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Volume 38 Number 5

# DOES GOD EXIST?

## *EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL LIFE AND GOD*

A nonprofit effort  
to convince mankind  
that God is real and  
the Bible is His Word.

## Does God Exist? Lectureships

Currently we do not have any lectureships scheduled through the end on 2011. Check our website, [www.doesgodexist.org](http://www.doesgodexist.org), for any updates on programs. Thank you!

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**The heavens  
declare the  
glory of God;  
the skies pro-  
claim the work  
of his hands.**

**Psalm 19:1 (NIV 1984)**

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# EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL LIFE AND GOD



The first public dissertation on life somewhere other than planet Earth seems to have been in 1638 when an English clergyman by the name of John Wilkens released a book titled *The Discovery of a World in the Moon*. Certainly there had been speculation and wild claims before that time, but Wilkens seems to have been the first to be taken seriously by the public. In 1686, Bernard de Fontenelle released a book titled, *Entretiens Sur La Pluralite Des Mondes (Conversations on the Plurality of Worlds)* which stirred controversy because it was seen as an attack on the Bible. If earth and mankind were not the center of the creation then the Bible story of Adam and Eve did not make sense in the minds of many of that day. In 1835, the *New York Sun* reported that British astronomer Sir

John Herschel had discovered winged quadrupeds on the moon. This turned out to be a hoax, but continued to be widely believed. In 1894, Percival Lowell thought he saw lines on Mars and he believed they were canals constructed by intelligent creatures. In 1953, Stanley Miller and Dr. Harold Urey at the University of Chicago combined ammonia, water vapor, methane, and hydrogen to show life could develop spontaneously. In 1976, the United States spent a billion dollars to send two Viking spacecraft to Mars to find life. In the 1980s and 1990s over \$100 million was spent on the Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence (SETI) to scan the sky for radio waves from an inhabited planet (see News and Notes on page 30).

What is it about mankind that causes such elaborate, expensive, and frequently misguided attempts to find life in space,



"Moon creatures" in  
1835, *New York Sun*

and especially life like ours that can communicate and do all the things we do? What are the religious implications? If life is found on Mars or the moons Triton and Europa or on some planet orbiting some star other than our Sun what will it mean to the Christian faith or to atheism? At the time I am writing this the number of discovered extra-solar planets (planets orbiting stars other than our Sun) is over 500. Why do such planets exist if Earth is the only place where life exists? What purpose do they serve and are they not a support for the belief that the creation is a product of blind chance and not intelligent design?

Two more thoughts need to be entertained as we start this discussion. Finding other sentient beings in space does not mean that they will be peaceful or that evil will not be a part of their makeup. *Avatar* certainly showed that point in vivid and realistic terms. We also need to realize that finding life in space does not mean that the Great Commission will not apply. God's purpose may be broader than Earth. Finding others in space does not mean chance or naturalism have been vindicated. It will just tell us something more of God's processes in the creation.

## **MULTIPLE INHABITED WORLDS DO NOT PRECLUDE GOD AS THE CREATOR.**

Many years ago I was involved in a radio debate with a secular humanist in Washington, D.C. In the call-in part of the show, someone asked my opponent, "What would you do if a spaceship landed on the White House lawn, a little green man jumped out with a Bible in his hand and asked 'Has Jesus been here yet?'" I thought my humanist friend handled it well. He said, "Punt."

The fact of the matter is that God may have created life elsewhere for the same purposes it was created here. There can be theological

objections to such a proposal, but when Jesus said "I have other sheep," He may have made a point we still have not understood. It is interesting that the Great Commission in Mark 16:15 ("Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.") uses the word cosmos (world) not Earth. If I met an alien, I would want to tell him what the Creator did on Earth and



share the gospel with him, listening to what God may have done in his world.

In the **Does God Exist?** materials we have shown that on a statistical level, chance is an invalid mechanism to explain what we see in the creation. If the Intelligence that formed all we see chose to do it in other places in space, that should not be an issue of faith.

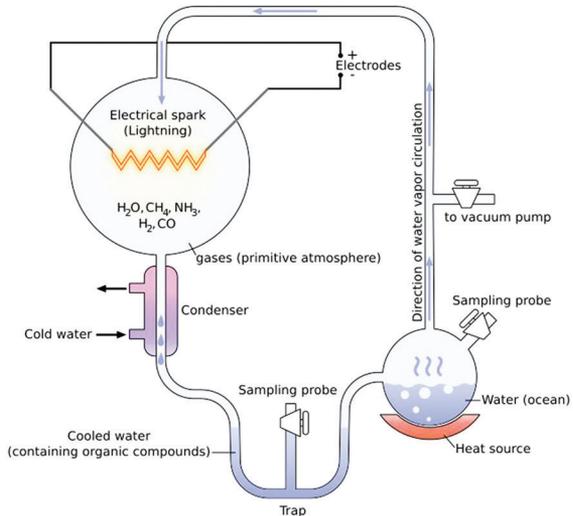
One final point needs to be made here. The movie *Avatar*, which had a heavy dose of Hindu theology in it, makes the point that even people on this planet can allow violence and greed to exploit others. Satan's power over sentient minds should never be underestimated.

## FINDING LIFE IN SPACE WOULD NOT VALIDATE NATURALISM, ATHEISM, OR ANY EVOLUTIONARY THEORY.

There appears to be a good chance that some form of life may be found on Mars and perhaps some moons of Jupiter and Saturn. Whether such life came from Earth or was a product of complex chemistry in various nebulae in space is virtually impossible to answer. The design features of the materials to make life remain beyond any mechanical cause. Every attempt to prove a natural explanation to the origin of life has done just the opposite.

The classic example of that last statement is the famous Miller-Urey experiment in 1953 mentioned earlier.

The media claimed that Miller and Urey chose chemicals believed to be in the earth's atmosphere in its early stage of development. It now appears that ammonia, methane, hydrogen, and water vapor were chosen because of their chemistry and were certainly not even present in the earth's atmosphere (with the exception of water). Recent studies of the sediments of the early earth show oxygen was present and considerable amounts of carbon dioxide.



Miller-Urey Experiment

In addition to the failure to match the chemistry of the primitive earth, the apparatus Miller and Urey used had to be carefully designed to protect the amino acids produced. The energy source used destroyed the amino acids faster than it formed them, so a trap had to be used to suck them out of the way of harm. Oxidation problems frustrated much of the experiment and no mechanism was found to separate the left handed amino acids of which life is made from the right handed amino acids that are not found in life forms. Careful temperature and pressure gradients were required to avoid the reactions from reversing. The experiment was interesting and creative but offered very little relevant information on how life originated on Earth. The careful design of the whole experiment showed how unlikely chance-driven explanations are. In fact it contributed to understanding God's methods.

## **FINDING LIFE IN SPACE HAS MUCH TO SAY ABOUT GOD'S METHODS.**

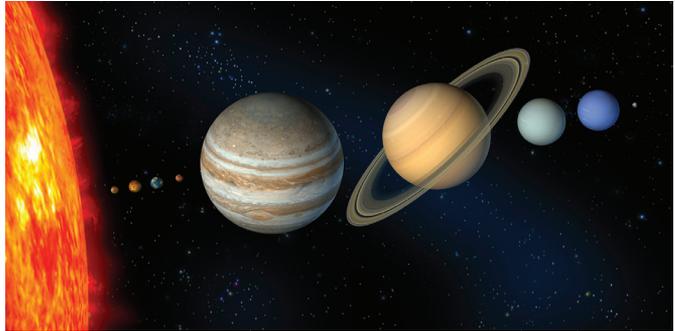
How does a Christian view the process of creation? There are two extreme views — neither of which is compatible with the evidence. The first is one shared among those who believe in naturalism. It maintains that the creation just happened and God watched it take place by natural methods according to physical laws He had instituted to govern a totally natural process. The problem with such a view is that the complexity of all parts of the cosmos precludes chance being the only factor that guides it. A major part of this journal, in the more than 40 years it has been in publication, has been devoted to showing that chance is an invalid mechanism at all levels and all parts of the physical world we observe.



The second view that is held by many believers in one form or another is that God “spoke” the cosmos into existence so that it instantly appeared, as it is, out of nothing. This view maintains that no natural process was involved and that all we see is a miracle that happened instantly and in a “full-grown” state. The problem with this

view for people with a scientific background is evidence. The evidence is overwhelming that natural processes have functioned over time to produce much of what we see. Stellar events such as Supernova 1987A in which scientists watched, measured, and photographed a star exploding 168,000 light years out in space pose a problem. Either the natural event of a supernova happened 168,000 years ago, or God sent us a video recording of something that never happened for us to watch. To force a mystical understanding on statements like “God said, ‘Let there be ...’” (see Genesis 1:3, 6, 14) is not a matter of “taking the Bible literally” but rather forcing a personal opinion on what the statement means. Biblical passages like Proverbs 8 and Job 38–41 strongly suggest that wisdom, design, intelligence, purpose, and process were used by God to accomplish all we see in the cosmos around us.

In my days as an atheist I used to ridicule the idea of God being the Creator of the cosmos. One of my points was that there was no point in God creating Pluto, Uranus, Saturn, the asteroids, Andromeda, meteorites, comets, etc., if all that counted was Earth. My favorite line was that if there was a God, all He had to do was create the sun and the earth. There was no reason to have billions of stars plus all the oddities of our own solar system if Earth was all that mattered. Since those days in the late 1950s we have learned that Earth’s orbit around the sun is controlled to some degree by the outer planets. We now know that the moon is vital to the earth’s tilt on its axis, and that the outer planets shield us from comets and other debris from outside the solar system. That does



tell us there is some purpose to at least some of the extra objects we see in our own neighborhood. The fact remains however, that the 500 extra-solar planets we have recently discovered are certainly not in that category, and if and when life is discovered in space it will pose a different kind of problem for those who hold a magician mentality of God’s creation.

In the beginning, when “God created the heaven ...” in Genesis 1:1 a process was used which was miraculous in nature. The Hebrew word *bara* used in verse 1 is never used in reference to something man can do. The evidence from science is that time, space, and matter/energy were brought into existence by a set of laws indigenous to

the world of quantum mechanics. As we split atoms and smash the building blocks of the Newtonian physical world we are beginning to comprehend these laws. The process was so powerful and hot that it was labeled “The Big Bang” as a joke by Dr. Frederick Hoyle, one of the top cosmologists of the last century.

As our Newtonian world was formed from this God-directed beginning, a set of carefully designed laws were instituted in all fields of science. The “and God said” phrase used throughout Genesis (see Genesis 1:3, 6, 9, 14, 20, 24) reflects that concept. The formation of life would require the direct action of God. We know God chose to do it at least once on Earth. Genesis 1:20 uses the word *bara* in reference to life. If He chose to do that action in other places we are not told about it. There is much we are not told about creation. Of the 26,000,000 species of life that have lived on the planet, we are told about precious few. The message of Genesis 1 is that God created everything—not how or where or how many times.

Starting with Genesis 1:26 we are introduced to the main thing done by God—the creation of man, a sentient being created uniquely in God’s image. The rest of the Bible is dedicated to how that being has struggled with its role in the battle between good and evil.

The presence of other planets that could sustain life elsewhere may allow man to travel to distant worlds and find new resources to allow man’s existence to last far longer than any of us imagine. Perhaps not only is our concept of God too small, but perhaps our view of God’s purposes in creating us is also too small. So what if that little green man described earlier landed and asked the question, “Has Jesus been here yet?” I would say, “Yes.” If he did not ask the question, I would want to share God’s love and the beauty of my Savior with him.

—John N. Clayton



2011 © Fer Gregory. Image from BigStockPhoto.com

# WRESTLING WITH GOD'S NATURE



One of the most difficult challenges which we all face is trying to comprehend what (not who) God is and how it is possible for Him to have created the cosmos with its billions of galaxies each containing billions of stars, and yet hear the prayers of an insignificant part of that creation—me! David said it incredibly well in Psalm 8:3–4, “When I consider your heavens, ... what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?”

Before we go any further in this discussion let me make it clear that I make no claim to have it all figured out. I do believe I have some understanding that might be helpful to others, partly because I have seen the struggles of thousands of others as I have studied with them in our correspondence courses, letters, and e-mails over the past 42 years. I still am in awe of God; and though I view Him as my friend and confidant, I struggle with some questions and concepts of God’s nature and function in daily life.

There are two basic concepts that need to be mastered to resolve most questions about God, the creation of the cosmos, and the creation of man in God’s image. To master these concepts one has to think differently than most of us are used to thinking. However, this difference in thinking really only involves the same thought processes required to understand quantum mechanics, cosmology, relativity, or any attempt to take what the Bible says literally. What I hope to do in this article is to briefly explore these two concepts.

**CONCEPT 1.** God is outside of time and space—not three dimensional, not physical, and not human. What is meant by “outside of time” is that God is not limited by time or any time-dependent quantity. The Bible says it this way, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, ...” (Revelation 21:6) and “With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day” (2 Peter 3:8).

The implications of God’s being outside of time are huge. God has all of eternity to listen to every prayer of every person that ever lived on the planet and yet each of those time segments is “now.” The length of time God has to do something is not an issue because every instant of time and all time is “now.”

One of the models we physics teachers have used to introduce students to Einstein's concept of gravity is to show students an air mattress with one side labeled time and the other side labeled space. Gravity is then defined as depressions in space/time. We put a bowling ball on the air mattress and say to them, "OK, this is Jupiter." We would then put a baseball on the air mattress and say, "This is the Moon." You can explain gravity as well, or in some cases better, in this way than in defining it as a property of mass. In this model the students are outside space and time. Any point on the mattress can be "here" and "now." As beings exterior to space and time, we can make changes at will.

In Genesis 1:1 God created space and time. The concept of "beginning" would mean that once space and time were created, gravity wells would have been formed and these would be filled with appropriate masses becoming what Genesis calls "the heaven and the earth." The Hebrew word *natah* translated "stretch out" (see Isaiah 40:22) could convey such a process.

Miracles for God are simply external actions in the fabric of space/time. What may be a violation of common sense for us may turn out to be a logical consequence of those entities that may be outside of space and/or time. In quantum mechanics this is commonplace. In biblical matters we have to be reminded of the statement by God in Isaiah 55:8, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, ..."

**CONCEPT 2.** God is a spiritual entity, which means that since God is outside of space and time His properties have no physical characteristics. God is not an old, Caucasian, white-haired, bearded male with blue eyes. It was interesting that in the wildly popular novel *The Shack*, God is portrayed as a motherly African-American woman with Jesus as a carpenter and the Spirit as a cross between Tinker Bell and a lightning bug. It is understood that this was not a serious theological work. The images used had more to do with human social issues than comprehending the real nature of God.

The very nature of spirit involves moral choice between good and evil. Any spiritual beings must be capable of recognizing and acting on good and evil. To



be created in the image of God means to be a sentient being who can make that choice. That unique ability in the physical world in which we live was bestowed upon humans. God Himself is incapable of evil and has no tolerance for evil (James 1:13). Spiritual beings that are outside of time have no recourse once they have chosen to embrace evil. Angels who sinned (2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6) have separated themselves from God and being outside of time have no salvation. The Bible tells us there is a place prepared for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41) which would be a separation from God, and again is outside of space and time.

God came to the earth, becoming flesh (John 1:14), to provide man with a path back to God, completely severing man's connection to evil. Romans 6:1–14 gives a vivid description of how this works, telling us that in baptism we die to self and to sin and are raised a new creature.

The primary thing this does for us in the physical world is give us the capacity to love fully. The classic example of this capacity is seen in John 21:15–17 where Jesus asks if Peter loves Him with unconditional love (*agapao*) and Peter keeps saying he loves Jesus with brotherly love (*phileo*). When our spiritual bodies are totally cleansed we have the capacity for full love (*agape*), an unselfish, self-



sacrificing love, pure and void of evil. We are incapable of sustaining that fellowship but the blood of Christ continuously cleanses us so we can walk in God's light (1 John 1:5–10).

This understanding and belief in the nature of God and how we are in His image radically affects our view of death, pain, love, church, and how we treat one another. It is reflected in how we give and whether we find joy in giving and not only in our money but in our relationships. It is seen in how we spend our time, what kind of things we enjoy doing, and how we view our family.

People like Richard Dawkins may claim evil and good do not exist (*River Out of Eden*, Basic Books, 1995, page 133) but all experience and evidence says they do. We see it portrayed in all of our science fiction, in novels, in children's cartoons, and on the front page of our newspapers on a daily basis. Why do we find it so hard to believe that God is also a part of our personal life, giving us a reason to exist, the capacity to withstand suffering and loss, and the capacity to love God and our fellow man freely?

—JNC

# RESURRECTION VS. REINCARNATION

The ability of human beings to misunderstand simple concepts is amazing. In recent months we have seen a number of articles and have had some letters demonstrating some massive misunderstandings of the difference between reincarnation and resurrection. The view that Enoch and Elijah were reincarnated (Genesis 5:24; Hebrews 11:5; Matthew 17:12) is an unfortunate misunderstanding.

Webster defines reincarnation as “A fresh embodiment, a rebirth in bodies or form of life, rebirth of a soul in a new body.”

We should first point out that reincarnation is a basic belief of a number of world religions, and it is for many an attractive doctrine. Hinduism, for example, has a variety of reincarnation teachings fitted into a caste system in which humans exist in either a priestly caste, a warrior caste, a merchant caste, or an untouchable caste. An untouchable has the hope of returning in a better caste in some belief systems. Animals also get involved in the reincarnation process in some Hindu beliefs. Buddhism and animism also have reincarnation concepts in many of their beliefs. Certainly the growing pluralism in our culture has caused some of these ideas to enter people’s thinking. Experiences with *déjà vu* and repressed memory may also have had a part in people trying to integrate reincarnation into the Christian system.

Belief in reincarnation is not a new thing. In Jesus’ day belief in reincarnation seems to have been very common. In Matthew 16:13 Jesus asks His disciples “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” Their response is “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” Enoch is often held up as one who was reincarnated. In Genesis 5:24 we are told “Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.” In Hebrews 11:5 we are told that “By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death.” Notice that there is no mention of a new body or that Enoch lived again.

Elijah is more frequently presented as a biblical character who was reincarnated. Second Kings 2:11–13 tells us that Elijah did not die but was taken to heaven in a chariot of



fire. In Malachi 4:5 Israel is told, “I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day.” When Peter, James, and John saw Jesus transfigured and speaking with Moses and Elijah, they were reminded of that prophecy. When Jesus is asked about this He says, “Elijah has already come” (Matthew 17:12). The next verse tells us that the disciples understood that he was talking about John the Baptist. That means the Elijah of the transfiguration and of this verse are not the same. The transfiguration was not a physical body that continued to live upon the earth, and John the Baptist was a man blessed by God, but he was still John—not Elijah.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ was not reincarnation, it was resurrection. To be resurrected means that the person comes to exist in a new body, not the one that we have on the earth. First Corinthians 15:44 tells us that we will be “sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.” After His resurrection Jesus was able to walk through walls (John 20:26), miraculously appear to people on the highway and then miraculously disappear (Luke 24:15, 31). Second Corinthians 5:10 tells us, “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.” Hebrews 9:27 tells us, “Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment,” there is no mention of the old body being recirculated, nor is there any mention of having another physical body.

In addition to the fact that there is no biblical support for reincarnation, there are other problems of a logical and scientific standpoint involved. In most reincarnation systems, time is cyclic. The notion is that time repeats so that the person lives again in the same Karma as he did before, but with a new opportunity to live more successfully. If time does not repeat, then the Karma changes. Every student of physics knows that time is not cyclic in the physical world. The very nature of the universe supports linear time and the equations we use to describe the cosmos are all linear in nature.

Those reincarnation systems that have all people returning to earth in another body in cyclic time also have a space problem for all of the forms that are present. Not only is there not enough room for everything, but there is a problem with the aesthetics of the teaching. If every person comes back as an animal, then whatever one does to an animal he is in essence doing to a person. This is the basis of protecting monkeys and cows in some cultures.

Reincarnation does not happen. We need to make this life and body count, because we will not have another physical body or another opportunity. We will be resurrected, but thankfully the pain and problems that we have with our physical bodies in this life will never happen again.

—JNC

# THE ART OF SEEING GOD

by Al Cornell

The science of seeing God has an ultimate fault. Even aided by an electron microscope or the Hubble Telescope the human eye cannot see God. Certainly, the eye perceives those traces of glory that cause many of us to marvel at His handiwork. However, the greatest revelation of God impacts our hearts and permeates our souls. Spiritual leaders, from prophets to apostles, have asked to see God, and they have been encouraged to open their hearts rather than their eyes.

The 19th century poet, James Russell Lowell, penned the words, "... behind the dim unknown standeth God within the shadow, keeping watch above his own." In atheistic circles, there is a trend toward thinking that through science we have now seen rather deeply into the shadow and should have located God if He is there. Enough stones have been turned and the light of science has penetrated into enough dark corners that surely if there were a God, we would have found Him. We have amassed knowledge of amazing mathematics, unfathomable physics, and an incredible biosphere. While for many of us, this increasing knowledge of the physical cosmos builds a stronger foundation for belief in God, some argue that it is exactly what their godless paradigm would expect.

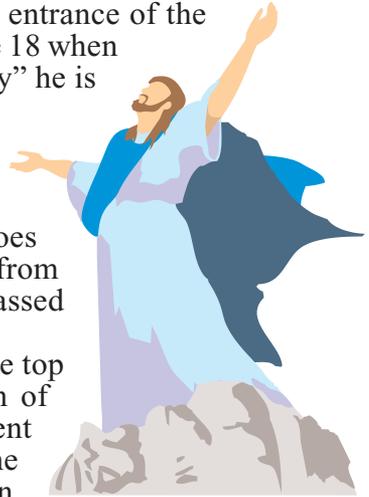
Yet, in a sense, not seeing God is more of a believer's problem than that of an unbeliever. Of course, artists feel obligated to depict God. But their image of God seems to seldom get beyond an old man in the clouds. Perhaps even worse, their attempts to depict Jesus Christ give us a far different image than would be expected from the ethnic group He was born among and the physical requirements of the culture of which He was a part. Yet these unrealistic renditions satisfy a great many people's desire for an image. Many have no clue concerning the origin of the artist's perception, but they imagine they are looking at a picture of Jesus Christ.



This misdirected quest for a view of God could be corrected by examining the Bible. Faithful biblical leaders have requested to see God and have gotten insightful answers to their request.

The answer Moses received in Exodus chapters 33 and 34 is striking. We imagine him as a man of very special privilege in seeing manifestations of God. Also, his circumstances have led superficial Bible critics to think they have found a discrepancy.

Exodus 33:11 (NIV) states, “The Lord would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend.” However, the context of verses 7–10 clarifies this exchange. The Lord spoke to Moses from a pillar of cloud at the entrance of the tent of meeting. So, obviously, in verse 18 when Moses says, “Now show me your glory” he is asking for something far greater and more intimate than the cloud. God’s answer includes the words in verse 20, “... you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.” God does arrange for Moses to see His “back” from a cleft in a rock after His glory has passed by.



So in chapter 34, Moses goes to the top of the mountain to receive his vision of God’s glory. But the outstanding element of the vision is a voice proclaiming the character of God. He was reminded in this visitation that God is compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, forgiving, and meting out just punishment. What Moses asked for was a special vision of God’s glory. What Moses needed and received was a dynamic reminder of the character of God. This was Moses’ most intimate contact with God as is evidenced by the radiance of Moses’ face when he returned to the people (Exodus 34:29–35).

Moses is not alone in asking to see God and getting an unexpected reply. Early on the night before Jesus’ crucifixion, there was a high level of anxiety among the apostles. In the course of some intense conversation, “Philip said, ‘Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us’” (John 14:8). In His response, Jesus said, “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.” In context it is obvious He is not asking Philip to look at any physical feature. He points to Philip’s time spent with Him in His ministry. Even as Philip’s question is similar to Moses’, so is the answer he receives. There was no halo or physical glow. However, the glory of God’s character had presented itself on earth in the person of the Son.

Humanity never received a sculpted or painted image of the likeness of Jesus' physical body. That is not what we needed to enhance our comprehension of the image of God. However, the four gospels portray to our hearts and souls the image of God that we do need. That image gives us incentive to be better people. It demonstrates the character of God that was proclaimed to Moses. It instills the answer for those who ask, "What would Jesus do?" It sets the precedent for ideal Christian conduct.

Eyes are good for perceiving the existence of God. I concur with John Muir's exclamation, "... measureless mountain days ... opening a thousand windows to show us God." Yet our vision of God reaches its apex as the soul assimilates the character of God through the Word. Especially, we imbibe it through the person of Jesus Christ in the gospels. Unknown to himself, it was a glimpse of God Almighty that caused the agnostic, Loren Eiseley, to pen the words, "... that great impulse—love, compassion, call it what one will—which, however discounted in our time, moved the dying Christ on Golgotha with a power that has reached across two thousand weary years." That love, compassion, and power compose part of the image we receive from the gospels. From our journey into the Word, we receive a clear image of God.



## NO GREATER LOVE! JOHN 15:13

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# HAD A “PHYSICAL” LATELY? WHY NOT A “SPIRITUAL?”

by Dr. Frank Black



Everyone knows what I’m talking about when I ask if you’ve had a “physical” lately (a physical exam). But have you ever thought about having a “spiritual” (a spiritual exam)? Not a bad idea, is it? You know about physical parameters or vital signs that would be checked: height, weight, blood

pressure, temperature, serum cholesterol, blood sugar, EKG, etc. Notice these are all objective parameters—easily measurable. But what would be your spiritual parameters or “spiritual vital signs,” and how would they be checked?

Let’s start a list of spiritual vital signs: levels of faith, love, belief, compassion, forgiveness, private thoughts, attitude, thankfulness, selfishness, prayer life, honesty, and so forth. With some exception most of these parameters are subjective and certainly not easily measurable. But there are definitely some objective measurements that can be used in evaluating your “spiritual fitness”: your words, how you treat others, generosity in giving of yourself monetarily and in service, observable life traits and habits, etc.

In our current American culture most people are very health conscious. I imagine you are also—and rightly so. Being a physician I am acutely aware of this. But seriously, are you concerned about your spiritual fitness? Have you ever thought about it in these terms? Regarding your physical fitness, you probably have some dietary and exercise regimen that “ideally” you adhere to. How about some spiritual regimen (“spiritual diet” or “spiritual exercise”) to stay fit? This could include more Bible study, reading articles and books by religious scholars, improving your prayer life, teaching Bible classes, serving the needy, specifically working on personal traits or habits that need improvement, etc. If you are successful, people will notice! In fact, you should have a “spiritual physician”—a friend who holds you personally accountable.

I can use some common euphemisms or concepts that relate to the physical as well as to our spiritual “shape”. You may add to the list:

**“IF YOU DON’T USE IT; YOU’LL LOSE IT.”**

If we let our spiritual health lag or put it on hold, we lose ground.

**“NO PAIN; NO GAIN.”**

It takes time and energy to grow spiritually and to serve others.

**“DON’T BE A COUCH POTATO.”**

Just as we can become physical sluggards; likewise, we can become spiritual sluggards.

Mankind’s greatest concern is his physical health, but mankind’s greatest need is his spiritual health. Just as being in good physical condition allows you to do more and enjoy life more, the exact same can be said about being in good spiritual condition.

Isn’t it usually obvious who is in good physical shape? It’s likewise obvious who is in good spiritual shape. How? Look at Matthew 7:16, “By their fruit you will recognize them. ...” Paul tells us in Galatians 5:22 and 23 what to look for:

**“BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS AND SELF-CONTROL.”**

In our churches it is infinitely acceptable for people to be sick or to have surgery. Of course this is true. Many appropriate prayers are offered in their behalf. How many prayers do you hear offered for peoples’ spiritual health? Let us not forget this vital aspect of prayer—for ourselves and for others. Search the scriptures and you’ll find many more prayers for peoples’ spiritual well being than for their physical well being.

I conclude by asking these simple questions:

When was your last “Spiritual Exam”?

What is the status of your spiritual health? (Did you pass your “spiritual”?)

What are you doing to maintain and improve your spiritual health?

When was the last time you expressed concern and prayed for someone else’s spiritual health?

# *Finding God and Meaning in the Mundane*

by John Billington

It's not hard to find, or more accurately, feel God in the mountain-top experiences. But most of life is spent doing ordinary, repetitive, "mundane" tasks. Finding God in the routine of life is essential to having a living, vibrant faith in God.

Why do human beings fear nothingness? Could it be that nothingness is the ultimate stamp of valuelessness? If we die and our very person, our essence evaporates into nothingness then all our struggles, all our victories, all our sufferings, and all our loves are voided. "Voided" can be defined as: "Having the inner part cut away or left vacant with a narrow border left at the sides."



If we don't survive and continue to own our experience, our love becomes an unreal vapor—failure and victory alike become hollow. Our experience of living loses all potency if we end in nothingness. It is not the non-existence that frightens us but rather the emptying of the life-long struggle into meaningless nothingness. The fear of non-existence is a reflection that the experience of living must have meaning and value.

A skeptic may respond, "Not so! I can pass my experience on and help future generations!" There may be value to humanity when our experience is passed on. However, if all humanity is doomed to nothingness, then the sum total of human existence is nothing. The idea that our experience helps others and therefore lends value and potency to our life seems weak consolation if humanity itself is transitory and valueless.

The antithesis of the valuelessness that comes from nothingness is living life as a spiritual being made in God's image and living forever. Being made in God's image for His purpose gives life meaning and value. The hardest struggle to find value and purpose is fought when looking for meaning in the day-to-day, mundane activities of life. But if any part of your life is valuable, then all parts are—including the mundane. God has a plan for my life and death does not extinguish all that is gained through the experiences of living. Even learning to trust that the ordinary has purpose.

We claim for ourselves the truth Paul claimed, "For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever!" (2 Corinthians 4:17, NLT).

# Nobel Scientists and God

Editor's Note: One of the things that has come out of the battle between extremists in the evolution/creation controversy has been a flow of literature from atheists claiming that good scientists and intelligent, educated people do not believe in God. This simply is not true. Tihomir Dimitrov has compiled an e-book on <http://nobelists.net> of quotations of Nobel Prize winning scientists. In each issue of this journal we hope to quote statements from some of these.

## *Derek Barton Nobel Laureate in Chemistry*

“God is Truth. There is no incompatibility between science and religion. Both are speaking the same truth. Science shows that God exists.” “The observations and experiments of science are so wonderful that the truth that they establish can surely be accepted as another manifestation of God. God shows himself by allowing man to establish truth.”

“Religion is finally about the relationship of the individual and God. Can one speak to God? Prayers to advance one's personal welfare at the expense of the less righteous, are surely not welcome. Prayers to God to let one discover truth might be acceptable. Certainly, it is remarkable how we have been able to understand so much in our environment. God permits man to make observations and experiments which can be interpreted by logical thinking.”



# Cynthia's Corner



I've been praying recently that if there were anything wrong with John medically that he would find it out so that he could be treated. Like every Christian wife, I want my husband to be with me as long as possible, and my husband

thinks that if you're not asymptomatic, you're okay. This is not always true. We've been having this debate about him having a stress test and he has been using that line.

My prayer was answered dramatically June 25–28, 2011, when John had a severe, sudden onslaught of pain when we were visiting family in California. After hours in the emergency room, we were told he had severe, acute pancreatitis caused by gallstones. His pancreatitis was so serious that the doctors were concerned for his survival, and I sent out requests for prayers for John.

I am so thankful to be a part of the body of Christ that loves each other and is united in prayer and faith in God and willing to serve. I know that brothers and sisters across the country were praying, and the results were obvious to me. His pancreas responded well, his blood pressure was finally controlled better than it had been, and John got the cardiac evaluation I had been praying for—stress test and all. Eventually he was able to have his gall bladder taken out so this won't happen again.

So many good things have come out of something “bad” and painful (Romans 8:28). We know we were united with brothers and sisters in prayer, and God acted (John 5:15–16) and this has built our faith and encouraged us. My sister jokes about John's new weight loss diet—five days of IVs and no food. We have however learned to hopefully listen to our bodies and will take better care of them in the future. We have experienced the comfort and peace of being in the Lord, and the joy of fellowship with God and with brothers and sisters (1 Corinthians 1:3–5). We have learned again that we can't control our future or even know if we have one (John 4:13–17). All is in His hands and in His time. We have been clearly reminded not to trust ourselves or our plans (Proverbs 16:3), but to live in the present with joy and gratitude for everything we have and everyone we love.

—Cynthia Clayton

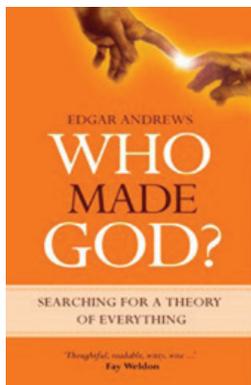


The books that are reviewed in the Book Review section are not available through us, but can be obtained from a local bookstore or through many online bookstores.

### Who Made God?

by Edgar Andrews

EP Books USA (P.O. Box 614, Carlisle, PA 17013), 2009,  
303 pages, \$16.99 (hardcover), ISBN-13: 978-0-85234-707-2



The author of this book is a professor of materials science at the University of London where he set up the department and has been the dean of engineering. In 1986 he debated Richard Dawkins on the notion that “The Doctrine of Creation is more valid than the Theory of Evolution.” His book *From Nothing to Nature* is well known, especially in Europe.

If you are looking for a strong academic response to the atheists of our day, this is a book you will find very useful. Andrews is a strong Bible student and has written two Bible commentaries and a variety of works on science and theology. He writes with humor and a keen awareness of the apologetic issues of our day. The book is divided into 17 chapters with chapter titles that reflect the author’s style. The first chapter title is “Sooty and the Universe” with “who made God” as the subtitle. Sooty was a glove puppet on a children’s program in the UK that started in the 1950s. Andrews uses devices like Sooty to point out the weakness of atheist arguments.

The second chapter is titled “Yogurt, cereal and toast” and starts with quotes from Alice in Wonderland. Andrews makes the following statement: “... far from explaining everything, science actually explains nothing. What science does is to describe the world and its phenomenology in terms of its own specialized concepts and models.” He then demonstrates that concept in depth explaining quantum mechanics along the way.

Andrews takes on Dawkins and Victor Stenger in depth, but also finds weakness in some apologists like Francis Collins. This is a challenging, intelligent, thorough, and deep book. It is very well written, and is a great book to give to a skeptical college student. We recommend it as a tool to challenge intellectual people who are disturbed by Dawkins and his allies.

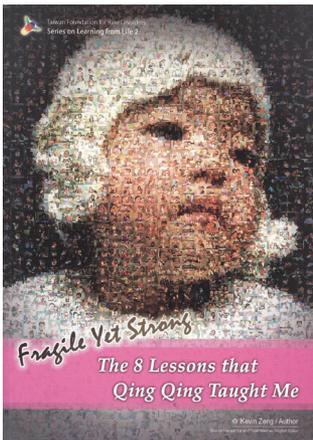
## Fragile Yet Strong

by Kevin Zeng

Taiwan Foundation for Rare Disorders, (6F., No. 20, Changchun Rd.,  
Zhongshan District, Taipei City 104, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

<http://www.tfrd.org.tw/>) 2009, 269 pages, (paperback)

ISBN-13: 978-986-84920-6-6



We have published a number of books dealing with the challenge of disabilities and how to deal with them from a Christian standpoint. We started with *Timothy, My Son and Teacher* about our son born with blindness, mental retardation, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, and schizophrenia. We published a book about diabetes written by my wife Phyllis, adult physical disability by Ralph Scott, congenital problems of missing limbs by Jim McDoniel, and infertility by the Pearl family.

This book was not published by us, but follows the same pattern. It is about a baby born with Myotubular Myopathy and is subtitled: *The Eight Lessons that Qing Qing Taught Me*. The lessons are preparation, acceptance, priorities, no fear in love, happiness, learning, the flow of love, and heaven. In this book the Zengs alternate between letters to their daughter who is critically ill (and eventually dies), to explanations for the reader about what was happening and how they coped with their daughter's chronic illness. Their personal emotional roller coaster, the way in which their other children were involved, how church members supported and helped them, and their personal dependence on God are all a part of this story.

There are a lot of good lessons in this book. They include such things as how to find help, how the church can make a difference, how you can build your marriage and work together on what seems like an overwhelming problem, and the eight virtues that experiences like this can build into active Christians. This is a very informative book, a very emotional book, and a book that can leave you thinking, "Wow! Thank God for the blessing He has given me!"

# DANDY DESIGNS



## THE OCEANS

Those of us who live hundreds or even thousands of miles from the ocean are aware that oceans exist, and we may even be aware of some of the life forms that inhabit the oceans.

We may be less well informed about how much the oceans affect our daily lives and how they make life on land possible.

The oceans contain all of the elements necessary for life to exist. These elements have been dissolved from the crust of the earth and have then been locked up in rock deposits like halite (salt), gypsum (calcium sulfate), dolomite (calcium magnesium carbonate), and many others. Marine organisms make shell material out of these elements. Oil is produced by organisms taking material from the sea. As oceans dry up or are displaced, these great mineral deposits end up far inland. Kentucky's famous bluegrass is blue because of magnesium present in an ancient ocean.

The oceans also allow weather systems that sustain life on earth. Most of the land on earth is located in the Northern Hemisphere, so the Southern Hemisphere is mostly water. When the earth is closest to the sun the Southern Hemisphere faces the sun. Since it is mostly water, a majority of the extra energy of the sun is focused on the water. Water holds a large amount of heat without raising the temperature very much. If the part of the earth facing the sun when it is the closest were mostly land it would cause extremely high temperatures. When the earth is at its greatest distance from the sun more land faces the sun allowing temperatures to rise without becoming extreme.

Because water absorbs so much heat it provides warmth to the entire planet during times of cold, so even places north of the Arctic Circle have substantial heat available. This heat also evaporates massive amounts of water providing rain which brings life to all parts of the planet. Even in places thousands of miles from the ocean, much of the water that falls as rain began its journey to the clouds in the ocean.

Proverbs 8:28–30 talks about the wisdom used to create and control the sea and the more we learn about the sea and its vital role in sustaining the planet, the more we marvel at that wisdom.

# HOW DOES A COLOR-BLIND ANIMAL CAMOUFLAGE ITSELF?

If you have been in the woods for any significant period of time, you have undoubtedly had an experience with an animal and camouflage. It may be a grouse that you did not see until it takes off unexpectedly from right in front of you. Perhaps there is a lizard on a tree or a fence post that was almost invisible to you because its colors matched the object it was on. For years evolutionists used the peppered moth as an example of evolution in which a population of moths changed color to match the new environment in which they found themselves, making it harder for their enemies to see them. In the oceans, camouflage is even more effective and more complex because of the wider range of colors and the effect the water has on how color is visualized.

The champion of camouflage in the ocean is probably the cuttlefish. The cuttlefish is a cephalopod, related to squid and octopus. I have snorkeled in areas where there were large numbers of these creatures and have seen the huge range of colors and patterns their bodies can display. These cuttlefish have no color vision themselves, so they do not choose backgrounds to hide in. Dr. J. Kenneth Wickiser at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point has been studying this issue with new imaging technology called Hyper Spectral Imaging (HSI). Instead of using the usual three windows of color vision (red, green, and blue) this new technology uses 540 windows covering the entire spectrum. The cuttlefish color capacity is so good that it exceeds the biological capacity of the fish's predators so the only tool the predator has for seeing the cuttlefish is the brightness. In normal lighting the cuttlefish can be right in front of a predator and the predator cannot see it.



The design of this camouflage system is incredible. Man's most complex technologies have enabled us to see how it works, but we cannot duplicate the mechanism. All we can do is admire it. Without such a complex system, these creatures would be wiped out very quickly, but sophisticated wisdom and planning has given them safety in a hostile world. Such design speaks of a Designer who gave animals what they need to survive, and did so with some techniques we are still struggling to understand. Everywhere we look, God's wonder-working hand has gone before.

Source: <http://www.scientificcomputing.com/news-IN-Colorblind-Animals-Change-Colors-to-Blend-into-the-Background-051711.aspx>

# News and Notes

**OBE CAUSE.** “Out of the Body Experiences” (OBE) continue to make the news now and then. Recent studies of the anesthetic ketamine have shown that the drug causes feelings of detachment from one’s body and interferes with memory. This is done by cutting the neurotransmitter glutamate’s ability to energize certain areas of the brain by restricting transmission of the brain chemical. Ketamine is a “club drug” and has been used in the drug culture for a long time. It is becoming more and more clear that OBE claims can be drug related and lack spiritual connections or meanings. Source: *Science News*, March 26, 2011, page 9.

**MORE CREATION DEBRIS.** When the solar system was formed, massive amounts of energy were used to forge the planet we now live on as well as the other members of our solar system. We have all seen the molten material thrown out of a blast furnace as it produces iron-related materials. It appears that a similar splash must have been involved in the creation of the galaxies. We have now seen planets that have apparently been thrown out of their original solar systems and are drifting free in space. These wandering planets are very large Jupiter-like objects, but as instruments get better there may be earth-sized planets found as well. Astronomers are trying to discover what kind of process could do such a thing, and how a system like ours could ever become stable in such an environment. Source: *The Week*, June 3, 2011, page 21, and *South Bend Tribune*, May 21, 2011, page A5.

**ACLU CONTINUES IRRATIONAL SUITS.** Sometimes you get the feeling that whoever makes the decisions for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) starts out by looking for the most absurd case they can imagine to deliberately offend moral and religious people. The Berkeley County Jail in South Carolina is being sued by the ACLU because the jail refuses to allow the inmates to have pornography. The lack of practicality is unbelievable in this case, but the nationwide implications are enormous. Source: *The Week*, June 10, 2011, page 6.

**STARVATION AND WASTE.** We have maintained in this journal for many years that God has given us the capacity to feed every man, woman, and child on the planet. There have been attacks on the Bible for asserting that man should multiply and fill the earth. The claim is that this is what caused our global food problems. We are not saying that we should not control human population, but we believe that the planet has the capacity to support everyone living on it today or in the very near future. The United Nations has recently issued a report stating that one third of the food intended for human consumption is lost or wasted—some 1.3 billion metric tons. The problem is one we have created by our actions, not by overpopulation. Source: *Time*, May 30, 2011, page 9.

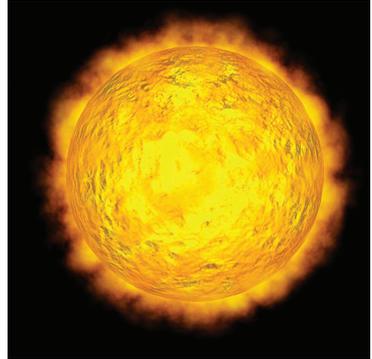


**MISUSE OF DIETARY CLAIMS.** We must be careful about dietary claims of any kind, but especially when those claims come from groups promoting a certain religious view. There are some writers who claim that because we eat synthetics we cannot live as long as Methuselah, and that chemical substitutes like aspartame sweetener are causing every ailment you can imagine. There are people who have a genetic disorder called phenylketonuria (PKU), and because they cannot process phenylalanine used in making aspartame they should avoid it. Claims that aspartame metabolizes into methanol, aspartic acid, and phenylalanine are true, but a cup of tomato juice produces six times as much methanol as a cup of diet soda and the methanol breaks down into water and carbon dioxide. Aspartic acid and phenylalanine are amino acids we need to survive. What goes into our minds is much more likely to cause problems than what an artificial sweetener might do to us. Be careful about foods, but do not buy into every claim made. Source: *Skeptic* magazine, volume 16, number 3, page 4.

**SYNTHESIS OF CARBON AND DESIGN.** How do you produce a carbon atom? The classic answer is by fusing three helium atoms, and this is proposed to take place only in the cores of helium-rich stars. What is needed is an energy-rich form of carbon produced by three very loosely linked helium nuclei. This makes a diffuse carbon nucleus called the Hoyle state carbon, and can only exist with other forms of carbon. Since 1954 physicists have been working on this process to calculate what energy is required for the carbon nucleus to exist. In the May 10, 2011, issue of *Scientific Computing* a joint report was issued by the University of Bonn, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, North Carolina State University, and Forschungszentrum Jülich stating that

the Hoyle state had been computed. If there is a specific energy for the carbon nucleus to exist, then life is limited even more than what was previously thought because a very specific environment and process would have to be present to produce the carbon. We have talked in this journal many times about environmental issues in space required for life, but this is a nuclear question and may be the best evidence yet that life cannot be explained by chance processes. Source: [www.scientificcomputing.com/news-DS-Fundamental-Question-on-How-Life-Started-Solved-051011.aspx](http://www.scientificcomputing.com/news-DS-Fundamental-Question-on-How-Life-Started-Solved-051011.aspx).

**NEW DATA ON SUN.** The design of stars to provide the energies needed to support life is amazing. Recent data on the sun shows that the amount of hydrogen that is converted to helium every second is 600 million tons. That is equivalent to the weight of all the coal burned in the United States in seven months. We have been provided with enough energy to supply our needs, we just need to learn how to use it better. Source: *Discover*, April, 2011, page 12.



**“THE SEARCH FOR THE HISTORICAL ADAM.”** This is the cover story of the June 2011 issue of *Christianity Today* (page 22). The basic question is whether genome studies have proven that man came from earlier animals and not from one man and one woman. The controversy has started with Francis Collins and his BioLogos Foundation which is dedicated to promoting theistic evolution. The genome of chimps was mapped in 2005 and when compared with humans is 95 to 99 percent a perfect match depending on what factors are included. Collins and his associates feel that is enough to say that we and the chimps have a common ancestor, and the *Christianity Today* article has theologians arguing about what that means. We have pointed out in this journal numerous times that what defines man is not his body. The biblical definition of man is that creature uniquely created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26–27). This has nothing to do with how the human body looks or even how God created it. What is it about man that allows us to worship God, create art, express ourselves in music and poetry, feel guilt, be sympathetic, and to be able to reason? We are not 95 percent the same as chimps in these features. The blueprints for the basement of my house and for my neighbor’s swimming pool are almost identical. To demand that my basement evolved from an ancient swimming pool is to force everything to be explained in a physical way and would make no sense

to anyone. In the same way the biblical message of God's creation of man is not primarily a physical event. God created man from the dust of the earth and placed within man and woman an eternal soul that is in His image. Demanding that God must have followed a physical human methodology is an exercise in futility.

**BIBLICAL MINIMALISM IN TROUBLE.** For a very long time there has been a constant struggle among scholars between those who thought the Bible was true and accurate and those who thought it was unreliable both factually and historically. Archaeological scholars who believe that much of the Hebrew Bible is merely myths written at a much later date are referred to as biblical minimalists. The latest wave of challenges to the Bible came about in the 1980s with some scholars claiming that ancient Israel never existed and that the stories of David and Solomon were myths unsupported by historical evidence. It is obvious that such viewpoints are used by atheists and skeptics to undermine the faith of the public, and in the past five years we have seen a growth in such attempts by people like Richard Dawkins. In the May/June 2011 issue of *Biblical Archeology Review* (page 46), there is an article by Yosef Garfinkel, who is the Yigael Yadin Chair of Archaeology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. The article is titled "The Birth and Death of Biblical Minimalism." The bottom line is that new archeological finds and more detailed studies of ancient finds have undercut the position of the biblical minimalists so badly that such a viewpoint cannot be seriously considered. Garfinkel says that the "mythological paradigm was nothing but a modern myth."

**MISCARRIAGES AND DEPRESSION.** A study of over thirteen thousand women who lost a child during pregnancy reported in the *British Journal of Psychiatry* has shown a high level of anxiety and depression in the women even when carrying another child to successful birth. The application to women having abortions should be obvious. Source: *Science News*, April 9, 2011, page 13.



**THE VALUE OF A CHURCH IN AMERICA.** Ram Cnaan from the University of Pennsylvania is a nonbeliever who has been studying the value of urban churches to the cities in which they are located. We have long maintained that people who suggest taxing churches do not understand how much the Church saves the community in counseling, crime prevention, alcohol and drug prevention, community services, suicide prevention, education, death arrangements, and employment. Cnaan's finds placed the average annual value for an urban church at almost half-a-million dollars. He plans to release a detailed report on a study he made of twelve churches in Philadelphia. One church in that city had an annual value to the economy of more than six million dollars. That economic value to the community is more than 10 times the church's annual budget. This points out that the tax issue is more complex than most people realize. Source: *Christianity Today*, April 2011, page 9.

**SETI INSTITUTE TURNS OFF E.T. SENSORS.** Lack of funds has caused the SETI Institute (Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence) in Mountain View, California, to turn off their receivers that are designed to search for radio signals from intelligent life on



Allen Telescope Array

other planets. Along with putting the existing receivers into “hibernation,” the plans for 42 more dishes at a cost of \$50 million has been put on hold. On their website they are asking for donations to “bring the Allen Telescope Array (ATA) back online and resume scanning the skies for intelligent life!” They say that, “This is a journey that will last our lifetimes, as we continually strive to get closer to answering the kinds of questions that may one day change everything about our world.” Since its founding in 1984 the SETI Institute has been listening for intelligent life in space,

but has found no evidence. We want to say again that the Bible is silent on the question of whether there is intelligent life elsewhere in the cosmos. Source: *San Jose (CA) Mercury News*, April 26, 2011.

**NEW TRANSLATIONS.** The Roman Catholic Church has released *The New American Bible* which is said to contain reordered passages and language improvements so that it is closer to the original text and better reflects modern usage. Zondervan has also released a new version of the *New International Version* which has been the most popular translation among Protestants. However, the new NIV is meeting resistance among many conservative Christians because of its efforts to be “gender neutral.”

**NEW YORK ATHEISTS ARE AT IT AGAIN.** In the March/April 2011 issue of this journal we reported on a billboard placed by atheists in the New York City area at Christmas time. It showed a manger scene with the caption, “You know it’s a myth—This Season Celebrate Reason.” Then in the last issue (July/August 2011) we reported that atheists in New York were demanding that the city change the name of a street honoring seven firefighters who were killed in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The name of the street near the fire station had been changed to “Seven in Heaven Way.” The atheists were saying that name violated the “separation of church and state” by using the word “heaven.” The president of the atheist organization was quoted as saying, “There should be no signage or displays of a religious nature in the public domain...” The reason he gave was “We’ve concluded as atheist there is no heaven and there’s no hell.” Now the New York atheists have filed a lawsuit against a display at the 9/11 memorial where the World Trade Center once stood. The item in question is two intersecting steel beams about 17-feet long that were found intact in the ashes and debris left at Ground Zero. The beams, of course, form the shape of a cross, and that is why the atheists object. Joe Daniels, the president of the 9/11 Memorial and Museum said that the cross is “an important part of our commitment to bring back the authentic physical reminders that tell the history of 9/11 in a way nothing else could.” Jordan Sekulow of the American Center of Law and Justice pointed out that the atheist group has no objection to Muslims building a huge mosque near the Ground Zero site which is being endorsed by government officials. Dave Silverman, president of American Atheists, said about the cross that it is “presented as a reminder that their god, who couldn’t be bothered to stop the Muslim terrorists or prevent 3,000 people from being killed in his name, cared only enough to bestow upon us some rubble that resembles a cross.” We would have to remind the atheists that God gives people free-will to act against His will, by killing innocent people, by blaspheming and denying His existence, and even by blaspheming and killing His only Son who came to redeem us from the sin of wrong choices. Thank God for the “rubble” of a wooden cross 2000 years ago. Source: FoxNews.com, July 27, 2011, and OneNewsNow.com, July 28, 2011.

This journal is a part of a program of service titled **Does God Exist?** The purpose of the program is to provide thinking, seeking people with scientific evidence that God does exist and that the Bible is His Word. It is our conviction that all men can logically and rationally believe in God. In addition to this bimonthly journal, the **Does God Exist?** program offers DVDs and video tapes, CDs and audio tapes, courses, books, and other materials. These materials are offered on a loan basis or at our cost. We also are more than willing to correspond with you and answer any specific question(s) you might have. If you would like further information on borrowing or purchasing these materials, we would be glad to send it to you. Check the boxes below to describe what you would like and mail it to us. We will get it right out to you.

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