

Think Believe

Discover Creation...Worship the Creator

A Publication of Alpha Omega Institute

November/December, 2018; Vol. 36, No.6

The Word Became Flesh

By Dave and Mary Jo Nutting

As we approach the season when Christians all over the world celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, it is good to reflect on who this Jesus really is. The gospel writers tell us that He was born as a baby in Bethlehem, grew up as the son of a Jewish carpenter in Nazareth, regularly attended synagogue, went up to Jerusalem for the appointed times, and became a miracle-working itinerant rabbi (teacher) who gathered disciples around Him and taught about the Kingdom of Heaven. He was acclaimed by many as the long-awaited Messiah, yet was brutally crucified on a Roman cross. Three days later, according to the scriptures, He was raised from the dead and appeared to many witnesses. Who is this Jesus?

Verse 1 of John's gospel opens with: "In the beginning was the Word..." This clearly refers back to the creation account in Genesis 1:1 ("In the beginning, God created..."). The "Word" was there in the beginning at the creation.

The word translated here as "Word" appears in the Greek manuscripts as "*Logos*," commonly meaning "word" or "speech." John and the disciples would likely have been familiar with the term, as Greek was the official language of the time. However, since Aramaic was

the common language of the Jews in Israel, they would likely have been more familiar with the Aramaic terms, "*Dibber*" and "*Memra*." These also refer to the "Word" and are found in Aramaic renditions of the Old Testament (Targums).¹

*"In the beginning
was the Word, and the
Word was with God, and
the Word was God. . .
And the Word was made
flesh, and dwelt among us
and we beheld his glory,
the glory as of the only
begotten of the Father,
full of grace and truth."*

(John 1: 1-4, 14, KJV)



So, what, or who, was this Word (*Logos/Dibber/Memra*)?" John tells us, "...the Word was God." The Apostle Paul agrees, telling us in Philippians 2 that Jesus, being "in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God." According to Daniel Lancaster, the *Dibber* "is not less than God. He is as much of God as can

be experienced in our universe." Lancaster continues, "God's *Memra* (used synonymously with *Dibber*) is the active, finite expression of His infinite being."²

John goes on to say, "All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made." (John 1:3) Thus, we learn that the Word is none other than the Creator of the universe!

Later we read: "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us..." (John 1:14) John makes it clear that the Word (*Logos/Dibber/Memra*), Who was the very Creator of the universe, became flesh and dwelt on this earth as a man later revealed as Jesus of Nazareth.

As Paul explains in Philippians 2, Jesus "...made himself of no reputation, and took upon himself the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of men." The baby born in Bethlehem was the Creator of the world!

No wonder the angels announced his coming with singing and words of great joy. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11) God in the flesh – the Word/*Logos/Dibber/Memra* – the anointed One, the long-awaited Messiah – Christ the Lord – came to save and dwell among **us**, His sinful, fallen creatures! What a miracle! What Good News! What a great reason to celebrate and worship Him! **AOI**

^{1,2} Ref: Lancaster, Daniel. 2014. *Chronicles of the Messiah*, Chapter 1 "The Logos."

Student Ministries Update

Student ministries are moving forward this fall – both in Grand Junction and at other campuses. Brian Mariani is heading up the AOI ministry to students at Colorado Mesa University and working with students involved in the “Truth Matters” club there. Although it has been very difficult to get students involved, Brian continues to use campus information tables (with yummy treats), on-campus surveys, one-on-one meetings at the Student Center, field trips, and dinner/discussion nights at the AOI Ministry Center. These outreaches are designed to engage students in discussion, answer questions, and equip and mentor those who want to delve deeper in their understanding of creation and their relationship with the Lord. Brian invites those in the Grand Junction area, to assist in taking surveys and engaging students in discussion.

Scott Mauser was granted the opportunity to present a biblical worldview in some comparative religion classes at a local high school. He continues to correspond with students to answer their questions.

Along with the student outreach, Scott teaches worldview classes in a local Christian school and a weekly class called Worldviews and the Evidence at AOI. This class is open to the public. He is also working to develop worldview-immersion experiences for students. (Contact Scott if you are interested in these classes or this type of trip for your youth group.)

The Nuttings have partnered with campus ministries in Minnesota to present a creation series at two universities. It was attended by Christians seeking to be better equipped and by self-proclaimed atheists (students and teachers) coming to defend their position. This resulted in some lively Q&A sessions. Some of the attendees were quite vocal in expressing their belief in evolution and naturalism, but some

seemed genuinely interested in hearing and evaluating the material presented. We are glad that these campus ministries will faithfully follow up with interested students!

AOI speakers continue to reach out through church seminars, AWANA club presentations, homeschool conferences, classes at Christian schools and Bible colleges, as well as through FaceBook, Twitter, YouTube, and AOI’s website. Within these social media platforms, short video clips on various topics have been developed for your general understanding and to be easily shared with others.

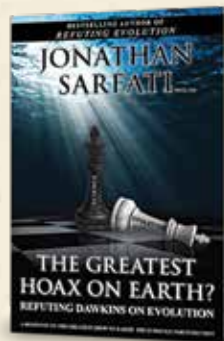
We use many avenues to share the truth of creation and the gospel and encourage you to make use of all the resources we offer. While connecting one-on-one is still one of the most effective ways to reach people, we trust that these various offerings will be helpful in those interactions. **AOI**

The Greatest Hoax on Earth? – Refuting Dawkins on Evolution

Review by Dave Nutting

In our last issue, we reviewed Johnathan Sarfati’s book which answers many of the evolutionary “proofs” of atheist Richard Dawkins. We feature it again in hopes that you will consider it as a Christmas gift that can have eternal significance in the life of a skeptic or Christian student. Richard Dawkins is a popular evolutionist who vehemently defends and promotes his worldview of evolutionary naturalism and atheism. Caustic to any idea of creation, he frequently and sarcastically ridicules the opposition – even God. Anyone

affected by his views – especially in biology, or other science courses –absolutely needs to read Dr. Johnathan Sarfati’s Book. It truly does a great job refuting Dawkins’ arguments point by point. Sarfati is no lightweight opponent. His **Refuting Evolution**, has over 500,000 in print. In his crisp, highly readable style, Sarfati’s sheer competence relentlessly erodes each of



Dawkins’ claims and in the process, exposes the logical fallacies and some of the dubious tactics employed. This is a “must-read-and-study” book for Christians who are in the midst of, or preparing for, the battle for their minds. It is also good for skeptics who might have a bit of openness to hear the other side. Available from AOI for **\$15** (reg. \$17) plus **\$4 s/h**. Remember, your order helps support the ministry of AOI. When you share it with others, you take part in this ministry! **AOI**

Molecular Machines – God is Amazing!

by Dave Nutting

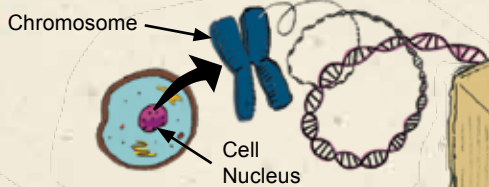
Just when we thought we had the amazing complexity of the cell figured out, God allows us to “peel back the onion” and see another mind-boggling layer of complexity. Keep in mind, I’m a geologist who likes rocks but I’ve recently become enthralled with modern genetics and cellular biology. I realize if I researched

found in each of our trillions of cells. Like a computer program, our DNA contains the codes or gene sequences needed to assemble strings of specific amino acids together that will ultimately fold in on themselves to produce **specific** proteins. Each of these proteins perform a **specific**

Sometimes, stressful conditions such as heat can cause proteins to fold improperly. In that case, molecular “chaperone” machines such as Hsp70 and Hsp60 come alongside or encase the protein providing the necessary assistance to refold properly.

Once the protein is folded, a kinesin (“UPS” delivery molecule) walks down a micro-tubular highway at one hundred steps per second (like me running 1,200 mph) to deliver this package of proteins to a **specific** address to perform its job.

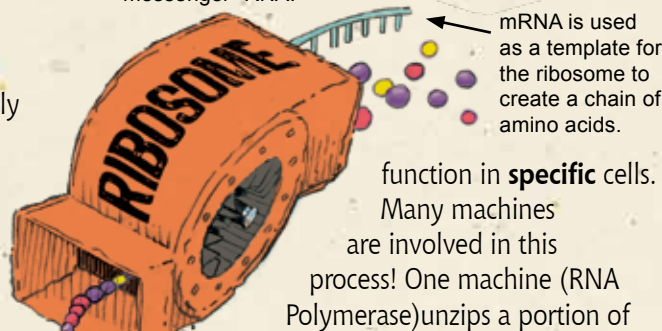
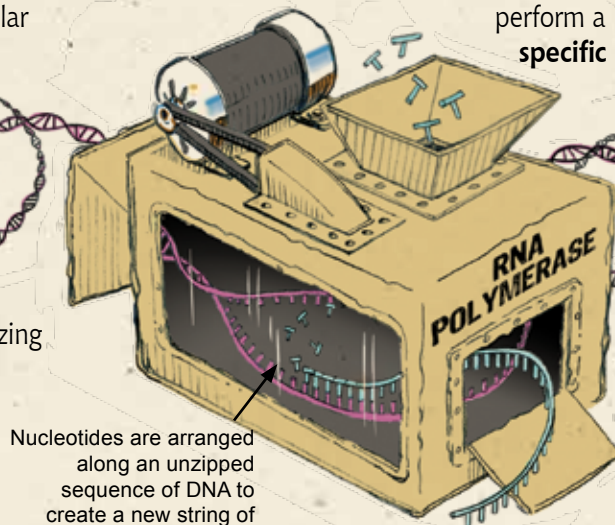
One such job is the ATP Synthase machine which consists of thirty-two **specific** proteins making up two distinct rotors connected by a stator. Fueled by protons, this molecular motor turns at 9,000 rpm and



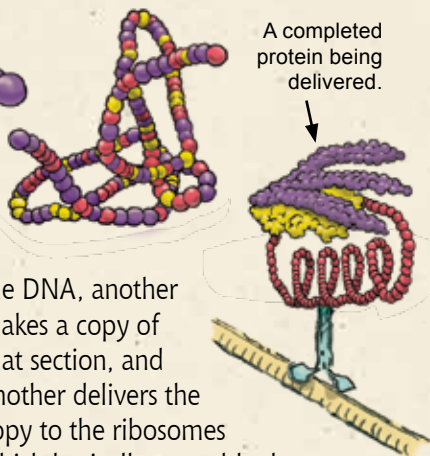
for the next fifty years, I still would not understand the amazing complexities in front of me.

Over the last few years, a whole new field of science has opened up which gives amazing testimony to the genius of our Creator! Tiny, complex motors and machines are found inside each of our cells. These really are actual motors and are so small that no ordinary microscope is capable of bringing them into focus. Ken Dill, PhD, stated on a TED talk in October, 2013, (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zm-3kovWpNQ>), that there are more of these amazing motors in the end of your finger than there are gasoline engines and electric motors in the entire world. In fact, he went on to say that humans have more than 20,000 different types of molecular machines all operating in their bodies. Other researchers report that many of these molecule-sized machines work in unison with each other like a factory. These machines are the most efficient motors in the universe and without them, you wouldn't exist!

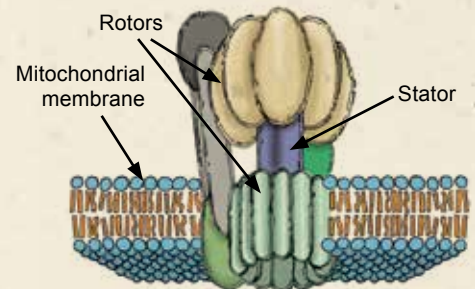
Consider just a few machines that are



The new amino acid or “polypeptide” chain folds into a 3-D protein molecule.



the DNA, another makes a copy of that section, and another delivers the copy to the ribosomes which basically assemble the corresponding proteins. Based on the sequence of amino acids in its string, the unfinished protein folds into a specific shape enabling it to perform its specific function.



crunches ADP and a phosphate together to produce the ATP energy packages which keep us alive. All the proteins in this machine are needed. Eliminate one, and it doesn't work.

I think it would tax credulity to believe all of this process and the highly efficient ATP-Synthase machine came about strictly by natural processes! In my presentations, I show the extreme improbability of a single protein happening by accident. (If you could find a blue marble hidden in a universe filled with red marbles while blindfolded three times in a row, it would be one hundred million times more likely than making that one single protein by chance processes.) Considering that the ATP Synthase motors need 32 proteins and the ribosomes need over 300 specific proteins to function, these odds become astronomically worse for evolutionists.

Our Creator is certainly revealing amazing evidence emanating from His infinite knowledge. Just think – God spoke everything into existence! He certainly is worthy of our praise! **AOI**

Director's Column by Dave & Mary Jo Nutting



An atheist professor recently told us that perhaps all of the amazing machines mentioned on the previous page came about strictly by atoms doing what comes naturally. Another suggested that the probability argument isn't valid since our universe is just one of perhaps infinite numbers of universes! This "knowledgeable" atheist also told me that all the miracles of Jesus were merely delusions and were added to the Bible 300 years after they supposedly happened.

Colossians 2:8 (KJV) says: "Beware lest any man spoil you (other translations say "take you captive") through philosophy and vain deceit ..." Far too many people are not equipped to stand against persuasive arguments and philosophy presented as "science." Students and others need solid answers to help them stand firm in

the face of supposedly "scientific" and "intellectual" objections to God and the Bible.

If you are a supporter of AOI, thank you so much! This ministry takes place because you, our supporters, are concerned enough to partner with us in bringing the truth to people of all ages in churches, schools, online, and wherever people will listen. If you have not begun supporting AOI, please consider getting on board to help us reach those who need to hear.

As we draw close to the end of this year, we desire to finish strong. Did you know that traditionally, a large percentage of the funds we receive for our next year's ministry come during the last month of the year? That makes end-of-year giving vital to AOI. So, remember the fierce storm that is constantly raging in schools across this country to extinguish Christian students' faith and influence. Please keep us in prayer, and support AOI as you are able. God bless you and have a great, Christ-centered Thanksgiving and Christmas! **AOI**

Upcoming Events

Be sure to check our website for upcoming events. If you don't see one in your area, contact us about bringing AOI to your church, school, or other group!



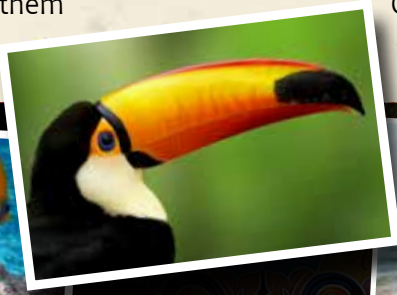
Check out our posts on FaceBook, Twitter, YouTube, and our website (DiscoverCreation.org).

Yellowstone

Creation Tour

• **Aug. 30 – Sep. 3, 2019**

Hot springs, geysers, boiling mudpots, and wildlife – plus experienced creation guides, great food, fun, and fellowship. Don't miss out! Call today to register for this amazing, affordable adventure!



Costa Rica

Creation Adventure

• **March 23 – April 1, 2019.**

Mark your calendar. Check the web for more information. This is an amazing opportunity to discover the beauty and diversity of Costa Rica from a creation perspective. Call today to reserve your spot.

www.discovercreation.org/camps-tours/costa-rica-creation-adventure/



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