

FIGURE IT OUT

APOLOGETICS

BOOK 3 - ORIGIN OF LIFE

Dr. David Newton

HARBOR VIEW PUBLISHING HOUSE
SANTA BARBARA ⌘ CALIFORNIA

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Harbor View Publishing House does independent research and literary commentary production. The name comes from the central overview one has looking over the safe haven within the port, even as the waves and swells of the open ocean lie just beyond the breakwater jetty. Harbor View is committed to examining Biblical topics using a detailed framework of analysis with direct contemporary application.

*"Be perpetually ready to make
an 'apologia' [a legal defense or
reasoned argument] to everyone
who asks you to give a 'logos' [word]
for the hope that is within you, yet do
this with gentleness and reverence"*

1st Peter 3:15

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

During the summer of 2023 I taught a 12-week series on Apologetics at Calvary Chapel Santa Barbara. Turning my notes into a book resulted in over 450 pages. Would potential readers readily take on a book of that size? Thanks to everyone who gave me feedback that it would be much preferred to have a series of 12 paperback books – one covering each of the 12 Apologetics topics. People could easily find the topic they have interest in, and the entire series could then fit on a desk or bookshelf as a ready-reference about foundational Apologetics issues.

Thanks to Bret Shellebarger who first approached me about teaching a series on Christian Worldview, which then turned into the Apologetics study. Thanks to senior pastor Tommy Schneider for his encouragement to go deep on each topic, and then inviting me to do the first teaching at the Calvary Wednesday midweek service. Thanks also to the 120+ who signed up online for the Summer series and faithfully attended Monday evenings - and for all those challenging Q+A sessions after each topic.

Big thanks to Jef Richardson for video-recording and editing the Monday night teachings, and to Kevin Hurtado and Sam Shellebarger who filled in and covered for Jef the two times he was unable to make it. Readers can view the 12 video-teachings that correspond to the 12 Apologetics books at my YouTube channel **Figure It Out @NewWaveDave1977**.

Special thanks once again to Jenny Yarbrough for another great job designing book covers for this Figure It Out series – just like your graphics work on my other FIO books and at the **NewtonFIO.com** website. Thanks also to all those who did proof-reading and editing. And many thanks always to my family for love, prayers, and support.

FOREWORD

We cannot teach, much less defend, what we do not know. Apologetics is for every Christian because it addresses the questions a typical skeptic uses to challenge the claims of Christianity. While speaking around the nation at secondary schools, churches, and college/university campuses one concern is obvious: Biblical literacy is rare, as increasing numbers of people are choosing to follow the ways of the world. Many who grew up in Christian environments do not know what they believe or why they believe it. At a time when God's Word and name are challenged and ridiculed [even in places founded upon Judeo-Christian values], many well-meaning believers struggle with how to articulate and defend their beliefs. For this reason, Dave Newton's book series on Apologetics is both timely and important. These excellent resources are packed with wisdom from Newton's decades of teaching the Bible and defending the faith. Each short book is well-researched, easy to follow, and provides logical, reasoned answers to one of the twelve most common objections to Christianity. Dr. Newton's use of compelling statistics, analogies, and stories prove why Christianity is true and has withstood the test of time. Whether you are new to the faith, a mature Christian, or still trying to answer life's biggest questions, this Apologetics series will further equip you to defend your faith with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength. I have no doubt you will return to this resource time and again to find great information to explain a reason for the hope within you.

Science is a valuable tool for how things work, yet science alone cannot answer the important questions: *"Why are we here?" "What is the origin and meaning of life?"* The Naturalist Worldview claims everything has a random and undirected cause. But when pressed to explain the origin

of life, “expert” scientists often posit theories that lack evidence, make little sense, and require a great deal of faith. They “believe” we live in a godless universe. Products of a random, unguided, evolutionary process, and life has no meaning or purpose. Despite the evidence pointing to a Creator-Designer for life on Earth, the Naturalist Worldview continues to permeate culture and undermine the Biblical Christian Worldview. Asking skeptic: ‘*Show me evidence to support naturalist dogma*’ is a very effective way to defend your faith. Dr. Newton asks more than a dozen of these difficult questions and provides images, statistics, charts, and other resources to reinforce a great case for the deliberate, finely-tuned, *meaningful process* of creation that could only have been orchestrated by a Designer-Creator functioning *outside* of physical space-time. Rather than accept theory as fact, or adopt what’s popular as truth, Dr. Newton thoughtfully debunks six so-called “Axioms” of science in textbooks and classrooms - from Darwin’s evolutionary tree, to lightning that struck a primordial pool resulting in cells and DNA randomly bursting forth as the origin of life of Earth. Weighing the evidence and addressing theories directly, this book will strengthen your belief in an intelligent God who is the origin *and sustainer* of life - including you [Colossians 1:16-17].



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College, Career, and Eternity** [2021]. His latest book [2024] is **Prayerful:
How the Scriptures, History, and Experience Can Shape Our Prayers.

INTRODUCTION *to* APOLOGETICS

What exactly is Apologetics? A great starting place is in Acts chapter 17 where Saul is on the Areopagus [Mars Hill] just below the Acropolis in Athens, Greece. There he had a dialogue with skeptical Epicurean and Stoic philosophers. I have been up on that rock outcropping many times over the years and always love to read Acts 17:16-34 out loud, which is also engraved right there on a large stone placard. It is Paul's teaching about the *Unknown God* and his defense of the Christian faith within the pantheism of that First Century Athenian culture. Apologetics comes from the Greek word **apologia** [ἀπολογία] meaning "a verbal defense, a reasoned argument". Peter used this [1st Peter 3:15] when encouraging his readers to ALWAYS be ready to give an **apologia** about the Logos, regarding the hope within you, to anyone who would ask.

The 12 booklets in this FIO Apologetics series each examine one topic in the context of the questions a typical skeptic asks about the Christian faith, and how to reply with a well-prepared, thoughtful, rational, logical, reasonable response – information to equip you for such conversations. The primary focus is to provide my readers with content that is easy to remember and easy to explain. However, there are three caveats. First, everything in these booklets faces significant challenges, concerns, and oftentimes outright ridicule because no matter what position you have there will always be those who oppose it. Challenges will come from outside Christian circles and Christian thinkers, but [sad to say] they also come from within Christian circles and Christian thinkers. I can guarantee that all I present in these 12 volumes will have philosophers, theologians, pastors, and scholars who will thoroughly disagree with my position.

Second, rarely if ever does a great Apologetics response convince the skeptic to change a position. But reasonable-logical-rational-thoughtful responses can help remove the stereotypical way that people often think about conservative Christians - that we are unreasonable, illogical, irrational, close-minded, not very thoughtful. And third, the Bible will not be my primary source of defense because skeptics will say, "I don't believe the Bible, what else have you got?" I will utilize Scripture as I go deeper into each topic and cover solid evidences that align with facts.

My position for this entire series states there are just two competing worldviews. This book introduces the **Naturalist Worldview** opposite the **Biblical Christian Worldview**. The former is inherently atheistic [there is no God and everything happens by random accidental iterations over long periods of time]. The latter is inherently theistic [there is a God who designed-created everything]. But in today's Apologetics debates, there is also a **Theistic Evolutionary Worldview** that attempts to blend the prevailing scientific paradigm that everything in the universe results from billions of years of random evolution and natural selection – and this is the process God used after He provided the starting-point elements and chemical compounds. His process of evolution facilitated everything to iterate, mutate, transition, and survive or die-out by random probability occurring over the course of billions of years. However, the same math that renders the Naturalist Worldview untenable, also undermines all the premises and processes of Theistic Evolution, so I have chosen to not treat this as a distinct, third Worldview worth examining more closely.

Providing sound, logical, and thoughtful *apologia* of the Christian faith reminds me of my work as an expert witness in legal cases, where I have been hired by various law firms to provide testimony for either a plaintiff's or defendant's legal case about negative economic impacts, business

valuations, financial loss from breach of contract, failure to perform, or outright fraud. My summary report lays out the logic of all the supporting evidence and rationales related to the issue that bitterly divides the two parties – to bring an unbiased and objective *verbal defense, a reasoned argument* - based on the evidence reviewed. That is my *apologia*. There are usually several other “expert witnesses” hired by the opposing legal counsel who submit perspectives that directly contradict my professional opinion. My “expert witness” approach is the same for this series on Christian Apologetics – to provide perspectives and evidence for anyone responding to the skeptics who challenge the credibility of Christianity.

The 12-volume series covers the most common questions asked about Christian faith – and how best to respond with confidence using rational, logical thought-processes with reliable common sense evidence. Each book tracks the on-going dialogue between a skeptic of Christianity and a well-informed, well-equipped believer who is able to confidently reply with a defense backed by sound logic and verifiable evidence. Each booklet concludes with a bibliography of Additional Resources where readers can find more information on each Apologetics topic. As you can imagine, it is virtually impossible to cover every topic or question that can be raised. But this series examines the twelve most popular issues you are likely to encounter, and provides solid answers for the skeptics. May this series become a trusted resource you go back to time and again regarding the foundational rationales for the hope within you, with the page-edges frayed and folded over from regular use as you dig in and learn to master the underlying Apologetics of your own Christian faith.

- Dr. Dave Newton
December 2023
Santa Barbara, California

BOOK 3

ORIGIN OF LIFE ON EARTH

From so simple a beginning, endless forms most beautiful and most wonderful have been, and are being, evolved.

- Charles Darwin

The chance that higher life forms emerged through evolutionary processes is comparable with the chance a tornado sweeping through a junkyard might assemble a Boeing 747.

- Sir Fred Hoyle [Astronomer]

God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him, male and female He created them.

- Genesis 1:27

Both Darwin and Hoyle are atheists with a Naturalist Worldview of the universe, our solar system, Earth, and life. Yet see how Charles stated the endless forms of life he observed on Earth were '*most beautiful and most wonderful*'. And see how Fred clearly recognized that the probability of a random accident resulting in fully-integrated precision is absurd. The next logical question in this Apologetics series deals with the origins of biological life. It is one thing to look up at the stars, see the galaxies,

planets, the moon, and comets. This book looks at the specific issue of *the origin of life on Earth*. We will see additional evidence of a Creator-Designer. But the Naturalist skeptic will still come back time and time again with the fallback position that, "Given enough time, anything can happen." Book-2 did the Macro view of the universe. Here in Book-3, we do the Micro view – the incredibly unique alignments for life on Earth.

Life On Earth

The sheer volume and types of life on Earth seem to provide physical, observable, tangible evidence of precision and design. This finely-tuned, unique, and very amazing environment supports a wide variety of life. I am always in awe at photos of Earth from space [below]. Compare that to a photo of Mars, Venus, or Saturn. While they are also nice to look at, you will always know that there is nothing down there on those planets. No air. No water. No life. Nothing. But when you look at Earth, you see the bright blues of the atmosphere and oceans, and you know that there



are all kinds of life happening there. First off, Earth has lots and lots of water. Massive oceans, millions of lakes, rivers, pools, and streams. Hydrogen and oxygen in the perfectly combined state that supports all kinds of biological life. Virtually every astrophysicist, biologist, chemist,

and astronomer agrees the likelihood of finding liquid water anywhere else in the universe is extremely unlikely. There are plenty of speculative research papers in science conferences, journals, and documentaries that say we are close to finding water on Mars, or one of Jupiter's moons, or in a comet. But the polar caps on Mars are frozen carbon dioxide, not water. If the caps ever warmed up enough to melt, they would not flow as liquid water, but simply evaporate into space. Plus CO₂ is highly toxic. Nothing can live in that. But consider these water statistics here on planet Earth. Salty seawater comprises 97% of all water sources, which means



only three percent is freshwater in rivers, swamps, lakes, ground water, ice-caps, and glaciers. All around the planet there is a lot of water, all part of a huge and apparently finely-tuned system of constant recycling. Water evaporates into the clouds, then condenses and falls to the surface as rain [remember 5th or 6th grade learning about the water cycles and water tables?]. With all that water in the air and in ground moisture, there are plants all over Earth, and they are also part of the water cycle. But go to any other planet and it is stark, dry, desolate - with sulfuric acid,

carbon dioxide, methane, and/or ammonia in the atmosphere, and there is NO life. In contrast, Earth has an amazing abundance of water along with millions of species of leafy plants, trees, foliage, grasses, and vines.



Botanists, biologists, and other scientists are continually chronicling all the varieties of plant life on Earth. Numerous reports and websites show there are 73,000 different species of trees [not 730 or 7,300] but 73,000!



A 2x2 grid of black and white photographs showing different types of fruit. The top-left image is a close-up of several raspberries on their stems. The top-right image shows a large bunch of bananas hanging from a tree. The bottom-left image shows three oranges on a branch with leaves. The bottom-right image shows several apples hanging from a tree, with some leaves visible.

A 6x6 grid of 36 black and white photographs depicting various agricultural scenes. The images include close-ups of crops like tomatoes, corn, and wheat, as well as people working in fields, harvesting, and handling produce. The grid is composed of 36 individual square images arranged in 6 rows and 6 columns.

Earth. That would make quite a salad bar, right? So there are 2,000 fruits but 190 times [380,000] the vegetables. Truly amazing! And what about all those flowers at the farmers' market? There are over 360,000 separate



species of flowers. I have traveled to Singapore and seen their Botanic Gardens just outside of downtown. One time they had an orchid exhibit going on. As I walked through all that lush rainforest beauty, right on the equator, where the temperature is always around 78° with 80% humidity [it rains every afternoon], the climate never varies and is perfect to grow all kinds of flowers. The staff said that when I walked through the gardens I was going to see 97 different varieties of orchids. I remember thinking "Wow, 97 unique orchids, I didn't know there were that many". But then they said that these 97 varieties represent only 10% of all types of orchids worldwide. The docent park-ranger also explained that scientists have

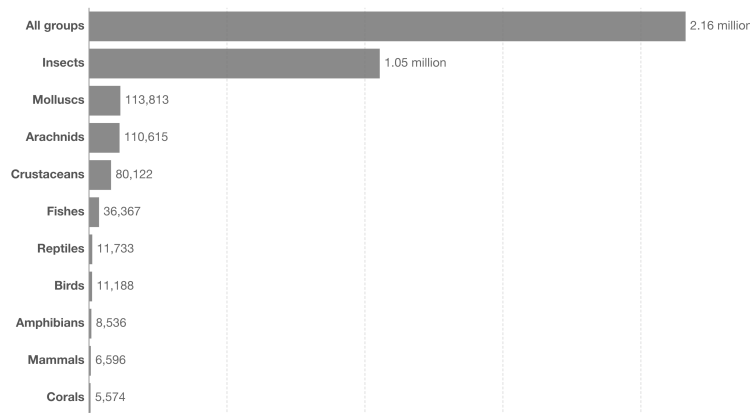
not even chronicled all of the different flowers that are out there in the world, and that several new species or types of flowers are “discovered” each year in various locations all around the world.

Let’s move on from trees, plants, fruits, vegetables, and flowers to living creatures. The chart below shows there are 2,160,000 different species on Earth. Think about that! 2,160,000 species of living creatures, half of

Number of described species

The number of identified and named species in each taxonomic group¹, as of 2022. Since many species have not yet been described, this is a large underestimate of the total number of species in the world.

Our World
in Data



Source: IUCN Red List (2022)

OurWorldInData.org/biodiversity • CC BY

¹ **Taxonomic group:** A taxonomic group is a category in the scientific classification of living things, based on shared characteristics and genetic similarity. It is arranged in a hierarchical system, with each group being more specific than the one above it, and all groups forming the entire classification of living things.

those are insects, and *half of those* are in my in my backyard. There are over one million different kinds of insects. There are 36,000 different fish and 11,000 reptiles. Plus 11,000 birds. Over 6,500 different mammals. Such incredible variety of living creature is awe-inspiring to consider. There are two competing perspectives on all this diversity of life. The *Supernaturalist* with a Biblical Christian Worldview sees such variety of species as definitive proof there must be an incredibly powerful and intelligent Designer-Creator - “God does exist”. However, you must be prepared for the Naturalist Worldview that sees this same diversity of life as *their proof* of how natural law and evolution have branched out over

billions of years into many categories via natural selection. Even though you might think it is a great talking point, know that the skeptic is going to agree with you, that it is so amazing how life naturally branched out into all those species. But remember, they have no credible explanation for HOW this occurred, and no way to account for all of the programming information involved. Book-1 included the quote from Jeff Goldblum's character Dr. Malcolm in the Jurassic Park movies that, "Life finds a way". That might be poetic, but lacks any rational logic to account for this.

The next question the Naturalist asks is, "Okay, you say God exists, and designed and created everything, but where did God come from - who made God?" This is typically part of the debates you can watch online from the last 20-30 years, including the many times Dinesh D'Souza went toe-to-toe with British naturalist-journalist-atheist Christopher Hitchens. The VERY best response to that timeless question about God and your Christian faith is to point out that such an inquiry is actually not a good question, because the God that I am talking about is not impacted at all by time, which is a physical property. He does not exist within space-time and is not comprised of molecular matter. In fact, if he was, he cannot truly be God. To be the powerful, intelligent Designer-Creator of the universe, God has to be *outside* the physical-natural realm. He cannot be another part of the creation. He cannot be constrained by space-time limitations of gravity. That particular question inherently assumes a very *limited* God. From an Apologetics standpoint, you want to have this very good talking point with regard to God and life in the natural world.

My preferred starting point is to call-out the skeptic about what I refer to as the "Six Presumed Axioms". The term axiom is used for something that is proven as fact – consistent all the time and without debate. Gravity is an axiom. The Earth as an orb rotating around the sun is another. The

skeptic typically invokes many statements that appear to be scientific, and proven beyond any reasonable doubt. However, many of these have been quoted without challenge for so many decades they have become similar to American colloquialisms – presumed by everyone to be facts. When bringing these to the debate, the skeptic often begins a sentence with, “We all know this . . .” or “Everyone knows that . . .” But I would like to dissect and unpack six of these supposed facts of science [below].

Six Assumed Axioms

1. Darwin’s *‘free-hand drawn’* Evolutionary Tree
2. Steno-Lyell-Hutton *‘free-hand drawn’* Geologic Ages
3. Anthropology’s evolution-progress to ‘modern man’
4. Radiometric Dating
5. Distant Light
6. Warm Primordial Pool Struck by Lightning

There are many others, but these are the ones you are most likely to hear, and each is always stated with an attitude that it is a done-deal.

Darwin's Evolutionary Tree

The first is a free-hand sketch by Charles Darwin. His own admission is that he had no scientific basis for it, but just drew it and started plugging things in randomly off the top of his head. And over the last 150 years it has become part of every science textbook or introductory course in biology and anthropology. It is in Natural History museums all around the world. Our local Santa Barbara Zoo has a version of the tree set up on a large placard across from the gorillas exhibit with a carve-out for young children to put their faces through, and offensive wording that *this is your family tree, these are your ancestors* [gibbons, monkeys, gorillas, and apes]. Parents and kids playfully smile as they take photos of where

they as humans are on the Darwin evolutionary 'family' tree. I have been to the Natural History Museum on Central Park in New York City, and as you walk into the main lobby, there is Darwin's tree. Here is a scanned

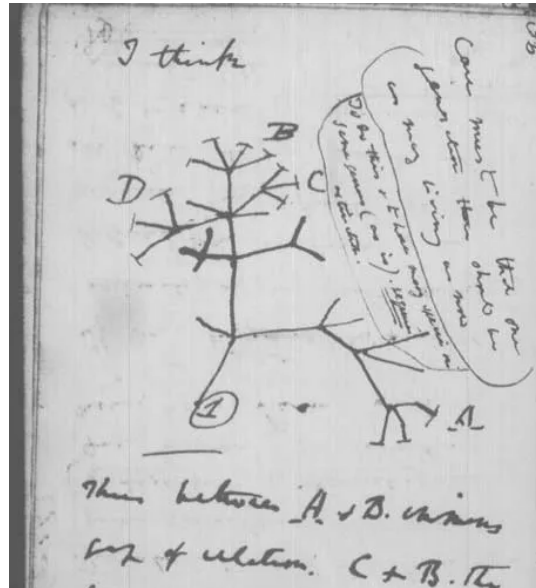
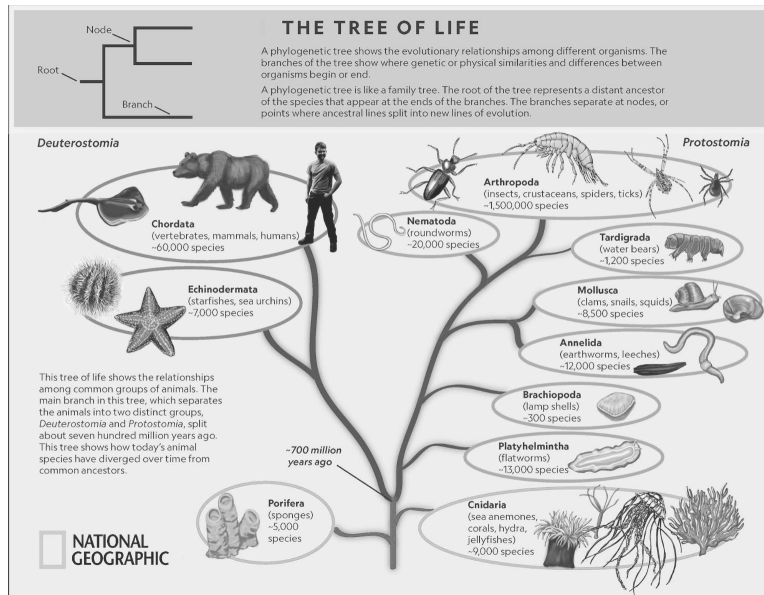


image from the British Museum in London of Darwin's original sketch. Be sure to noticed he writes at the top **"I think"**. How appropriate to have his own speculation right there on his drawing. On the next page, see how the tree has merged into the folklore at the website for the National Geographic Society. Yet the contents, labels, sequence of ape-to-man progression cannot be validated by any scientific observation or proof. Remember, when engaging the skeptic, there is absolutely no basis for this model. It literally was randomly drawn as an **"I think"** idea that maybe human beings and apes-monkeys share some sort of contrived common overlap in origins. One fun way to object is to state very clearly that any DNA test through Ancestry.com, MyHeritage.com, or 23AndMe.com will never generate simians in a person's family tree. But this false-axiom still is a foundational component of textbooks and museum exhibits. Do not

get caught up in the rhetoric that is somehow formal science. Humans are incredibly unique from all of the animal kingdom on multiple levels of attempted comparisons. Let me say once again, this tree is baseless.



Geologic Table

The second purported Axiom comes from the random assumptions of Nick Steno in the 1600s, James Hutton and William Smith in the 1700s, and Charles Lyell in the 1800s – the revered “founding fathers of modern geology”. Various freehand sketches of a new Geologic Table circulated with randomly assigned Eons, Eras, Epochs, and Periods. Then in 1913, Arthur Holmes of Imperial College, and a Fellow of the Geologic Society of London, published *The Age Of The Earth*, which included the first fully detailed geologic table and timeline [see next page]. Here you find what have become common terms in both science and popular culture, such as Jurassic and Triassic periods, the Mesozoic era, a Pleistocene epoch, and Precambrian eon. Begin by looking at the ridiculously large dates-

years assigned in this template. Jurassic Park hails back 208 million years ago. Why is it not 212 million, or 197 million? The Precambrian eon dates

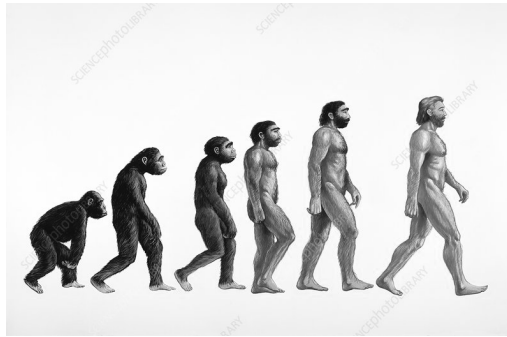
GEOLOGIC TIME SCALE					
EON ERA		PERIOD	EPOCH	Present	
Phanerozoic	Cenozoic	Quaternary	Holocene	0	
			Pleistocene	0.01	
		Tertiary	Neogene	Pliocene	1.6
				Miocene	5.3
				Oligocene	23.7
			Paleogene	Eocene	36.6
				Paleocene	57.8
				Mesozoic	Cretaceous
		Jurassic	144		
		Triassic	208		
		Paleozoic	Permian		245
	Cambrian to Carboniferous		Pennsylvanian		286
			Mississippian		320
			Devonian	360	
			Silurian	408	
			Ordovician	438	
		Cambrian	505		
Precambrian	Proterozoic			570	
	Archean			2500	
	Hadean			3800	
				4550	

to 570 million years ago. Why not 590 million, or 565 million? How about 562.35 million years? Where did these massive numbers come from? The founding fathers [and today's scientists] need LOTS of time for natural, random processes to try and explain life on Earth. That paved the way for the ubiquitous 4.5 billion years as the uncontested age of our planet. However, I have spoken with several geologists over the last 30 years who have stated [entirely off the record] that they have absolutely no idea how the dates came about on the geologic table, and there is today no way to empirically test such huge numbers. In fact, there is circular reasoning in place that says, "We know the Table is correct because of

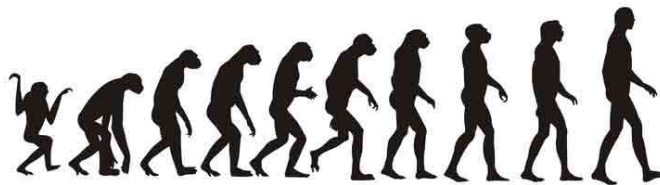
the rocks we've found; and we know the age of the rocks because of where they land on the Table". Stand your ground firmly when discussing this topic within the context of an Apologetics disagreement, and do not allow the skeptic to self-verify this as uncontested fact. It is not an axiom.

Anthropology's Ape-to-Man

We definitely tend to chuckle at this, but open up any Anthropology textbook regarding the origins of man, and this gross artistic liberty will be there. And yet, there is no fossil record for the supposed intermediate



stages that pre-date modern man. There are all kinds of bones and skulls rolled out to justify this axiom, but there is very little [if any] science about early hominids, Neanderthals, or Cro-Magnon man. Piltdown man turned out to be outright fraud – an elaborate hoax. Once again, stand firm with



facts that clearly show there are no valid intermediate species that exist in the fossil record to support these artists' renderings of hunched-over apes gradually proceeding through various stages of poor posture to then become modern humans. But this is still treated as 'science' fact and an axiom that shows accepted stages for the origin of our very lives.

Radiometric Dating

This is an area of science that tends to be cordoned off from anyone who wants to challenge this technique. Radiometric dating is not the newest online App for scientists to meet their soulmate. Rather, it is the rate that unstable atoms like Uranium [a parent isotope] over time converts into a stable atom such as Lead [the daughter isotope]. Potassium-Argon can also be used to measure how it digresses into a second element. But there are huge problems with this method. First, it is impossible to go back in time to observe the rock being formed [scientific method is all about observation, but that is not the case here]. Second, no one can validate the decay rate over the past time, so they have to apply a purely uniformitarian assumption that *decay rates have never changed* and have always been the same. Third, there is no way to know how much carbon was in the rock to begin with – but the starting level is going to directly affect how the age is calculated. And fourth, it is impossible to validate the starting rates for the parent and daughter isotopes, so once again a uniformitarian assumption is always applied. As such, the calculation has FOUR major assumptions that are presumed in favor of the model's math yielding very large numbers - lots and lots and lots of time.

Be aware this method cannot date metamorphic or sedimentary rocks. It can only be used with single-source material igneous rock [like those that come from a volcanic lava flow]. Even when applied to the correct form of rock, radiometric dating has well-documented significant problems.

Look at the following six dating examples as reported in various scientific journals. The first is basalt from Sicily that was known for certain to be 34 years old from a specific flood event. It was radiometric dated as 700,000 years old. The second examples are 36 year-old volcanic rocks in Italy that came back as 2.4 million years old. Third, was 39 year-old basalt in Hawai'i sent out to a testing lab that came back dated 8.5 million years.

<i>Clearly Observed</i>	<i>Radiometric Date</i>
34-yr old basalt in Sicily	700,000 years
36-yr old volcanic rocks in Italy	2,400,000 years
39-yr old basalt in Hawai'i	8,500,000 years
500-yr old obsidian in California	12,600,000 years
13 year-old lava dome, Mt. St. Helens	340,000 to 2.8M years
1949-1975 lava flows Mt. Ngauruhoe, NZ	270,000 to 3.5M years

Next, a 500 year-old obsidian deposit in Northern California came back as 12.6 million years old. The fifth sample is rock from a 13 year-old lava dome at Mount Saint Helens. That eruption is one of the most amazing laboratories to do tests because everyone knows it blew on May 18, 1980 [I was in college when it happened, and was all over the news with the ash-plume moving eastward with the jet-stream]. Scientists were doing experiments there in 1993 on formations that normally would assume thousands, if not millions, of years. The lava dome that started to develop was less than 13 years in the making, but was dated between 340,000 and 2.8 million years. Finally, the very active volcano, Mt. Ngauruhoe in New Zealand, from 1949 to 1975 had five well-documented eruptions [some even filmed]. The rock that formed was obviously single-source igneous rock they knew for certain could not be older than 1949 – or was even younger from one of the other four eruptions in 1953, 1958, 1967, or 1975. All of those rocks come back at between 270,000 and 3.5 million

years old when they were independently tested. And by the way, the labs do not give refunds on their test-fees when they get it this wrong.

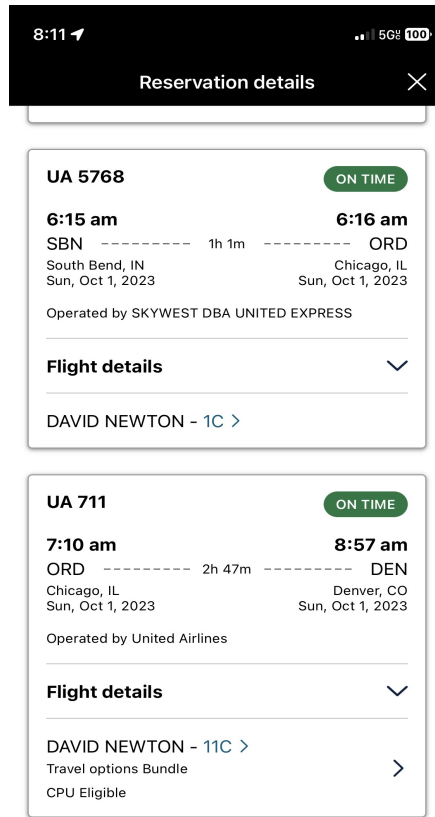
Distant Light

The fifth purported axiom in modern science is the matter of distant light traveling through space. Light travels at 5.88 trillion miles in one year [at 186,000 miles per second] – just shy of covering 6 trillion miles. Consider this. Neptune is the farthest planet from the sun at 2.7 billion miles. That is very far. But 6 trillion miles is the distance to Neptune 2,200 times! If the speed of light was faster it would have huge implications for all kinds of physics and astrophysics – like the universal constants in the universe. There are definitely areas still to be worked on, but consider the term “time rigidity”. This is how time is affected by motion and gravity as you get close to the speed of light. Einstein said as you get closer and closer to 186,000 miles per second, time will actually slow down. This is “time dilation”. If our solar system is positioned at, or near, the center of a finite number of galaxies within a finite universe, Earth would then be in what is called a “gravitational well” – a fixed position from which everything is moving away. You would not feel the extra gravity, as time moves more slowly in our galaxy and on our planet as compared to out in deep space. This surmises a gravitational effect of slowing down, and as such, distant light from deep space that takes billions of years to get to Earth [when measured by clocks in deep space] would actually reach Earth in just a few thousand years [when measured by clocks on Earth]. Our clocks tick slower than those in deep space. Let me give you a very practical example of how that works - and it involves me. I flew a 2-hour flight on a jet-plane traveling 550 mph and covered 1,100 miles from Louisville, Kentucky [on Eastern Time] to Denver, Colorado [on Mountain Time]. I left at 2:30 in the afternoon and landed in Denver at 2:30. I experienced 120 minutes of time pass while I was in my seat - confirmed on my iPhone

clock and the 2-hour movie that I watched on my MacBook. As soon as I landed, what happened to the clock on my iPhone? It switched over from universal time to local cosmic time, such that NO time had passed. I left at 2:30 and arrived at 2:30. So too, light traveling toward Earth always is on the same cosmic local time. For example, a star created on Day-4 of creation has light that departs on Day-4, and it could arrive on Earth at Day-4 cosmic local time. Einstein's relativity made it very clear that light does not experience the passage of time. It is always instantaneous. There is still much work to do in this area, but there is a strong theoretical basis for the hypothesis of the gravitational well and cosmic local time versus universal time. Naturalists have no problem proposing inflation theory to try and remedy time discrepancies at the moment right after the Big Bang. And yet when the gravitational well is proposed, it is immediately dismissed as baseless wishful thinking. In fact, the paradox of universal time and cosmic local time would actually help modern astrophysicists explain the far-reaching size of the universe and its massive expansion since the proposed Big Bang – much better than the underlying absence of rational logic to propose inflation theory.

Consider another universal vs. cosmic local time example I recently experienced this past Fall-2023. I made two presentations at a national conference on entrepreneurship at the University of Notre Dame. When I flew home on October 1st my flight went from the South Bend, Indiana airport [SBN] to Chicago's O'Hare International [ORD]. My boarding pass showed me taking off at 6:15 AM and arriving at 6:16 AM. Wait a minute, a 1-minute flight, you say? Well, the university is in the Eastern Time zone and Chicago is on Central Time. The actual flight time is only around 30 minutes, but the boarding pass includes taxiing *before* take-off and *after* landing going to the gate. What is even more bizarre is that I boarded at

5:40 AM and actually landed in Chicago at 5:32 AM – 8 minutes before I even got on the plane!?! It is quite a thrill for me to time travel like this.



Remember, one trillionth of one trillionth of one second to double and then re-double the universe after the Big Bang is cutting edge contemporary physics *inflation theory*. But universal time vs. cosmic time in a gravitational well is considered unprecedented and without merit.

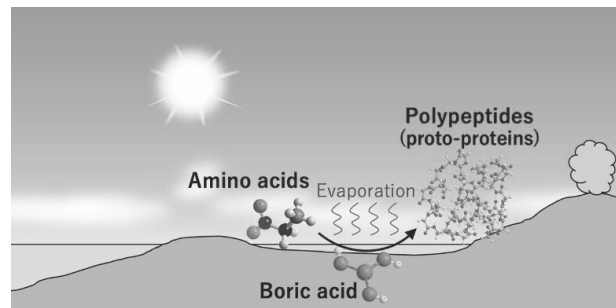
Warm Primordial Pool

Some of you have a jacuzzi in your backyard you have not cleaned for weeks, which is slowly becoming a warm primordial pool. This "axiom" presumes all of the building blocks for proteins and amino acids were

already somehow growing accidentally in a random pool of warm water on Earth a few billion years ago. Here is an artist's rendering pulled from



a life science textbook, with a steaming volcano and some other planet that appears to be within the Roche Limit [it should be breaking apart due to proximate gravity]. Earth is without intelligent life, but the stage is set for lightning to provide several thousand volts of shock to some gooey-oozing warm water, that results in the spontaneous emergence of complex cells and DNA as the starting point for accidental, random life. Below is one of the contrived diagrams drawn by scientists to perpetuate



this ridiculous proposition, showing polypeptides forming from amino acids evaporating alongside boric acid, so that in just a few million years, these will evolve into little swimming amoebas, that will become tiny fish, then some will develop fins and legs to eventually walk out of the water and continue the random positive mutations toward an eventual human.

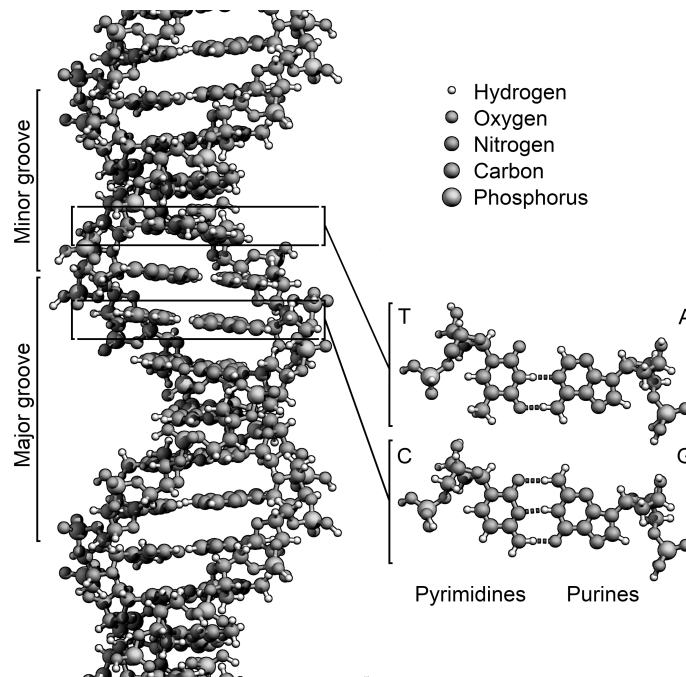
This purported axiom is not grounded in science. In Book-1 we showed the statistics and “impossible” probability of a proto-protein amino acid turning into a living cell via random time and electricity hitting a warm pool of water billions of years ago. If you talk to some modern-day scientists, they will explain a process called hydrolysis. It describes how water actually causes chains of DNA, RNA, and proteins to not gravitate toward more complex forms, but that in all laboratory experiments, these actually break down in water into their individual component parts, which means water is toxic to any attempt at the development of DNA, RNA and proteins. Yet this remains in the beginning of these textbooks.

We covered six supposed axioms. There are upwards of twenty others we could review, but these six are a great starting point to develop your Apologetics regarding the origin of life on Earth. For you to be a good apologist you can counter these six axioms with four topics that are very troublesome for a Naturalist to address. The first is DNA and RNA. It is so fascinating to read about the coding intricacies and the sheer amount of information involved in genetics. In Book-1, I presented the case that asks “Where does all the information-programming come from for the MacBook, the weed, the cell, and humans?” DNA and RNA are clearly LOTS and LOTS of information, and there is no logical response of any kind about from where this all originates. The second topic is the Chirality of Molecules [amino acids]. Chirality simply means some of these amino acids are what we call left-handed and some are right-handed. This is the term **stereo-isomer**. Science refers to these as mirror-images. If you had an amino acid and held a mirror up to it, the mirror-image of the so-called right-hand side is the left-hand side. They are essentially the same thing, but a reflection of the other amino acid. The two other topics are the cell and the human being [these are covered in detail in Book-1]. It is imperative always to remind the Naturalist that DNA/RNA, Chirality of

amino acid molecules, cell structures, and the complexity and integration of a fully-functional human ALL require significant information-programs for these to work correctly – and there is still no reasonable, logical way to account for such vast and complex digital coding by random chance.

DNA and RNA

The complex program-coding of deoxyribonucleic acid and ribonucleic acid reads like the computer wireframe architecture of a sophisticated tech-application. There are 4 chemicals in the coding. These nucleotides are the coded letters commonly referred to as A, T, C, G representing Adenine, Thymine, Cytosine, and Guanine. Consider this quote from a science textbook [I have highlighted in **bold** the fascinating terminology



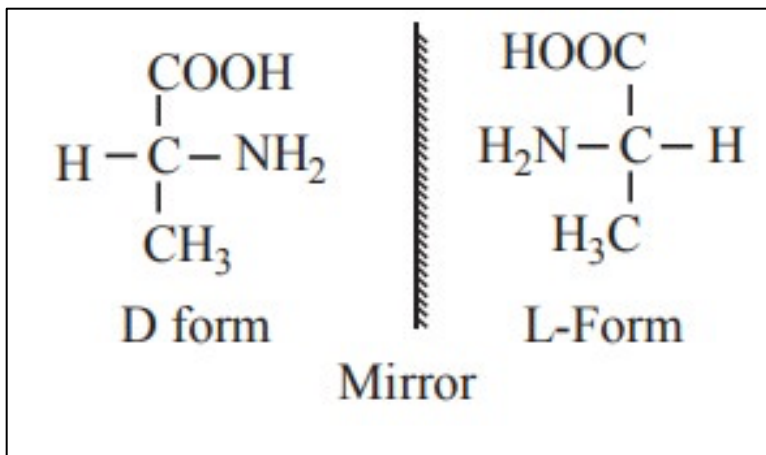
used in describing DNA/RNA coding]. Do they even realize what they are saying? *"The DNA molecule is two strands wound around each other called a double-helix, the Adenine pairs with Thymine [A with T] and the*

Cytosine pairs with the Guanine [C with G] and this sequence portion is called a gene. It has **specific instructions embedded in it that are required to assemble a protein.**" Here is another incredible statement: "Genetic code is how the A-T-C-G are strung together so that the cellular machinery - **the ribosome** - **can read them.**" Did a Christian creation-scientist write this? No, this is in a popular textbook on cell biology in the chapter on DNA and RNA. Specific instructions are embedded that are **required for assembly**, and the genetic code is strung together so the cellular machinery can **READ them**. That is quite a loaded sentence. Yet that phraseology attributes these intentional-coded instructions to a series of random, accidental, *UN-intentional* natural processes occurring over millions, if not billions, of years. Hopefully you can refer back to Book-1 and review the illogical [absurd] statistical probabilities that such a series of iterations could result in complex genetics that define every part of human composition. It is ALL information! It had to come from an intelligent source somewhere *outside* the physical components used to construct the end-product. Someone HAD to program this. It could not possibly have happened by sheer chance or random luck.

This reminds me of bringing home IKEA furniture in the large cardboard box. Once all 6,000 pieces are laid out on the floor, it is sometimes easy to skip the instructions booklet that is included and just wing it. After several hours of frustration, I believe I am finished, and have something that sort of/kind of resembles that nice entertainment center pictured on the box's label. But the problem is this. I have 12 parts leftover - some screws, brackets, a few pieces of wood-laminate marked "A" or "F", and right then is when I realize: I needed those precise functional instructions to correctly assemble all the component into the specific final form.

Chirality of Molecules

Below is the graphic representation of the mirror-image **stereo-isomers**. The L-Form is called the "Levo" and the D-Form is the "Dextro". They are literally mirror images of each other, if you could simply fold one over on the other. These are the building blocks of DNA. The Levo is on the right, called a right-handed nucleotide, and the Dextro is the left-handed



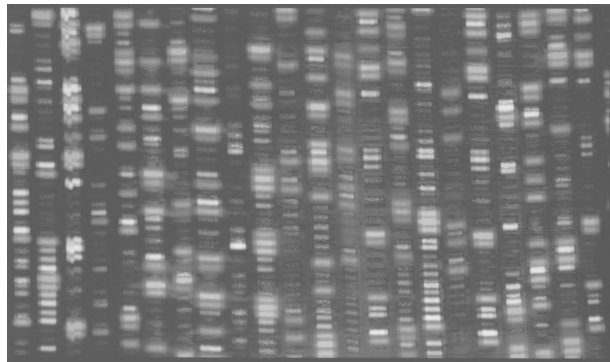
nucleotide. DNA is exclusively from L-Form right-handed nucleotides, but amino acids and proteins are from D-Form left-handed nucleotides. If you were going to do the warm primordial pool experiment, get the water up to 120° then do an electrical current [lightning strike] hoping to get some Levo and Dextro building blocks, there is a huge problem, and science does not have an answer for this. Let's assume you might get, on average, during several experiments, about 50% each of L-Form and D-Form nucleotides. But to get DNA, they all have to be the right-hand L-Form building blocks. If you also get D-Form left-handed, it cannot become DNA. At a 50-50 random chance process, it is not going to work. You could just keep doing that experiment over and over and over again and never get the requisite sequence for DNA. We looked at the math

for this in Book-1. The probability of getting just 200 successive positive mutations in a row with a 50-50 chance was greater than one in 10^{50} , which means it is “impossible” for this to happen. In fact, the cellular textbooks actually say, “**Only biological biochemical engineering can intentionally designate or separate them.**” Do they not realize that this statement confirms that any sequence of random iterations over time cannot ever result in fully-functional complex-coded DNA?

Consider these additional three features of DNA. First, it has its own built-in **backup redundancy**. How many of you have a computer? Is your data backed up? You can either do it manually and hook up to an external storage drive and move all your data over, or it can be done automatically in real-time on a system that checks files and backs them up continuously whenever you are online. DNA back-up redundancy is in case any damage or mutations happen along the chain, It then has others that can pick up where it left off and make sure everything still works. Could such a system happen by random chance? Second, DNA is inherently error-correcting and self-screening. If there are any copying errors, it will pause and go back to fix that. Scientists in genomics step back from that and say, “Isn't that fascinating?” but yet they cannot attribute this feature to a Designer who built that from outside time. The third feature is that the information inside DNA is overlapping, so it can code for more than one protein if needed. Whatever it is doing, the code can recognize that and cover additional proteins if required. Scientists cannot even get to DNA based on random iterations in the primordial pool, and yet they are comfortable saying that DNA has these ‘amazing’ three program-features that just happened by random chance over time. From an Apologetics standpoint, be fully aware there are many of these inherent assumptions built into the typical conversation with Naturalist scientists. These can easily [readily, hastily] be glanced over as not being

consequential – but you should now be able to recognize the huge leap of baseless assumptions needed to move through the accidental warm pool, to building blocks already present, to full DNA and cells appearing due to a lightning strike, and this results in complex A-T-C-G coding that comes complete with these three features of built-in redundancy, error-correction and self-screening, along with overlapping programming.

Here is what a typical computer screen looks like in how they code DNA and RNA. The *Journal of Science* [March 31, 2020] published an article

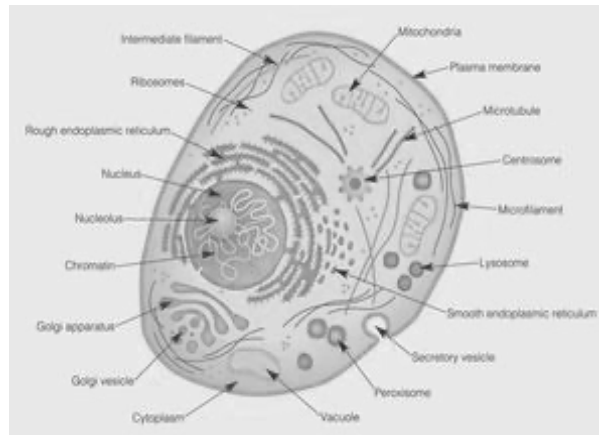


that said, “Scientists have finally assembled the full genetic blueprint for human life, adding missing pieces to a puzzle completed two decades ago - **we finally got it done.**” Over 1,200 scientists worldwide took two additional decades beyond 2002 to complete the remaining coding. Go to www.genome.gov/human-genome-project/timeline and watch the fascinating video that walks you through the timeline of how DNA was discovered and the ongoing mapping up through 2020 when they finally filled in all the missing pieces. From 1984 to 2004 was the first 20 years of DNA exploration and categorization. Then 2004 to 2020 was needed to fill in all the final components. That is nearly 40 years, with some 1,200 intelligent PhD and MD researchers worldwide working on this. They needed decades to decipher the coded nucleotides that occurred by

random chance. How fascinating - and so troublesome - that they would attribute all of that complex-engineering and coding to an accident. Working around the clock with grants and teams in the U.S., Canada, New Zealand, Australia, China, Europe - trying to break the code - it only took **4 Decades** to do it with their computer programs and simulations. But when it is finally finished, they are comfortable saying that this coded information came from random chance. No designer. No programmer.

Cells

Detailed specs about the human cell are covered in Book-1 of this series. For this portion of Book-3, let me simply say this. Where does the organic material come from? How did it convert to specific components within several dozens of sub-systems inside? How was it aligned into the final functional form? What was the source of the coding instructions for how



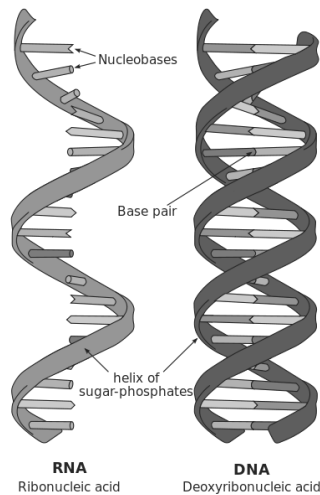
it works? The compounded probability of all the component parts and sub-systems coming together by random accident over lots of time is smaller than one chance in 10^{50} . That means **it could not happen**. Living cells cannot produce proteins until the DNA replication and translation machinery is first in place. As such, if cells could spontaneously happen [which they cannot] they would have to wait around on the DNA because

it cannot move forward without it. Could the DNA come from random chance and spontaneous generation, then somehow match with cells? The compounding of those two natural-process random probabilities is greater than one in 10^{90} . Absolutely absurd! There are no intermediate stages of cells that “sort of/kind of work a little bit”. Some of the guys at Calvary Chapel who come to 6:30am Wednesday morning men's prayer breakfast arrive in what seems to be one of those intermediate, not quite fully- functional forms. The structure and operations of the “simple” cell is extraordinary. For more detailed information about the wonders of the Cell, read Book-1 in this Apologetics series and watch the video of my teaching on this topic at my YouTube channel via www.NewtonFIO.com

Humans

The final reply to the skeptic goes back to the incredible precision and finely-tuned engineering of humans. Book-1 has detailed exploration of the human body. You can also go to www.NewtonFIO.com to view and download the PDF of my slides, and get the link to watch the Session-01 teaching-video at my YouTube channel. The design specifications and functions of the human body are absolutely amazing! The unique sub-systems of the senses: sight, hearing, smell, taste, touch – the respiratory system, circulatory system, nervous system, digestive system, brain functions, all integrated and wrapped around a rigid calcium frame, with 30-to-70 trillion cells, 48 total interdependent subsystems, managing air, food, water, waste. The human functional-schematic is the model-basis for building the most advanced robots. A.I.-enabled cyber-machines exhibit obvious design specs from a team of engineers that built them. Multiple systems, gears, frames, movement, optics, sound processing voice-recognition, all reflect a smart team of highly intelligent, educated engineers who designed and built it. Yet, when they look at the human body, they say *it evolved* and is the result of *random chance* without

any intention or purpose. Robots and humans both require high-level information to fully-function. The robotics design clearly relies on the computer-code software team that developed the programming to make it work. But that same team will not recognize a Designer-Creator



Team who developed internal DNA, RNA, brain-function, and intricate synapse-coding that makes everything work for a human man or woman.

Summary

The origin of life on Earth is directly informed by your Worldview. Those microscopic strands of DNA and RNA [see above] took decades for very intelligent scientists to decode. The location, function, and features of Earth demonstrate amazing fine-tuning that specifically supports a wide variety of plant life, animals, and humans. It is unique within a very hostile solar system. Your Apologetic for the origin of life has excellent scientific footing, most notably the undeniable statistical probability analysis that clearly demonstrates **there is not enough time** in the estimated life of the universe for complex life to have simply occurred by random chance. May the information in this book be a great starting place as you develop your Apologetic, equipping you to logically defend your Christian faith.

Additional Worldview Resources from Dr. Newton's Library

Fred Hoyle	<i>The Intelligent Universe</i> [1983]
Erik Lerner	<i>The Bang Never Happened</i> [1992]
Alister McGrath	<i>A Finely-Tuned Universe</i> [2009]
Alvin Plantinga	<i>Dawkins Confusion: Naturalism ad absurdum</i> [Books & Culture, March/April 2007]
Stephen Myer	<i>How Did The Universe Begin?</i> 5-part series at PragerU.com
Lawrence Krauss	<i>A Universe From Nothing</i> [2013]
A.E.Wilder-Smith	<i>The Scientific Alternative to Neo-Darwinian Evolutionary Theory</i> [1987]
Geoffrey Simmons	<i>What Darwin Didn't Know</i> [2004]
Mark Eastman	<i>Creation By Design</i> [1996]
Larry Witham	<i>By Design: Science And The Search For God</i> [2003]
Michael Denton	<i>Evolution: A Theory In Crisis</i> [1985] <i>Evolution: Still A Theory In Crisis</i> [2016]
Gerald Schroeder	<i>The Science of God</i> [1997]
Hugh Ross	<i>The Creator and the Cosmos</i> [1993]
Stephen Myer	<i>DNA and the Evidence for Intelligent Design</i> [2010]
Thomas Morris	<i>Creation Basics and Beyond</i> [2013]
John Ashton [Ed.]	<i>In 6 Days: Why 50 Scientists Chose To Believe In Creation</i> [2001, 2007]
Paul Garner	<i>The New Creationism: Scientific Theory on Biblical Foundation</i> [2009]
Grant Jeffrey	<i>Creation: Remarkable Evidence of God's Design</i> [2003]

J. Warner Wallace	<i>God's Crime Scene: Evidence For Divinely Created Universe</i> [2015]
Hugh Ross	<i>Fingerprint of God</i> [1991]
Henry Morris	<i>Scientific Creationism</i> [1974]
Thomas Lo	<i>Evolution and Intelligent Design in a Nutshell</i> [2020]
Donald W. Patten	<i>Catastrophism and the Old Testament</i> [1988]



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