

WELL DESIGNED!



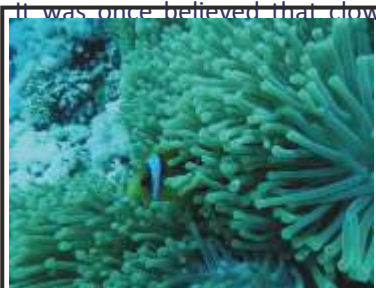
Clownfish and Sea Anemones

CLOWNFISH don't behave like clowns; they get their name from their bright orange and white markings. These small fish — also known as **Anemonefish** — live very strange lives, for they live among

the stinging tentacles of sea anemones.

Sea anemones (animals, not plants) are normally deadly to other fish, which only have to accidentally brush against the stinging tentacles to be killed, then to be eaten by the anemone. Yet clownfish actually swim in among those stinging tentacles without being harmed!

It was once believed that clownfish somehow managed to do this without touching the anemones' tentacles, but it is now known that they do rub against them. They even dart among them for safety if they are being chased by a predator. If clownfish are taken away from sea anemones, they are soon eaten by predators, so they really depend on this symbiosis (special relationship) with the anemones. So how do they avoid being killed?



Clownfish hiding in sea anemone

THERE'S NOTHING COMPLEX ABOUT FAITH!

We all exercise faith every day. In fact, normal life would be impossible without it. Before you take a coach trip, do you demand to see the driver's licence and the vehicle's safety certificate? Do you check every chair before you sit on it, to make sure it's not going to collapse? No, you just sit down, and prove it's safe when it doesn't collapse. You can't prove that the sun will rise tomorrow, but past experience gives you the confidence to believe that it will. In each case, faith is not complex, but quite reasonable.

Some people believe that Christian faith is difficult and complex, but the opposite is true. We believe there is abundant evidence for the existence of a Creator, but to prove it to ourselves, a simple step of faith is needed. As the Bible says: "Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him." (Hebrews 11: 6). Yes — the proof comes when we take that step of faith. But it is a reasonable faith, proven by multitudes of people in the last 2,000 years. Jesus Christ came to earth at a point in history from which all other events are dated. He came to reveal God's love for us, and said that seeing Him was seeing God. (John 14: 9).

Jesus said that those who wanted to be part of God's kingdom needed a simple faith like that of a child. This doesn't mean a *simplistic* faith, but a confident trust in the one in whom you are placing your faith, and the firm belief that your trust will be rewarded. Jesus is worthy of that trust because He died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead — a well-authenticated historical event. So why not take that step of faith, and join the millions throughout the world who have proved that Jesus is alive and real. It's not complex — and it really works!



Do you check every chair before you sit on it to make sure it won't collapse?

clipart panda.com

SMILE

Why can't you trust an atom?
Because they make up everything.

If you have 13 apples in one hand and 10 oranges in the other, what do you have? Big hands.

Did you hear about the kidnapping at school?
He woke up.

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Two brightly coloured clownfish

Wikipedia photo by Nikk Hobgood CC BY-SA 3.0

Scientists think they have found the answer. All fish are covered in mucus, which makes them slimy, and there is an amino acid in the mucus which triggers the sea anemone's tentacles. But clownfish don't have this amino acid! The anemones also benefit from having the fish around. They nibble away parasites that irritate the anemone, and sometimes bring in food which the anemone can also eat.

It's difficult to see how this symbiotic relationship could have come about by gradual evolution. Surely the clownfishes' protection needed to be in place from the beginning to ensure their survival? It seems more logical to believe that these two sea creatures were designed to get along together.

The **REAL SCIENCE** paper!



No. 95

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A COMPLEX PROBLEM FOR EVOLUTION

How could intricate biological structures evolve step-by-step?



"IRREDUCIBLE COMPLEXITY" POINTS TO DESIGN

Dr Michael Behe (left) is professor of biochemistry at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. He first caused a stir in 1996 when he wrote *Darwin's Black Box*, in which he introduced the concept of "irreducible complexity." Dr Behe once accepted the theory of evolution, but later came to believe that there was evidence that some biological systems, such as the bacterial flagellum (right), were "irreducibly complex" and could not have evolved by natural selection. He believed that the only possible alternative explanation for such complex structures was that they were created by an "intelligent designer". He used the simple example of a mousetrap as something that was irreducibly complex. It only has five parts, but they are all necessary for the trap to work.



Some of Behe's critics have tried to refute him by claiming that all the parts could have had a function before being assembled. However, they would still need to be put together by an intelligent person, not random processes. The same applies to living organisms. Even if some of their components could have had a previous function, natural selection couldn't bring them together, step by step, to make functioning molecular machines like the flagellum (right).

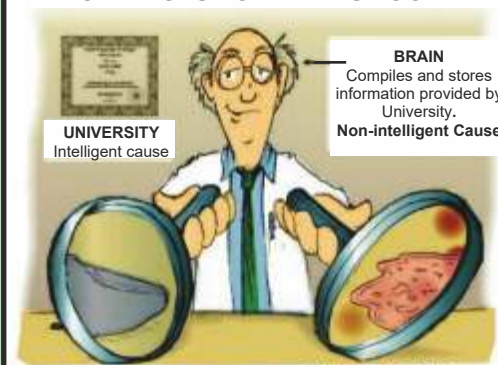
- Behe answers his critics in his latest book, *A Mousetrap for Darwin*, which is available from Amazon.



E Coli Bacteria (above) can only be seen under a powerful microscope, yet they have a complex motor (circled) which enables them to "swim". The diagram below shows just how complex this motor is.



HOW EVOLUTION DEFIES LOGIC



Simple stone tool = intelligent design

Complex single cell = non-intelligent origin

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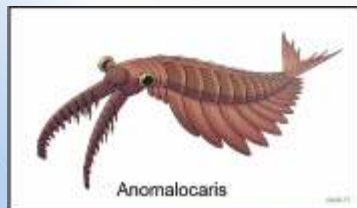
Prof. Dawkins knocked "sideways with wonder"

According to molecular biologist Dr Michael Denton, a living cell is "a veritable microminiaturised factory containing thousands of exquisitely designed pieces of intricate molecular machinery, made up altogether of 100 thousand million atoms, far more complicated than any machine built by man."¹ This is atheist Prof. Richard Dawkins' reaction to a video² of a living cell: "Animations like this... knock me sideways with wonder at the miniaturized intricacy of the data-processing machinery in the living cell."³ And he still says there's no evidence for a Creator?

1. *Evolution: a Theory in Crisis*, Adler & Adler, 1986. 2. Molecular visualisations of DNA. <https://youtu.be/OjPcT1uUzIE> 3. *Twitter* 2nd June 2021.



'ALIENS' OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS



Anomalocaris



Nabu tamura: CC BY 4.0

Opabinia

which way up it walked. *Hallucigenia* still looks pretty strange, with those pairs of lengthy spines along its back, seven pairs of legs ending in claws, and three pairs of tentacles along its neck. A weird creature indeed!

A puzzle for evolutionists to solve: Explain what these creatures evolved from, and suggest the transitional stages they went through to reach the design we see in the fossils.

IN 1909, palaeontologist Charles Walcott unearthed an amazing trove of fossils 2,286 meters up in the Canadian Rockies, in what is known as the Burgess Shale. He recognised that the range of organisms were new to science. He returned to the site almost every year until 1924. by which time he had amassed over 65,000 specimens of sea creatures, which had no known affinities with any other living or fossil group. In fact, many of them seemed like alien creatures, which have perplexed the experts for years.

Consider *Anomalocaris* (top left), and *Opabinia* (lower left) which had five eyes and a long proboscis. Then there was *Hallucigenia sparsa* (right). The best-preserved fossils showed that it had what were thought to be seven or eight pairs of claw-tipped arms and two matching rows of conical spikes. It was between 10 and 50 millimetres in length and lived on the floor of the Cambrian oceans. At first, the spines were thought to be legs, and *Hallucigenia* was reconstructed both backwards and upside down! It took 14 years to decide

HEADS – OR TAILS?



FOSSIL



Smithsonian Museum of Natural History

By Jose Manuel Canete: CC BY-SA 4.0

The challenge of eyes



Stalk-eyed fly



Mantis Shrimp



Fossil Trilobite

Although Charles Darwin admitted that the origin of the eye was a challenge, evolutionists believe that eyes evolved independently at least 40 times, beginning with a light-sensitive spot. It takes a lot of faith to believe this, especially when we consider some of the specialised eyes in nature, such as moveable eyes on stalks (1 & 2) and even eyes with a sunshade (3)! Can you imagine a step-by-step pathway that would end up with these designs?

“Unbelievable complexity” of DNA changed atheist’s mind about God!



In 2004, after being a declared atheist for 65 years, Professor Antony Flew (left) announced that he had changed his mind, and come to believe in the existence of “a self-existent, immutable, immaterial, omnipotent and omniscient Being.”¹ What changed his mind? The complexity of

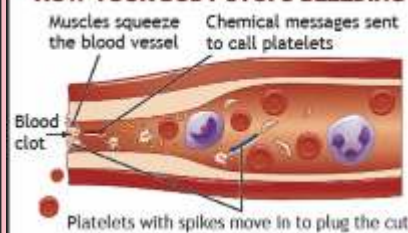
DNA! He said, “What I think the DNA material has done is that it has shown, by the almost unbelievable complexity of the arrangements which are needed to produce life, that intelligence must have been in-



involved in getting these extraordinarily diverse elements to work together.”¹ In 2006 he was among the signatories of a letter urging British Prime Minister Tony Blair to introduce intelligent design into science classes. We don’t know whether Professor Flew, who died in 2010, became a Christian, but he did follow the evidence, even when it led him to abandon his earlier views.

Why we don’t bleed to death

HOW YOUR BODY STOPS BLEEDING



Adapted from Wikipedia

Another example of *irreducible complexity* cited by Dr Michael Behe is our blood clotting mechanism. When you cut yourself a cascade of many vital processes begins. Special muscles squeeze the blood vessel together, and chemical messages are sent from the cut to bring cells called **platelets** to seal the wound. They have spikes, which make them stick together to form a **clot** which stops the bleeding. The clotting stops when the cut is sealed. If it didn’t, then all the blood in your body could stop flowing, with fatal results. Dr Behe writes: “No one on earth has the vaguest idea how the coagulation cascade came to be.” (*Darwin’s Black Box*, Free Press 1996, p. 97).

Watch a short film of how your blood clots at <https://youtu.be/j9HdI9w-K0M>

BIBLE-BELIEVING SCIENTISTS

Dr James Tour: chemist and nanotechnologist. *



Dr. James Tour is one of the world’s top synthetic organic chemists. He has authored 680 scientific publications and holds more than 120 patents. In 2014, *Thomson Reuters* named him one of “The World’s Most Influential Scientific Minds.” He is the premier scientist at Rice University, and his work is often cited in leading scientific journals. His work has been featured in the *New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *Science* magazine. He is one of hundreds of scientists who signed the 2001 *Dissent from Darwinism* statement, which says: “We are skeptical of claims for the ability of random mutation and natural selection to account for the complexity of life. Careful examination of the evidence for Darwinian theory should be encouraged.”¹



Watch Dr Tour lecture at <https://youtu.be/zU7Lww-SBPg>

Dr Tour has made no secret of his scientific concerns about evolution. He understands “better than most people how molecules come together, what they can and cannot do”, but does not believe that *macroevolution* (from one kind to another) could occur. He says, “I’ve asked people to explain it to me, and I still don’t understand it.” Dr Tour notes that rejecting macroevolution has caused problems for him in academia, and he has faced the wrath of Internet trolls. He believes students should learn how to “analyze, review, and critique scientific explanations, including hypotheses and theories, as to their strengths and weaknesses using scientific evidence and information”, and this requirement should be applied to how biology textbooks used in state schools present both chemical and biological evolution.

Dr Tour – a Messianic Jew² – is passionate about his Christian faith and spends two hours each morning reading and studying the Bible. He wrote, “I stand in awe of God because of what he has done through his creation. My faith has been increased through my research.”

1. *Dissent from Darwin.org*. 2. A Jew who has come to accept Jesus Christ as their Messiah and Saviour.

*Information in this article from creation.com/james-tour-darwin-skeptic courtesy of *Creation Ministries International*

Why are two better than one?

According to evolution, early forms of life reproduced asexually — they didn’t need to find a mate. So why would sexual reproduction evolve? Evolutionists have suggested that sexual reproduction began when two bacteria got together and one of them injected part of its DNA into the other. But is this really believable? To quote an article from the BBC: “An asexual species does not have to waste time and energy searching for and impressing a

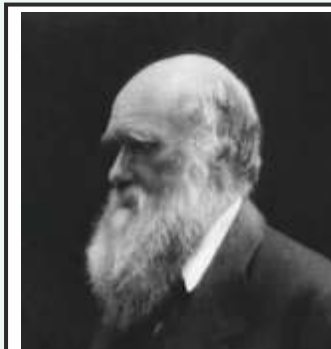


partner, they just grow and divide in two. Contrast that with the troublesome, and sometimes dangerous, process of attracting a mate for sexual reproduction.”¹ However, that still overlooks an even more serious problem for evolution — the origin of reproductive organs. We know that a male and female of two different kinds can’t mate. Since so many organisms, such as sponges (left), protozoa, and many plants and fungi, get by perfectly well without sex, we may well ask why it would have evolved at all. Dr Richard Dawkins has written, “The existence of sexual reproduction poses a big theoretical puzzle for Darwinians.”² To say that sexual reproduction gives organisms an advantage doesn’t explain how it could have developed gradually. Evolutionists have to believe that the huge range of complex sexual organs of male and female evolved slowly over thousands or millions of years so that they ended up perfectly compatible. But if so, why didn’t species become extinct before they reached that stage of evolution?



Finding a mate — but how and why did sexual reproduction begin?

Sexual reproduction also means that it’s necessary to find a mate, so are we asked to believe that this complex sexual machinery evolved in lots of different members of the same species? If not, how would the first fully developed male and female of a species have found each other? They could have been in different parts of the world! These are real problems for the evolution theory. The reproductive mechanisms of humans and other living organisms are so intricate that only design by an intelligent Creator can explain their existence. They had to be complete from the beginning, otherwise the species would never have survived. 1. BBC Earth 4th July 2016. 2. *The Blind Watchmaker*, Longmans, 1986, p. 268.



“We do not even in the least know the final cause of sexuality; why new beings should be produced by the union of the two sexual elements. The whole subject is as yet hidden in darkness.” —*Charles Darwin*.

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