



Creation Matters

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Have you ever imagined yourself as a best-selling author? Detective stories sell well. Let's give it a try. My story is set in an imposing country home in England. The wealthy owner happens to wander into his wife's dressing room. She is away on an expedition to the beach. The gentleman notices his wife's diamond necklace carelessly flung onto the table amidst expensive perfume bottles. Horrified, he swoops down upon the jewelry, only to discover that this is a cheap imitation of the real necklace. Promptly he calls the local inspector who sends out four detectives.

The detectives snoop around and each presents his theory on the case. Detective Smith declares that the butler stole the necklace and sold it in London. Detective Jones strongly suggests that his evidence implicates the maid. Detective Cooper accuses the daughter's boyfriend of helping

himself to the jewels. Detective Trent indicates that the evidence points to the son of the family who has wasted huge sums of money on fast cars. The gentleman is now thoroughly confused. When his wife returns

The DNA Disaster
by Margaret Helder, Ph.D.

home, he shares all these distressing details with her. It is then that his wife informs him that actually she lent the real necklace to her sister, Lady Hampton, who is scheduled to attend a royal court

event that very evening.

You may imagine that this is a pretty ridiculous story. Why would the home owner not first establish that a crime had indeed been committed? Did the lack of agreement among the detectives tell him something about the dubious nature of their theories? These are all excellent questions! They show that you are thinking critically.

The whole thing reminds me of a remark I read in the scientific literature the other day. The author was Dr. Simon Conway Morris from University of Cambridge in England. This paleontologist is well known for his studies on Burgess Shale fossils. The Burgess Shale, you may remember, is the fossil bed in British Columbia which was made famous by Stephen Jay Gould in his book *Wonderful Life*.

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Wisdom in the Inward Parts

by Alan L. Gillen, M.S., Ed.D. and Inis Bardella, M.D.

We wrote *The Human Body: An Intelligent Design* (Gillen et al. 1999) to help readers understand physiological principles in the human body from a creation perspective. The majority of biology and physiology textbooks bring an evolutionary perspective. Very few books and articles discuss a creation perspective on human anatomy and physiology.

I (ALG) have now written a second book (Gillen, 2000) entitled *Body by Design: The Anatomy and Physiology of the Human Body*, that emphasizes historical and anatomical evidences for a creation-based science of the human body. Both books have been written to fill this gap in the literature on evidences of design found in the human body.

In this article, which is based in part on our earlier book, we take a brief look at design in the human body as revealed by the endocrine system.

Design in the Endocrine System

When compared to neurotransmitters, hormones allow regulation of continuing processes in our bodies and concerted influence over large areas. Hormones circulate through the body in the bloodstream until they find the organs they are to influence. As a result, the glands that secrete hormones do not have to be near

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"It happened"

Recently Dr. Simon Conway Morris wrote a review on the state of our "understanding of evolutionary processes." He certainly caught my attention with his opening sentence: "When discussing organic evolution the only point of agreement seems to be: 'It happened.' Thereafter, there is little consensus, which at first sight must seem rather odd." (*Cell*, 7 January 2000, Vol. 100 pp. 1-11). Now of what situation does that remark remind me???? Various explanations which don't agree ... Hmm. The focus of Dr. Morris' article is that standard evolutionary interpretations (based on fossils and the structure and function of living organisms) do not agree with evolutionary theories which are based on genetic information.

Dr. Morris describes the situation more fully. Studies of DNA sequences (information coded in chemical form) reveal that wildly different organisms nevertheless share some very similar genes. What then explains the great differences between these organisms? What actually do scientists know about the connection between genetic information and the appearance and biology of any given living organism?

A further serious problem is the large discrepancies (lack of agreement) between proposed lines of descent which are based on form and function of organisms, and those proposed lines of descent which are based on DNA data. Dr. Morris (p. 1) points out that:

"Constructing phylogenies [evolutionary trees] is central to the evolutionary enterprise, yet rival schemes are often strongly contradictory. Can we really recover the true history of life?"

Similar lifestyles — different genes

Thus, analysis of the order of the chemical components of DNA has resulted in two major problems for evolution theory. The most important problem is that similar lifestyles in similar organisms have, all too frequently, been found to be controlled by different genes. The evolutionary expecta-

tion is that similar information, but slightly modified, should control the biology of similar organisms. For example, Dr. Morris describes the case of two quite different fish, *Eigenmannia*, which lives in South America, and *Gymnarchus*, which lives in Africa. These fish share an interesting talent. Each produces an electric signal that confuses predators which want to eat them. These fish use identical techniques to produce these signals.

However, when these fish are compared, the signals emerge from entirely different parts of the brain. While the end result is the same, quite different genetic information must be involved. The situation might be likened to two very different codes [abcdefg and jkljklm] which apparently communicate the same message and thus produce the same effect. Dr. Morris wonders, and a lot of other people are also wondering, how we can explain this in terms of the process of evolution.

It is tempting to reflect that this might not be a situation where chance was involved. Rather, these organisms may have been designed that way. Dr. Morris actually mentions "teleology" (planning and purpose) on p. 8 of his article. The science textbooks have, for many generations, soundly rejected any teleological explanations. Their dislike of the idea may come from the fact that planning and purpose are usually attributed to God.

Different organisms — similar genes

The other problem that Dr. Morris considers is how the development of vastly different organisms is nevertheless controlled by very similar genes. Why is it that in one case a round worm develops, and in the other a fruit fly appears? This would be like the codes ABCCABCC and ABDDABDD producing round worms, and fruit flies, respectively. Again, it's hard to explain in terms of evolution theory. Were these codes simply designed to produce different organisms?

Lastly, Dr. Morris mentions a problem for evolution theory which he terms "almost intractable" (p. 8), or almost impossible to solve. The problem concerns prokaryotes or microorganisms which lack a nucleus. One of the experts who has recently discussed these relationships, is on the faculty of a university in the Canadian

Maritimes. In two recent papers (*Science*, 25 June 1999, pp. 2124-2128; and *Scientific American*, February 2000, pp. 90-95), Dr. W. Ford Doolittle discusses the implications of DNA data obtained from microorganisms. The bad news is that the data do not fit any kind of evolutionary pathway of descent. In fact, no consistent pattern of any sort can be discerned. Dr. Doolittle concludes (*Sci. Amer.*, p. 95):

"Some biologists may find these notions confusing and discouraging. It is as if we have failed at the task that Darwin set for us: delineating the unique structure of the tree of life. But in fact, our science is working just as it should."

Dr. Doolittle, and other authors as well, explain this jumble of DNA sequences as having resulted from multiple "lateral transfers" of genetic information between unlike microorganisms. That is, big chunks of DNA are imagined to have been copied and shared with other organisms. This explanation, however, goes against common sense. As Dr. Doolittle admits (*Science*, p. 2124):

"But few researchers suspected that genes essential to the very survival of cells traded hands frequently Apparently we were mistaken." (p. 94) The result of these studies is that scientists now suspect that "the history of life cannot properly be represented as a tree."

The famous evolutionary or phylogenetic tree now appears not to have a trunk, but rather a net at its base. The illustrations depict a pattern that is wider and wider with more and more separate branches. It appears that scientists are moving closer to the idea of separate creations of the biological kinds. So far, few experts are questioning the basic idea of evolution. However, as Dr. Morris points out, that is their only point of agreement. We can only wonder how long it will be before scientists admit the data simply do not fit evolution theory. That will be a remarkable day!

This article first appeared in Creation Dialogue, (Vol. 27 No. 1, March 2000), published by the Creation Science Association of Alberta (www.edmc.net/create). Dr. Helder, Vice-President of the CSAA, holds a doctorate degree in Aquatic mycology / limnology.

'Tornado in a Junkyard'

Interview with Author and Darwin-debunker James Perloff by Geoff Metcalf

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Author James Perloff's latest book, "Tornado in a Junkyard," convincingly argues that no solid evidence exists for macro-evolution -- the conversion of one animal type into another.

The book examines the growing body of scientific evidence that validates the beliefs of the majority of Americans who, polls claim, do not believe in Darwin's theory of evolution. Among the issues he tackles are: the lack of transitional forms in the fossil record, the impossibility of mutations serving as evolutionary building blocks, the lack of evidence for "ape-men" and the mathematic impossibility of life beginning by itself.

So persuasive is Perloff's book that actor Jack Lemmon, who played the legendary pro-evolution attorney Clarence Darrow in the 1999 TV-movie "Inherit the Wind," said, "My congratulations to Mr. Perloff for an outstanding piece of work."

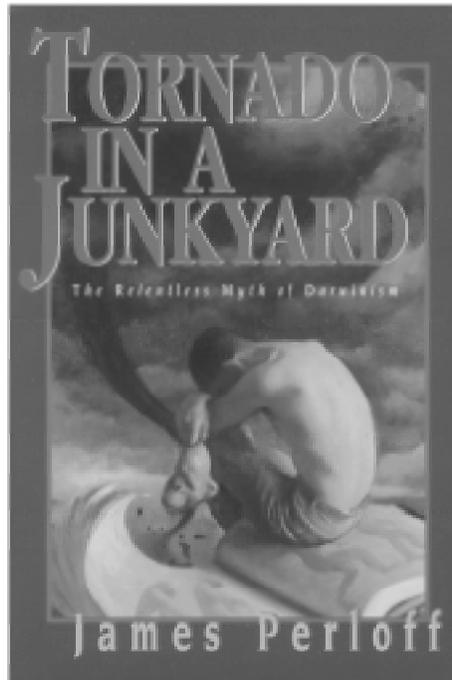
Perloff was interviewed by WND reporter Geoff Metcalf.

Question: James, the subtitle of your book is "The relentless myth of Darwinism." I use a line that states, "Some people don't like facts that contradict their preconceived opinions." Isn't that really what your book is all about?

Answer: Right. Well, unfortunately, Darwinism is being taught as a fact today in schools. It is being taught as though it is as provable as the law of gravity, even though Charles Darwin himself called it "grievously too hypothetical."

Q: What sparked you to get into this?

A: It is the state of America and the decline it has had. If you look at America compared to 40 years ago — who ever heard of weapon detectors at school entrances, and illegal drugs, what were they? They were confined to a small subculture in America. Look at the divorce rate, the teen suicide rate, and we all know what happened at Columbine High School could not have happened 40 years ago.



Tornado . . . is available for \$17 plus \$3 postage and handling from CRS Books.

We are in a different culture, and the real question is, what is at the root of the decline?

Most of us who are conservative or Christian would agree it is related to a loss of faith, a growing disrespect for traditional moral values. And where do those come from?

Certainly they come from the Bible for us in Western society. And what caused disrespect for the Bible and moral values? I don't think it is an oversimplification to say it was the widespread acceptance and teaching of Darwinian evolution. Darwinism said that man was not created by God, but evolved from fish and apes, and that life itself was not created by God, but was created simply by chance, from chemicals in an ancient ocean.

When evolution is taught as fact in schools, it makes God seem irrelevant in the minds of children. Julian Huxley, probably the most outspoken evolutionist of the 20th century, said, "Darwinism removed the whole idea of God from the

sphere of rational discussion."

Geoff, I am a former atheist — a flaming atheist at one time. I used to make obscene jokes about God and Jesus Christ. I was not raised religiously, but I had an open mind.

Once I heard evolutionary teaching in school, I concluded the whole Bible was a myth. I know my experience was not unique.

This is a quote from Harvard professor E.O. Wilson, who is a bitter critic today of biblical Christianity: "As were many persons from Alabama, I was a born-again Christian. When I was 15, I entered the Southern Baptist church with great fervor. I left at 17 when I got to the University of Alabama and heard about evolutionary theory."

That pretty much sums up what happened to my baby boom generation.

Q: This isn't just a creationist rebuttal of Darwinism. I learned a great many things reading your book. The fossil record does not support Darwinism does it?

A: No.

Q: You quote this zoologist who defrauded generations by actually forging drawings. I remember seeing those drawings in high school.

A: Right. Ernst Haeckel was the man who created those drawings. Most of us have seen those drawings in biology textbooks in school. They show developing human embryos next to developing animal embryos, and the human embryos and the animal embryos look virtually indistinguishable. This was said to prove we share a common ancestry with those animals.

Well, what most people don't know is, those pictures were fakes. At Jena University, which is where he taught, Haeckel was charged with fraud by five professors, and was convicted by a university court for making those pictures. His deceit was thoroughly exposed in a book called "Haeckel's Frauds and Forgery," published way back in 1915.

They quoted many leading authorities of the day. F. Keibel of Freiburg University said, "It clearly appears Haeckel freely invented embryos or reproduced the illustrations of others in a substantially changed form." In spite of conviction for fraud, and in spite of his exposure, Western educators continued to show these pictures in biology textbooks as proof of the theory of evolution.

This matter was finally resolved by Dr. Michael Richardson. He's an embryologist at Saint George's Medical school in London. He found there is no record that anyone ever actually checked Haeckel's claims by systematically comparing human and other fetuses during development. So he assembled a scientific team that did just that. They photographed the growing embryos of 39 different species.

Q: What did Richardson find?

A: He said, "This is one of the worst cases of scientific fraud. It is shocking to find that someone once thought to be a great scientist was deliberately misleading. It makes me angry. What Haeckel did was to take a human embryo and copy it, pretending that the salamander and pig and all the others looked the same at the same stage of development. They don't! These are fakes."

Q: We have all seen these pictures of evolution — ape to ape to Neanderthal to Cro-Magnon man to homo sapiens. You have some observations and state there is a shocking lack of evidence regarding the ape-man theory.

A: First of all, the amount of physical evidence is lacking. Lyall Watson wrote in Science Digest that "... the fossils that decorate our family tree are so scarce, there are more scientists than specimens. ..." And he writes, "The remarkable fact is that all the physical evidence we have for human evolution can still be placed, with room to spare, inside a single coffin."

Q: What about all the work that Leakey did?

A: My book discusses australopithecines, but probably a good place to begin discussing apemen is with the Piltdown Man, which was evolution's greatest showcase for 40 years.

What it consisted of, Geoff, was just

an orangutan jaw that someone stained to look old. They filed down the teeth on it to make it more human looking. It succeeded in fooling Britain's leading scientists, Arthur Smith Woodward, the British Museum geologist, to Arthur Keith, the anatomist, to Grafton Eliot Smith, neurologist. They were led by evolutionary preconceptions into believing this was an ape-man.

Or take the case of Nebraska man, which was a single tooth shown to Henry Fairfield Osborn, director of the American Museum of Natural History. He said it belonged to an ape-man. He showed it to two specialists on teeth at the American Museum of Natural History, and they confirmed it was from an ape-man. Many others did the same. But it turned out when

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they did further digging at the site in Nebraska, that it actually came from a peccary, which is a relative of the pig. This happened again and again in the study of fossils. People were proved to be wrong when led by preconceptions.

Q: Was this an effort to manufacture evidence to support their preconceived theory?

A: Whoever made the Piltdown man fraud was certainly trying to do that. A lot of these people were, I think, just honestly led by their misconceptions.

Q: Yeah, but that was one case of fraud. There were a whole bunch of others.

A: Actually, the most recent case of apparent fossil fraud was the archaeraptor. It's not in my book because it is so recent, but the archaeraptor was promoted in National Geographic as the missing link between dinosaurs and birds. And National Geographic even had a picture in the magazine's November issue showing a baby T-rex with feathers on it, and the fossil was put on display at their Explorers Hall.

Turns out the fossil is a fake. It is a bird fossil put together with parts of a dinosaur fossil. Storrs Olson, curator of birds at the National Museum of Natural History at the Smithsonian, said, "National Geographic has reached an all-time low for engaging in sensationalistic, unsubstantiated tabloid journalism. It became clear to me that National Geographic is not interested in anything other than the prevailing dogma that birds evolved from dinosaurs. Truth and careful scientific weighing of evidence have been among the first casualties in their program, which is now fast becoming one of the grander scientific hoaxes of our age." These problems with hoaxes have been going on for a long time.

Q: What about the scientific stuff like carbon dating and radiometric techniques?

A: That kind of takes us off of Darwin's theory and moves us into a whole different field. However, we do have a chapter on that in my book on carbon dating and evidence for an "old earth."

Q: One of the key things you note, regarding the assumption there is a natural progression from ape to man, is that the evidence is lacking.

A: The whole fossil record itself of animal life does not support Darwin's theory. He recognized this himself in his own time. Here's what he said: "The number of intermediate and transitional links between all living and extinct species must have been inconceivably great if this theory be true."

Now, he didn't find those fossils in his own day, and he assumed they would show up, but they haven't. Steven J. Gould of Harvard, certainly a leading evolutionist, went on record a few years ago as saying the absence of transitional forms is the trade secret of paleontology. Colin Patterson, the director of the British Museum of Natural History says, "Gould and the American Museum people are hard to contradict when they say there are no transitional fossils. As a paleontologist myself, I am much occupied myself with the problems of identifying ancestral forms in the fossil record. I will lay it on the line: There is not one such fossil for which one can make a watertight argument."

What should be seen out there in the

fossil record are animals progressing through their various stages of development. We just don't see it. It doesn't matter if we're talking about fish, which suddenly appear in the fossil record. You have invertebrates, and you have vertebrates; you have no intermediate transitional fossils between them. And actually, since all animals appear complete when first seen in the fossil record, and they are not in transitional stages, then the Bible is right — animals were created by God whole.

Q: You mention also that mutations are almost universally destructive.

A: Right. This is really important, because Darwin's theory dies on this alone. Evolution says fish became men over a long period of time. So where did the fish get the genes to become man? Darwin's theory says that fish developed these little legs over a long period of time of yearning to come on land. But a fish couldn't develop legs or anything else unless they first had the genes for them.

Q: Wait a minute. What about that Madagascar fish?

A: Well, that was the Coelacanth, which they said was extinct for 70 million years. They said it was a transitional form between fish and amphibians. But then 70 million years later, in the 1930s, one was caught off the coast of Madagascar, and we have caught about 200 since then. Examination has proven it is not an intermediate form. It has no amphibian characteristics. It is 100 percent fish.

Q: You note in the book that Darwin didn't know about genetics, but thought — incorrectly — that animals could just adapt in an unlimited way. Modern evolutionists say fish must have mutated the genes to become men. What about that?

A: Dr. Lee Spetner of Johns Hopkins University wrote a book called "Not By Chance: Shattering the Modern Theory about Evolution." Spetner spent years studying mutations at Johns Hopkins on the molecular level, and he said: "In all the reading I have done in the life sciences literature, I have never found a mutation that added information. All mutations studied on the molecular level turn out to reduce the genetic information and not increase it."

If we look at the living world around us, it consists of billions of pieces of genetic information. According to evolution, life started as a single cell, so mutations must have engineered every feature of life on earth. But we now know that mutations always delete information from the genetic code. Richard Dawkins, probably the most outspoken Darwinist in Britain, was asked if he could name one example of a mutation creating new information. He couldn't come up with one example. Mutations are harmful. They cause sickle cell anemia, cystic fibrosis, Down's syndrome. They never give you an improvement over the normal man or organism.

Q: What about humans and chimps? Ge-

According to evolution, life started as a single cell, so mutations must have engineered every feature of life on earth. But we now know that mutations always delete information from the genetic code.

netically, aren't they something like 99 percent identical? Doesn't that suggest some common ancestry?

A: The 98-99 percent similarity is actually not based on comparison of the genetic code of chimpanzees and human DNA. Human DNA has about 3 billion of its 4 nucleotides, which are the alphabet of the genetic code. Only a small percentage of those sequences have been identified. The claim of 98 percent is based on a process called DNA hybridization. I don't want to get too technical, but it consists of splitting some human DNA into single strands. They found they could rather conformably make it form a double strand with chimp DNA. And they infer from that the 98-99 percent similarity. But let me say this — since men and chimps look so similar, it wouldn't be surprising that the DNA, which dictates their physical appearance, would also turn out to be somewhat similar. I would expect human DNA to be more similar to chimp DNA than to whale DNA on the same ground that you would expect two software programs for word processing to be more similar than a spreadsheet application.

Q: Wait a minute. That response about the chimp DNA just doesn't ring true. In your book, you are critical of people accepting Darwinism despite all the facts that are contradictory to evolution. Yet in response to the question about 98 percent similarity between chimp and human DNA, you seem to scoff at that as being insignificant. I think it's kind of significant.

A: I'm saying the figure is more arbitrary than people are led to believe. It is not based on actual observation of the DNA code sequences. But let me say this about similarities:

Darwinists make an assumption that similarities prove ancestry. Now, there is some logic to that. If you look a group of siblings and they resemble each other and they resemble their parents, we conclude that similarities result from inheritance. But Darwin stretched the conclusion. He'd look at a man and a tiger and he'd say the man has four limbs; the tiger has four limbs. The man has two eyes; the tiger has two eyes. They both have ears, a heart and so on. And he would conclude that the man and the tiger therefore have a common parent. But is that true? Do similarities always prove relationships? Animals need four limbs to efficiently walk, just as cars require four wheels to be efficiently driven. Similarities do not always result from a genealogical relationship. They also result from the necessities of intelligent design.

Q: Scientists will contend that evolution is a fact. Has anyone ever actually evolved anything?

A: It has never happened. In fact, no one has ever actually changed one species into another. Geneticist Thomas Hunt Morgan who won the Nobel Prize for his work on heredity wrote, "Within the period of human history, we do not know of a single instance of the transformation of one species into another if we apply the most rigid and extreme tests used to distinguish wild species."

Colin Patterson, the director of the British Museum of Natural History, said, "No one has ever produced a species by mechanisms of natural selection. No one has gotten near it."

Geoff Metcalf is a staff reporter for WorldNetDaily.

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Inward Parts

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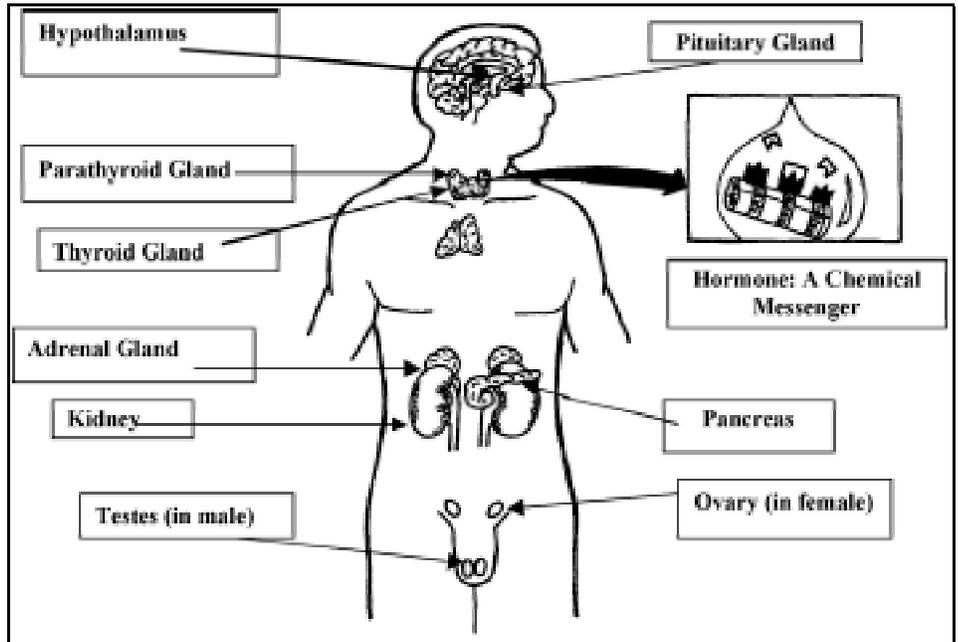
the organs they control. Overall, hormones affect metabolism of target organs and help to regulate:

- Total body metabolism
- Growth
- Reproduction

The endocrine system thus consists of glands tucked into various nooks about the body (see figure). Some are close to their spheres of influence, others far away. One of the most crucial glands of the system, the pituitary, is the size of a pea; it dangles from a tiny stalk at the base of the brain. The efficiency of the system almost defies belief.

The body in balance

In 1902, the British physiologist Ernest Starling discovered hormones. Historically (in 1923), he was also the first scientist to use the metaphor of “wisdom in the inward parts” to characterize the body in balance. These ideas stemmed from his observation that the body seemed to have an intuitive integration of its diverse faculties. Starling associated the “body in balance” with the wisdom found in the inward parts designed by the Creator. He spoke about this coordinated communication among cells like those in the stomach, the intestines, the lung, and the kidneys, and further developed mechanisms de-



scribing regulatory processes, like the acid-base balance in the gastrointestinal tract (Evans, 1949).

Starling, a Bible-believing physiologist, was motivated by the scripture to discern what kept the body in balance. He discovered hormones when investigating chemicals that controlled digestion, including secretin, a hormone enhancing the digestion of foods in the small intestine. Secretin is a duodenal hormone that stimulates the secretion of bicarbonate, controls bile secretion from the liver, and neutralizes chyme (a mixture of food and acidic stomach secretions) from the stomach (Van de Graff and Fox, 1999). It is absorbed into the blood and carried to the pancreas where it acts as a specific stimulus for the secretory cells.

One of the major contributions of secretin is that it is largely responsible for the acidic chyme being changed from a pH of 5 to a pH of 8, promoting the absorption of finely digested food by the intestinal villi in a basic environment. The more alkaline conditions, in turn, promote a flourishing growth of mutualistic, enteric bacteria that are critical for the production and intake of vitamins.

Chemical coordination

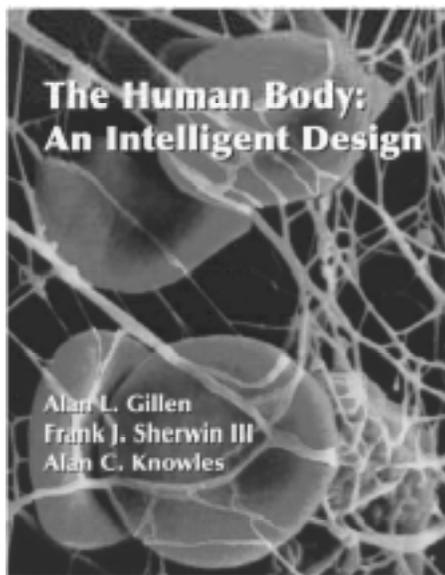
Secretin was the first published example of chemical coordination; *i.e.*, a response effected by chemical means rather than by impulses passing along nerves. The response is a direct consequence of a hor-

monal stimulus: *viz.*, that of a specific chemical substance that passes in the circulating blood, where in turn it will produce the state of action on an organ or gland. Sir William Bayliss (1860-1924) and Ernest Starling (1866-1927) called such chemical regulators “hormones” in a paper published in 1902 (Evans, 1949).

Starling and Bayliss used the term hormone for chemical messengers that excited or catalyzed body reactions. They named it for the Greek word, *ορμωω*, meaning “I excite.” It was learned from the early days of research that hormones were very specific in their targets. Starling spoke of the regulation of precise bodily processes, their adaptability, and the contribution of hormones toward integrating these processes into a single unified system. The integration of all parts of this effort has a seeming wisdom about it, by which the multiplicity of processes is somehow guided into a harmonious whole.

In his delivery of that prestigious lecture to physicians in Great Britain, he expanded on the concept of hormones as chemical messengers and regulators, to chemicals that maintain precise balance through highly specific instructions to cell receptors that govern normal growth, development, and wellness. Starling saw a correlation between biology and the Bible verse in Job 38:36 (KJV):

“Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts
or who hath given understanding to the heart?”



The Human Body . . . is available for \$17 plus \$3 postage and handling from CRS Books.

In the Hebrew original, *sechvi* is the word translated “heart,” a term so distinctive that this is the only place in the Bible where it occurs. Starling viewed the mind and heart as equivalent. Therefore, the wonder of the human body is not only in the wisdom of its endocrine physiology, but also in the breadth of its mind, or intelligence. Starling associated the “body in balance” and man’s intelligence with the wisdom found in the inward parts designed by the Creator.

Homeostasis

Nine years after hearing this famous oration, Walter Cannon coined the term “homeostasis” in his book, *The Wisdom of the Body*, and built upon Starling’s theory. In turn, Starling advanced the theory of homeostasis when he described this as a condition of uniformity that results from the adjustment of living things to changes in their environment. He described detailed physiological mechanisms for this coordinated regulatory balance.

All the mechanisms of life, no matter how varied they are, have only one object, to keep the conditions of life constant in the internal environment. Indeed, the Creator put wisdom in the “inward parts” (Job 38:36). This wisdom is evident in the process of homeostasis: balance, order, regulation, and chemical feedback. It is the Creator who has given understanding to the mind of man as he has discovered the laws that the Creator set in motion in the human body. In the endocrine system, its glands and hormones, we find a plan, purpose and design to maintain our health and wellness.

Homeostasis is a universal characteristic of all living things. We have emphasized homeostatic control in humans, but these systems are also found throughout the animal kingdom. There are many variations in the way this is done, but the basic principle is the same. Most human homeostatic control systems involve three or more components: the endocrine, nervous, and one other system, coupled with many biochemical reactions.

Homeostatic controls are “irreducibly complex” in nature. This irreducible complexity in humans involves the intricate living controls, whereas nonliving control mechanisms are quite simplistic by comparison. It is most unlikely that such

In the hospital, “Code Blue” has special meaning. This code is given when a patient stops breathing or his heart stops. An emergency team must act quickly (there is only 4.5 minutes, on the average, to act), or the patient will die. The loudspeaker across the hospital says “Code Blue in Ward 25.”

Everyone responds differently. The physicians and nurses assigned to the “code team” bring the crash cart that contains the medications and equipment required in caring for the patient.

The resident physician and an emergency specialist physician come ready with their equipment and in their scrubs. Nursing assistants and orderlies respond to help perform CPR. The supply department brings a O2 cylinder and other attachments.

Any visitors, custodians, and office personnel must get out the way. Only those with critical tasks respond to the emergency. Others ignore the “blue code” announcement or emergency signal. Many diverse workers must work together for success in an emergency. It is evident that, during an emergency, there must be preparedness, a plan, and a purpose, *i.e.* design and forethought (intelligence), in order to save a person’s life.

Specific hormones are necessary for our body to respond to emergencies. For hormones from the endocrine system, there is not a dedicated “route” to the site where the hormones will have their effect. The body does, nonetheless, produce hormones with specific objectives in mind. Hormones are released into the circulatory system and reach every cell in the body. However, they only act upon specific cells. Within these

cells, the hormones will only attach to specific proteins that are designed to respond and prepared to fit into the receptors on specific cells (Tortora and Grabowski, 2000).

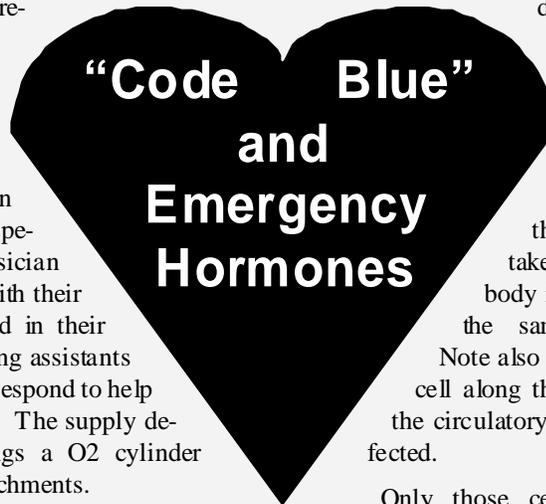
When adrenaline (also called epinephrine) is released from the adrenal gland into the bloodstream, it affects the cells of each gland in a different way. All of the cells affected by adrenaline must have the same specific receptors. However, in some organs the target muscle or gland will dilate, and in others the target muscles or gland will constrict. All these actions take place in the body in response to the same hormone.

Note also that not every cell along the pathway of the circulatory system is affected.

Only those cells with the specific protein receptor (cells with an “emergency action plan”) are affected. Like the hospital emergency crew, only those cells with critical tasks respond to the emergency. There must be some preparedness and design in the body in order for this emergency action team of muscles and glands to work together.

In summary, during an emergency, there must be preparedness, a plan, a purpose, a design, and forethought (intelligence) in order to save a person’s life. This creation principle is true for the human body, even as it is for the hospital.

This analogy was inspired by P. Brand’s (1991) video (see references).



an intricate and delicate balance would have developed by chance from genetic mutations that are largely harmful. In summary, homeostasis is the Creator's blueprint for maintaining constancy, handling emergencies (see sidebar), and for providing health in the human body.

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Article review

Gish Was Right!

"How evolution became a religion" by Michael Ruse

Reviewed by Glen W. Wolfrom, Ph.D.

In the early 1980's a US District Court ruled on the Arkansas "balanced treatment" bill passed by that state's legislature.¹ Challenged by the ACLU, the bill required that whenever "evolution-science" was taught in Arkansas public schools, the children were to be taught "creation-science" as well. Though many creation scientists were not advocates of the legislative approach to allow creation into the schools, several were called to testify on behalf of scientific creation.

Finding themselves on opposite sides at the trial were Dr. Duane Gish, of the Institute for Creation Research, and evolutionist Professor Michael Ruse of the University of Guelph. In a recent Canadian online newspaper article,² philosopher Ruse recounts an argument he had at the trial with biochemist Gish. According to Ruse, Gish made the following statement:

" 'the trouble with you evolutionists is that you just don't play fair. You want to stop us religious people from teaching our views in schools. But you evolutionists are just as religious in your way.' "

Gish purportedly went on to say that both Christianity and evolution tell us " 'where we came from, where we're going, and what we should do on the way.' " Gish challenged Ruse to show any difference between these two "religious" views.

Evolution of a religion

Ruse reports that while he dismissed Gish's statements at the time, he continued to reflect on them, and used them as the basis for much of his research over the next 20 years. Remarkably, Ruse now thinks that Gish was "absolutely right in [his] complaint." According to Ruse,

"Evolution is promoted by its practitioners as more than mere science. Evolution is promulgated as an ideology, a secular religion — a full-fledged alternative to Christianity, with meaning and morality... Evolution is a religion. This was true of evolution in the beginning, and it is true of evolution still today."

Ruse then traces the development of evolution as a religion, beginning with Erasmus Darwin, grandfather of Charles. It continued with Thomas Henry Huxley, Charles' "bulldog," whom Ruse likens to Saint Paul, through Herbert Spencer's "Social Darwinism" of the late 19th century. Julian Huxley, grandson of Thomas Henry, took up the cause in the early 20th century. Julian's influence extended into the 1950's. Creationists, of course, were quite aware of these developments, and wrote of them in their publications at the time.

Old-time religion

Today, Ruse writes, the "old religion" of

evolution survives in the writings of two Harvard evolution evangelists: Edward O. Wilson, "whose eloquence and moral fervor" are compared with that of Billy Graham; and Stephen Jay Gould. We have covered Gould's religious views in these pages before.^{3,4} In Ruse's words, "Wilson begs us to repent, to stand up and acknowledge our sins and to walk forward in the ways of evolution."

Ruse still believes that evolution can function as a more-than-adequate scientific theory, stimulating "research in every area of the life sciences." One can argue, of course, whether evolution is really necessary to stimulate basic research. In my opinion, the only "research" that evolution stimulates is that which is propagated by the evolution industry itself.

Ruse's point

But Ruse's point appears to be simply that only the "science" of evolution (i.e., Darwinian evolution) should be taught in the classroom.

"There is no need to make a religion of evolution... evolution as science... should be taught as a matter of course to all children..."

Ruse says, "in the classroom, let us leave it at that." What Ruse wants to leave out of the science classroom are the political, moral, and/or philosophical (i.e., religious) motivations which may be employed in the name of evolution. "Social-

ists, Marxists, and anarchists,” he notes, have all used evolution to justify their beliefs in the past. For today, he mentions the use of evolution to justify such politically correct positions such as pleas for environmental biodiversity, and denunciations of racial and sexual bigotry.

But can the science of evolution really be divorced from its religious implications? If so, could not this also be true for creation science? In other words, can the science supporting the creation view (or that critical of evolution) be presented without getting into the “religious” aspects of Christianity? I think so.

The argument today, however, against teaching creation science, or even intelligent design, is that such teaching implies that there must be a Creator. Can one not also argue that teaching the science of evolution implies the religious position

that there is no Creator? The latter certainly has a profound moral and philosophical (i.e., religious) message.

Evolutionism

Ruse believes that it is OK for people to move “beyond the strict science – into moral and social claims, thinking of their theory as an all-embracing world picture.” However, he notes that this “slide” from science to religion is frequently unmentioned, even unrealized. Ruse concludes that the classroom is not the place to preach the “gospel” of evolution.

Not surprisingly, the Arkansas law was overturned in 1982. The decision was based on several findings of the court, including that creation science is largely without scientific merit, and that much of the available creation literature is overtly or covertly religious in nature. It is not my purpose here to re-argue the decision.

Interestingly, however, the Court also considered the criticism that evolution is also religious in some respects. Yet, the Court concluded “that evolution is not a religion and that teaching evolution does not violate the Establishment Clause...” I wonder how the Court today would respond to this challenge given the nature of evolutionism as recently described by Ruse.

References

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- 2 Ruse, Michael. 2000. How evolution became a religion. *National Post Online*, May 13. www.nationalpost.com.
- 3 Tisdall, L. 1998. Evangelist Stephen Jay Gould at McGill University. *Creation Matters* 3(6):9.
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Speaking of Science

“Licking Your Wounds”

Could there be a scientific basis for this old adage? Antimicrobial peptides, known as defensins, are reported to be produced by the mucosal epithelia of the oral cavity (tongue, gingiva, and cheek) at bactericidal concentrations.¹ It has also been learned that defensins are present in saliva.

To be fair, these authors have not suggested that defensins provide antimicrobial activity when “applied” outside the oral cavity, but it is interesting to speculate. Nonetheless, these peptides are indeed believed to serve an important role in host defenses to oral bacterial infections. Such findings are important indicators of the marvelous design evident in God’s creation.

Final Nail in Martian Life Coffin?

It was 1996 when we were inundated with reports of the discovery, in a meteorite, of “evidence” of ancient life on Mars.^{2,3} Most of the evidence, upon further evaluation by the scientific community, failed to measure up; i.e., alternative explanations were found for those microscopic structures, traces of organic chemicals, and mineral globules.

In a report of a conference for planetary scientists, *Science* magazine noted that an alternative explanation has now been proffered for the final clue from the meteorite.⁴ In the meteorite were tiny grains of magnetite which

were similar to those produced by terrestrial bacteria. There have been no previous reports of grains similar in size and shape having been formed by inorganic processes.

Now scientists have produced magnetite minerals which “‘are very similar chemically and mineralogically to those in’” the meteorite. Although these researchers have not yet shown that these synthetic magnetites look biogenic, others suggest that Occam’s razor should be applied here in concluding that the meteorite’s magnetites “‘are all produced by the [inorganic] mechanism.’”

However, recent reports and excitement about the possibility of water on the Red Planet keep alive hopes for Martian life. Images were recently provided from the Mars Global Surveyor showing channels or gullies on the Martian surface. These features are said to “look like they were formed very recently,” and “may still be forming today,” presumably by water.⁵ NASA scientists wish to employ a “‘follow the water’ strategy” in their future missions.

The Ultimate Put-down

The evolutionists’ controversy over the proposed evolution of birds from dinosaurs, is heating up again. While we do not have space here to discuss the latest discoveries in detail, suffice it to say that the disagreements have arisen over the latest findings of fossil reptiles with integumentary structures which some paleontologists believe are early feathers.

At a scientific meeting in Beijing, according to a report in *Nature*,⁶ “the divisions between those who believe birds evolved from dinosaurs and those who disagree appeared greater than ever.” But those of the former camp gave the ultimate put-down to Alan Feduccia. After his talk on why the evolution-of-birds-from-dinosaurs theory should be rejected, one of the theory’s proponents said he hadn’t been so entertained since the last time he heard Duane Gish speak. Things are really getting nasty when evolutionists accuse each other of acting like creationists!

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- 1 Mathews, M. et al. 1999. Production of β -defensin antimicrobial peptides by the oral mucosa and salivary glands. *Infect. Immun.* 67(6):2740-2745.
- 2 Wood, T. 1996. Was there really life on Mars? *Creation Matters* 1(5):1.
- 3 Howard, K. 1997. Life on Mars? A Mars rock update. *Creation Matters* 2(2):1.
- 4 Kenr, R.A. 2000. Oddities both Lunar and Martian. *Science* 287:2402.
- 5 Mielstein, M. 2000. Martian gullies tempt NASA to look for water. *Nature* 405:987.
- 6 Dalton, R. 2000. Feathers fly in Beijing. *Nature* 405:992.

— contributed by Glen Wolfrom

Creation Calendar

Note: Items in "Creation Calendar" are for information only; the listing of an event does not necessarily imply endorsement by the Creation Research Society.

- July 18
Anthropological Evidence for Creation & the Flood by Reid Moon
Creation Science Fellowship, Pittsburgh, PA
7:30 pm, Mars CM&A Church, Mars, PA
Contact: (412)341-4908, csf@trfn.clpgh.org
- July 20
Report on the RATE (Radioisotopes and the Age of the Earth) group
by Dr. Gene Chaffin
Creation Study Group, Greenville, SC
7:30 pm Second Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC
Contact: Dr. Albert Anderson (864)244-9020
- July 22
Tour of KU Natural History Museum
CSA for Mid-America (Kansas City area)
Contact: Tom Willis (816)618-3610, csahq@juno.com
- July 28
Current Events in Creation Science by Don DeYoung, Ph.D.
Sharpening Your Edge Conference, Winona Lake, IN
Contact: Ken Bickel (219)372-5100 x6452
- August 5
Creation Presentations by Don DeYoung, Ph.D.
Camp Gitchie Gumee, Eagle River, MI
Contact: Mel Jones, campgg@pasty.com
- August 13-18 or 20-25
Redcloud Family Mountain Adventure
Fun-filled, informative family vacation
Alpha Omega Institute, Grand Junction, CO
Contact: (970)523-9943, www.DiscoverCreation.org
- August 15
Fossil Evidence for the Flood by Robert Ivey
Creation Science Fellowship, Pittsburgh, PA
7:30 pm, Mars CM&A Church, Mars, PA
Contact: (412)341-4908, csf@trfn.clpgh.org
- August 19
Greater Kansas City Geology and Fossil Outing
CSA for Mid-America (Kansas City area)
Contact: Tom Willis (816)618-3610, csahq@juno.com

- September 1-4 (Labor Day weekend)
Southeast Missouri Safari — see the Johnson Shut-Ins, a river disappear underground, Taum Sauk Mtn., lead mine, Elephant Rocks, and more
CSA for Mid-America (Kansas City area)
Contact: Tom Willis (816)618-3610, csahq@juno.com
- September 10
Creation Sunday with Don DeYoung, Ph.D.
Sugar Grove Church, Goshen, IN
Contact: Pastor Cary Perdue (219)875-5622
- September 16
Fall Kick-off BBQ / Outdoor Slide Show — Reservations required
Bible Science Assoc'n, San Fernando Valley Chapter
5:00 pm, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Granada Hills, CA
Contact: Mark Armitage (626)815-6000 x5519, mammitage@apunct.apu.edu
- October 7-8
Creation Conference with Don DeYoung, Ph.D.
First Baptist Church, Mentone, IN
Contact: Pastor Joe Olson (219)353-1712

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