

Think & Believe

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Following the Snowplow

by Mary Jo Nutting

It's been a long, hard winter in many parts of the country. Snow and ice have made travel hazardous and difficult. Many travelers have become discouraged by delays, canceled flights, route changes or road closures. It sort of reminds me of creation ministry – or the Christian life in general.

I remember a time, many years ago, we were doing a seminar with the Johnsons at a church in a small farming community in eastern Colorado. Throughout the day, the weather grew progressively worse. By evening, visibility was practically zero and the roads were treacherous with ice and blowing snow.

A few brave and hardy souls who lived nearby were able to make it home; the rest of us spent the night in the church. (How thankful we were for a warm, dry place to wait out the storm – and the leftovers from the day's country-style potluck to fill our stomachs!)

We awoke the next morning to a winter wonderland – and roads blocked by big drifts of snow. Since we were scheduled for a seminar many miles away in Kansas that evening, we packed and prepared to go, not knowing whether we could make it or not. As God would have it, just as we were getting ready to attempt the snow-covered roads, a big snowplow came by. We pulled out behind him – and followed his blue flashing light until the snow cleared somewhat and the snowplow turned around to plow the other lane. It was only then that we

looked back and saw the sign, "Road Closed." By God's grace, we were able to make it to our destination just in time for the seminar.

In creation ministry – and in the Christian life in general – there are many times when we come upon storms, challenges, and "Road Closed" signs. That's when we need to know that we have a big God who is able to plow the way where it seems impossible. I remember the time when God "plowed" a way for us to go into communist Hungary to teach creation and bring the Gospel message. We followed His lead as He opened the road, and later found that He had already been "plowing" many hearts to receive the Word.

Another time, we were scheduled to go into Albania, but ran into a "Road Closed" sign due to a revolution in that country. God opened another road instead, and we ended up speaking to an estimated 2/3 of the believers on the island of Malta.

Over the years, God has made a way for us and other AOI speakers to go into many challenging places. Sometimes the way has been hard due to inclement weather, mechanical breakdowns, "interesting" housing arrangements, or health issues. At other times, the challenges have come from cynics, skeptics, theistic

evolutionists, or the powers that be.

However, in each situation, we find that God goes ahead, plowing the way. He has opened the way not only into closed countries, public schools, and universities, but also into closed hearts.

We are so thankful for the opportunities God has given us to see His power at work as He clears the way ahead of us. And we are thankful for all those who "turn the ignition" by calling upon Him through prayer, asking Him to plow the way, give opportunities to speak and open those closed hearts and minds.

Apart from Him, we'd be "stuck in a snowdrift." Apart from His Spirit at work in the lives of people, we would just be spinning our wheels. But with Him, "drifts" of obstacles, doubts, and objections are plowed away, and the road is opened for the wonderful message of His creative power and infinite love.

Following our heavenly "snowplow" brings blessing and adventure! What road is He plowing for you right now? Turn on your engine and follow the snowplow as He clears the road and leads the way. **T&B**



Gems From Genesis

"In the Image of God"

by Mary Jo Nutting

In the last issue of T&B, we looked at some ideas of what it means to be made "in the image of God." In particular, we talked about the fact that as a result of Adam's sin, the image of God has been blurred and distorted in mankind. However, in the fullness of time, God sent Jesus, "the image of the invisible God" (Col 1:15 AKJV), to be the "last Adam" and to undo the damage done by Adam's sin, that we may be "conformed to the image of his Son" (Rom 8:29 AKJV). This is truly Good News!

Let's look now at some practical examples of what this looks like in our lives: God is love. He demonstrates His love in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Jesus told His disciples, "Greater love has no man than that He lay down His life for His friends." He demonstrated His love by serving them and laying down His life for them, and then told them to love one

"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."
(Gen. 1:27 AKJV)

another. Being "conformed to the image of Christ" means that we too will learn to love and lay down our lives for others.

God is kind and compassionate. He takes care of practical needs.

Jesus demonstrated kindness in the way He dealt with the poor, the sick, the needy and brokenhearted. He touched them, spoke kindly to them, and cared for their needs. As we grow in conformity to the image of Christ, we will also learn to be kind and compassionate, and care for others as God gives us ability.

God is merciful. Jesus demonstrated mercy and forgiveness to sinners. He called them to repentance, but did not condemn. He taught them God's Word and demonstrated God's ways. Likewise, we are called to be merciful, in gentleness restoring those who have gone astray.

God is generous. He gives rain to the just and the unjust. He daily provides us with what we need to sustain life. Jesus

demonstrated God's generosity and care, when He saw a need and did something about it, taking the offering of a young boy, and multiplied it to feed 5000. Likewise, as we generously yield what we have to God, He will use us to meet needs around us.

But how does this take place in our lives? I believe we are conformed to the image of Christ as we cooperate with God and submit to the work of the Holy Spirit on a daily basis. It involves putting off the things of the flesh (the "old man") and putting on the "new man" (Col 3:10 AKJV); turning away from conformity to the things of this world and being transformed by the renewing of our minds. (Rom 12:1-2). It involves seeking God with all our heart and learning to do what pleases Him, through prayerful study of His Word with an intent to obey. It also involves putting on the "full armor of God," resisting the devil, and fleeing temptation. And it involves being filled with the Spirit and walking in His power. 



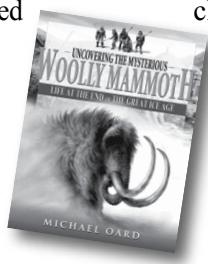
Book Review:

Uncovering the Mysterious Woolly Mammoth - Dr. Michael & Beverly Oard

by Dave Nutting

We are frequently asked: Was there an ice age? What caused it and how did it end? What happened to the Mammoths?

The authors answer all these questions in 2 ways in this great, new, full color, Kid's/Adult's book. Wait! Is it for kids or adults? Both!



The first part is a story of the people living near the end of the Ice Age including their Ice Age trials and forced journeys. It is great for kids and weaves the pertinent information into the story (adults will like it too). The second part of the book gives the science and new discoveries regarding mammoths and the

ice age in a very easy to read form making it good for children as well as adults. This scientific evidence clears up the mystery of the Mammoths and the Ice Age – a mystery not solved by standard evolutionary thinking.

Special Price: \$15 includes shipping. (Hardbound 8.5 x 11, 72 Pages, Full Color). 

Chaperone Proteins: Another Obstacle to Darwinism

by Dr. David Demmick, Guest Writer

When cellular protein enzymes were discovered, it was soon learned that they perform very exact and elegant bits of chemistry to sustain life. They have been called molecular matchmakers because they often help other molecules to get together properly. [Ed: Some of these have been discussed in recent issues of Think & Believe.] Now we are finding that these complex enzymes must have their own helpers in order to do their work. A class of proteins has been discovered whose main job is to take care of other proteins. They have been aptly named chaperone proteins. This added layer of cellular complexity presents yet another big obstacle to Darwinian interpretations of biochemistry.

Although the newly discovered chaperone proteins have many different functions, let's focus on one of the most important ones – protein folding. Functioning proteins are very complex three-dimensional structures, but they start out as one-dimensional strings of amino acids. This is because they are built from a one-dimensional (linear) string of instruction code (the RNA transcribed from DNA.). Thus, every newborn protein chain must somehow get folded into its proper 3-D state, or else it won't function.

When I was a medical student thirty years ago, we were taught that this just happened because of electrochemical forces in the amino acid side chains. It has been learned since then that these forces help a properly folded protein stay folded, but much more is needed to get it to fold properly in the first place.

It turns out that protein folding is so complex that our most powerful supercomputers are only beginning

to model the process. Indeed, it takes specially designed proteins to help other proteins get folded properly.

This presents evolutionists with another chicken and egg conundrum: Which came first, the basic cell proteins or their chaperone proteins? Even the simplest cells (bacteria) have chaperone proteins, so there is no evolutionary progression leading up to their existence. Some bacterial chaperones are even similar to human cell chaperones. This adds one more hurdle to the many confusing paradoxes confronting Darwinism at the cellular level.

Furthermore, the study of chaperone proteins is highlighting the team nature of cellular protein function. Chaperones often work with other proteins (called co-chaperones) to get their jobs done.

So, not only are many complex proteins needed for cellular life, but they also have to work hand-in-glove with each other for cells to survive. This kind of molecular action is

not explained by Darwinism's emphasis on competition between life forms.

Chaperone proteins are of interest to physicians today because various diseases are being traced to their malfunction.¹ Since chaperone proteins are found in all body cells, many different organs and tissues can be affected by their malfunction. They are becoming important in research on Alzheimer's disease,

Parkinson's disease, cataracts, certain kinds of cancer, and the aging process. Their malfunction usually comes from mutations. Many different mutations of various chaperone proteins have already been described. The fact that disease and not improvement comes from these mutations is another confirmation of the exquisitely balanced design of living cells.

As biologists go deeper into the micro world of cells, they keep finding more and more layers of complexity and ingenuity. It's not just intelligent design – it's incredibly intelligent design. The DNA

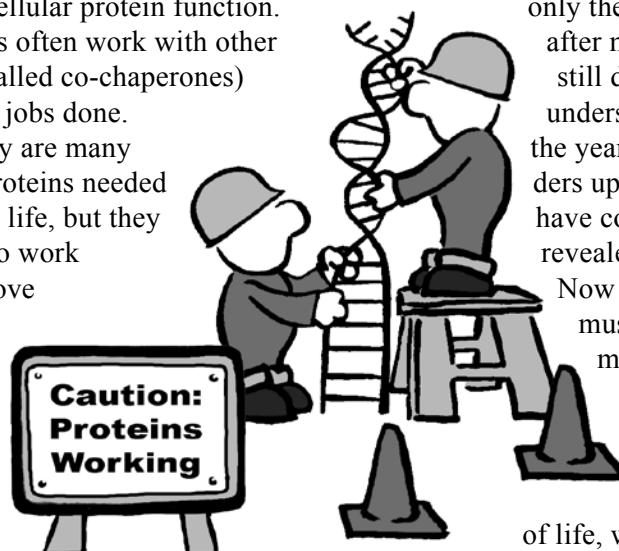
and enzyme discoveries were only the beginning (and after much work we still don't completely understand them). In the years since, wonders upon wonders have continued to be revealed in living cells. Now evolutionists must explain far more.

If there is a limit to the intelligence of the Designer of life, we have not

found it, nor are we even close. We have a long, long way to go to really understand cells, let alone living tissues, organ systems, and the brain itself. At some point the reasoning mind must declare, "This is the finger of God." 

References:

¹Macario, Alberto and Macario, Everly. "Sick Chaperones, Cellular Stress, and Disease," New England Journal of Medicine, 353:14, October 6, 2005.



Director's Column

by Dave & Mary Jo Nutting



Come to camp! Come to camp! Come to camp, camp, camp! If you think it sounds like a song you may be right – try singing

it to the Lone-Ranger's theme song – but we keep repeating it because we think it's so important! AOI's Creation Family Mountain Adventures are meant to fortify you and your family to withstand the constant barrage of evolutionary indoctrination coming from textbooks, media, museums, national parks, and our society in general. They help you to "stand firm" on the Word, and give you tools and "ammunition" to reach out to people in need.

These family-friendly, fun-filled adventures include in-depth, yet understandable, teaching on a variety of scientific and biblical topics relating to the creation/evolution issue and its relevance to both children and adults today. But that's not all! We also include plenty of time for recreation and activities to encourage

participants to grow together in their relationships with God and one another.

These adventures are great for families with children of all ages, preschoolers through college. They also make an excellent "multi-generational" adventure. Grandparents, this is a great way to develop fun-filled memories and build relationships with your grandchildren. One man thought it was so important to fortify his family that he brought them all – grown kids, grandkids, and even a couple great-grandkids! Meals, lodging, and activities are provided, so all you need to do is come ready to learn and enjoy the experience together. (P.S. Singles, come alone or bring a friend to enjoy this time of fun and learning with your "extended" family.)

For more information, see the enclosed brochure or check our website: www.discovercreation.org. Don't miss out! Call today to reserve your spot! 

Upcoming Events

G= Galbraith, J=Johnson, N=Nutting, S=Stepanek

- 3/18-21, Lowell, MI**, School of Missionary Aviation Tech., Dean Petersen, (616) 897-5785, **S**
4/5-19, Jackson Hole Bible College Field Study, Holly Austin, 303-733-3134, **N**
4/4, Grand Junction, CO Calvary Chapel, Discover creation Family Night, **N**
4/7-19, Jackson Hole Bible College, Southwest Geology Field Study, Contact AOI 970-523-9943, **N**
4/12, Montrose, CO, Montrose Christian Church, Nancy Cox, (970) 249-0710, **J**
4/16-20, Colorado Springs, CO, Grace Bible Church, CO Spgs, Jess Anderson, (719) 598-6688, **S**
4/20, LaGrange, WY, LaGrange Bible Church, Laban Molsen, (307) 834-2248, **RS**
4/21-25, LaGrange, WY, Frontier School of the Bible, Shelby Hanson, (307) 834-2215, **S**
5/11-26, Texas, Seminars, Contact AOI 970-523-9943, **N**
5/15-17, San Antonio, TX, FEAST Homeschool Conference, Contact AOI 970-523-9943, **N**
5/28, 6/10, 6/24, 7/3, Manitou Springs, CO, Summit Ministries, Youth Leadership Creation Classes, Contact Summit, 719-685-9103, **N**
6/12-14, Parker, CO, CHEC - Denver, (720) 842-4852, **S**
6/21-26, Nogales, AZ, First Baptist Church - Nogales, NM, Gene Willey, (520) 281-1677, **S**
6/29-7/4, Colbran, CO, Twin Peaks Bible Camp, Gail Tompkins, (970) 523-9943, **J, S**
7/11-13, Browning Mountain, MT, Glacier Meadow Creation Family Camp, Contact Dean Landis, 406-270-8333, **N**
7/18-20, Browning Mountain, MT, Glacier Meadow Creation Family Camp, Contact Dean Landis, 406-270-8333, **N**
July 24-26, Colorado Springs, CO, The Beginning and End of the Universe Conference, See: www.rememberthecreator.com, **N**
8/3-8, Lake City, CO, Camp Redcloud, Gail Tompkins, (970) 523-9943, **N, S**
8/10-15, Lake City, CO, Camp Redcloud, Gail Tompkins, (970) 523-9943, **N, S**

Note:

Enclosed in this issue is a very important short questionnaire. It will serve several functions.

1 Let us know if you would be interested in having one of our speakers come to your area soon or sometime in the future. That will help us fill in any holes in our schedule or tell us where we should plan to go. We normally charge only expenses (shared if we do a circuit) plus a love offering so it is very affordable.

2 We plan to send material specifically for pastors and youth leaders to alert them as to how evolution is devouring their congregation – especially students. You can indicate your willingness to hand carry the information to them and/or to give us a mailing address for us to send directly to them.

3 Give us comments so we can hit the mark better.

4 Attached to the sheet is a response form to order this issue's special book offer or to make a contribution.

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