I admit it! I don’t see things as other people see them. In fact I am partially color-blind. I first discovered this when I was given several charts to view and asked to identify the numbers on the charts. My response was, “What numbers?” That response nixed my congressional appointment to the US Naval Academy! Today, it also causes Mary Jo to question a few of my color schemes when I think two things go together.

However, knowledge of the very fact that there are shades of colors that I can’t see (or, perhaps, see differently than other people see them), makes me understand some of the university students Mary Jo and I speak to. They just can’t fathom that Darwin might be wrong. Even when presented with solid scientific evidence, they reject it because they are “color-blinded” by their worldview. They have been so deeply immersed in evolutionary indoctrination that they are unable to see beyond it.

Some time ago, an extremely long discussion with a university professor lasted beyond midnight. After giving him evidence after evidence for creation and against evolution, I realized that nothing seemed to phase him. I finally asked him, “What evidence would you accept for creation?” He answered, “Absolutely nothing!” (I wish I had asked him that question 5 hours before!)

Like so many students today, he was “color-blind” because of his unquestioning acceptance of the evolutionary interpretation of the evidence. He was blind to any evidence pointing to creation. That became obvious when he revealed the “box” he was constrained in. He said that he had yet to meet a scientist who believed in creation. Mary Jo answered that he had been talking to two all evening. His reply was, “You used to be scientists.”

Hmmm… Color-blind people may not be able to see some shades of colors, but for me and many others, it actually is a benefit for seeing through camouflage. I can frequently spot a deer in a forest when others can’t see it. The professor’s reply was obviously a “camouflaged deer.” His prevailing mindset was that only naturalistic explanations qualify as science. In his mind, allowing any potential of a Creator or Designer suddenly disqualified us as scientists, regardless of how much evidence pointed toward creation.

An example to illustrate the constraints of this type of thinking would be trying to come up with a naturalistic origin for a beautifully chipped arrowhead. One might propose a naturalistic explanation involving a rock rolling around in a streambed and accidentally taking that shape after millions of years. Even though naturalistic, it is not the correct explanation or even a good explanation since it goes against known dynamics of rock fracturing. Stripped of its “naturalistic camouflage,” the “scientific” explanation looks ridiculous to those who are open to the idea of a craftsman having made it.

Could this argument of “What would you accept as evidence?” be turned back on me? Yes, and it has been. However, I have seen enough evidence for the truth of God’s Word and have experienced enough of His work in my life that I would be a fool to deny it. I am not afraid to admit that faith is an important part of my life; I believe that the scientific evidence affirms this faith.

However, many students and professors cling to convoluted explanations just to avoid the supernatural. They hide behind camouflaged naturalistic arguments to explain the origin and intricate details of life apart from God. They call it “science,” but in reality it is faith. Even though others can see the evidence, they can’t see or won’t allow themselves to see the writing that spells, “G-O-D.” They are “God-Blind” and don’t even know it!
Scientists Falsify Research - Past and Present  
by Dave Nutting

Are scientists always honest, unbiased, objective researchers? Consider....

Piltdown Man Hoax:
Perpetrated in 1912, the Piltdown Man Hoax led to erroneous pictures of mankind’s supposed ape-like ancestors in textbooks for 70+ years. One of last summer’s creation family camp participants saw Piltdown Man still on display! 100 years of fraud!

Biogenetic Law fraud:
As reported in T&B (2007, Vol. 25, #1), Ernst Haeckel was actually called before a board of examiners and chastised for fudging the data. His proposed Biogenetic Law was supported with fraudulent pictures showing similarities of human embryos to those of fish, pig, chicken, etc. This was his attempt to demonstrate our common ancestry with animals. Although discredited 100 years ago, his drawings are still in some textbooks today.

Stem Cell Fraud:
South Korean stem-cell researcher, Woo Suk Hwang, was “the centre of one of the largest investigations of scientific fraud in living memory.” Hwang was discredited by his own home research institution, Seoul National University, for presenting fraudulent data. Nature reported, “The revelation has destroyed the best evidence so far that stem cells can be extracted from a clone matched to a specific patient. With Hwang discredited, both the field of therapeutic cloning and the public’s trust in science have suffered a serious setback.” (Nature, 1-11-2006)

Scientists Invent Results:
Times Online (June 4, 2009) headline reports that “One in seven scientists say colleagues fake data.” That figure applies to serious breaches of “acceptable conduct by inventing results.” The article went on to say that “46 percent say that they have observed fellow scientists engage in ‘questionable practices’, such as presenting data selectively or changing the conclusions of a study in response to pressure from a funding source.”

ClimateGate:
Washington Times (Nov 20, 24 etc., 2009) reported on potential fraud relating to global warming turned up by hackers breaking into the e-mails from the Climate Research Unit (CRU) at the University of East Anglia (UEA) in England. “Those e-mails involved communication among many scientific researchers and policy advocates with similar ideological positions all across the world. Those purported authorities were brazenly discussing the destruction and hiding of data that did not support global-warming claims.” If investigations confirm that climate data has been hidden which negates the currently “politically correct” global warming hysteria, as well as the attempt to silence the “dissenters,” this would likely become the biggest scandal ever perpetrated on the whole world.

Book Review: Ken Ham’s Dinosaurs for Children

Do dinosaurs prove evolution? Did dinosaurs grow feathers and evolve into birds? This is what your children and grandchildren are being taught starting at the youngest ages. That’s why you need Ken Ham’s newest book on dinosaurs. Listen to what he says about this book:

“There’s no doubt kids (and adults) are fascinated by dinosaurs yet this topic is used more than many others to indoctrinate children in secular book for kids on dinosaurs – yet honors the Word of God.”

Ken met his goal. You can help your children (ages 7-12) know the truth about dinosaurs and the Bible. This 64-page, 8 ½ x 11, hard-cover book is loaded with full-color pictures and contains a wealth of the latest information. It will make the world of dinosaurs come alive for your children.

[$15 from AOI (includes shipping). Offer expires March 31, 2010. Remember, your purchases and donations help the ministry of AOI!!]
Snapshots of Human Development
Part 2 by Mary Jo Nutting

[Note: This article is based on the DVD, Fearfully and Wonderfully Made, by Dr. David Menton]

In Genesis 1:28, God blessed the first human couple and told them to “be fruitful and multiply.” In the last issue of Think & Believe (Nov/Dec 2009), we learned about the processes of ovulation and fertilization -- God’s amazing design that made reproduction possible. (Check our website if you missed that article.) We pick up where we left off, with the fertilized egg, moving down the egg tube, or oviduct.

The fertilized egg goes through the first cell division about 30 hours after ovulation. Now there are 2 cells, held together in a gelatinous “shell.” If the “shell” is defective and breaks down, these 2 cells may split apart and develop independently, resulting in identical twins with the same DNA. (Side note: identical twins have the same DNA, but different fingerprints! Hmmm … we still have some things to learn! By way of contrast, most twins come from 2 separate fertilized eggs and would thus have different DNA.)

By the end of 3 days, the cells of the developing embryo have formed a ball of cells called the morula. At 4 to 4-1/2 days, the ball enters the uterus. It is now a hollow ball called a blastocyst. At 5-1/2 to 6 days, the blastocyst implants in uterus – and herein lies another miracle! This is a separate person, with different antigens from mother. According to normal antigen-antibody reactions, it should be rejected – but it’s not. The mother’s uterus receives it! Then begins the marvelous process called implantation and the development of that awesome organ, the placenta.

Certain cells around the outside of the blastocyst fuse together, forming a structure (the syncytiotrophoblast) which penetrates into the uterine wall and makes the placenta. The placenta forms first, before baby develops, and plugs into the uterus. At this point, a potentially lethal event occurs – the mother’s arteries get truncated. If it were not for the amazing and irreducibly complex design of the reproduction process, the mother would bleed to death. Fortunately, the process was designed by a wise Creator and not left to chance. The mother’s blood flows into cavities in the syncytiotrophoblast, so that materials can be exchanged across a very thin membrane. (It is important to remember that the baby makes its own blood. The mother’s blood and the baby’s blood don’t mix. In fact, they may even have different blood types.)

The placenta is an amazing “superorgan.” It forms from the baby’s cells and consists of the thin membrane made up of the syncytiotrophoblast plus a complex set of tiny blood vessels on the baby’s side. The placenta has a tremendous surface area for interchange of materials, nutrients, and oxygen between the mother and the baby via the blood vessels in the baby’s umbilical cord. (More miracles here: the umbilical cord contains a special substance called Wharton’s Jelly which keeps it from getting tangled and shutting off the blood vessels. I wonder how that could have evolved!?) Nutrients pass to the baby and waste products pass back through the umbilical cord and through the placenta, to be disposed of by the mother – quite convenient for the baby!

Jumping ahead a bit, after birth, when the placenta “unplugs,” there are 20+ truncated arteries on the mother’s side, pumping blood at ½ qt/minute. To make matters worse, the placenta secretes an anti-coagulating substance to prevent clotting on the baby’s side. This would be a disaster for evolution, as the mother would promptly bleed to death. Again, fortunately, the system gives evidence of our Creator’s wisdom and care. Muscular sphincters in the arteries contract to squeeze off the blood and prevent bleeding to death. In fact, the system works so effectively, that in a normal delivery, only about a cup of blood is lost. If that isn’t evidence of design, I don’t know what it is! Truly, we are fearfully and wonderfully made!
As Mary Jo and I spend time on university campuses trying to bring a little light into a very dark world, we encounter some responses that show this battle is much more a heart issue than a scientific one. I asked a professor at one of the universities what he would accept as evidence for the supernatural. He said that if a cubic block of solid metal would suddenly appear in front of him, turn into a squid, grow wings and fly away, then he would believe. Now God could actually do that, but I wonder if this “God-Blinded” professor would believe even if He did. Perhaps, the professor would just rationalize that he got too close to a student smoking a funny weed and started hallucinating. There is always some naturalistic explanation that someone with a passion against God can come up with to dismiss the miraculous. Jesus said that even if someone rose from the dead, many wouldn’t believe. (Luke 16:31) That was demonstrated when Jesus was crucified and raised from the dead. Many believed, but still many did not. It is a heart issue.

So why do we put ourselves in the midst of the battle? Whether we are on the college campus or in a church seminar, it is a real joy to see the blinders fall away. It is also a joy to hear the sigh of relief from many Christians who may have, for the first time, finally heard someone expose the lie of evolution. That keeps us going in this ministry! Please continue to stand with us in 2010 so that AOI can bring that message of hope! 

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**Directors’ Column**

*by Dave & Mary Jo Nutting*

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**Upcoming Events**

N = Nutting  J = Johnson  S = Stepanek

1/19, Montrose, CO, Montrose Christian Church, Steve Stevenson, (970) 252-7176, J
1/19, Vail, CO, Ministerial Alliance Meeting, Christian School, Contact AOI, 970-523-9943 N
1/19-21, Seminaries in India, AOI, (970) 523-9943, S
1/27-2/12, Texas Speaking Trip, call AOI, (970) 523-9943, N
2/12, Gilbert, AZ, Christ’s Greenfield Lutheran School, Bob Burges, (480) 892-8314, J
2/16-17, Tucson, AZ, Homeschool Science Fair, Becky, (520) 661-4546, J
2/28-3/1, Texas City, TX, Northside Baptist Church, Johnny Taylor, (409) 229-1140, J
3/7-8, San Antonio, TX, Communion Chapel, Mike Pratt, (210) 913-6625, J
3/7-10, Litchfield, CT, Friendship Baptist Church, Contact Church: 860-567-3389, N
3/9, San Antonio, TX, San Antonio Bible Based Sci Assoc., Scott Lane, (210) 599-7240, J
3/10-12, San Antonio, TX, Castle Hills First Baptist, David George, (210) 377-8447, J
3/14-15, Johnson City, TX, Community Church of the Hills, Kyle Roberts, (210) 325-6193, J
3/14-19, Lake City, CO, Camp Redcloud Winter Camp, Call AOI, (970) 523-9943, N
3/21-22, Rockdale, TX, Meadow Brooke Baptist, Rick Herltess, (512) 446-3367, J
3/21-23, Richland, WA, Temple Baptist Church, Mark Finkbeiner, (509) 967-5625, N
3/24-26, Canyon, TX, First United Methodist Church, Tyler Looney, (806) 655-2851, J
4/3-16, Jackson Hole Bible College Spring Field Study, Holly Austin, (307) 733-3134, N

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**Your Continued Support is Needed and Appreciated!**

Thank you so much for your support! Will you stand with us in 2010 so that we can continue to bring light and truth to this lost and hopeless world?