

## Evolution vs. Creation

### Lesson Eight

*411: Information, Please!*

April 23, 2006

- Language analogy: which comes first, the language or the message?
  - the message (or idea) must come first
  - the language is just a vehicle for communicating that idea
  - the same idea can be communicated by many different languages
  - the idea transcends the language – the language does not create the message, but only reveals what was already there
- What is the language used to communicate the information of life?
- DNA was discovered in 1953 by Francis Crick – almost 100 years after Origin of Species
- “DNA should have been the death blow to evolution” – why?
  - information requires intelligence – it doesn’t arise by random processes
  - the information contained in DNA is the stuff that’s required to use a lifeless molecule to make a living organism
- DNA as mass storage
  - DNA is contained in every cell of a complex organism, and each strand contains the complete blueprint for that organism
  - one strand of DNA contains enough information to fill several sets of encyclopedias
  - DNA is such an efficient storage medium that all the creatures that have ever lived (one billion species) could be contained in a teaspoon – with enough room left over for all the books ever written
  - DNA is such a secure form of information storage that it preserves all the information passed down to you by your ancestors
- Information storage requires “complexity”
  - an ordered crystal structure has low information content
    - it would be like having a book that reads: ABC ABC ABC ABC
    - the repeating pattern is called “simple order,” but it transmits very little information
  - information requires three components:
    - variability
    - irregularity
    - unpredictability
  - SETI comparison: if scientists had even a single page of information fall down from outer space, they would gleefully declare that “we are not alone!”
- What are the theories which try to explain the origin of information-rich molecules?
  - Random chance
    - rejected by almost every origin-of-life scientist, but still widely believed among laymen

- would be like trying to write a book by throwing a box of AlphaBits on the floor
- Natural selection
  - debatable when it comes to biological evolution, but a dead issue in regard to chemical evolution
  - Theodosius Dobzhansky: “Prebiological natural selection is a contradiction in terms” – why?
  - in order for natural selection to occur, there must be self-replication with variation
- Chemical affinities and self-ordering
  - bonding affinities can form ordered structure like crystals, so why not the building blocks of life?
  - if the same were true for DNA, it would only form a repetitive pattern
  - complex information requires irregularity, not repeating patterns
  - the chemical affinities in DNA don’t lend themselves to any particular letter sequence – the message would be random without some external agent to create the order needed for life
- Darwin’s theory of evolution by natural selection is useless for explaining the origin of information
  - keep in mind that each new species contains new information – in order to evolve, it must take on characteristics that it previously did not have
  - the amount of information that must be acquired is voluminous and cannot be explained by small changes
  - evolution is drastically different from selective breeding, which selects from among the existing genetic information already contained in the creature’s genetic code
- God as the source of all knowledge, wisdom, and life
  - Neh 9:6 – God made heaven and earth and gives life to everything
  - Acts 17:22-31 – Paul preaches at the Areopagus
  - Rom 11:33-36 – Paul’s doxology