



Think & Believe

A Publication of *Alpha Omega Institute*

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God and Science

by *Dave and Mary Jo Nutting*

We were recently asked a couple questions that made us stop and say, "That would make a good newsletter article!" The gist of the questions were, "How do you, as a Christian, view science, and how does your study of science affect your view of God?" Good questions!

Many people falsely view science and God as opponents. In reality, an understanding of science can expand and deepen our view of God, as illustrated by a student we met in Italy. Vito was a fairly new Christian when we presented a week of teaching on creation science at the Bible School he was attending. At the end of the week, with arms outstretched and a smile that wouldn't quit, he proclaimed, **"My view of God has gotten SOOOOO BIG!"**

As we study science, we are just applying observation and logic to discover and begin to understand the world God has made. In the process, we discover more about His eternal power and divine nature as Paul says in Rom. 1:20.

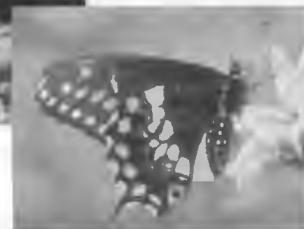
Isaac Newton, one of the greatest scientists of all time, said, **"Science is thinking God's thoughts after Him."** There was no conflict between God and science for Newton. He was a devout believer. In fact, though he is most known for his scientific discoveries, he wrote more volumes about God and the Bible than he did about science.

A study of science underscores what the Bible teaches. The Bible tells us God is great and awesome -- and when we look into the heavens, the vastness of the universe boggles our minds and staggers our imaginations. The Bible tells us God is a God of order -- science helps us see the orderly movement of the planets and the order of the periodic table of elements. The Bible tells us God's knowledge is greater than ours -- and when we study the chemical reactions going on in living beings, we must certainly agree. The Bible

tells us God is powerful -- from science we learn about the power contained in the nucleus of a single atom, yet science knows not what this power is, but can only describe it -- meanwhile, the Bible says, "In Him all things consist" (or "hold together" as it says in the NAS).

The Bible tells that God judges sin -- as we study science we see lots of evidence of death and burial in a watery catastrophe. The Bible tells us this universe had a beginning and it will have an end -- science has discovered these truths and formalized them into the First and Second Laws of Thermodynamics.

Science leads us to conclude that there must be a god, but also reveals that He is BIG and POWERFUL and AWESOME and WISE. He designed this universe and keeps it running, yet this same God created breathtaking beauty, amazing complexity, and intricate details. So even though God is SO BIG and SO AWESOME and SO POWERFUL, the Bible underscores these attributes and tells us He is intimately involved in His creation and cares deeply about the intricate details of our lives. He is a personal God Who is present, rather than an impersonal distant force. When we view science in light of the Bible, we certainly agree with Vito, **"My view of God has gotten SOOOOO BIG!"**



God created the vast universe with all its intricate detail.

Notes & Quotes

☐☐ AOI's 15th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION went smoothly and was a real blessing. One of the biggest blessings for us was taking time to remember God's faithfulness to AOI in the first 15 years. Over the years, we've witnessed:

● **God's leading** when a cancellation in Sweden led to an unexpected opportunity to present the creation message in Hungary which led to the opportunity to speak in Mongolia, Malta, and Egypt, and also led to the training of Bazarsad and the establishment of AOI's Mongolian outreach.

● **God's timing** when He moved a couple of skeptical geology students to Vail, CO, the **very day** we were doing a creation presentation and they found out the Bible does have the answers to their MANY questions.

● **God's care for details** when the plastic mountings on our slides were melted by a defective projector in Germany, but the missionary at our next stop in Italy "just happened" to have a complete slide-mounting kit so we didn't miss a beat!

● **God's protection** when Tim had 2 near misses with a double-decker bus and a dump truck in Scotland and Mary Jo narrowly escaped disaster when a train started going as she was boarding. Fortunately she managed to pull free with only her backpack caught in the door.

● **God's provision** when we were "pick-pocketed in reverse" somewhere between Bari, Italy, and Athens, Greece -- somebody actually put money into Mary Jo's pocket.

● **God's concern** for answering a young man's questions when He sent us to Canada and opened the door for us to spend hour after hour answering his questions about evolution and creation.

☐☐ **Praise God for His Faithfulness!** We could go on and on! If you couldn't make it to the celebration, we missed you, but we had a great time anyway. Sorry you missed:

- Guest speakers, Dr. Duane Gish and Dr. Gary Parker
- The special time of worship in song with the Zentmeyers
- Ranger Mike's "tour" of Colorado National Monument

● "Creationists in the Lion's Den" (Lion-puppet Eugene "debates" Dr. Gish and Dr. Parker!)

● Puppets, songs, and illusions with the Johnsons

● Testimonies by Lanny Johnson and Rich Stepanek

● Special music with Tim Nutting

● Silent auction with donations from over 50 businesses and individuals (THANKS to all of you!)

● A Great Pizza and Potato Bar Dinner

☐☐ **We want to thank everyone** who helped to make it a very enjoyable time. **SPECIAL THANKS** to **Helen King** for coordinating this event, to **Dr. Gish** and **Dr. Parker** for joining us, and to **staff** and **friends** who contributed toward the **BEAUTIFUL CARVED WOOD SIGN** for Alpha Omega Institute -- what a wonderful surprise! We love you! **Most of all we thank our Lord** for His faithfulness, protection, provision, and care over the past 15 years. [Dave and Mary Jo Nutting]



Spotlight On Science

A Great Embarrassment to Evolution: The Eye

by Dr. Dan Korow

"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."

Can you guess who is the author of this quote? His name is Charles Darwin. Unfortunately, he did not listen to his own reasoning, but instead opted to believe that some simple cell could have had an ability to detect light and by natural selection evolve to become our modern eye.

To me, our eye's intricate structural complexity and amazing function point to an awesome Creator. Proverbs 20:12 states: *"The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the Lord God has made both of them."* The eye is a multi-component masterpiece requiring each and every unit just to function.

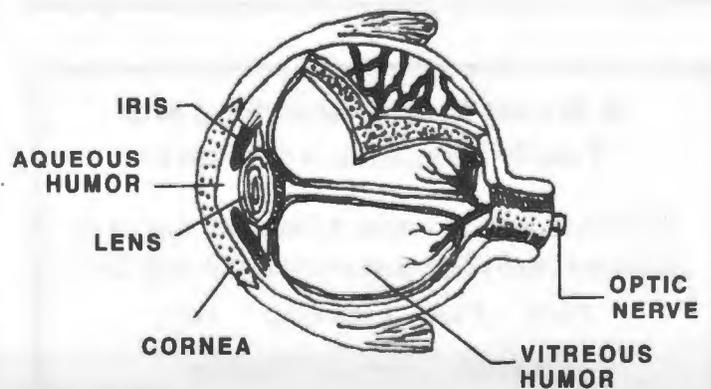
The well-known components are the translucent window-like cornea, the built in windshield wiper eyelids, the lubricating tear film, the light adjusting pupil openings, the image capturing retinal photo receptors, and the muscles to direct eye movements. These are all connected to the master computer, the brain. They all work together to give you 3-D vision.

Let's briefly consider an often-overlooked marvel of the eye, the cornea. The cornea is remarkably specialized and critical for vision. This transparent tissue rests just behind your eyelids. People wearing contacts place these lenses directly onto their cornea. Have you ever wondered why your cornea is clear in contrast to other parts of your body? God has designed numerous mechanisms at the cellular level promoting transparency.

To begin with, this tissue is very thin. In most domestic animals the cornea is less than one millimeter thick (i.e., for you science minded folks, about 4-5 epithelial cell layers in depth). It's thinness promotes transparency. The cornea also lacks its own blood vessels. One might ask, without a blood supply, how is the cornea nourished? Good question. Nourishment occurs through the aqueous humor, and cleansing via the tear ducts. The aqueous humor is a jellylike-fluid present in the front chamber of

the eye. The absence of corneal blood vessels aids in clearness. In addition, God eliminated any pigment in corneal tissue, although it is prominent in most other cells in the body. Pigment would impair corneal transparency.

Besides all these other marvelous features, the primary reason for the cornea's clearness is its basic protein structure of collagen fibrils. These units are precisely organized and uniformly positioned to maintain translucency. In fact, this special arrangement of fibrils permits 99% of the light entering the cornea to pass without scattering. But God didn't stop there. The corneal tissue is also in a state of dehydration relative to the other tissues in the body. God engineered a sophisticated mechanism of energy dependant cellular pumps (i.e. sodium, potassium, and ATPase pumps) to regulate the correct level of hydration and maintain glass-like clarity. In other words, if these pumps didn't limit the water content in these corneal cells, our vision would be foggy or totally impaired. God has it all worked out.



In addition to the cornea's vital cellular characteristics, it also provides support to the inner contents of the eye. It refracts light due to its curvature and aids in light transmission. Lastly, there is a rich supply of sensory nerves, particularly pain receptors. This is why just one grain of sand in your eye might stop you in your tracks.

To rely on chance and random mutation to evolve the eye is highly absurd. All the parts of the eye are needed for the entire organ to operate. If we open our eyes and extend our observation to this entire universe, we come to just one conclusion. All creation declares the glory of God.

I will lift up my eyes to the hills, from whence cometh my help? My help cometh from the Lord, which made the heaven and the earth. Psalm 121:1,2

The Back Page...

*** *Upcoming Events * ***

(N=Nutting, J=Johnson, S=Stepanek)

Please pray for these events!

- July 5-9: Collbran, CO:** Twin Peaks 3rd & 4th Grade Camp
Contact Cal or Jan 970-434-8308 (J)
- July 12-16: Collbran, CO:** Twin Peaks 5th & 6th Grade Camp
Contact Cal or Jan 970-434-8308 (S)
- July 12-16: Denver CO:** Northwest Baptist Church VBS
Contact: Ken VanBrunt 303-429-7109 (J)
- July 26-31: Bloomfield, NE:** Glad Tidings Camp
Contact David Newell, 402-331-7901 or 402-373-4433 (S)
- Aug 2-5 Aspen CO:** Ist Baptist VBS
Contact Marti Begly 970-923-6503 (J)
- Aug 7-11: Maxwell NE:** Maranatha Bible Camp (Family Camp)
Contact Scott 308-582-4513 (J,S)
- Aug 30: Manitou Springs, CO:** Summit Ministries
Contact Renee 719-685-9103 (N)
- Sept 21-22: Grand Junction, CO:** Think & Believe Stuffing Party. Volunteers needed. Contact us 970-523-9943
- Sept 24-26 Lost Timber, Chandler MN:** Jr High Bible Camp
Contact: Rich 970-523-9943 (S)

We still have some openings this fall and in the coming year. Call ASAP if you would like to have an AOI program in your area. 970-523-9943

*** * Last Call for Redcloud * *** **Family Mountain Adventures**

Redcloud Family Mountain Adventure I: Aug 15-20
Redcloud Family Mountain Adventure II: Aug 22-27

Facts -- Fun -- Fellowship -- Food

Fantastic Colorado Mountain



Don't Delay!
Call Today!



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Training Center Update

(with Dave Harper)

Praise the Lord! Spring of 1999 has been a season of **firsts!** We were very blessed by the 16 people (including board members) who removed several dangerous cottonwood trees. Nine folks spent the week-end camping and enjoyed the worship and teaching in our **first** Sunday service. A driller has agreed to drill our **first** well on the property. As we write, we anticipate the arrival of our **first** high school group with adults for our **first** summer work camp (complete with our **first** on-site creation teaching)! They will help construct picnic tables, repair fences and water lines, etc. We cherish your prayers and support. Many more **firsts** are yet to come!

Current Needs

Materials, equipment, and workers! We have an immediate need for a qualified water engineer. If you can assist in any way, please call us ASAP.

Finances! We strongly desire to build a **warm** residence **ASAP** so the elderly rancher who donated the property will not have to spend another winter in his cold, drafty log house. We anticipate this will cost about \$50,000. Later we plan to insulate, restore, and use the historic ranch house. Will you help?

Prayer! Please pray for workers, finances, safety, and completion of the warm house before winter.

*** * Donna Henderson Moves * ***

We praise God for Donna and thank her for her faithful service at AOI. She was with us for 7 years, almost to the day. Donna has worn many "hats" at AOI, and her daughters have helped in numerous ways also. We're going to miss them! We know they would appreciate your **prayers** as they get settled in the Seattle area. God Bless You, Donna and Family!



ALPHA OMEGA INSTITUTE
PO Box 4343 • Grand Junction, CO • 81502
(970) 523-9943 • www.discovercreation.org