

# Think Believe

Discover Creation...Worship the Creator

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## The Greatest Miracle Since Creation Week

by Guest Writer, David Demick

In chapter 19 of his gospel, John tells of standing near Jesus' cross, hearing his words, and accepting his charge to care for his mother Mary. This heartbreaking scene ends with the Roman soldiers being ordered to take down the bodies of the crucified men. Ordinarily they would have been left to suffer longer, but because of the coming Jewish holy day, they were taken down before sundown, with their deaths being first assured. For the thieves with Jesus, this meant their legs were broken so that they would asphyxiate quickly. However, John records that when they saw Jesus was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of them pierced his side with a spear, and out came a flow of blood and water.

How did the soldiers know that Jesus was dead? Probably they knew it was very likely by his inert form and lack of struggle to breathe. Crucifixion victims usually labored visibly to breathe until death because of partial suspension from their arms. However, the soldiers were not content to deal in high probabilities. They wanted to make 100% sure of their victim as quickly and efficiently as possible. Thus, they made

the spear thrust to Jesus' side (undoubtedly the left side, with the spear going for Jesus' heart).

At this point, John's mention of water coming with blood from the chest wound has an important message for us. It gives us medical and legal proof that Jesus was really dead.

This conclusion comes from the fact that the heart and both lungs have potential spaces around them, lined by a smooth membrane to ease the friction of the constant motion of these organs. These normally closed spaces are called the pleural and pericardial sacs or cavities. As long as the heart is working normally, pumping blood and keeping the blood pressure at a normal level, these spaces remain closed. However, when the heart fails, a watery fluid may build up in these spaces.

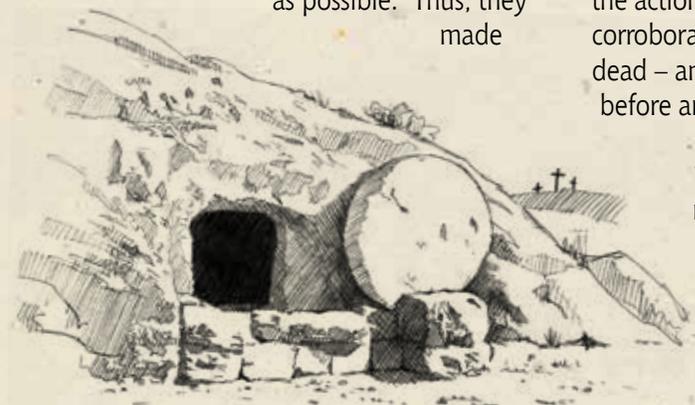
As a pathologist performing autopsies, I have often witnessed the opening of a dead person's body to disclose a large volume (up to about a gallon) of watery fluid inside the chest. Postmortem blood also tends to be sluggish and remains separate from this watery fluid.

Thus, John's observation (and the actions of the Romans as well) corroborate the fact that Jesus was really dead – and assured death is needed before an assured resurrection.

The recently fashionable "swoon theory" of Jesus' death maintains that Jesus never really died but merely fainted and then revived later in the tomb. However, it must be remembered that the

Romans were renowned for their cruelty and thoroughness in executions. It is hard to believe that they would have allowed anyone thought to be a rival king or enemy of Caesar to survive crucifixion. Even so, given the importance of Jesus' resurrection, John is not content to merely say that Jesus was crucified; he takes care to record this small detail of eyewitness testimony for us. John recognizes its legal significance, and he takes his stand as a courtroom witness: "The man who saw it (the blood and water) has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe (John 19:35, NIV). In effect, John provides us with a legal death certificate for Jesus so that both his death and resurrection may be firmly established.

In his book **Miracles**, C. S. Lewis observes that miracles are only the retelling in capital letters of what the created order tells us in small letters regarding the nature and power of God. Furthermore, the Resurrection is the Grand Miracle, the central one that gives final meaning to all the other ones. Only the power that created and animated the human body on Day 6 of the world is able to restore that life, and did so before many witnesses. It is no wonder that skeptics hate and distort the Resurrection, just as they do to the Creation account. Praise be to the Holy Spirit, who has preserved even the small links in the chain of eyewitness testimony to the Resurrection, and firmly grounded our blessed hope in Jesus. **AOI**



## Did Ancient Man Hobble to America? by Guest Writer, Thomas Heinze

[**Editor's note:** Textbooks teach the evolutionary concept that ancient man was primitive. The Bible teaches that Adam and Eve's close descendants made musical instruments, forged metal, farmed, built cities, recorded history. They did not need to slowly hobble to the Americas as they were not knuckle-walking apes. Instead, they were fully human, intelligent, and creative. (Read the book which is reviewed below to see just how advanced "Ancient" man really was.) The following is edited and adapted for T&B by D. Nutting]

**P**aul Salopek is about to start on a 21,000 mile walk from Africa to South America. The **Portland Oregonian** states: "The Ethiopia to Chile walk, which took human ancestors 50,000 years to make is called Out of Eden..." (Jan 11, 2013)

The idea that it took fifty thousand years for our ancestors to make this walk has become standard evolutionist doctrine. Modern evolutionists could walk it themselves in a year or so. Salopek

himself is 50 years old, so he obviously expects to make the trip in far less than fifty thousand years. Why do so many believe it took their ancestors so long?

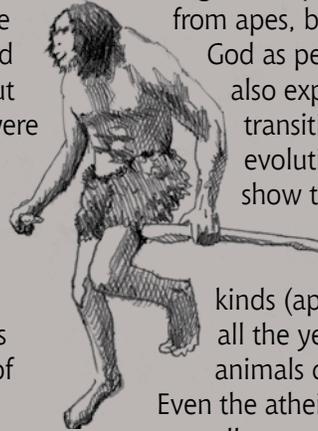
Evolutionists generally believe that people came from Africa, and that the ancient people were not as evolved as we are today. One belief fed another and many now believe that fifty thousand years passed before some people walked out of Africa. But what if people were created by God, and are not apes that grew up?

When evolutionists consider the billions of years that they believe the earth has been here, fifty thousand years is hardly more than the blink of an eye. The other side of their mind, however is trusting that the people who lived before us were so poorly evolved that a walk which would take a 50 year old modern guy a few months, or at worst a few years, must

have taken his ancestors 50,000 years to hobble along!

How many years will pass before evolutionists' minds have evolved to the point that they understand that ideas like this don't go with the evidence? What if the evidence is right, and people did not evolve from apes, but were created by God as people? That would also explain the lack of the transitional fossils which evolutionists believe should show the basic kinds of animals changing to become newer kinds (apes to people). After all the years since Darwin, animals can still be classified.

Even the atheists who read this can tell an ape from a person and a monkey from a donkey. The evidence does not show old basic kinds gradually becoming new basic kinds. **AOI**



## Book Review: The Genius of Ancient Man

**D**iscover the incredible intelligence of the earliest innovators. A research and writing team led by Bible college president Don Landis invested more than two years in development of this new, richly illustrated, Bible-confirming book. Landis' lifelong personal study of the fascinating subject of the intelligence of early man is readily apparent.

The IQ level required to visualize, engineer and build the many "out of place artifacts" discussed and pictured in this large format book baffles those who are steeped in Darwinian-style explanations of the origin of man, as taught in public schools and the secular media.

Prepare to be exposed to information

and photographs you have probably never read or seen before! Thousands of hours of research, trips to numerous sites throughout North and Central

America, visits to museums, and meetings with myriad experts in various nations have provided Landis' team with an overwhelming amount of evidence for the unquestionably high level of intelligence of these early innovators. A jumble of anomalies and magnificent structures continue to confound archaeology and

anthropology today, yet as the dots are connected, one finds history as described in the biblical record.

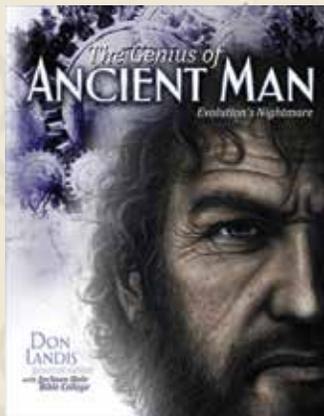
• Learn why structures echoing the Tower of Babel have been recreated on

almost every continent and in every major culture.

- Discover what artifacts and archaeology, technology and innovation, really reveal about the origin of mankind.
- Find out why many biblical symbols (rainbows, human sacrifice, mountains, the Son/sun worship) were, and continue to be, distorted in pagan religious practices.
- Understand what the historical record reveals about Satan's "counterfeit" of God's plan for humanity. **AOI**

**\$17 + \$4 shipping/handling**

[Editor's Note: One of the contributing authors, Brian Mariani along with his wife, Aimee, have both been students with us and are preparing to join the staff of AOI. Please pray for Brian and Aimee as they raise their needed support. Their ministry with us will also include speaking on Ancient Man and other creation topics.]



# Life = God's Signature

by Thomas F. Heinze, Guest Writer

[Edited and adapted for Think & Believe by Dave Nutting]

All through history, the Bible has been criticized because it has gone against the latest theories. However, over time the Bible has been vindicated and the ideas that "contradicted" it have been found to be wrong. The big point of controversy today is Creation vs. Evolution.

The Bible says that God created, but evolutionary atheists feel that life first began by random accidents forming a first living cell. "It wasn't there; then it was!" That idea sounded possible because people had been taught that the first life was simple, a tradition that started when microscopes were primitive and had minimal magnification. People could look at a drop of water from a mud puddle and see little, "seemingly simple" cells scooting around in the water. Some people thought, "Anything that simple could have begun by accident!" This lack of knowledge made atheism appear reasonable.

However, even a single-celled bacterium must accomplish, within its one cell, the same tasks we accomplish using the trillions of cells in our bodies. Eating, digestion, metabolism, waste removal, reproduction – and even thinking – all take place within a single cell!

To do all this, the individual parts of cells are really complex –

not in the least bit simple. One such part is called DNA which directs much of what goes on in the cell. DNA is not only too complex for anyone to really understand it, but its intricacies pose a real challenge to those committed to Atheism. It cries out that it was designed and did not happen by accident!

To do anything at all, DNA depends on other parts in the same cell. By itself it is helpless. RNA, proteins, and extremely complex little machines are among the parts of the cell that are necessary for DNA to do its work.

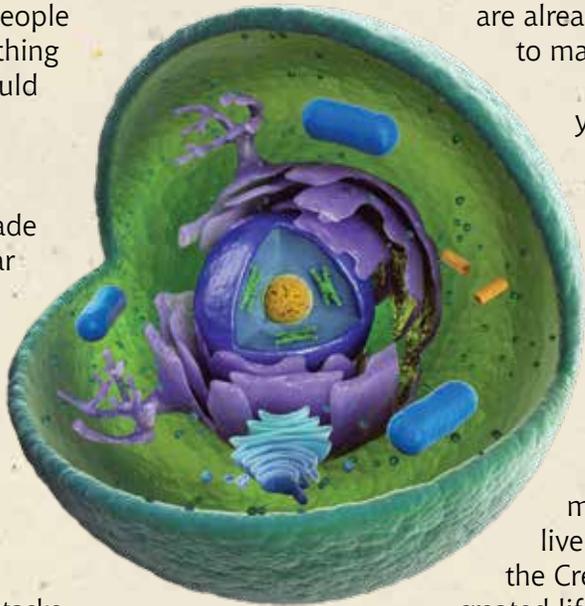
Could all these complex parts have been present in one cell by accident? Did they just happen to bump together to form the first life? No! They are cell parts.

They only exist where there are already living cells to make them!

Even if you have all the parts such as in a dead single cell, a dead body, or even a dead elephant, no one can make the dead live again except the Creator who created life in the first

place.

Schools and textbooks however, teach that evolution started with "simple cells" which somehow just popped up and then evolved. Any such statement is completely false! Simple cells don't exist! Even real



## Writers Wanted

This issue of **Think & Believe** contains articles submitted by Dr. David Demick and Thomas Heinze. We really appreciate our readers submitting quality articles. If you have an article in line with the flavor and intent of Think & Believe, we encourage you to submit it for our consideration. We might use it in **Think & Believe** or perhaps in AOI creation nuggets on our website.

By the way, if you are not regularly visiting our website or receiving our blog or Nuggets, make sure you do so as we post new items regularly. ([www.DiscoverCreation.org](http://www.DiscoverCreation.org)) You can also follow us on Twitter.

cells are too complex for our best intelligent scientists to make!

It is not only cells that can't just pop up on their own; neither can their most important parts. On top of that some necessary cell parts are not only too complex to pop up on their own, but are also so complicated that scientists can't even make them. Since this is the case, someone with a better mind than humans must have made them! That someone is God. Living animals and plants are like God's signature on His creation. His work speaks volumes against the theory of evolution. **AOI**

### Life!

Made by God!  
Sustained by God!  
Given up by God on the cross.  
Raised again by God.  
Given to us eternally by God!

D. Nutting

## Director's Column by Dave Nutting



**W**hy do we keep offering Creation Adventures? Perhaps it's because young people and adults report that an AOI Adventure is what got them through college with their faith intact. Perhaps it's because of the kids who have come to the Lord or have had their belief in the Truth of the Bible greatly strengthened. Perhaps it is because this setting gives us plenty of time to make new friends and excite

some of the participants to share the material with their extended family or church.

The reason we offer Creation Adventures is not just to provide an unforgettable vacation. We know that young people (and adults) have their faith blasted out of the water by evolution. We view these adventures as being a key to seeing kids, students, and adults become fortified with the truth so they will not only survive, but also thrive when they get back home. Plan on attending one of these this year and bring others! **AOI**

## Upcoming Events

While the Nuttings are spearheading Boot Camps, Rich Stepanic continues to minister to churches within the IFCA, and Lanny & Marilyn Johnson have a full schedule of vacation Bible schools and family conferences. For more details, or to schedule a seminar, see the web.

## Please Support AOI

To those who support AOI, **thank you** for the ministry made possible by your donations. If you're not doing so already, please consider a regular monthly donation – especially during the lean summer months.

## Creation Family Mountain Adventures

• June 9-14 • July 28-Aug. 2



Exciting “**vacations with a purpose**” in the beautiful mountains of Colorado. Stimulating creation teaching, exciting recreational activities, luxurious lodge, delicious meals.

- June 9-14: **Redcloud Family Mountain Get-Away** - lighter intro of solid creation evidence from science and the Bible. Co-sponsored by Redcloud and AOI.
- July 28-Aug 2: **Discover Creation Family Adventure!** AOI's classic vacation with a purpose at Redcloud. Latest creation evidence and optional in-depth Genesis teaching. (See web for details.)



## Whitewater Rafting

• August 24-30

### Find Solitude. Explore the Truth.

Canyons! Camping! and Creation! from competent Journey Quest guides and experienced AOI creation teachers. This Green River adventure will take you to some of the most remote parts of UT. Great for families (minimum age 5) or singles. (See [www.DiscoverCreation.org/RaftTrip](http://www.DiscoverCreation.org/RaftTrip) for photos and information.)

## Creation Action Boot Camps

• Week 1, June 23-28, 2013 • Week 2, June 30-July 5, 2013



Intense times of learning and fun, designed to “fireproof” **high school** and **college students** with answers to evolutionary challenges to their faith. Exciting creation teaching, hands-on activities, relevant projects, field trips, and plenty of mountain-style fun. Held at Camp Redcloud near beautiful Lake City, CO. For more info, call 800-377-1923 or visit us on the web.

*“AOI's teaching is what got me through college with my faith intact.” - student*

