

The Visible Hand of God

- KCBS 2023 •
Wednesday



Objectives:

- 1) To investigate the reasons that we believe.
- 2) To solidify our faith by a recognition of the hand of God in the present.

Day	Topic	Biblical Case Study
Monday	Why we believe, exploring doubt	Help thou my unbelief
Tuesday	Our 'privileged' planet	Angels in the hills
Wednesday	Fearfully & Wonderfully made	Is anything too hard?
Thursday	Witness to the defense: Israel	Blind witnesses
Friday	Our hope in the resurrection	Blessed are those that...

Wednesday

- Fearfully & Wonderfully Made

Slides - scan QR code

KCBS 2023

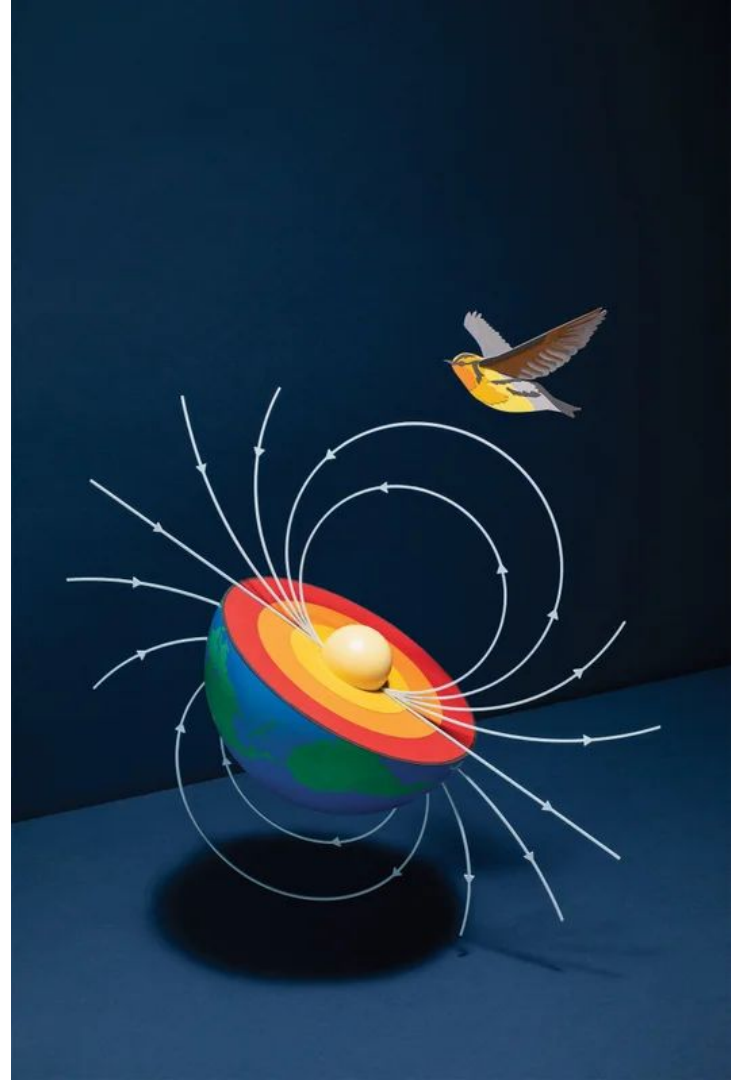


How Migrating Birds Use Quantum Effects to Navigate

New research hints at the biophysical underpinnings of their ability to use Earth's magnetic field lines to find their way to their breeding and wintering grounds

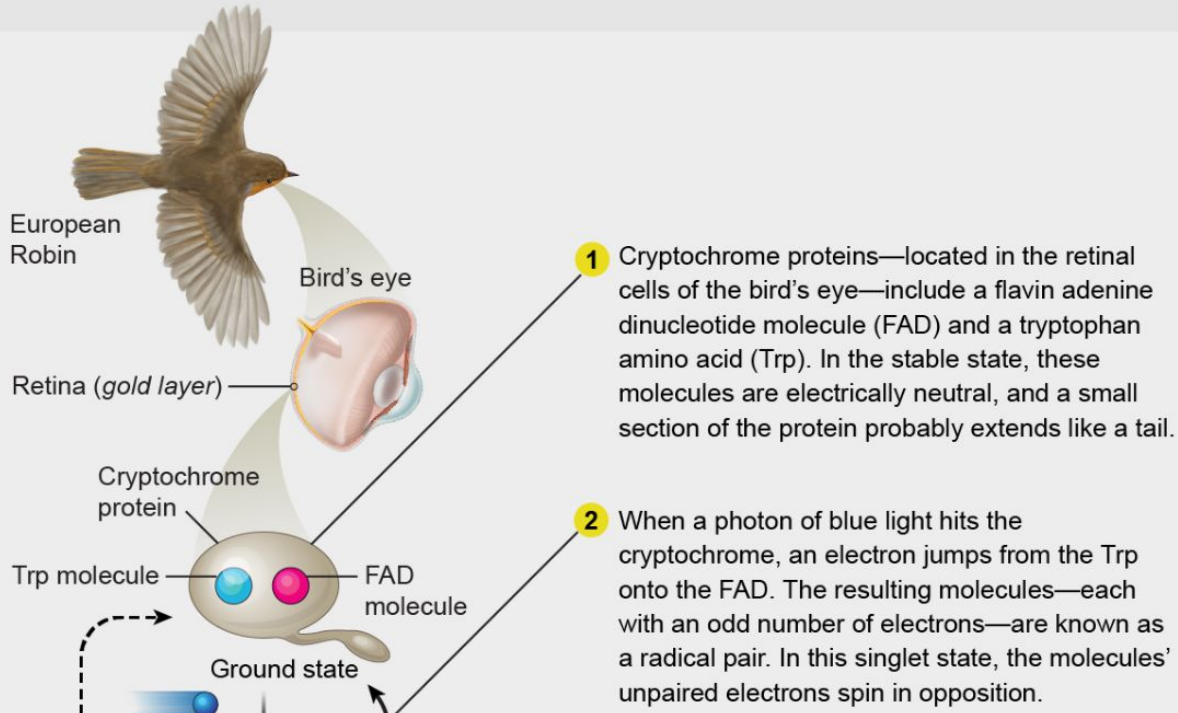
By Peter J. Hore, Henrik Mouritsen on April 1, 2022

“Our experimental evidence suggests something extraordinary: a bird’s compass relies on subtle, fundamentally quantum effects in short-lived molecular fragments, known as radical pairs, formed photochemically in its eyes. That is, **the creatures appear to be able to “see” Earth’s magnetic field lines** and use that information to chart a course between their breeding and wintering grounds.”



The Compass Mechanism

Studies suggest that the magnetic compass of migratory birds relies on quantum effects in short-lived molecular fragments known as radical pairs that are formed photochemically in the eyes. In this way, the birds can perceive Earth's magnetic field lines and use that information to navigate their long-haul trips.



The Secret behind Songbirds' Magnetic Migratory Sense



How Migrating Birds Use Quantum Effects to Navigate

New research hints at the biophysical underpinnings of their ability to use Earth's magnetic field lines to find their way to their breeding and wintering grounds

By Peter J. Hore, Henrik Mouritsen on April 1, 2022

“When you next see a small songbird, **pause for a moment** to consider that it might recently have flown thousands of kilometers, **navigating with great skill** using a brain weighing no more than a gram. The fact that quantum spin dynamics may have played a crucial part in its journey only compounds **the awe and wonder with which we should regard these extraordinary creatures.**”



Are not two
sparrows sold for a
penny? And not
one of them will
fall to the ground
apart from your
Father.

– Matthew 10:29

“...birds and other animals are now seen to be equipped with a range of sophisticated biosensors which are carefully integrated into complete navigation systems to allow them to reach their destinations. All of this **points inescapably to the work of the great Creator**, acting with the necessary foresight and involved at a deep level with all life.”

– David Burges, Testimony Magazine, Jan. 2012

**What was Jesus message on
sparrows all about?**

Anxiety, worry, stress → trust & faith



Mat 6:34 - Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Lilies of the Field

Fowls of the Air



Mat 10:31 - Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.

Sparrows for a farthing

Hairs on your Head



Anxiety, worry, stress → trust & faith

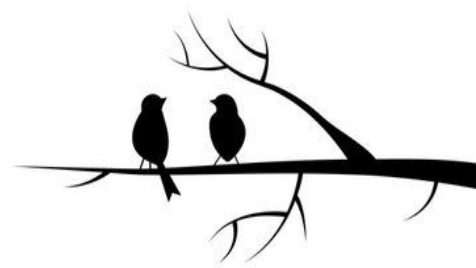
Lilies of the Field

Fowls of the Air

Sparrows for a farthing

Hairs on your Head

- 1) Numerous
- 2) Little value
- 3) Fleeting, not enduring
- 4) Created, numbered,
and cared for by God



Lessons from the Sparrow:

Awe & Wonder

- Faith begins with a recognition of the works of the divine designer.

Compassion & Care

- Faith continues with a recognition of God's compassion toward his creation.

“Shall not he who has conferred the “greater” blessing be willing to confer the “less?” Shall not he who has formed the body so curiously, and made in its formation **such a display of power and goodness**, see that it is properly protected and clothed? He who has displayed “so great” goodness as to form the body, and breathe into it the breath of life, will surely “follow up” the blessing, and confer the “smaller” favor of providing that that body shall be clothed, and that life preserved.”

– Albert Barnes, Notes on the Bible

Case Study

Is anything too hard
for the LORD?

Genesis 18:1-15

And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old? Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.

Case Study - Is anything too hard?

Incredulity ➤ Faith

Sarah
laughed
within herself



“Wherefore
did Sarah
laugh”



She
was
afraid

Case Study - Is anything too hard?

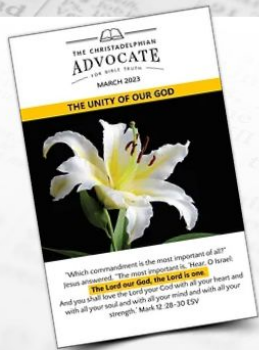
Rom 4:17-21 ISV As it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations." Abraham acted in faith when he stood in the presence of God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence things that don't yet exist. (18) **Hoping in spite of hopeless circumstances**, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," just as he had been told: "This is how many descendants you will have." (19) **His faith did not weaken** when he thought about his own body (which was already as good as dead now that he was about a hundred years old) or about Sarah's inability to have children, (20) nor did he doubt God's promise out of a lack of faith. Instead, his faith became stronger and he gave glory to God, (21) **being absolutely convinced** that God would do what he had promised.

Psalm 139

I will praise thee; for I am
fearfully and wonderfully made:
marvellous are thy works

In defense of the things concerning the Kingdom of God in the name of Jesus Christ.

This web site is sponsored by the publishers of a monthly magazine called *The Christadelphian Advocate*. We are dedicated to the defense of the Gospel of Christ and the proclamation of the Hope of Israel. We teach those things that concern the Kingdom of God that is coming on this earth in fulfillment of the promises made to Abraham.



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Psalm 139

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Parables from Psalm 139

Verses	Analogies of Israel
1-6	God's Providence exercised over His people
7-12	Even in periods of waywardness, no escape from Him
13-16	Hidden away in Egypt, Israel grew into a people, and came out a nation
17-18	God great purpose is centered in Israel (Hope of Israel)
19-22	Ceaseless hostility toward God's people
23-24	Ultimate reconciliation with God in the future

Parables from Psalm 139

Verses	Analogies of Christ
1-6	Unique relationship of Father and Son
7-12	From waters of baptism (grave) to transfiguration (heaven) - God was always present
13-16	Jesus' born of virgin, in the womb of Mary (human nature)
17-18	Purpose and Providence of Father shown through His Son
19-22	Ceaseless hostility toward Christ, yet he wept over Jerusalem
23-24	Christ without sin, yielding to Father's will, everlasting reward

Lessons for Us from Psalm 139

- 1) Omniscience
- 2) Design
- 3) Care

Omniscience - judgement

Psalm 139:7 - Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I **flee** from thy presence?

The impulse to flee from God's presence is as old as the fall of man!

- **Gen. 3:8** - and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God

Jonah tried, and failed:

- **Jonah 1:3** - Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD

H1272 - בָּרַח

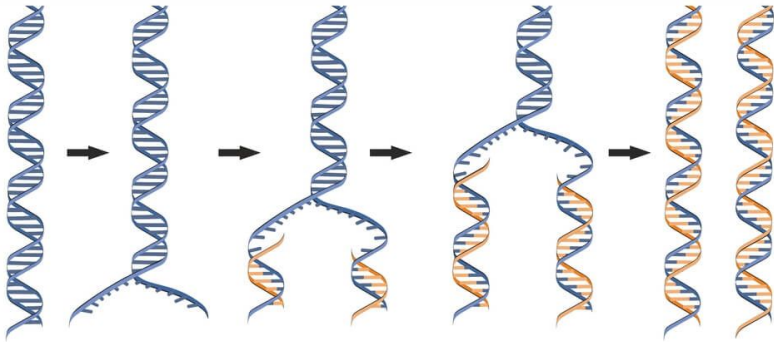
bârach

to bolt, to flee suddenly: - chase (away); drive away, fain, put to flight, make haste, run away, shoot.

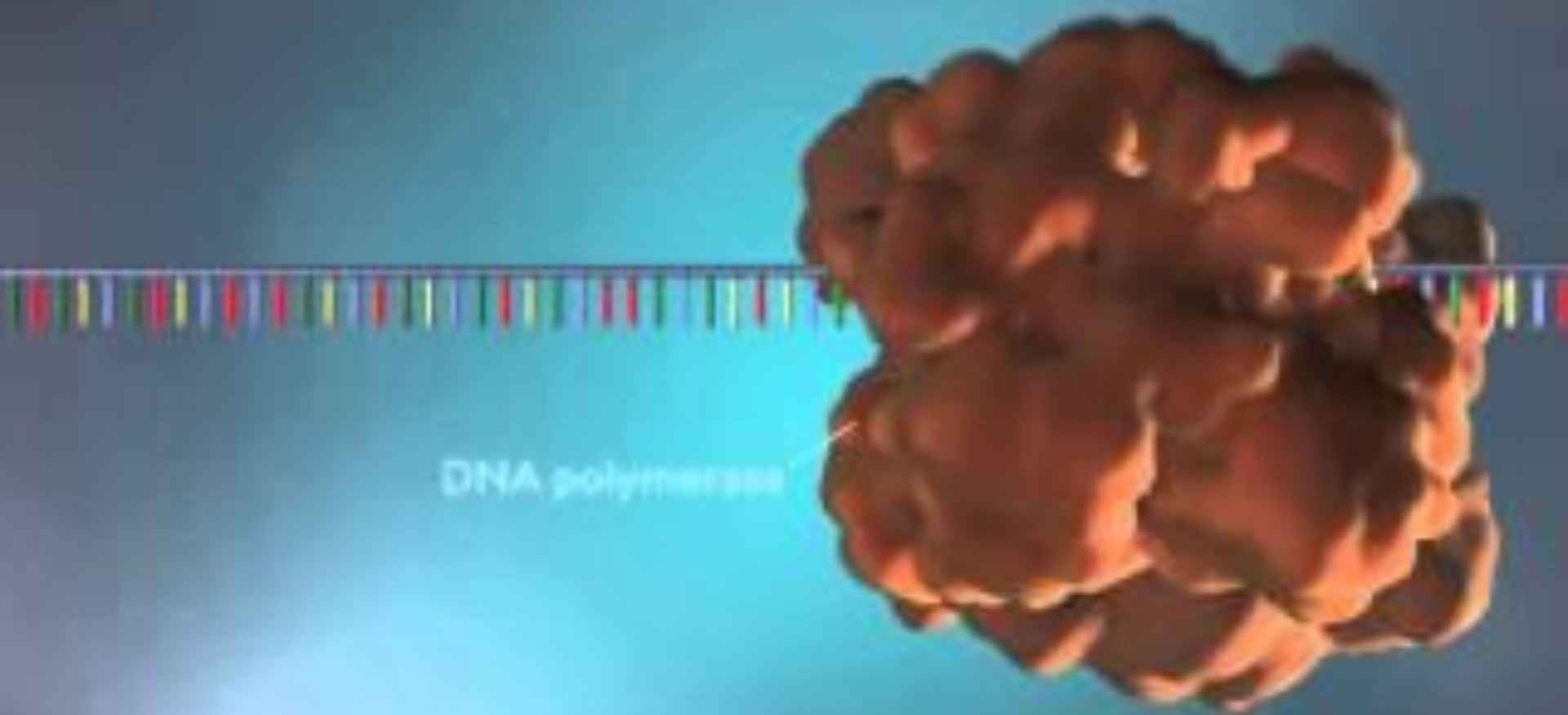
Design - knit together

Psalm 139:13, 15 - ...you **knitted me together** in my mother's womb.

...**intricately woven** in the depths of the earth.



EXO 26:31, EXO 36:8

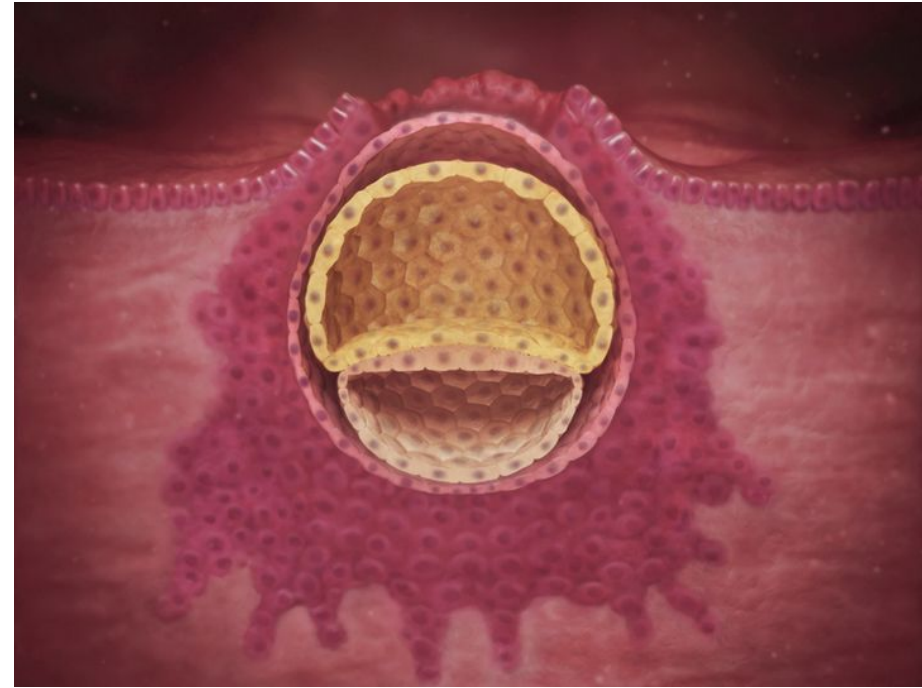


DNA polymerase

Design in the Womb:

7 Days:

- initial bundle of cells develops 2 layers (blastocyst), forming embryo and placenta. hCG hormone released, tricking immune system into tolerating embryo's presence.



Design in the Womb:

23-32 Days:

- nervous system develops,
followed by primitive heart,
blood vessels, and eyes



Design in the Womb:

12 weeks:

- tiny rib cage present, eyes and ears, can suck thumb.
- Fingerprints develop



Design in the Womb:

17 weeks:

- movement of joints. Soft cartilage that once made up the skeleton is hardening into bone



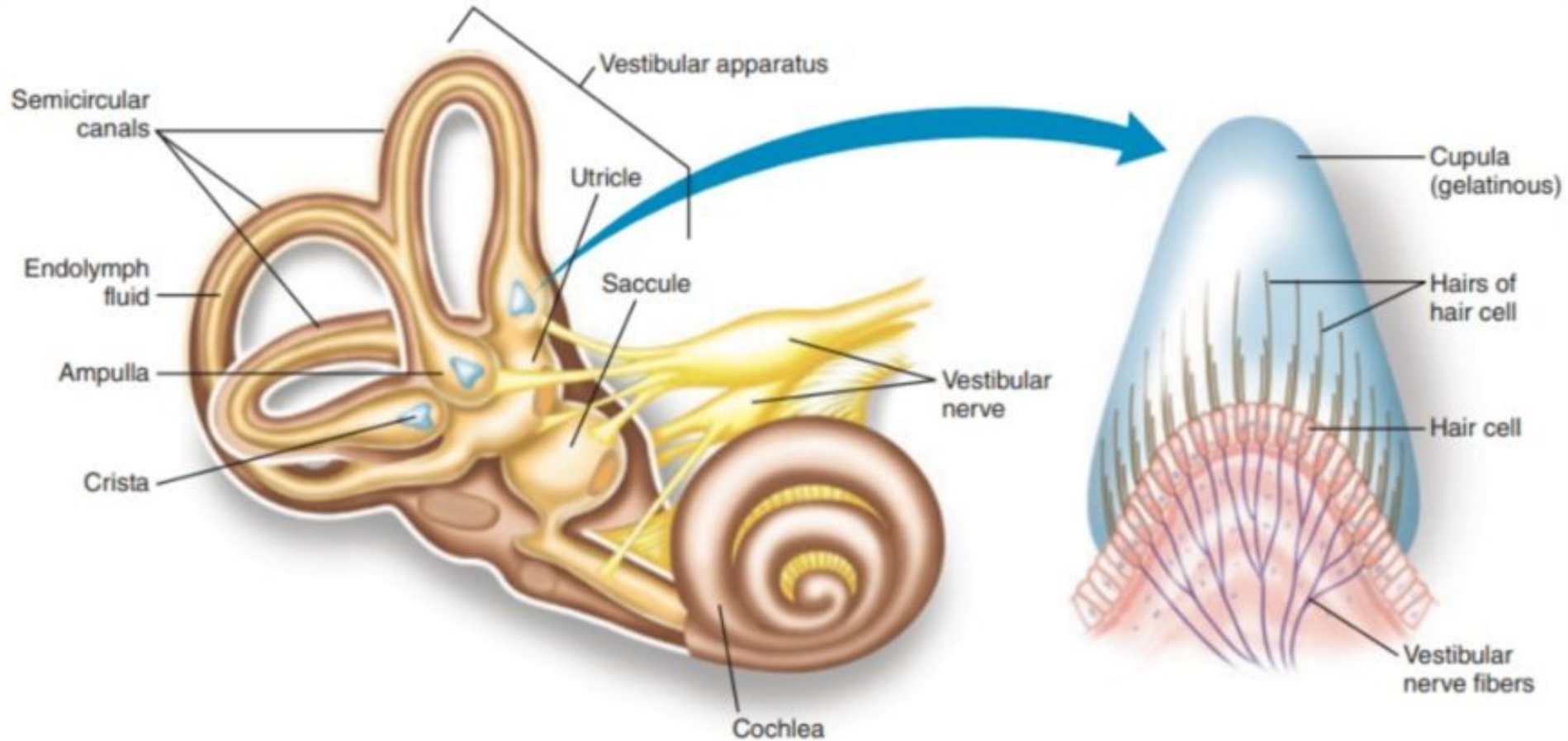
Design in the Womb:

23 weeks:

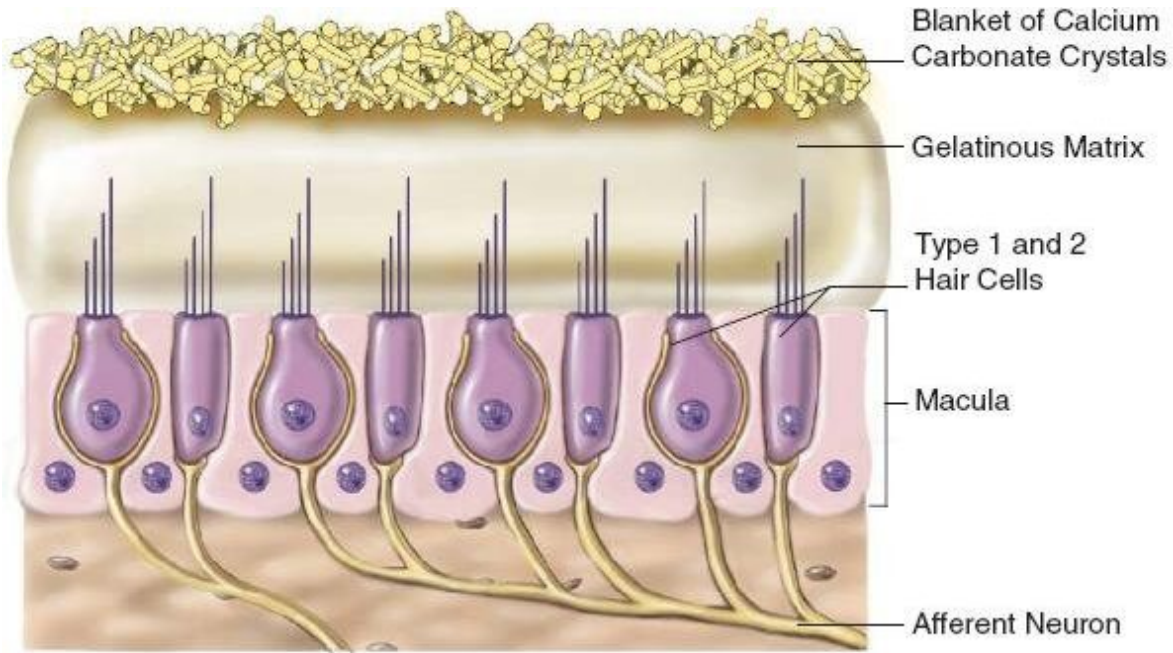
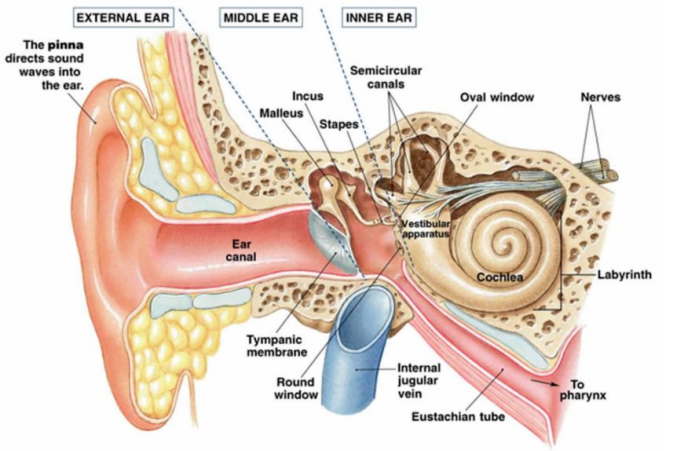
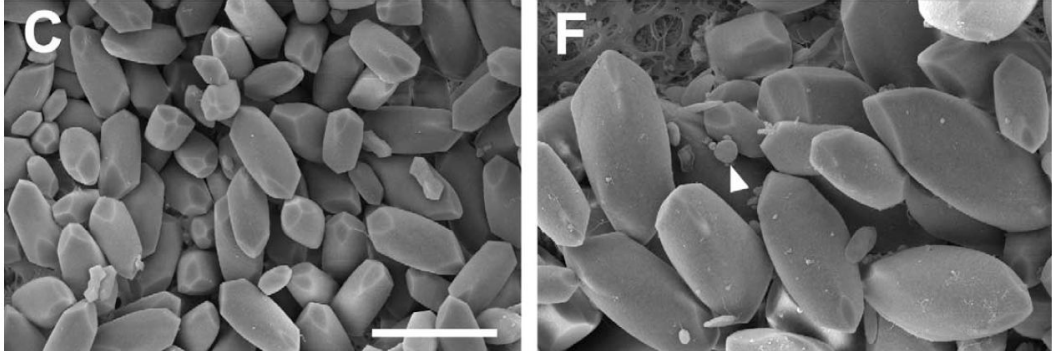
- fully developed ears can pick up sounds. All senses functional.



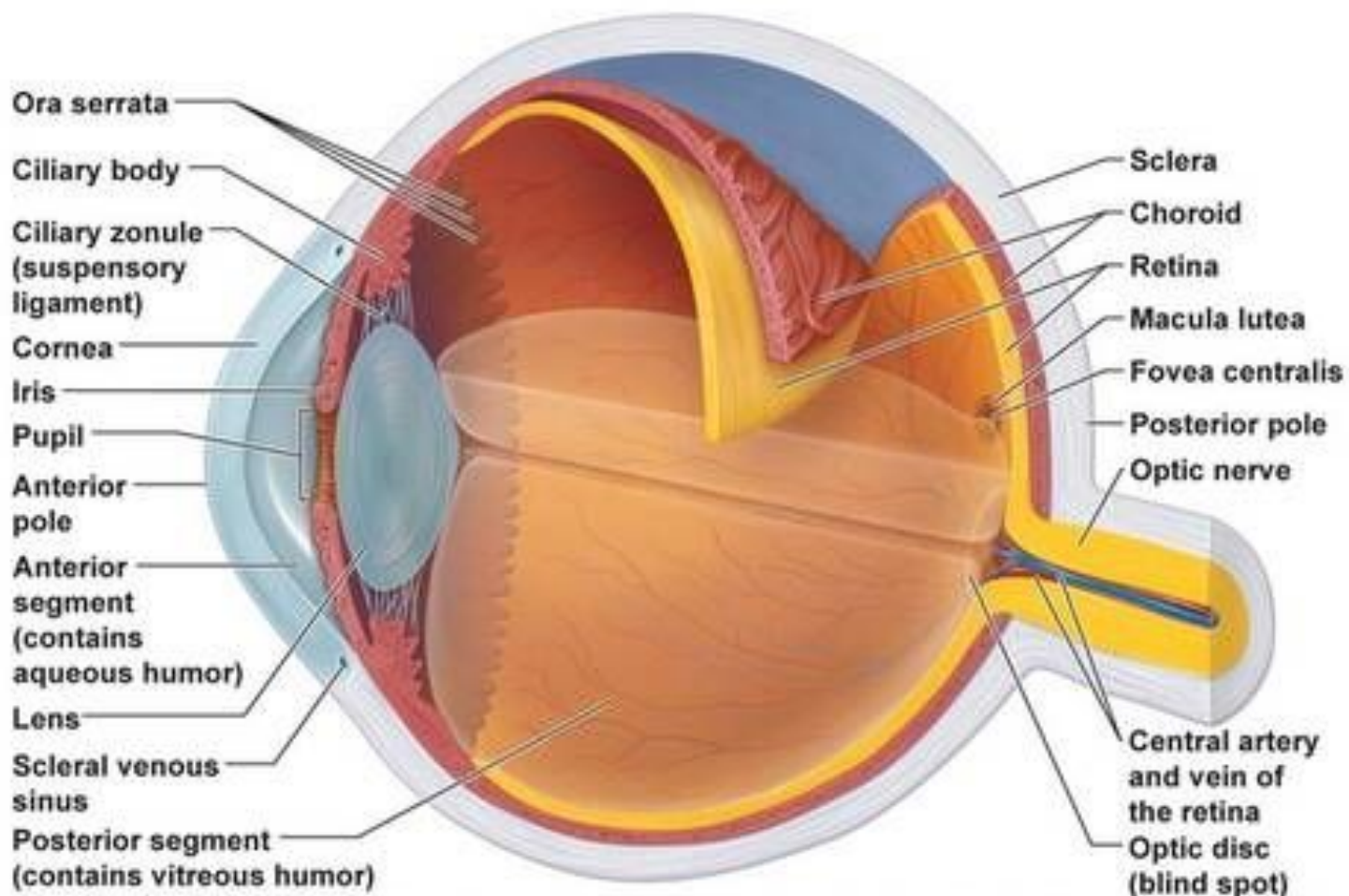
Vestibular System



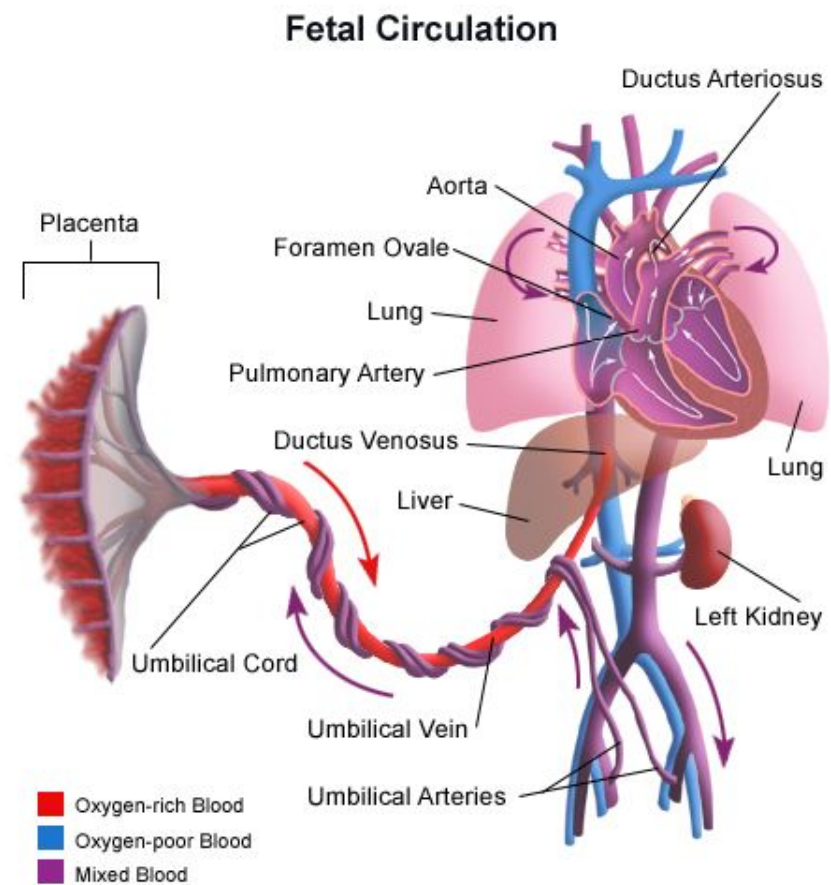
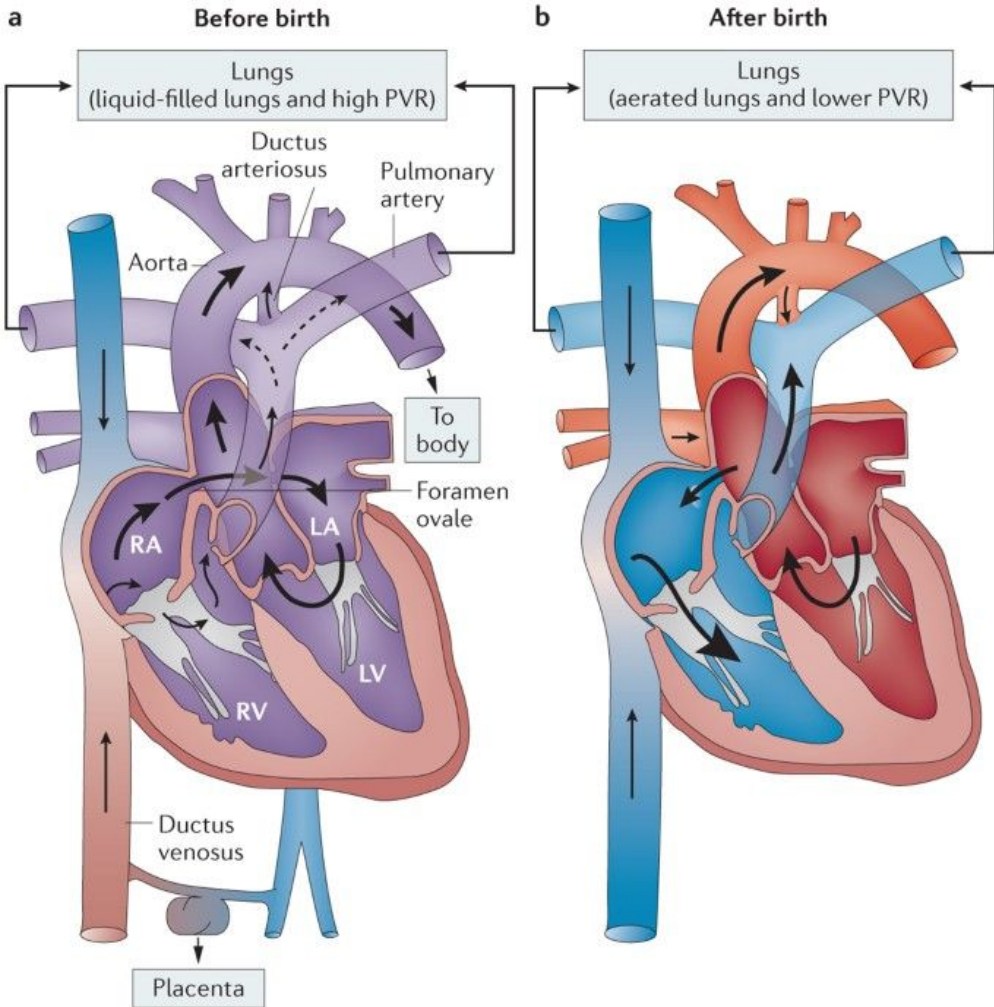
Otolith - Vestibular System



At Rest



(a) Diagrammatic view. The vitreous humor is illustrated only in the bottom part of the eyeball.



Darwin's Quandaries: Human Eye

“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...”

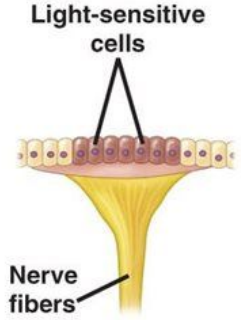
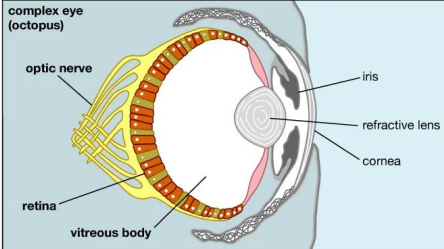
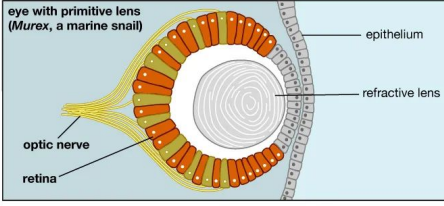
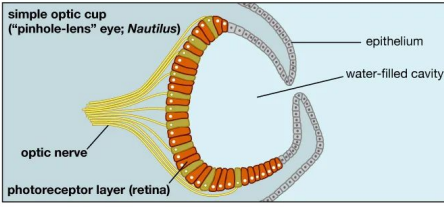
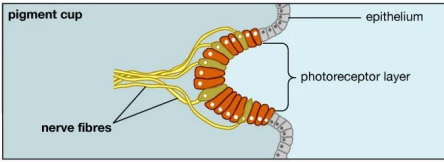
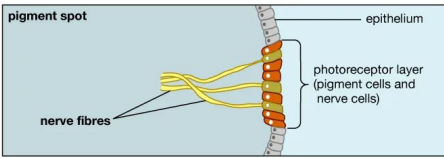
Charles Darwin, *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life*, 1859 (Bantam Classic edition, 1999), pp. 155-56.

Darwin's Quandaries: Human Eye

“...Yet reason tells me, that if numerous gradations from a perfect and complex eye to one very imperfect and simple, each grade being useful to its possessor, can be shown to exist; if further, the eye does vary ever so slightly, and the variations be inherited, which is certainly the case; and if any variation or modification in the organ be ever useful to an animal under changing conditions of life, then the difficulty of believing that a perfect and complex eye could be formed by natural selection, though insuperable by our imagination, can hardly be considered real.”

Charles Darwin, *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life*, 1859 (Bantam Classic edition, 1999), pp. 155-56.

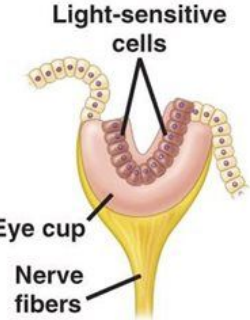
Stages of eye complexity in mollusks



Patch of light-sensitive cells



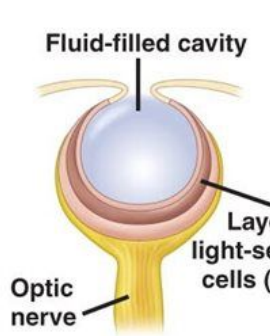
Limpet



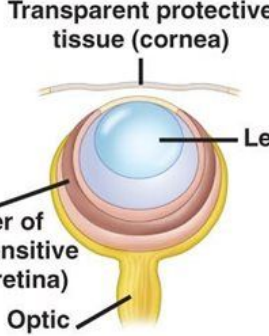
Eye cup



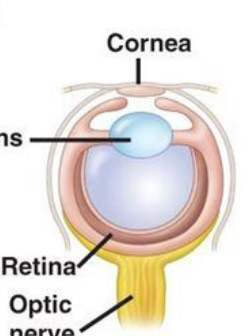
Abalone



Nautilus



Marine snail



Squid

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According to evolution, facial muscles and facial expressions came about because there was a survival advantage. But evolution cannot adequately explain what survival advantage comes from smiling or frowning.

Ecc 11:5 - As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, nor how the bones do grow in the womb of her that is with child: even so thou knowest not the works of God who **maketh** all.

Job 10:8 - Thine hands have **made** me and **fashioned** me together round about...

Psalms 119:73 - Thy hands have **made** me and **fashioned** me...

H6213 - to do or make, fashion, finish, furnish, prepare

H6087 - to carve, fabricate, fashion – in a bad sense to worry, pain, grieve (in the sense that God took great pains over creating mankind)

H6213 - to make, appoint, finish, labor, furnish, industrious

H3559 - to be erect, stand, set up, prepare, fix, ordain, frame, order, perfect



Rom 1:20 – For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are **without excuse**:

G379 – ἀναπολόγητος
anapologētos

a presumed derivative of G626;
indefensible: – without excuse,
inexcusable.

Total KJV occurrences: 2

G626 – ἀπολογέομαι
apologeomai

to give an account (legal plea) of oneself, that is, exculpate (self): – answer (for self), make defence, excuse (self), speak for self.

Given you found both items in the quad on the campus of Kentucky Wesleyan... which would you pick up in hopes of finding the owner? Why?



William Paley's Teleological Argument – Objections

Objection: We never knew the artist capable of making a watch (*re* a universe), or we do not know how the work was accomplished.

Objection: The parts of the watch (*re* universe) do not work perfectly; the designer is not evident.

Objection: Some parts of the watch (*re* the universe) seem to have no function and so would seemingly not be designed.

Two Worldviews



Bro. James Farrar
CCBS 2010

Natural Selection	Comparison	Divine Selection
A random, undirected process operating only according to the laws of physics and chemistry	Type of process	A purposeful, deliberate process with systematic intervention by a Higher Power in the observed laws of nature
A process requiring vast amounts of time to accomplish outcomes we observe today	Time dependency	Not time dependent
Amoral – any restraints on human behaviour are self-imposed by society and are therefore relative	Relevance of morality	Moral, that is, defining acceptable human behaviour by reference to an externally imposed code of laws which are therefore absolute

Darwin's Quandaries: Fossil Record

Where is the fossil record of simple life forms in transition to more complex forms? Again, Darwin comments: “Why then is not every geological formation and every stratum full of such intermediate links? Geology assuredly does not reveal any such finely graduated organic chain; and this, perhaps, is the most obvious and gravest objection which can be urged against my theory.”

On the Origin of the Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life (London: John Murray, 1859), p. 280.

A Times Literary Supplement Book of the Year



CTGAGTGCCCTCACTGTTAA

SIGNATURE IN THE CELL

**DNA AND THE EVIDENCE
FOR INTELLIGENT DESIGN**

STEPHEN C. MEYER

Axe estimated the ratio of (a) the number of 150-amino-acid sequences that produce any functional protein whatsoever to (b) the whole set of possible amino-acid sequences of that length. Axe's estimated ratio of 1 to 10^{74} implied that the probability of producing any properly sequenced 150-amino-acid protein at random is also about 1 to 10^{74} .

Bucking the Odds

Nicholas Caputo is the Essex County Clerk who is known as “the man with the golden arm.”

Mr. Caputo does his famous act about once a year in the Essex County Courthouse. He draws ballot position for candidates. Out of 41 times, he’s drawn the Democrats first 40 times. Mr. Caputo is a Democrat.

Mary Mochary, the GOP Senate candidate who lost to Bill Bradley in last year’s election, brought suit against Mr. Caputo.

Well, the court could find nothing wrong with Mr. Caputo’s act, although he did his drawing behind a glass window with his

back to observers. The court commented about “coincidences” and 50-billion-to-1 odds.

The court said that public officials are obliged to strengthen public confidence. It suggested that Mr. Caputo conduct his drawings in full view of observers without any barrier between them and him.

Well, in our role of expressing editorial anger at public indignities, we think the justice system was lax in its investigation of this case. We’d like to know just how that one slate of Republicans — that 1 in 41 — managed to beat Mr. Caputo’s golden arm.



“few persons of reason will accept the explanation of blind chance.”

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

A SCIENTIST PRESENTS
EVIDENCE FOR BELIEF

THE LANGUAGE OF GOD

"Collins's argument
that science and faith are
compatible deserves a wide
hearing. It lets non-churchgoers
consider spiritual questions
without feeling awkward."

— *The New York Times*
Book Review

FRANCIS S. COLLINS

FEATURING A DISCUSSION GROUP GUIDE

“In summary, while the question of the origin of life is a fascinating one, and the inability of modern science to develop a statistically probable mechanism is intriguing, this is not the place for a thoughtful person to wager his faith.”

“If God had not spoken (or shown His visible hand), there would have been no ground for faith. A man cannot believe if there is nothing presented to his mind for belief.”

Bro. Robert Roberts, Visible Hand of God

“In our day, we have it in a less direct, but not less convincing, though in a less easily apprehended form:”

Bro. Robert Roberts, Visible Hand of God

Deut. 30:15 - See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil;

Josh. 24:15 - ...choose you this day whom ye will serve...as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.