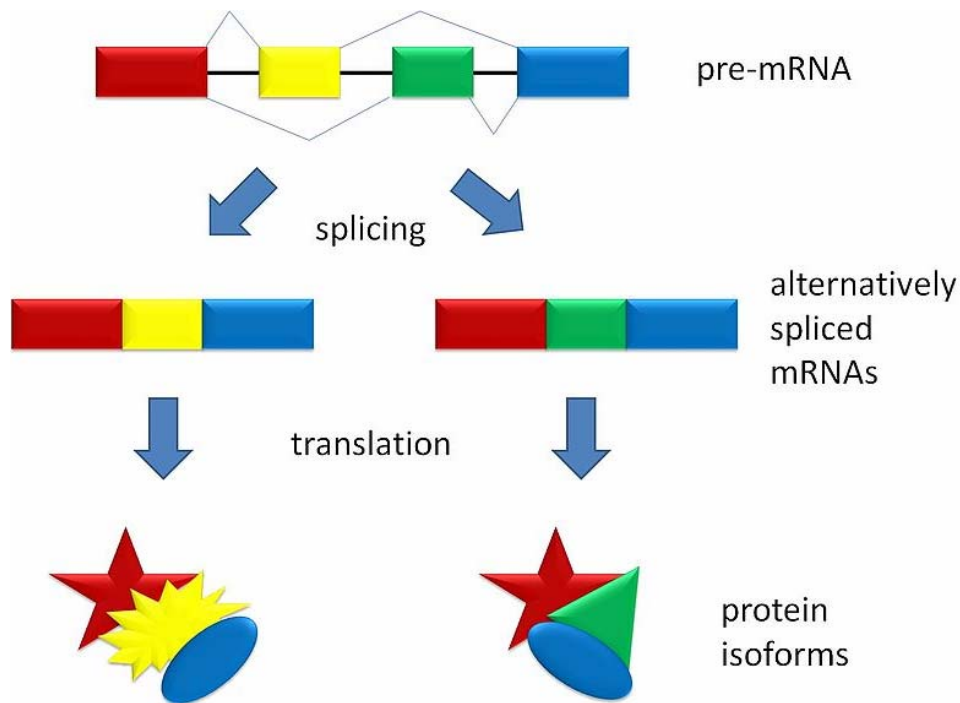
Creation Model Prediction 3: There is Very Little “Junk DNA”

- Susumu Ohno was the first to use the term “junk DNA” in 1972. He was referring to pseudogenes, which we now know serve regulatory functions. “Junk DNA” was thought to be leftovers of the evolutionary process.
- “At one time, people said, ‘Why even bother to sequence the whole genome? Why not just sequence the [protein-coding part]?’ ” [Anindya Dutta, *Science News* 172:154 2007]
- The Creation Model predicted functionality for the vast majority of any organism’s genome

Introns: Once thought to be “junk DNA”



Then we learned about alternative splicing:



We now know that 90-95% of genes in the human body do this! It’s what allows are bodies to make 120,000+ proteins with only about 25,000 genes!

“The failure to recognize the full implications of this—particularly the possibility that the [introns] may be transmitting parallel information in the form of RNA molecules—may well go down as one of the biggest mistakes in the history of molecular biology.” - Dr. John S. Mattick, director of the Institute for Molecular Bioscience at the University of Queensland

Creation Model Prediction 4: Mutations Erode Genetic Information

“For several decades, this was the main thrust of crop improvement research. Vast numbers of mutants were produced and screened, collectively representing many billions of mutation events...The effort for the most part was an enormous failure...low phytate corn is the most notable example of successful mutation breeding...The low phytate corn was created by mutagenizing corn, and then selecting for strains wherein the genetic machinery which directs phytic acid production had been damaged.” [J.C. Sanford, *Genetic Entropy & The Mystery of the Human Genome*, p. 25, 2005] Sanford holds 25 patents (including the “gene gun”) in genetics and was a professor at Cornell University

What About Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria?

Most bacterial resistance is not produced by mutation, but by transformation, transduction, and conjugation, which essentially pass existing genes around.

In the few cases where mutations do cause resistance, it is done by a *loss* of function. Cipro resistance in *Anthrax* can occur with a mutation occurring on the gene that codes for gyrase. This makes Cipro unable to bind to gyrase, but at a cost – the less functional gyrase slows down reproduction. [Heddle, Jonathan and Anthony Maxwell, Quinolone-binding pocket of DNA gyrase: role of GyrB, *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy* 46:1805–1815, 2002]

Creation Model Prediction 5: The Fossil Record Is Discontinuous

"Wherever we look at the living biota...discontinuities are overwhelmingly frequent. The discontinuities are even more striking in the fossil record. New species usually appear in the fossil record suddenly..." (Ernst Mayr, *What Evolution Is*, pg. 189, 2001)

“Major transitions in biological evolution show...sudden emergence of diverse forms at a new level of complexity...In each of these pivotal nexuses in life's history, the principal ‘types’ seem to appear rapidly and fully equipped with the signature features of the respective new level of biological organization.” (Koonin E.V., The Biological Big Bang model for the major transitions in evolution, *Biol Direct.* 2:21 2007)

Biblical Science Produces EXCELLENT Science Students

The experiences of students who used creationist science texts and are studying science at **SECULAR** universities:

“I am a freshman at Ohio University Eastern (OUE). I was home-schooled kindergarten through 12th grade, and in high school I used [your] Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics...**My mom has no formal training in the sciences; so I relied solely on the books and help line to instruct me...** Tonight at the campus’s commencement ceremony, I was awarded the “Outstanding Chemistry Student of the Year” award. One student receives this award if the chemistry professor, Dr. Zachariah, thinks that there is an eligible student. Last year, Dr. Zachariah did not give out the award. (emphasis mine)”

“I used [your] science during high school and fell in love with science because of your books. It is such a myth that homeschoolers and Christians can’t excel in science...I attended Winthrop University and...switched my major from nutrition to a double major in biology and chemistry...**I graduated from Winthrop summa cum laude** this past May, and this fall I will begin graduate school at **Harvard University in the Biological and Biomedical Sciences PhD program at Harvard Medical School.**”

“As a nursing major I've taken several, including General Biology, Chemistry 101, Chemistry 102, Medical Microbiology, and all of their corresponding labs. This past semester particularly astounded me because I felt like I was learning nothing new in Chemistry 102. While the students around me were mumbling questions and whispering confusion about redox reactions, organic compounds, and acids and bases, I almost always knew what was going on. **A lot of the time I answered their questions.**”