



CREATION ^{In} The CROSSFIRE

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And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts....And the water prevailed more and more upon the earth, so that all the high mountains everywhere under the heavens were covered. Gen 1:31-2:1; 7:19

The Next Meeting: January 28, 2012, 7 PM. Bruce Malone is our speaker. "Creation teaching in Ukraine - Missed Opportunities due to Ignoring Creation." His talk is based on his recent trip to Ukraine.



Ukraine separated from the Soviet Union in 1991 after almost 70 years of atheist communist rule. Yet the open door to Christianity was squandered by ignoring the creation foundation. This en-

tertaining, yet motivational, talk stresses the inevitable results when the irrefutable "Elephant in the Living Room" evidences for creation are ignored. Highly visual, understandable, and demonstration-filled - this lecture covers the "BIG" evidence for creation and is an excellent opportunity to bring guests

Bruce has a B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Cincinnati and holds 17 patents for new products with Dow Chemical. For 27 years he did research for the Dow Chemical Corporation but left in 2008 to act as full time Executive Director of Search for the Truth Ministries whose vision is "Awakening Hearts and Minds to Biblical Truth."

He has spent the last 20 years bringing scientific evidence for creation to churches and colleges at seminars throughout the United States and six foreign countries. He has also authored five books on the evidence for creation. Over 100,000 copies are currently in print. He is an associate speaker for Logos Research Associates Inc. and has served as adjunct speaker for the Institute for Creation Research. Additionally, he is a commissioned worldview speaker with Chuck Colson's Centurion program, bringing a recent Biblical creation understanding to worldview issues.

Video at 6 PM: Answers in Genesis: Back to Basics

Fred Willson Is Present with the Lord



Fred Willson entered heaven on October 30, 2011. Fred was the first president of our association (SBCSA) and taught biology at South Torrance High School from 1959-1988. Afterwards, Fred went to work for the Institute for Creation Research, traveling throughout the US, lecturing and teaching homeschoolers how to teach their children science. He also taught homeschoolers in the Philippines. Finally, he returned to Eureka Springs, Arkansas, where he had graduated from high school in 1949. He set up a booth in the weekly farmers' market in a nearby town where he passed out creationist literature and talked with people about creation. Fred developed a brain tumor and died 4 months later in a Eureka Springs nursing home. His family requests that any gifts in his memory be sent to Fellowship Bible Church, PO Box 92, Springdale, Arkansas.

God Don't Make No Junk DNA Part 7

By Jon Covey, BA, CLS(ASCP)

Edited by Anita Millen, MD, MPH

Unquestioned belief in evolutionary theory has clearly led to gross scientific error, especially in the areas of molecular biology, genetics, and biochemistry. The December 17, 2011 *Science News* article "Missing Lincs" unknowingly vindicates the intelligent design contention about DNA and refutes the evolutionary notion that most of our DNA has no practical function because it doesn't code for functional proteins. Crusading evolutionists are blinded by their belief that evolution is a fact.

These evolutionary crusaders have been saying that most of the DNA in the genome of any species consists mainly of molecular skeletons of genes that functioned in the ancestral progenitors of the modern organisms. If germs truly did evolve into Germans, we really should expect to see useless DNA segments embedded

in our genome. I was taught that in college and accepted that our genome not only had the genetic burden of mutations, but also the genetic load of numerous relics from our evolutionary past.

In his editorial Tom Siegfried, the Editor in Chief of *Science News* introduced the “Missing Lincs” article by saying that not many years ago, scientists believed that most of the DNA in every human cell was junk. The protein-coding segments of DNA (genes) are known to make up about 2% of the DNA in our chromosomes. Scientists assumed that the rest of the DNA is unreadable by the cell's machinery. Siegfried likened this condition to a newspaper in which only the headlines make sense while the rest of the text is gibberish. Now we know the DNA that was once considered junk contains codes for molecules that have jobs other than being proteins. LincRNAs constitute one such class of molecules.

Siegfried says it isn't the molecular machinery that doesn't understand; it has been the biologists who didn't understand the DNA language. I contend that if the biologists hadn't been so strongly influenced by evolutionary thinking, they would have known from the outset that nearly all of our DNA has a function because it was all intelligently designed. Richard Dawkins would have us believe that although DNA appears to have been designed, it is actually mutations and natural selection that have fine-tuned the genomes.

As stated before, most of our genome codes for intricate activities such as ovulation, the complex fertilization process, embryonic and child development, the precise placement of organs and bodily parts, regulation of activities within the cell, and other constituents such as hormones. Siegfried says,

“These RNAs have recently joined a growing roster of other RNA molecules as interlopers in the textbook story of how cells work. In the original fairy tale, DNA segments called genes serve as blueprints for making “messenger” RNA molecules that carried instructions to the cell's protein-making factories. Some of the proteins, in turn, attached themselves to DNA at specific points to guide which of the genes in a given cell made proteins and which stayed dormant.”

Certain RNAs (see Saey's remarks below) attach proteins to DNA at specific points which act as regulators, turning on some genes and turning off others. Siegfried writes,

“DNA's relationship with its RNA cousin is multifaceted; the neat textbook charts listing genes, the proteins they encode and the jobs those proteins do reflect human-friendly labels for organizing knowledge, not the reality of cellular biochemistry. This new view suggests that people differ from other organisms, from worms to flies to mice, not because of protein-coding genes. It may be rather that species' defining features arise from diverse activities orchestrated by the multitude of RNA molecules produced from the cell's supposedly ‘junk’ DNA, as Stuart Knowling and Kevin Morris of the Scripps Research Institute propose in a recent issue of the journal Biochimie.”

Further, Knowling and Morris remark that it is becoming clear that what was once considered the trash of the cell is becoming treasure (Siegfried). Hence, biologists Richard Dawkins, Jerry Coyne, Douglas Futuyma, Kenneth Miller, John Advise, and others greatly overstated their remarks about junk DNA (see below).

Earlier in this series, we used the expression “non-protein-coding” to describe those sections of DNA that do not code for protein, but it appears that more scientists have decided to use “**noncoding**” to mean the same thing. Further, in the following paragraph **intergenic**, meaning “between genes”—refers to RNAs transcribed from portions of DNA that exist between protein-coding genes.

In the *Science News* article, “Missing Lincs,” Tina Hesman Saey explains that long intergenic noncoding RNAs (lincRNAs) were considered worthless by scientists. However, John Rinn, who researches RNA at Harvard Medical School says that lincRNAs regulate every process under the sun. Saey explains that lincRNAs and other RNAs that are long noncoding but not intergenic, are involved in many processes. Some of these RNAs guide proteins to their destination, and others fasten proteins to RNA or DNA.

Some of these RNAs communicate with each other, possibly fending off diseases such as cancer, but ultimately lincRNAs keep cellular development going and provide the crucial details for making mice or humans. After all, mice and men have many proteins in common, especially those that are involved in essential biochemical pathways. The real determinants of what makes a mouse a mouse seem to be lincRNAs, says Saey.

One of Saey's main points is that people's roughly 22,000 protein-specifying genes don't greatly outnum-

ber those found in simpler organisms. This finding was one of her biggest surprises in biology. She asks,

“How could it be that the same set of building materials used to construct simple lowly worms could also produce vastly more complex humans?”

Saey further explains that one of these RNAs, labeled XIST, shuts down one of the X chromosomes in women because a double dose of the genes could be harmful, or even lethal. The second X chromosome in women is sometimes visible in a Wright stain as a small drumstick-like projection on one of the lobes of the nucleus in neutrophils (Barr body) [personal communication, Anita Millen, MD].

Another important lincRNA is HOTAIR. HOTAIR has a long way to travel, from chromosome 12 (where it is transcribed from DNA) to chromosome 2 to shut down some of the genes in the HOXD cluster that are needed for development of an organism. HOTAIR seems to be a general contractor and has to go to 854 job sites. Saey says,

“Not only does HOTAIR help direct development, but it is also important throughout life to help cells pinpoint their location in the body.”

Of course, HOTAIR is undoubtedly directed by the huge database of DNA that instructs it where to go and what to do when it gets there. This information comes from other RNAs. How these RNAs find each other and communicate is most amazing. The bewildering myriads of logistics must be directed by information stored in DNA.

My contention is that the theory of evolution has put blinders on the minds of biologists, and that’s why molecular biology is causing them such surprise. I predict there are many more surprises to come.

In an earlier section of this series, we cited John Sanford who said that different starting points within the same segment of DNA produce different proteins, RNAs, and cellular parts, and that even more products are coded for by reading the same segment in reverse. Only an omniscient intelligent designer could construct such complexity, yet evolutionists like Richard Dawkins insist that given enough time, natural selection could produce that which only seems designed.

In *The Myth of Junk DNA*, Jonathan Wells discussed the views of Francis Collins and Michael Shermer contained in the next two paragraphs.

Francis S. Collins, who used to be the head of the Human Genome Project and is now the director of the National Institute of Health, wrote that junk DNA provides evidence for Darwin’s theory of evolution. He discussed moveable segments of DNA, ancient repetitive elements (AREs), claiming they have no function other than their own survival. He had no empirical evidence for this. Rather, he was guided by his evolutionary bias.

Michael Shermer, a well-known skeptic, wrote:

“We have to wonder why the Intelligent Designer added to our genome junk DNA, repeated copies of useless DNA, orphan genes, gene fragments, tandem repeats, and pseudogenes, none of which are involved directly in the making of a human being. In fact, of the entire human genome, it appears that only a tiny percentage is actively involved in useful protein production. Rather than being intelligently designed, the human genome looks more and more like a mosaic of mutations, fragment copies, borrowed sequences, and discarded strings of DNA that were jerry-built over millions of years of evolution.” Michael Shermer, *Why Darwin Matters: The Case against Intelligent Design* (New York: Holt, 2006, pp. 136-137.)

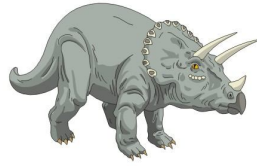
Previously, we saw that the most outspoken crusading evolutionists, such as Jerry Coyne, Richard Dawkins, and Kenneth Miller, believe “junk DNA,” strings, i.e., noncoding DNA strings, are useless relics left over from the process of evolution. After I became a believer, I wondered, if evolution were true, why didn’t natural selection weed out the inactive DNA sections. They would burden the cell, using up vital cell resources, which, in turn, would decrease the viability and fitness of an organism. To have only 2% of our DNA functioning, as Siegfried reports, would mean our imminent extinction because the genetic load would simply become too great, too inefficient. Indeed, as we saw in an earlier part of this series, geneticist Kondrashov asked why we haven’t died 100 times over as a species. He was mainly considering the high mutation rate in humans. Now we know that noncoding DNA has important functions and I am confident that there is a great deal more yet to be discovered..

To be continued.

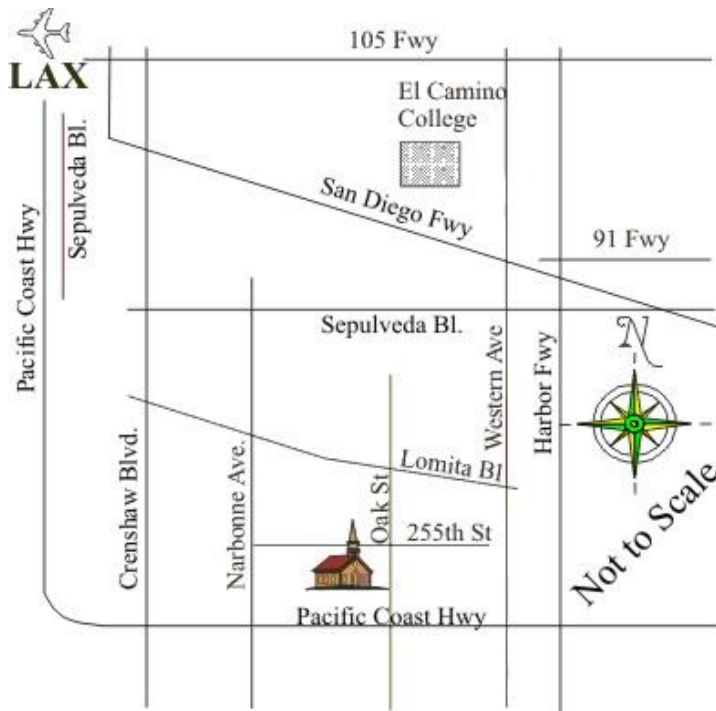
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Return Service Requested



We hold our monthly meeting at the Lomita Calvary Assembly of God, 25501 Oak St in Lomita, CA. Please call Phyllis Gee at (310)328-2845 for info.

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I believe that God created the earth and all living things in six normal 24-hour days, that the Flood described in Genesis inundated the entire earth, and that Jesus Christ is true God and true man.

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