



## Does God Exist?

**Psalms 53:1: (ASV)** *The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.*

### **Special Guest: David Stein**



For people like us, there are a myriad of proofs that we can see all around us that unequivocally prove the existence of God. We see the earth, the heavens, humanity, science and engineering and we nod our heads in the satisfaction that God is indeed behind it all. Yet, there is a world full of those who, based upon their intellect, their expertise and their own study who have concluded that God is merely a figment of some men's imaginations and a waste of time. So, what do we do with all of this? Can God's existence be proven? Does God's existence need to be proven? Are we deluding ourselves with wishful thinking? Is it really a form of mental disease to believe in God? Are there good reasons to be a believer? Stay with us as we face these questions head on as we ask that penetrating question: Does God exist?

### Questions for consideration:

1. Does God exist?
2. What constitutes evidence of God's existence?
3. Do the heavens declare the glory of God?
4. What is the effect of Atheism on Christianity and the world?
5. Does God have any real interest in us?

### 1. Does God Exist?

Can you think of a more fundamental question about life and purpose than this one?!

To show how current this question is, let's quote a few statistics Bill O'Reilly quoted three years ago:

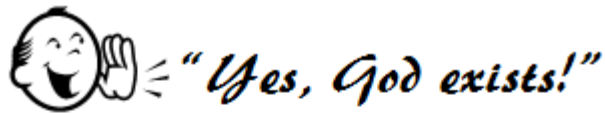
### Percentage in the country who do not believe in a Higher Power:

United States	12%
Sweden	85%
Japan	65%
France	54%
Great Britain	44%

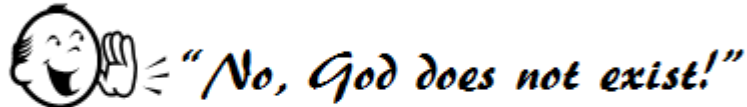
Atheism is growing around the world and predominant in some places.



Let's define the three groups who have three different answers to this question:



The BELIEVER



The ATHEIST



THE AGNOSTIC

If you read what many atheists write today about the state of science, you would have the impression that religion is on the way out.

Typical Atheist Contentions:

- Cosmologists can now explain the origin of the universe without God.
- Archeologists have shown that the Bible is fiction.
- Myth experts like Joseph Campbell have shown that the Bible can be lumped together with every other myth that human culture invents.
- The Bible is hopelessly out of step with modern knowledge.
- Science can explain just about everything using natural, scientific law.

To make matters worse, they assail God and our faith!



God is...Ben Stein with Richard Dawkins,  
*Expelled: No Intelligence Required*

- *God - the most unpleasant character in all fiction - jealous, petty, unjust, a control freak, vindictive, blood thirsty, racist, genocidal, etc...*

We don't believe this to be true and our purpose is to show the other side of the story that shows something entirely different.





## THE ISSUES:

**Political** - Liberal philosophy is by and large godless. The media in the country brings this philosophy everyday on newspapers, magazine, television, and movies. Not only that, public schools as well as colleges and universities are bastions of liberal, godless philosophy. Political candidates have a strong media backing and as these take up positions of political power, laws and judicial decision more and more reflect this same agnostic philosophy - secular humanism.

**Scientific** - Nearly all life-sciences, biology, biochemistry, zoology, etc., embrace the atheistic philosophy of Darwinism. Curiously, physics, astronomy, and cosmology have a growing number of scientists who are believers in God. So we have a growing conflict among scientists in the arena.

**Sociological** - We have a society today which, at least in behavior, is quite godless. Immoral activities abound from the rejection of the sexual morality in scripture, to a blatant disregard for law and contract, and a hedonistic worship of self and the pursuit of pleasure.

**Religious** - Even religion itself has undergone change. Many remember the Time magazine cover from several decades back declaring God is Dead. Much of Christianity today preaches a social gospel and has become a feel-good philosophy entirely lacking in the Biblical concepts of sacrifice and suffering.

**2 Timothy 3:1-5:** (BBE) *But be certain of this, that in the last days times of trouble will come. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, uplifted in pride, given to bitter words, going against the authority of their fathers, never giving praise, having no religion, Without natural love, bitter haters, saying evil of others, violent and uncontrolled, hating all good, False to their friends, acting without thought, lifted up in mind, loving pleasure more than God; Having a form of religion, but turning their backs on the power of it: go not with these.*

Atheists will tell you that those who believe in God do so simply because they have been indoctrinated in that persuasion. But we will note at the outset the indoctrination cuts both ways on this question, as we will illustrate.

## 2. What constitutes evidence of God's existence?



"See, I told you there was no God; I didn't see him when I was in orbit."

- Russian Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin

Is that now proof of God's non-existence? There is something more to learning about what God is, and perhaps God wants to be found by some and not by others...!



**Evolution is Fact - You can't "disprove" God, For Good Reason**



First note about proving things: You cannot prove a negative! ("Prove to me that God doesn't exist," is *not* a valid argument we can make.)

### *Illustration:*

"There's no such thing as a 100 pound rutabaga!" How could I prove it?

By contrast: "There is such a thing as a 100 pound rutabaga!" I need only produce one as evidence to prove it.



So how would we prove God's existence? Let's first discuss several methods of proof in general:

Scientific Proof: Science only accepts that which is natural, measurable, can be seen, etc., as proof. Therefore, any supernatural causes are automatically ruled out. On principle, "God" cannot be the explanation, because He cannot be measured.

The Scientific Method:

1. Make observations;
2. A hypothesis or conclusion is drawn based on the observations;
3. Test the hypothesis to see if correct or not.



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Problem with evolution: It is hard to make observations over that many years. Darwin said that if his theory was right, we should be able to see a continuous column of fossils of one species evolving into other species. That has never been found. In fact, for decades, evolutionists have ignored the fact that the fossil record does not provide for such a "missing link." The fact that the prediction was untrue was ignored. (A new explanation called "Punctuated Equilibrium" tries to explain why the fossil records have such gaps.)

Judicial Proof: A decision is made based on the evidence, including reasonable doubt. This makes a conclusion based on the preponderance of evidence.

What part does faith play? Does faith need proof?

Unfortunately, one of the ploys atheists use to destroy faith is to redefine it. In this next clip we will hear how David Robinson, a Christian who posted a number of YouTube responses to Richard Dawkins' book, *The God Delusion*, quotes Dawkins definition of "faith."



**David Robinson on Dawkins and Faith, David Robertson - YouTube**

- *Faith is: Believing contrary to or in spite of the evidence.*

This is not the biblical faith at all! The biblical faith is based on evidence. What Dawkins was describing is credulity - believing with no foundation.

Our faith, however, is based upon judicial evidence. Scriptural faith is always based upon promises. There is an analytical way of looking at the Scriptures and comparing it with history and reason.



But remember that Biblical evidence does not hold much weight to unbelievers who do not use the Bible as an authority. However, it can be used to strengthen the faith and conviction of believers, especially as we see harmony between the Bible and science and history.

### 3. Do the heavens declare the glory of God?



Why We Exist, Richard Dawson, *For Good Reason*

- *Supernaturalism is a betrayal of science.* (This is in agreement with the scientific method.)
- *What a waste of a life to exist without knowing where you came from and why you exist!* (We couldn't agree more, but we feel the answers are found in the Bible!)

Psalms 19:1: (BBE) *The heavens are sounding the glory of God; the arch of the sky makes clear the work of his hands.*

However, the Scriptures say that the natural proves the supernatural.

Let's look at a number of facts, which fall clearly on the side of a Creator God.

#### 1. Conditions necessary for life

The carbon atom: Everything we know requires carbon for life. The qualities of the carbon atom are so unique and improbable as to make the idea that it was designed the simplest explanation. Astrophysicist Sir Fred Hoyle (atheist) predicted the resonance level of carbon based solely on life's need for it. When Hoyle then calculated the chances that such resonances should exist by chance, his atheism was greatly shaken. He later wrote in the November 1981 issue of *Engineering and Science*:

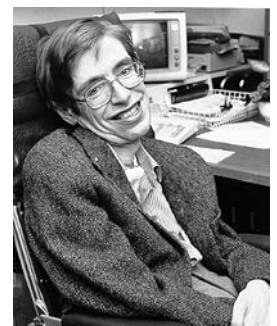
Sir Fred Hoyle, 1915-2001



"A common sense interpretation of the facts suggests that a **super-intellect has monkeyed with physics, as well as with chemistry and nature.** The numbers one calculates from the facts seem to me so overwhelming as to put this conclusion almost beyond question."

The ratio of Proton to Electron Mass: The proton is 1,836 times heavier than the electron. Why? There is no natural reason for it. However, if it were much different, the required molecules for life would not form. The well-known theoretical physicist, Stephen Hawking, said about this ratio:

"The laws of science, as we know them at present, contain many fundamental numbers, like the size of the electric charge of the electron and the ratio of the masses of the proton and the electron...**The remarkable fact is that the values of these numbers seem to have been very finely adjusted to make possible the development of life.**"



Stephen Hawking





## Why We Exist, Richard Dawson, *For Good Reason*

- *You can muddle along in a boring little life without understanding evolution if you want to!*

The Earth: The size of the earth is perfect for life - its gravity holding a 50-mile layer of mostly nitrogen and oxygen. If it were smaller, the atmosphere would dissipate away into space. If it were larger, it would contain more free hydrogen that would be too energetic for life. It has just the right mixture of gases for life.

The earth is located just the right distance from the sun. Further away, everything would freeze. Closer, and everything would burn up. The single large moon creates important tides and sea movement so that we do have huge stagnant oceans.

Water: It is absolutely necessary for life. Our bodies are 2/3 water! It has an unusually high boiling point. Its high capacity to absorb heat helps keep our bodies a steady 98.6 degrees. Water is a universal solvent permitting the hundreds of thousands of chemical reactions necessary for life to take place. Yet water is chemically neutral. It can transport the tens of thousands of different substances not only throughout our bodies, but throughout the external world! It has a high surface tension which is necessary for the transport of life sustaining nutrients in high places like trees and in tiny places like cells. Water expands when it freezes so ice floats. Imagine a world where ice sank! The oceans would fill up with ice that would not melt for eons! Water provides the weather that nourishes the planet with pure water in a wonderful recycling process.



Here is a story that illustrates how belief or disbelief in God will affect one's behavior.

(Source: PBS film critic and columnist, Michael Medved, sharing this anecdote out of his Jewish heritage:) A few years ago, Rabbi Jacob Karmenetzky made a trip to Israel accompanied by his teenaged grandson. Ironically, these two deeply religious people were seated in the airplane next to a prominent Israeli socialist leader and outspoken atheist. On the flight, the cynical atheist traveler couldn't help noticing the way the teenage boy attended to the needs of his aged, bearded grandfather. He got up to get the old man a glass of water, helped him remove his shoes and put on some slippers, and otherwise demonstrated that the rabbi's comfort represented his primary concern.

At one point, as the boy got up for yet another errand on behalf of the old man, the atheist could contain himself no longer. "Tell me something," he asked the rabbi. "Why does your grandson treat you like some kind of a king? I have a grandson, too, but he wouldn't give me the time of day."

"It's very simple," the old man replied. "My grandson and I both believe in a God who rules the universe and created all things, including the first man. That means that in the boy's eyes, I'm two generations closer to the hand of God Himself. But in the eyes of your grandson, you're just two generations closer to a monkey."





One of the chief challenges to God's existence is the philosophy of Darwinian evolution: All of life on this planet has descended from when life first began and was changed and evolved by natural selection and random mutation.



 "ID"ers are deniers, *For Good Reason*

- *Believers in Intelligent Design are likened to Holocaust Deniers. Both fly in the face of massive quantities of evidence.*

Professor Michael Behe accepted the Darwinian explanation until he read, *Evolution: A Theory in Crisis*, by Michael Denton. So strong was the scientific dogma, Professor Behe had no idea there were challenges.



Michael Behe, Professor of Biochemistry at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania

But the challenges keep coming. They are simply ignored by most evolutionists and anyone who dares to question is scientifically excommunicated.

 "ID"ers are deniers, *For Good Reason*

- *Both IDers and Holocaust deniers deny history.*



How did love "evolve?"

### How Probable is Evolution?

In 1967 a group of biologists and mathematicians at MIT were discussing evolution by natural selection. The mathematicians were stunned by the optimism of the evolutionists about what could be achieved by chance! So wide was the rift that they organized a conference called "Mathematical Challenges to the Neo-Darwinian Theory of Evolution."

The conference opened with a paper by Murray Eden, Professor of Electrical Engineering at MIT, entitled, *The Inadequacy of Neo-Darwinian Evolution as a Scientific Theory*. He proceeded to show that if it required a mere six mutations to bring about an adaptive change, this would occur by chance only once in a billion years - **while if two dozen genes were involved, it would require 10 billion years - much longer than the accepted age of the earth.**

Mathematically speaking, evolution can't work.

### 4. What is the effect of Atheism on Christianity and the world?

Atheism kills faith and loosens people from the restraints of God's moral laws. It focuses on self.

Of course, many would like to be freed from these moral restraints! And Richard Dawkins says that is just what atheism does.



### **Atheism Ever After, Paula Zahn with Richard Dawkins February 2007**

- *An Atheist believes this is their only life and therefore precious and beautiful.*
- *Life to be lived to the FULL to the end of our days.*
- *But if you are religious, there is another life. Therefore, you don't live this life to the full!*
- *Belief in another life coming creates an awfully negative way to look at life.*
- *Being an Atheist frees you up to live this life properly, happily and fully.*

This thinking assumes that everyone is living a "proper, happy and full life." What about the people suffering in Haiti right now? Or the children starving around the world? For many, life is a daily struggle for survival. Saying, "Well, that's all you've got! Enjoy it!" is ridiculous.

Dawkins speaks of a "release" and "freedom," but a release from what? The natural tendency of atheism is self-centeredness. If there is no obligation to a Creator, then one's own life generally takes on primary importance. This may be moderated by a love and commitment to family, but this in itself can be self-interest.

What about when the Israelites came into Canaan and were told to destroy the Canaanites? First we need to understand the historical situation of the Canaanites. They were apparently a people rife with disease, had sexual rites, sacrificed their children, etc. For the Israelites' own benefit, they were told to rid the land of these people. If we ignore what God has in mind for everybody, this sounds terrible! But for each one of those people destroyed for valid historical reasons at the time, they will enter into a world (when they awake in the resurrection) where they can begin to grow into what God intended for human beings. The more deeply we look into these things, we see that we have a God that has good intentions for everyone. There is a reason - sometimes a reason beyond the moment - because it is a big, eternal Plan.

There is no principle at work to consider others as better or more important than self. All moral principles are subjugated to what is best for oneself. Consider the teachings of Ayn Rand in *The Virtue of Selfishness*. But there is no real happiness to be found in self-centeredness.

## **5. Does God have any real interest in us?**

### **Strongest argument against Creation, For Good Reason**

- *The comparative study of Molecular Genetics - every living creature contains within each of its cells a massive database of digital information written in the same digital language as the information in every other living creature!*

Our argument would be, every automobile made has an engine inside it. Commonality alone is not proof of evolution. We see that as a basic engineering system from a Creator!





The vast majority of the killings in the 20th Century have been motivated not by religion but

by secular greed and hunger for power. Atheists may point to Christians that have been bloodthirsty in the past and say that this is a result of God. But we can also look at some of the greatest atheists in the 20th Century responsible for tens of millions of lives. The argument isn't valid on either side.

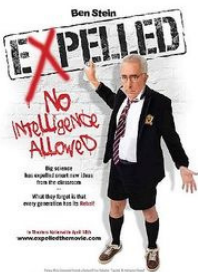
"If men are so wicked as we now see them with religion, what would they be without it?"

- Benjamin Franklin



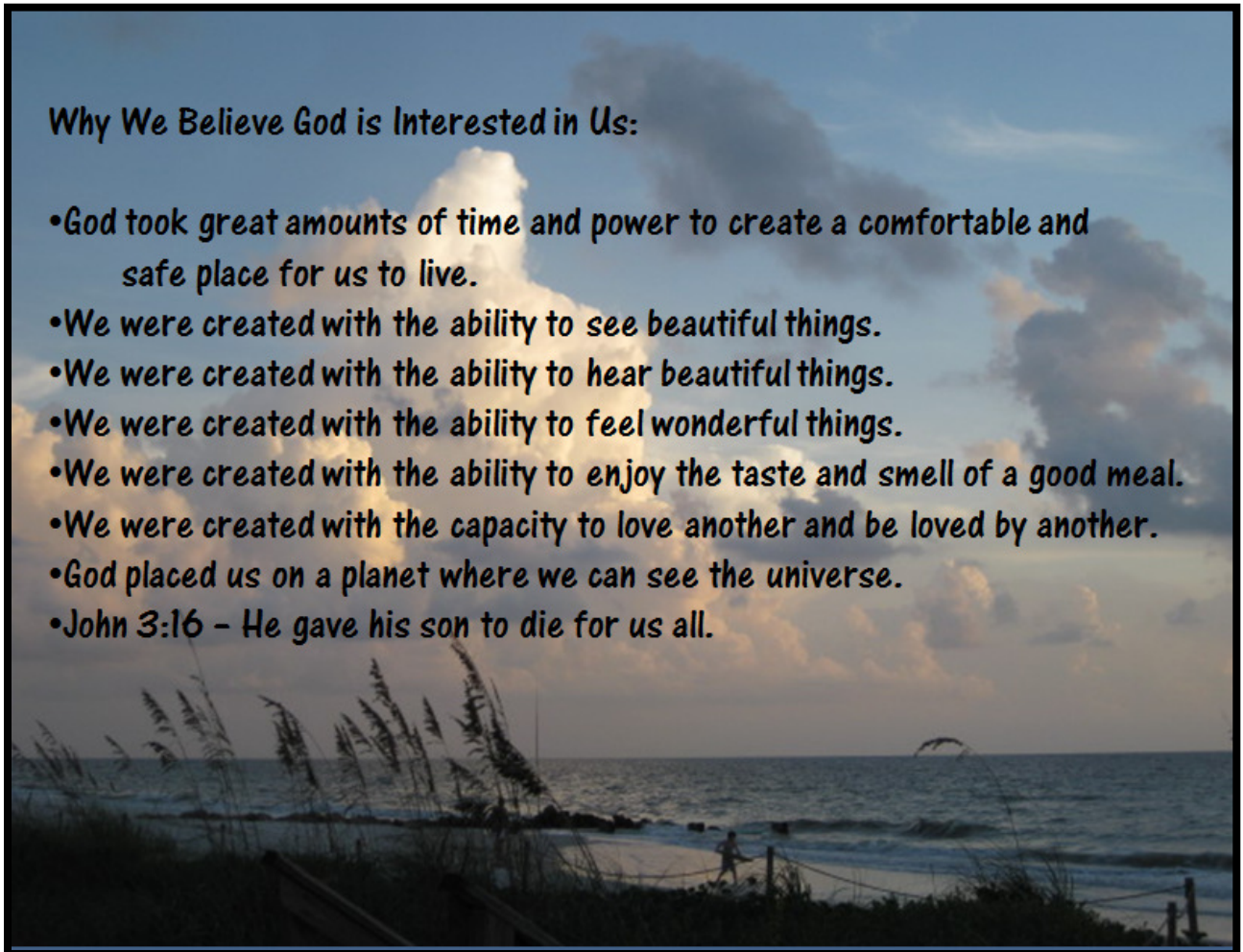
We want to look at true religion and true science. Evolutionary ideas have to do with systems that replicate. When you get to the very beginning, what was the first replicating system? How did life begin?

We recommend watching the movie, *Expelled - No Intelligence Allowed* by Ben Stein. This movie documents the academic punishment meted out by universities against any professors who would call the principle of Darwinism into question. But outside of the life sciences, such apostate thinking finds a more open environment for discussion and debate.



### Why We Believe God is Interested in Us:

- God took great amounts of time and power to create a comfortable and safe place for us to live.
- We were created with the ability to see beautiful things.
- We were created with the ability to hear beautiful things.
- We were created with the ability to feel wonderful things.
- We were created with the ability to enjoy the taste and smell of a good meal.
- We were created with the capacity to love another and be loved by another.
- God placed us on a planet where we can see the universe.
- John 3:16 - He gave his son to die for us all.





Remember that awful description of God that Richard Dawkins gave near the beginning of today's program? With knowledge of the truth, we can answer every charge laid at God. A knowledge of what God is going to do helps us put things into context.

1. Why Does God permit suffering?

- To train mankind in the results of disobedience through his collective experience.

2. Why doesn't God answer prayers?

- He does answer prayers! Sometimes the answer is "no." Sometimes the answer is "not yet." Sometimes the prayers aren't sincere. Sometimes we are answered but don't see the answer because it is different than we expect.

3. Why did God destroy people in the past? (Flood, Canaanites, etc.)

- God is a God of justice and judgment. The laws and restraints for men do not apply to him because he has a much higher and eternal perspective that we do not possess. It is important to remember that any destroyed by God in the past for whatever reason will be raised from the dead in the kingdom.

4. Is God responsible for what people do?

- No, that is part of the lesson. What people do, whether in the name of God or not, is their choice and responsibility. The behavior of false Christians cannot be laid at God's feet. They will all get their judgment in due time.

Isaiah 55:8,9: (BBE-Bible in Basic English) "*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, or your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*"

Whenever we reduce an explanation of God down to a human level, we are missing out. God does exist; it is provable when you open your mind to see the evidence around you.

***So does God exist?  
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...  
Think about it...!***

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## For Your Continued Study:

We ran out of time! Here are additional thoughts for your consideration:

Isaiah 45:18: (BBE) *For this is the word of the Lord who made the heavens; he is God; the maker and designer of the earth; who made it not to be a waste, but as a living-place for man: I am the Lord, and there is no other.*

Let's take a detour to 1917:

Albert Einstein's General Theory of Relativity - included a cosmic constant to conform to the belief then that the universe was infinite in age.

American Archeologist William F. Albright was completing his indoctrination into the Documentary Hypothesis which taught that most of the Old Testament's history before the Israelite kings was myth. In 1918 he wrote an article about the "mythical" elements of Abraham's military campaigns.

C.S. Lewis was an army lieutenant fighting in WWI which hardened his simple atheism into a view that religious faith was only for uneducated and unthinking people.

During the 1920s, all three men had their minds changed by their own discoveries.

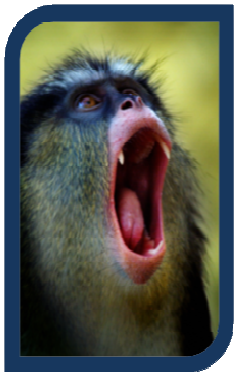
Einstein's equations demanded a universe with a beginning. And anything with a beginning requires a first cause. By 1927, Edwin Hubble discovered the expanding universe and thus laid the foundation for the Big Bang theory.

In 1929, William F. Albright discovered and excavated a line of Bronze Age cities, exactly describing the route for Abraham's military campaign describe in Genesis 14. Albright later wrote *"There can be no doubt that archaeology has confirmed the substantial historicity of Old Testament tradition."*

Also in 1929, C.S. Lewis had his atheism shaken by learning about the evidence that the Gospel accounts really did happen. He applied his knowledge of languages and literature to a study of the Bible and became a believer. He wrote: *"I have been reading poems, romances, vision-literature, legends, myths all my life. I know what they are like. I know that not one of them is like this."*

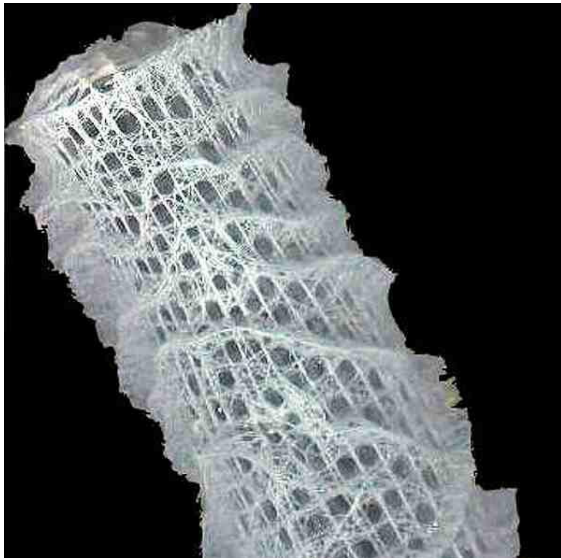
Atheists will tell you that those who believe in God do so simply because they have been indoctrinated in that persuasion. But we will note at the outset the indoctrination cuts both ways on this question, as we will illustrate.

In point of fact, the mathematics of probability are not evidence on behalf of evolution by random processes. This is such a problem that several scientists have suggested that since there isn't enough time for evolution of life to occur, that it must have originated elsewhere in the universe and somehow seeded the earth with a head start. This was the opinion of Francis Crick, the co-discoverer of DNA and Sir Fred Hoyle who described the idea in his book, *The Intelligent Universe*.





(Source: Science News, March 25, 2006, page 184-5.)



<http://www.microscopy-uk.org.uk>

## A Glass Sponge! Product of Evolution?

Material science is an area that has aroused a great deal of interest in recent years, because there is such a need to develop materials that can withstand the demands of modern life and yet are available at low cost in the natural environment. Recently material scientists have discovered a sponge made out of glass that has amazing properties. The sponge named *Euplectella aspergillum* lives in deep water in the western Pacific ocean. It is made up of silica (or glass) and has cells that make up a skeleton about 8" long and about 1" in diameter. It is pure glass but is incredibly strong. You can jump on it and you will not break the structure.

The normal brittleness of glass is avoided by having several levels of design according to researchers. The

first is vertical and horizontal beams that form a grid making up the walls. Every second square of that grid stick out of the grid's plane. This three-dimensional structure prevents crushing of the structure. As an example, if a pop can had ridges along its sides, it would be much stronger than it is.

Each beam consists of thinner cylinders cemented together with more glass, and these parallel cylinders support one another because if one cylinder fails its neighbors take up the slack. In addition, each cylinder consists of concentric rings like the rings of a tree, and these rings are cemented together. The rings are thicker toward the center of the cylinder by a factor of seven. Scientists have found that this sponge's structure is "almost unbreakable." There is a final design feature and that is that the sponge is wired to the floor of the ocean by glass wires which give flexibility, so the sponge can swing freely with whatever force it encounters.

Joanna Aizenberg of Bell Laboratories says the sponge is the strongest glass structure one can imagine. "It was clearly, incredibly beautiful design-wise. In a way, it's a glass house at which you can throw stones." God has brought incredible wisdom into every area of life, and the more we study that design, the more "we can know there is a God through the things he has made."

Romans 1:20