

JANUARY

"HE THAT HONOURS ME, I WILL HONOUR."

– Anonymous note given to martyred missionary and national Scottish Hero, Eric Liddell (1902-1945), before he competed in the 400 meter race at the 1924 Olympics. Liddell refused to run the race he had trained for (the 100 metres) because it was held on Sunday and felt this would dishonor the Lord. With little time to train for the 400 metres race (which was held on a weekday), he miraculously won the gold medal.

"...For I will honor those who honor Me. And those who hate Me will not be honored."

– 1 Samuel 2:30b (ESV)



JANUARY 1

Did you know that there is a sea slug (*Elysia chlorotica*) which behaves and looks like a leaf? This animal lives in the salt marshes along the coast of North America and steals chloroplasts from algae. You may be wondering, “Why would an animal want to steal chloroplasts?” Chloroplasts are organelles (like tiny machines) in which photosynthesis takes place. Plants use sunlight to convert carbon dioxide and water into the plant’s food, and it is within the chloroplasts that photosynthesis takes place. Chloroplasts contain chlorophyll which is what makes plants green.

This slug feeds on filamentous algae by cutting it open and sucking up the algae’s chloroplasts, almost like slurping down a milkshake through a straw. Specially designed cells line the wall of this slug’s digestive tract which allows it to store the algae’s chloroplasts without digesting them. The sea slug eats lots of these chloroplasts during its transition from larva to adult. Once it reaches its 2-inch-long adult shape, the slug has all the chloroplasts it needs to survive for the rest of its life (about one year). **Here is an animal that survives by feeding itself using the food generating machinery stolen from a plant!** When the sun shines, the animal eats. Even more curious is the shape of the sea slug - it looks like a leaf!



Think of the hundreds of chemical and biological changes needed for this animal to start using a plant’s food-making mechanisms. They all had to happen at once or nothing would have worked. How was it able to not digest a certain part of the plant? How did it know to store the chloroplasts? And how did the sea slug know what a leaf looked like? Slugs don’t know these things, but an intelligent Creator does. God shows His creativity through the creatures He has made!



The earth is the LORD’S, and the fulness thereof;
the world, and they that dwell therein.
– Psalm 24:1 (KJV)

JANUARY 2

In the Minnesota Museum of Mining in Chisholm, MN, visitors are surprised to see a sign next to stone candlesticks which reads, “petrified candles.”



These rock candlesticks were found in an underground mine. **How could wax candles become petrified in such a short period of time?** Up until World War II, most mines were dug via underground tunnels. Miners were given a weekly ration of 5-6 candlesticks. They would attach one to their helmet and stash others in openings in the mine walls. Many of these underground mines were wet and had to be constantly pumped out.

After World War II, the underground mines were closed; pumps were turned off and many of the mines flooded with water. With the need for iron increasing, open pit mining became popular. As the miners were digging these open pits, they would come across the old drifts and shafts which contained forgotten mining items. Candlesticks were one such item. Some of the candlesticks were found to be petrified. How did they become petrified? Mineralized waters saturated the soft wax candles turning them into rocks. Does it take millions of years to petrify as commonly believed? No - just the right conditions.

Iron is taken from the earth...they search out the farthest recesses for ore in the blackest darkness. Far from human dwellings they cut a shaft... - Job 28:2-4 (NIV)

JANUARY 3

The large number of comets still circling our sun is direct observational evidence that the solar system is quite young. This observation is inconvenient baggage to the philosophical belief that the solar system evolved long ago rather than being recently created. In order to explain the presence of abundant comets still present within our solar system, Dutch astronomer Jan Hendrik Oort proposed that there is a depository containing billions of comets outside of our solar system which has occasionally kicked new comets into orbit around our sun. A comet is made up mostly of ice and dust with smaller amounts of carbon dioxide, ammonia, and methane.

This “solution” to the dilemma of how these comets could still exist if the solar system were billions of years old has become a dogmatic belief taught within astronomy. However, this cloud of ice balls has never been observed, nor have any new comets purportedly originating from it been identified. Furthermore, it has been shown to be statistically improbable to account for even a fraction of existing comets in this way. In essence, what Oort did was add an unobserved “fudge factor” to explain the existence of comets within the dogma of a billion-year-old solar system. A fudge factor is a made-up addition to a problem to produce the answer you desire. It is a story. This fudge factor of modern astronomy **(The Oort Cloud) is no different than using your imagination to add extra numbers to a math problem in order to get the answer you believe to be correct.** Fudge factors, whether in math problems or astronomy, will never lead to the truth – our solar system was recently created by God.

Your word, LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. – Psalm 119:89 (NIV)

JANUARY 4

Your body has 11 different systems that work seamlessly together. This unified ‘system of systems’ had to work perfectly from the moment of creation. Consider these 11 systems:

1. **Respiratory system:** brings oxygen into our body through our lungs and expels carbon dioxide.
2. **Digestive system:** processes which bring nutrients into our body while eliminating waste.
3. **Circulatory system:** pumps blood with nutrients and oxygen to every cell in our body.
4. **Immune system:** sends white blood cells to battle pathogens and clears the body of toxins.
5. **Urinary system:** cleans our blood through the kidneys and removes waste.
6. **Endocrine system:** glands which produce hormones to regulate growth, sleep, reproduction, mood, and metabolism.
7. **Nervous system:** our bodies’ electrical wiring; allows the brain to send and receive signals that zip through the body.
8. **Muscular system:** allowing us to move, talk, and express emotions
9. **Integumentary system:** our skin, hair, nails.
10. **Skeletal system:** sturdy bones to support our body.
11. **Reproductive system:** enables us to produce new human beings.

Each one of these systems is very complex and well designed in itself! Yet, all 11 systems are also interdependent. If you remove one system, it affects the other systems. For example, the respiratory system provides oxygen, the digestive system supplies nutrients, and the circulatory system sends the oxygen and nutrients around the body to the cells. All three must be working simultaneously or the body will die. Evolution cannot explain even one system’s gradual step-by-step development - let alone having 11 of these complex systems working simultaneously and interdependently! The only possible explanation for the existence of the human body is that there is a great designer that put it all together at once. That Designer is Jesus, our Creator and our Savior!



I will praise Thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. - Psalm 139:14 (KJV)

JANUARY 5

Was he a monkey or a man? That was the question before visitors to the Bronx New York Zoo in the early 1900s. "Where is the pygmy?" was a common question from an estimated 40,000 visitors. "In the monkey house," came the reply. Sure enough, housed with an orangutan was Ota Benga, on display to promote the belief in human evolution to a gullible public.

Darwin believed that humans descended from apes and that some races were less evolved. **Evolution is firmly rooted in blatant racism.** Darwin was so convinced that blacks were an "inferior race" of less evolved humans that he wrote, "*The civilized races of man will almost certainly exterminate and replace throughout the world the savage races...the break will then be rendered wider...than the Caucasian and some ape as low as a baboon, instead of as at present between the negro or Australian and the gorilla.*" This idea permeated the thinking of the intellectual community for the next 100 years. As late as the 1960s, Afro-Americans were still being sterilized and prejudice was being justified throughout the South on the basis of science and evolution. The abuse of Ota Benga, 23-year-old, 4'11" tall, 103-pound man brought over from the Congo is representative of the evils evolution has spawned. The unsuspecting public was taught that pygmies were "*small apelike, elfish creatures*" that "*exhibit many ape-like features in their bodies.*"

In reality, pygmies are intelligent, talented, nimble, quick, and superior hunters. Ota Benga was culturally different, not inferior. Other pygmies were also brought to America for evil purposes. Falsely assuming brain size to be an index of intelligence, scientists murdered a pygmy, severed his head from his body, and boiled it down to measure his brain size. They were amazed to find the pygmy had a larger brain than American statesman Daniel Webster. We should look back in horror at the evil fruits of the belief in human evolution.

The Bible documents a different view - that all humans are brothers and sisters. **We are all closely related as descendants of Adam and Eve.** We did not evolve from apes! There are no races. In fact, the Bible does not even use the word race when speaking of people, but it does say we are "*one blood.*"

And hath made of one blood all nations of men
for to dwell on all the face of the earth...
- Acts 17:26 (KJV)

JANUARY 6

Have you ever thought of how a pine tree protects itself when injured? Resin is the thick, yellowish, sticky, can't-get-it-off-my-hands substance found seeping from evergreen trees.

This aromatic substance is the trees' antiseptic lotion - oozing from a damaged part of a tree. It prevents fungi and insects from attacking the tree where it has been cut open. Insects can often be seen stuck in the sticky resin.

If the resin becomes fossilized, it is amber. Today, amber jewelry is very popular - and especially valuable if it contains a trapped insect. Traditionally, tree resins were used to make aromatic incense, like frankincense and myrrh. Resin is collected from the tree and allowed to harden. When burned, the hardened resin releases a fragrant aroma. Man has found many uses for resin - sealing ships, turpentine, lacquer, jewelry, and incense. All are wonderful products, but the reason resin exists is to protect the tree from fungi and insects. Resin is a tree's bandage! Do bandages happen by accident and chance? NO. Then why would anyone believe that a tree's bandage happened by accident and chance? A pine tree's yellowish, sticky, oozing substance had to have a maker, and that Band-Aid[™] Maker is God.

But I will restore you to health and heal your
wounds, declares the LORD.
- Jeremiah 30:17 (NIV)

JANUARY 7

Scientists get bogged down with trying to define intelligence and how to measure it. The bigger the head, the smarter the person...right? Did you realize that men's brains are on average about 10% larger than women's? Did you also know that our brains shrink as we get older? That would then mean that men are more intelligent than women and teenagers are smarter than adults. **Something is obviously wrong with the brain size versus intelligence theory.**

Since the 1800s, evolutionary paleontologists have lined up skulls of monkeys, apes, and various humans in order of brain size. They assume that smaller cranial capacity means a person is less evolved, therefore less intelligent. What scientists are discovering is that **brain size does not determine intelligence.** If so, elephants with their huge brains would be way smarter than humans! Ravens are smarter than monkeys. Yet, ravens have a smaller brain size (14 g or the size of a walnut) than a monkey (53 g or the size of a pear). It was found that ravens have more densely packed neurons than monkeys. So, is it the packing of neurons in the brain that make you smarter? What about synapses?

It has been determined that the number of synapses (bridges between neurons) determines overall intelligence. This is called synaptic density. Intelligence is more closely related to the total number of brain cells and connections rather than the old evolutionary assumption of skull size. *Homo floresiensis* is a recently found fully human fossil from the Indonesian island of Flores. It had an extremely small body and skull. Nicknamed "the Hobbit," he had a cranial capacity of just 400 cc - yet made stone tools and built boats. Neanderthal brain size is about 1350cc (larger than modern humans). They buried their dead, painted on cave walls, hunted in groups, made musical instruments, did leatherwork, and developed inventive adhesives. Both were fully functioning humans. Brain size does not determine the human kind. More importantly, no matter how science determines intelligence, we all have the ability to know God.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom:
and the knowledge of the holy
is understanding. – Proverbs 9:10 (KJV)

JANUARY 8

What is the fastest creature on earth? The peregrine falcon. During its steep dive, it can exceed more than 200 miles/hour (322 km/hr.). From its streamlined body to swept-back wings, **this raptor is designed to dive.** But what about its eyes? How do the eyes stay focused on prey a mile away and adjust its missile-like trajectory as needed?

1. The falcon has 4-5 times more visual cells in its retina than we do.
2. The falcon has a third clear eyelid, a nictitating membrane.

It's like having flying goggles so the wind doesn't dry out the eyes.

3. Just below the peregrine's eyes are dark patches, which works like a football players' dark patches for minimizing glare.

Breathing is the next critical design issue at such accelerated speeds. If it were not for the falcon's specialized cone-shaped bone protruding from its nostrils, the bird could not breathe while diving at these speeds. This bone acts as a baffle to deflect shockwaves of air away from the nasal passage, allowing the falcon to breathe while diving. **Engineers have, in essence, copied this design with the cone at the opening of jet engines.** When flying at supersonic speeds, engines can "choke." The air flow seems to "hit a wall" and flows around the engine resulting in the jet stalling. With the cone in place, air flows through the engine opening instead of around it. All large jet engines have these cones at their center. Human engineers had to solve this problem for jets flying at supersonic speeds, just as the Engineer of the peregrine falcon had to solve this same problem for the fastest creature on Earth. If I see design, why isn't there a designer? Jets have people, peregrine falcons have God.



Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all
the Earth! – Psalm 8:1 (NIV)

JANUARY 9

How do I get nutrients from an apple into my big toe? Your part is merely to chew and swallow the apple – your body does the rest through the digestive process. After thoroughly chewing, it enters a 10-inch long tube called the esophagus, flows past the opening to the lungs (without a speck of apple pouring into them), and arrives in the stomach. The top of the stomach has a valve (the esophageal sphincter) which opens to let food in and closes once it arrives; while the bottom of the stomach has another valve (the pyloric sphincter) which opens at just the right moment in the digestive process to let the food out.

Muscles in your stomach mix the apple with acids and enzymes. Powerful hydrochloric acid dissolves the apple. Question: If the stomach is able to dissolve an apple, then why isn't your stomach digested? No one has been able to answer this question fully, but we do know that the cells in a stomach's lining are constantly and rapidly replaced. When your apple is thoroughly mixed and dissolved, a signal is sent to the lower sphincter to open and the mixture is released into the small intestine.

If there is oil in the food, it triggers the gall bladder to release chemicals which help dissolve the oil. Other complex digestive chemicals are released from the pancreas. These juices are critical for breaking down fats, proteins, and carbohydrates into smaller particles. The apple mush continues to move through the 20 feet of the small intestine. Through its entire length, tiny fingers called villi are protruding from the walls. These villi absorb any valuable nutrients from the apple and send them into the blood vessels. Now an entire new system, the circulatory system, has to take over to carry the food to every cell in your body. So that is how an apple gets to your big toe! Meanwhile, any food not absorbed is sent to the large intestine and out of your body.

Did this incredible system “evolve” over millions of years? Notice how many parts are needed to make the digestive system work: mouth, esophagus, stomach, small intestine with villi, gall bladder, pancreas, and large intestine. If the villi were not there from the beginning, we would not be able to absorb food. What if the stomach hadn't evolved? What if there were no valves to allow the food in and out? All the parts had to be there from the beginning, or we would be long dead. When we see a system with lots of parts working together, we know there must be a system maker. What a system Maker is our God!

Your hands made me and formed me; give me understanding to learn your commands.
– Psalm 119:73 (NIV)

JANUARY 10

Do you lay awake at night thinking about slug slime? Apparently, some researchers do! There is one slug species found in North America and Western Europe, *Arion subfuscus*, which glues itself to wet surfaces when scared. The slug's glue remains soft and stretchy as birds try to pry them off the sidewalk. **Slugs glued to wet sidewalks are much more difficult for birds to remove!** Glue that works on wet surfaces is needed for surgeries, a glue that can repair organs without stitches or staples. Slime from scared slugs to the rescue!

However, scientists were not able to start slapping slug slime onto patient wounds immediately because how would they get enough slime to supply the market need? Imagine lining up slugs in front of a screen to watch movies of scary birds... and then collecting their slime as they glued themselves to their seats! **Slug farms just didn't seem practical.** Instead, they studied the slime to discover how it worked. The result was a nontoxic, super-stretchy, works-on-wet-surfaces, super-wound glue.

So, what is the lesson? If you want to be a great inventor, look at what God has created and just copy Him (He doesn't mind at all!) Who would have thought that slug slime would inspire a wonderful new flexible medical glue? What a “slugger” of an idea!



But now ask the beasts, and they will teach you;
And the birds of the air, and they will tell you.
– Job 12:7 (NKJV)

JANUARY 11

Why would land animals be buried with ocean animals in the same fossil bed? Recently a duck billed dinosaur (hadrosaur) was found in a layer of ocean stratum. In 1999, south of Lima, Peru, a fossil graveyard of both marine and land creatures was uncovered in the same “aged” layer. There, marine creatures - sharks, whales, fish, turtles, seals, and porpoises were buried with land creatures - ground sloth and penguins. In Egypt, a fossil crab was found alongside a dinosaur. In Mongolia, Belgium, Tanzania, and at other sites, including Agate Springs, Nebraska are found a variety of animals mixed with sea and fish life.

If you believe in evolution, these land animals evolved millions of years after marine life and would not be buried together. If you believe in a global flood, then these fossils are not out of place. The Flood waters poured onto land along with the contents of the oceans - marine animals. These marine animals were buried with the land animals because they had been swept up in the tsunamis covering the land. Marine animals buried with land animals are not a problem for the catastrophic worldwide Flood that is mentioned in the historical book called the Bible.

And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; everything that is in the earth shall die. - Genesis 6:17 (KJV)

JANUARY 12

When looking at the fossil record as a whole, what do we find?

- 95% are marine invertebrate, those without a backbone or vertebra. This would include clams, coral, and trilobites.
- 5% are plants such as algae, ferns, or buried trees.
- < 1% of all fossils are vertebra - primarily fish.

After 150 years of searching, the total number of nearly complete dinosaur skeletons is estimated to be only about 2,000 “good skeletons.”

Why are most fossils marine invertebrates? During a worldwide flood, the creatures buried first would have been ocean invertebrates. As the tsunamis swept over the land, they carried with them marine creatures, burying them in massive numbers. Meanwhile, land creatures moved to higher ground but finally succumbed to the flood waters. Most animals would bloat, float, and would rarely have been preserved as fossils. Occasionally, flood waters could have swirled some into areas where they were covered by sediments creating dinosaur graveyards. **The fossil record is best understood as a result of the Genesis Flood.**

[The waters] rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered. – Genesis 7:19 (NIV)

JANUARY 13

Have you considered the cardinal fish that lives in the reefs of tropical oceans? Once a female cardinal fish's eggs are fertilized, the male scoops them into his large mouth. But even if dad is hungry, he does not eat the eggs, but rather, protects them. For the next 10 days, he incubates them in his closed mouth until they hatch. Imagine holding something in your mouth for 10 days without swallowing it! To make sure they receive enough oxygen, he will open his mouth every minute so that the eggs receive a fresh supply of oxygen-containing water. When hatched, the fingerlings (baby fish) swim in and out of his mouth until they are ready to be on their own. **From**

fertilization until the young fish are on their own, the father eats absolutely nothing!

Cardinal fish survive by eating small fish and other sea creatures around a reef. Why does the male not eat his own babies? How does he know to protect them in his mouth? If animals evolve by "survival-of-the-fittest," why wouldn't the first male cardinal fish have eaten his young? If he had, there would have been no more cardinal fish. For the male to care for his young in such a manner shows love and creativity, which points to a Creator. God loves to amaze us with His creation!

The Lord will keep you from all harm – he will watch over your life. – Psalm 121:7 (NIV)

JANUARY 14

Survival-of-the-fittest has always been a central teaching of the theory of evolution. It is the idea that if any organism is more fit, it will have an advantage and ultimately take over an animal group and become dominant in an environment. If this happens over and over again, evolutionists believe one animal can change into a completely different type of animal. But what makes an organism more fit? It has some characteristic allowing more of its offspring to survive than another similar animal in its vicinity.

Let's examine this idea in more detail. Suppose an animal in one generation decides to eat its young. During its lifetime, that animal would have a huge advantage. It would have a readily available food source and become far more "fit for survival" than other animals that did not eat their offspring. Yet this logical advantage would end the existence of its genetic line. Animals do not have foresight. They cannot see into the future to understand the consequences of their current actions. Evolution cannot explain how any animal could have learned to protect the next generation at great cost to its own existence (not eating a readily available food source nor eating anything for weeks).

A central mechanism of evolution, survival-of-the-fittest, does not work when we take time to think about it more closely. What does match reality is that all organisms were preprogrammed accurately and completely from the moment of creation.

They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshipped and served created things rather than the Creator – who is to be praised.
– Romans 1:25 (NIV)

JANUARY 15

Penguins are birds, which mean they have feathers. Penguins hop in and out of the freezing Antarctic Ocean in an environment where winds can reach 90 m.p.h. (144 km/hr.) One would think ice would cake up all over their feathers. Yet penguins are able to handle extremely cold temperatures AND remain ice-free!

Using a scanning electron microscope, researchers were able to study the fine details of the penguin's feathers. The feathers contained the typical network of barbs, barbules, and miniature interlocking hooks, but also had "many elaborate wrinkles." Not only were there "elaborate wrinkles," but the feather structure had microscopic grooves causing air entrapment on a microscale. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry* reported that this miniature structure, along with the penguin's special preening oil, kept super-cooled water from sticking. Researchers then built a replica of the Humboldt penguin's feathers and no ice formed even when the model was sprayed for hours with super-cooled water. Scientists have copied the feather's **unique structural design in an effort to develop an ice-free fiber membrane.** Penguin feathers have a wonderful architectural design which means there had to be an architect. There is and He is God.



He does great things beyond searching out,
and marvelous things beyond number.
– Job 9:10 (ESV)

JANUARY 16

When you step outside on a starry night, thousands of visible stars shine down upon you (unless light pollution is hiding them). Which stars do you connect to make a picture? It is not that easy. Yet in essentially every early culture around the world, you find the same pictures recognized - constellation names and patterns.

Orion the hunter is found in Greek mythology AND with Indigenous Australian people. Another example is the star cluster called Seven Sisters (or Pleiades) which is also found in both Greek mythology and Australian Aboriginal dream stories as well as mentioned three times in the Bible. Surprisingly, the stories are the same. How did Greek mythology transfer to an isolated aboriginal "stone age" culture? Evolutionary anthropologists are fairly certain that no such contact took place. Then how can they have the same constellations and stories? References to the Seven Sisters also appear in early Guatemalan cultures, Ukrainian folklore, and about 15 other people groups. In fact, the early Andean farmers of South America used the Pleiades to decide when to plant. At a certain time of year, if they saw the Seven Sisters dimming day after day, they knew the rains would be late and, therefore, delayed planting. The Seven Sisters are not spectacular and nothing about these seven brighter stars in a group of about 800 stars shows sisters or even a woman. Yet, this concept shows up in various early cultures across the world. **This suggests a common origin.**

When we read the history of people in the Bible, we find that ALL peoples/cultures of the world today are descendants of those that dispersed from the tower of Babel about 4,000 years ago. As the people groups moved out to fill the earth, they brought with them the same knowledge of the same constellations.

These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the people of the whole earth were dispersed. - Genesis 9:19 (ESV)

JANUARY 17

Millions of fossilized clams have been found in sedimentary layers around the world. Billions probably exist. So what, you may ask; fossils are common everywhere. But **these clams are found with their two halves firmly shut.** Who cares about closed clams? Those looking for the truth about the past!

Clams have two shells that are hinged together. When a clam dies, its muscles relax and the shell naturally opens. Yet, around the world, we find fossilized clams in a closed position. **Clams are “digging machines” that can easily burrow out, even if they are suddenly buried in more than ten feet of sediment.** The fact that billions are buried with their shells closed means they were buried alive, buried fast, and buried very, very deep! Rapid, deep, catastrophic burial is exactly what we would expect from the Genesis Flood. So the next time you see a fossil clam, check to see if it is closed; if it is, it was buried alive and died in the Flood of Noah. **Fossilized** closed clams witness to the worldwide Genesis Flood and the accuracy of God’s Word!

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD is upon many waters. The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.
– Psalm 29:3-4 (KJV)



JANUARY 18

Does your skin have the same sensitivity all over your body? No, some parts are more sensitive than other parts. Why? Because the number of nerve endings vary with location. There are actually about 20 different types of nerve sensors: touch, temperature, and pain are examples. Each sensation is produced by a different type of nerve receptor. The more nerve endings in a patch of skin, the more sensitive that spot is to its specific sensation. **Certain patches of skin are far more sensitive to touch than others** - the most sensitive being our fingertips, hands, face, and lips. Your fingertips have more touch sensing nerve endings than the palm of your hands or your legs. Have you noticed how your legs are not as sensitive to touch as your fingertips? If we had the same concentration of “fingertip” touch nerve endings distributed all over the body, our brain would be overwhelmed with information.

Yet when it comes to heat and cold, our hands and face have fewer temperature sensing nerve endings than the rest of the body. That is why you can leave your face exposed when you go outside in the winter and not feel the cold. Your hands may feel comfortable touching bath water, so in you go...then you discover the water is too hot. That is why mothers test a baby’s bath water with their elbows (which are far more sensitive to temperature changes than the hands). Also, they test the temperature of baby’s formula on their wrist.

If evolution were true, then how did we get certain patches of skin that are more sensitive than others? And how were certain areas chosen? If our fingertips were not touch sensitive, then how would we pick up a thin dime? What if our feet were as touch sensitive as our fingertips, could we even walk? **Our skin, with its varied distribution of nerve endings, did not haphazardly come together,** but was wonderfully designed. If there is a design, there must be a Designer and He is God!

Thou hast clothed me with skin and flesh... - Job 10:11 (KJV)



JANUARY 19

The Portuguese man o' war is one crazy looking animal (well, really it is a colony of four types of polyps which can't survive by themselves). Its gas-filled, blue bladder floats on the ocean surface (acting like a sail, because it can't swim) and it has long tentacles which can stretch as much as 150 feet below the surface (acting like fishing lines). Each tentacle is armed with thousands of poisonous stinging cells (called nematocysts) which it uses to stun and capture its prey. The stings from the Portuguese man o' war are excruciatingly painful for humans, but don't cause death. Fish make up 70-90 % of the Portuguese man o' war's diet. Yet a little fish, called the Man of War fish or bluebottle fish (*Nomeus grenovii*), makes the Portuguese man o' war's tentacles its home (There are several others, including the yellow jack and clown fish). How can it survive when most other fish are paralyzed and eaten?

This type of fish can tolerate much stronger venom than other fish and skillfully avoids touching most of the nematocysts on the stinging tentacles. The bluebottle fish benefits the Portuguese man o' war by being a fishing lure to attract prey that cannot withstand the stinging tentacles. The Man of War fish eats leftovers - keeping the tentacles clean and even nibbling on the tentacles (which grow back.) It also receives protection from larger fish wishing to eat them. **So, the little Man of War fish gets food and housing while the Portuguese man o' war gets a fishing lure and a housekeeper!**

Evolution believes this relationship came about by accident and chance mutations. How did this relationship begin? And how did the Portuguese man o' war know it needed a housekeeper and fishing lure? This relationship was designed with a purpose. A win-win purpose. Such a design points to a designer and that Designer is God. If a little fish can trust in God's protection, how much more can we!

O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that trusts in him. – Psalm 34:8 (KJV)

JANUARY 20

Have you ever heard of stinging ocean waters? Swimmers often feel the stinging effects of the upside-down jellyfish, even if they do not touch the jellyfish. These upside-down swimming jellies are found in the warm coastal waters from the Florida Keys to Australia to the Red Sea. Upside-down jellies feed by releasing a cloud of mucus.

The mucus is then sucked back in, containing stunned shrimp and plankton. What is in the mucus that stings and immobilizes the jellyfish prey? Scientists found microscopic stinging cells, called nematocysts.

Most jellyfish have nematocysts attached to their tentacles. Upside-down jellyfish have a different technique for stunning their prey - they launch stinging cells by mixing them with mucus and "spitting" them upward into the water. These tiny masses of stinging cells are able to move independently because of tiny attached filaments. These jellyfish literally produce "moving torpedoes." Each torpedo is covered with thousands of stinging cells. What an ingenious way to stun and eat prey. Do we believe torpedoes happen by accident and chance? Then how could the upside-down jellyfish's torpedoes happen by mutational accident and chance. If you are ever swimming in the ocean and the water starts to sting you, you are probably being "torpedoed" by a jellyfish.

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods...The sea is His and He made it... - Psalm 95:3,5 (KJV)

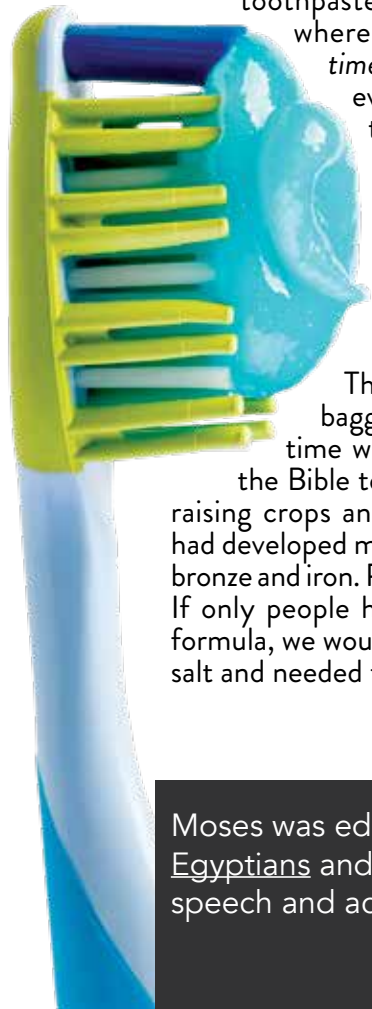
JANUARY 21

What's the oldest toothpaste formula? Prior to the time of Colgate in 1873, people used soapy water with salt to brush their teeth. Yum! So was Colgate the first to invent good tasting toothpaste? Not even close!

The oldest toothpaste formula was found written on the back of a Egyptian papyrus document dating from the 4th century A.D. The recipe written down for "*white and perfect teeth*" called for soot, gum Arabic, mint, salt, grains of pepper, and dried iris flowers. **The dried iris flowers were the main ingredient in the formula.** What is surprising is that dental researchers have only recently discovered the beneficial properties of the iris flowers. It has been found to be an **effective deterrent against gum disease.** Egyptian toothpaste was presented at a dental convention, where it was described as being "*ahead of its time.*" WAY AHEAD OF ITS TIME! It was even noted by the papyrus researchers that the toothpaste formula was written by someone who knew medicine, for he used abbreviations for medical terms. One dentist at the convention brushed his teeth with it and said, "*I found that it was not unpleasant...afterwards my mouth felt fresh and clean.*"

The belief in evolution carries with it the baggage of assuming that the farther back in time we go the less intelligent people were. Yet the Bible tells us that Adam and Eve's children were raising crops and livestock and within eight generations had developed musical instruments and forged tools out of bronze and iron. People have always been smart and creative. If only people had passed down the ancient toothpaste formula, we wouldn't have needed to use soapy water with salt and needed to re-invent toothpaste!

Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action. - Acts 7:22 (NIV)



JANUARY 22

Have you considered how the Closed Bottle Gentian (*Gentiana andrewsii*) is pollinated? This late summer-fall flower found in many paraires and mashlands of Northeastern America remains closed. **The flower petals do not open when in bloom!** But big burly bumblebees force open the closed petals and crawl inside. There they find a rich source of nectar made by the nectarines (glands in the flower). The bumblebee's long tube-shaped tongue sucks up the nectar. During this time, the bumblebee gets covered with pollen. After leaving the flower, it finds another Closed Bottle Gentian, forces open the closed petals, and crawls inside. While eating more nectar, some of the pollen it has been carrying falls off - thus pollinating the next flower.

Only bumblebees pollinate this flower. **They are the only insect burly enough to get inside the flower.** The bumblebee pollinates the Closed Bottle Gentian and the Closed Bottle Gentian gives the bumblebee a rich supply of nectar. Both benefit (mutualism) and, furthermore, cross-pollination produces stronger seeds. What advantage is it to a flower to be difficult to pollinate? How did this flower know a big burly bumblebee could open it up and get inside? Flowers with tightly closed petals and hard to get nectar would be at a continuous disadvantage over long periods of time and go extinct - not thrive. From the beginning, a bumblebee and the Bottle Gentian had to work together. As you take a walk in the early Fall, look for this violet colored flower and take a close look at how God designed this flower to be pollinated.

...Great and marvelous are thy works,
Lord God Almighty... - Rev. 15:3 (KJV)



JANUARY 23

Built for speed - that is the design of a cheetah. Cheetahs are the fastest land animals. They can go from 0 to 60 m.p.h. in 3 seconds! To be able to run that fast requires special design features. A heavy lion's body (550 pounds on a four-foot frame) would not work well on the cheetah's three-foot frame, so cheetahs weigh in at a lighter weight 80-140 pounds. Check out these other design features:

- The main design change needed to support its speed is its spine - it is highly flexible, curving in and out with each stride. In fact, the vertebrae can even spread apart!
- The hind legs have a high percentage of fast-twitch muscle fibers allowing for explosive energy.
- The cheetah has an Aextra-large heart and lungs; and oxygen comes in through the extra-wide nostrils, allowing the muscles to be well oxygenated.
 - It's one thing to be speeding along, it's another to be able to see without blurriness. Cheetahs have extra neurons in the eyes to help their focus remain sharp. To reduce glare, cheetahs have those black tear lines under the eyes, now copied by football player's black face paint lines.
 - But what about not crashing at these speeds? It's in the tail! The long tail swings back and forth working like a boat rudder stabilizing and counterbalancing. The tail allows for sudden sharp turns at high speeds.
 - The cheetah's semi-retractable claws act like cleats - gripping the ground.

Cheetahs are uniquely built for speed; this did not come about by accident and chance over eons of time. Just as when we see a Ferrari, we know there must be a race car designer; the fast-moving cheetah had a Designer and He is God.

Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. – Hebrews 12:1b (NIV)



JANUARY 24

Have you heard of fossilized dinosaur eggs? How do they fit into the flood of Noah's day? First though, are dinosaur fossilized eggs rare? No. Since 1996, paleontologists have discovered almost 200 locations with dinosaur eggs. At one location in Spain there are as many as 300,000 eggs. In the U.S.A., Egg Mountain in Montana has dozens of egg clutches. In Argentina, thousands of eggs are found in six different rock layers within several square miles. Worldwide, millions of eggs and hundreds of egg clutches have been found.

Interestingly, the egg clutches are in close proximity. **Eggs are rarely found inside the dinosaur mom; finding a developing embryo inside the egg is also very rare.** Paleontologists find very few egg nests. Most of the eggs are laid on flat, bare sediments. (Alligators and crocodiles lay eggs in "nests" they have dug and then covered their eggs in sediment or vegetation). Many of the fossilized dino eggs show unusual traits such as double shells or thin, easily broken shells.

These eggs were rapidly laid in the midst of an enormous worldwide catastrophe – Noah's Flood. The stress of the rising flood would have caused many pregnant females to rapidly drop their eggs on flat, bare sediments without taking time to prepare nests or allow the eggs to properly develop. The poor diet of fleeing dinosaurs might also have caused the eggs to lack calcium, having a thin shell. Other females, attempting to delay laying, could have produced eggs with a double shell. These eggs would have been subsequently buried by rapidly rising, sediment-filled water and later became fossilized.

Do we see eggs becoming fossils today? No, it takes special conditions and the flood of Noah's day would have provided those conditions. When you see a fossilized dino egg in a textbook, museum, or on the internet - *you are looking at an egg laid by a stressed-out dinosaur trying to escape the judgment of the Genesis Flood.*

And me hand reached to the riches of the peoples like a nest, and as one gathers abandoned eggs, I gathered all the earth.
- Isaiah 10:14 (NSAB)

JANUARY 25

Have you considered that the plant called the skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) has its own hand warmers? This Eastern North American woodland plant emerges from the ground in late winter when snow is still on the ground. When you are walking through the snow, you may notice a few slushy spots. Take a closer look and see if there are thick leaves in the center, the size of a softball with flowers. Now smell them. Does it have a “skunky” smell? Then it is skunk cabbage.

Other spring flowers are still in winter dormancy. This remarkable plant can generate its own heat! **It melts the snow in its vicinity by maintaining a temperature of 72°F.** How can a plant make its own heat? Scientists have found that skunk cabbages’ cells contain mitochondria. Within these mitochondria is an enzyme called alternative oxidase (AOX). AOX is used in an exothermic chemical reaction, producing heat which melts the snow. In a similar way, commercial hand warmers contain chemicals that combine with oxygen to produce heat.

We know that someone made the hand warmers, that they did not come about by mutational accident and chance. Then why would we say the skunk cabbage, with its ability to produce heat for several weeks, happened by accident and chance. When we see hand warmers we know that there must be a hand warmer maker. When we see skunk cabbage with their own hand warmers, we know that someone made it, and that Someone was God.

Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.” - Genesis 1:11,13 (NIV)



JANUARY 26

How does a skunk cabbage help a bear? It is early spring, and the black bears have been in winter hibernation for months. **They can go 100 days without eating, drinking, urinating, defecating, or exercising.** When they emerge from their dens, they seek out skunk cabbages. This flower grows in late winter or early spring and emits a slight skunky odor. Skunk cabbage is sometime called bearweed because bears love to eat the buds and leaves. The bears have not defecated for a long time. There is a fecal plug up to a foot long in their lower intestines. That plug has to be unplugged before feasting on grubs and grasses.

Enter in the skunk cabbage - it’s literally the bear’s laxative. When the bear eats this plant, things get moving and the bear becomes unplugged. Skunk cabbage restores their normal bowel movements. Remember, skunk cabbage are among one of the very first spring plants to emerge and snow is often still present. The skunk cabbage is there for the bear at the exact time the bear needs it. Happen by chance? We would have a lot of plugged-up bears if the skunk cabbage was not present! **God’s ready-made pharmacy!** Evolution can’t explain this, but our Creator can!

...if you accept my words and store up my commands within you...then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. - Proverbs 2:1,5 (NIV)

JANUARY 27

Where does beauty come from? Did beauty evolve by accident and chance over eons of time as evolutionists believe? No. Look at a beautiful, intricately designed flower. Furthermore, there is no evidence that pollenating insects are attracted to beautiful flowers, such as orchids, dahlias, or roses, to a higher degree than to the drab flowers of weeds. Did flowers get together and decide to become beautiful? No. Flowers do not have brains. **Randomness does not create beauty.**

How about a butterfly's beauty? Where did that come from? Butterflies are like winged flowers – absolutely stunning in their colorful designs! Yet, butterflies come from worm-like caterpillars. Did these worm-like caterpillars get together and decide to become “jeweled” flying flowers? Did they program their DNA with beauty genes? No, caterpillars have no ability to create beauty.

Even the setting sun can paint the entire sky with a vast array of beautiful colors. **Everywhere we look in creation there is beauty that serves no direct functional purpose except to reflect the nature of its Creator.** When we see beauty in a flower, butterfly, or colorful sunset we should be reminded of the one who is the beauty-Maker - Jesus Christ.

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. – Romans 1:20 (NIV)



JANUARY 28

Do radiometric dates provide conclusive evidence for purportedly billion-year-old Earth rocks? One common type of radiometric dating uses potassium argon (K-Ar). Ten years after Mt. St. Helens erupted, Dr. Stephen Austin collected cooled rock from the newly formed lava dome at Mt. St. Helens. The potassium-argon (K-Ar) date for a 10-year-old rock was 350,000 to 2,000,000 years old. Confused? Yes, the dates don't match. Other tests over the years have been just as wrong.

Here are a few examples

Location	Years since eruption	Measured Result
Mt. Etna-basalt	29	35 million years old
Sunset Crater-basalt	950	27 million years old
Kilauea, Hawaii - basalt	<200	21 million years old
Mt. Stromboli	38	2.4 million years old

The Grand Canyon also yields some bizarre results. A lava flow from a volcano at the top of the canyon was dated at 1.34 billion years old, while the Cardenas basalt layer, among the lowest strata of the Grand Canyon (Precambrian), yielded a date of 1.07 billion years old. Notice the two dates: 1.34 billion on top and 1.07 billion on the bottom. The date on top should be younger but it is not! How can the top of the canyon be older than the bottom of the canyon? Confused? You should be!

So what do evolutionary geologists say about these dates? They simply call them “discordant,” claiming they are from “old material mixed into new flows,” and ignore them. Yet many dates for rocks of known age are clearly wrong (as the chart above shows). If radiometric dates give an incorrect age of known rocks, how can they be “trusted” to date rocks of unknown age? The whole of deep time is collapsing, yet evolutionary geologists continue to use it!

...you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. These promote controversies rather than God's work... - 1 Timothy 1:3-4 (NIV)

JANUARY 29

Have you considered how a frog gets its meal? Frogs will eat insects, spiders, and even small birds, mice, and fish. But how does a frog capture its food? It's all in the tongue and the spit!

The frog has a super-soft tongue (think of a marshmallow). As the tongue is launched, its super-soft tongue hits its target and curls around the prey. The tongue alone isn't enough to hold the prey, but the frog's super-sticky spit will. The frog's saliva is very thick when it is in the mouth (think of room temperature honey). When the tongue hits the target, the saliva instantly thins and oozes over the prey. As the tongue retracts, the saliva thickens again. But there is yet another problem. Now the prey is in the frog's mouth, how is the frog going to release it? At the exact moment the food reaches the frog's mouth, its eyeballs sink into its head, causing the food to be pushed down the throat, which again causes the spit to thin, resulting in freeing the prey so it can be swallowed. **Ahhh, lunch is served!**

Did this incredible system just make itself? What if the tongue was not soft like a marshmallow? Experiments have shown that if a frog had a human-like stiffer tongue, it would have an 80% decrease in contact area. What if the tongue had no super-sticky saliva? What if it had super-sticky saliva but could not change from thick to thin to thick and finally thin again at exactly the right moments? And what if the eyeballs did not sink into the head, so the saliva could change, and the prey released? **All these factors have to work together perfectly or no lunch for the frog.** God's fingerprints are all over a frog's marshmallow tongue, thickening/thinning spit, and sinking eyeballs!



Sing unto the LORD with thanksgiving...He giveth to the beast his food...
- Psalm 147:7a,9a (KJV)

JANUARY 30

Were Neanderthals dumb? Scientists studying the teeth of Neanderthals from Belgium and Spain have decided that these guys were pretty smart! Paleoanthropologists were studying the stuff that clings to teeth, called plaque (*calculus*). Dental plaque hardens into tartar if not brushed. As tartar accumulates, it stores information about our diets.

It was determined that Neanderthals from the Spy Cave in Belgium mainly subsisted on woolly rhinoceros, wild sheep, and wild mushrooms. A Neanderthal from the El Sidron cave in Spain showed the individual suffered from a dental abscess on its jawbone and had an intestinal parasite (microsporidian) which causes severe diarrhea. So what did the tartar show that this individual ate? He had a steady diet of mushrooms and plants, including poplar (*Populus* sp.). Poplar bark contains salicylic acid, the active ingredient found in aspirin. He was also eating plants covered in penicillium mold, which is an antibiotic. Noted the researchers, ***"We've got a guy self-medicating...He is eating aspirin (poplar bark) and we're finding penicillin mold in him."*** Dumb Neanderthals? Hardly! Neanderthals were fully human descendants of Noah and his family and not some half man-half ape transitional creature.



Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness..."— Genesis 1:26 (NIV)

JANUARY 31

There are vast differences between ape and human footprints:

- Apes leave a flatfooted print, while humans have an arch which leaves a distinct right/left footprint trail.
- Humans have a distinctive ball on the heel of their foot.
- Apes have an elongated thumb-like big toe, while humans have all five toes which line up at the front of the foot.

Thus, it is exceedingly easy to know whether fossilized prints have been made by a human. Human feet are made for up-right walking and ape feet are made for living in trees. Whenever footprints of australopithecines like Lucy are found, they have ape-like footprints.

Multiple examples of footprints showing a right/left arch, heel, and aligned toes have been found:

- The Taylor trail at the Paluxy River in Texas, was documented to have every characteristic



of human prints and extended for 14 steps along the riverbed. This trail was found in Cretaceous limestone (placed at over 60 million years by evolutionists).¹

- The Laetoli trail of 70 human prints were uncovered by paleontologist Mary Leakey's team in Tanzania in 1978. These prints were "*indistinguishable from prints made by habitually barefoot modern humans.*" They were found in volcanic ash and placed at 3.6 million years by evolutionists.²
- An accredited archeology website admits that, "*Recent discoveries suggest that human footprints are more common than previously supposed...*," showing pictures of what are clearly human prints, and listing technical articles describing these finds in Kenya, Tanzania, England, Italy, Columbia, South Africa, Australia, Namibia, Korea, Tennessee in the United States, and other places.

All of these findings show that humans have always been humans, leaving distinctively human footprints in rock layers "*where they shouldn't be found.*" Whenever these human prints are found where they are not supposed to have existed, paleontologists make these kinds of assumptions:

- a. The human prints were made by ape-like creatures with human-like feet (when actual fossil evidence contradicts this belief).
- b. The prints are dinosaur tracks, erosional features, or worm trails.
- c. The rock layers containing human prints are not as old as identical "millions of years old layers" that did not contain human prints.

In reality, these prints were made by the descendants of Adam and Eve. They were either descendants who missed the boat and perished in Noah's Flood, or they were people living after the Flood and subsequent geological activity captured these human footprints.

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"
– Isaiah 52:7 (NIV)