DNA Replication - Irreducible

When Charles Darwin looked through a microscope at a living cell, he saw a blob with some specks. That is all anyone saw in the 1800’s. One could imagine anything about the cell one wished. Most just thought it was a thick fluid with... some specks. A century before that David Hume made his philosophical argument that life was totally different that make RNA. Thus they need for RNA to be self-replicating in the first life.

Origin of Life - RNA World

Evolutionists worldwide when thrilled when Jack Szostak, a Nobel Prize laureate and Professor of Genetics at Harvard Medical School, published a paper in 2016 that showed RNA could replicate itself. This was important because there had to be a self-copying mechanism in RNA if current evolutionary theory is true.

RNA is a complex and unstable molecule requiring enzymes to reproduce. But those enzymes, evolutionists realize, had to exist before RNA or there would be no life. But they couldn’t exist because RNA would be needed to make the enzymes.

After another scientist attempted, but failed, to replicate Szostak’s work, Szostak withdrew his paper. In retrospect, we were totally blinded by our belief [in our findings] ... we were not as careful or rigorous as we should have been (and as Tivoli was) in interpreting these experiments, Szostak.

SETI & WOW

SETI (the Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence) has been going on for many decades now. SETI researchers scan the heavens for a sign of intelligence elsewhere in the universe. The closest they have come was a signal received in 1977. It stood out against the background static. A researcher wrote “WOW” beside the numbers representing the signal. From November 2016 to February 2017, a signal matching the WOW signal was found and studied. The source is a comet. This is just one more note of bad news for researchers. When SETI first started it was predicted that every star would have at least one inhabitable planet on which intelligent life could occur and evolve. We have discovered over 2000 planets in other solar systems. Most are incredibly deadly to life and none appear to be favorable to life. Another problem is while you hear we live on an ordinary planet orbiting an ordinary star, the fact is we live on a totally unique planet orbiting an unusual, extremely stable star. Most stars vary in output so much they would freeze us one day and cook us the next.

The Reason For God - 3

Pastor Timothy Keller does not consider himself an apologist (one who supports a viewpoint with logic). But he is actually one of the best apologists alive today for Jesus and the Bible. This is part 3 of a series of articles based on his book, The Reason for God - Belief in an Age of Skepticism. See our Web site for previous parts.

The suffering God. There have been many martyrs. The Maccabean martyrs, who revolted against Rome before Christ was born, boldly faced death, painful death,
Making a new sense strand to go with the original antisense strand is a lot more complicated. Once again, NOT shown is the flow of materials required to make the new antisense strand.

The red arrow shows the original DNA. The blue arrow shows antisense DNA that has already been duplicated. The orange arrow shows the direction the strand is moving. Notice it is moving toward the duplicator machine. The green arrow points to the antisense strand between the duplication machinery and the feed mechanism.

Now it gets interesting! The orange, yellow and blue arrows show the direction the strand is moving. The strand will move toward the green duplicator machine (red arrow) until the already duplicated DNA gets to it. Just when the duplicator gets to the part of the strand that was previously duplicated, a new green duplicator (green arrow) grabs the strand, is flipped over to the position of the green duplicator (red arrow). The duplicator (red arrow) lets go and moves out of the way. Whew! You really need to watch the video!

Once both strands have been duplicated into two complete DNA helixes, robots start wrapping the newly made DNA around

DNA from page 1 than a watch or some mechanism. Both were incredibly wrong. I am going to talk you through some screen shots of a video made to show how DNA is replicated. You really need to watch this short video to fully appreciate the amazing process of DNA replication that occurs just before a cell divides. www.wehi.edu.au/wehi-tv/molecular-visualisations-dna or click the link on our web home page.

Normally, DNA is a bit of a bowl of spaghetti in the nucleus of a cell. Every location on the DNA must be readily available as the entire length is used in cell operation. But, when it is time to divide, the DNA is compressed into what we think of as chromosomes. This chart shows the stages of that transformation:

Notice how the strand is a long helix that gets wound up and then takes on the shape of a chromosome. On the right side of the depiction, you can see that DNA is made of two strands connected together by the nucleotides that comprise the DNA code. The strands twist together to make a helix. The red arrow shows where the DNA must be split so the code attached to each strand stays with that strand. There are four nucleotides, represented by the colors green, yellow, blue and red in the diagram. If one strand has a green nucleotide, the other strand will have a yellow nucleotide. The same is true of the blue and red nucleotides. This relationship is essential. When the machinery reads one of the strands and comes to a green nucleotide, the machine “knows” that a yellow nucleotide is required on the new strand. With this knowledge, both sides of the DNA can be duplicated. The two resulting DNA helixes will be composed of one strand of the original DNA and one strand of newly created DNA.

But, the duplication process is not as simple as it seems it should be. One strand of the DNA is called the sense strand. The other is the antisense. The antisense strand must be duplicated in opposite direction from the sense strand!

Let’s see how this duplication process happens. We will use some screen shots from the animation.

On the left side of the shot, you can see the two original strands (sense and antisense) twisted together in a helix (red arrow). The multicolored machine in the center will accomplish the replication.

The blue arrow points to a blue machine piece that surrounds the strand of DNA. It spins faster than a jet engine! It has the job of separating the DNA into two strands. The yellow arrow points to one of the two strands. It feeds directly into the part of the machine that duplicates the sense strand of the DNA. The code of the sense strands tells the machinery what nucleotide should be placed on the new antisense side. The green arrow shows the new copy of DNA. NOT shown is the flow of all the material needed to make the new antisense strand being fed into the machine.
But the paper passed peer review! That is telling about peer review. Though there is no doubt peer review is important in science, a peer reviewer depends on the scientist being reviewed to be honest and reasonable in his conclusions. Szostak was honest but jumped to conclusions that his work did not warrant.

Neither DNA nor RNA are found in nature except in living cells. DNA and RNA are replicated by nanomachines that are made by other nanomachines under the control of DNA as you could surmise from our first article. The nanomachines must exist to make DNA. But nanomachines must exist before you can make other nanomachines!

As Szostak discovered, even under tightly controlled laboratory conditions, RNA does not self-duplicate. Why are evolutionists desperate to show RNA can self-replicated? Since DNA cannot self-replicate, there had to be something before DNA that could self-replicate or life had to be created. Creation is simply not allowed as a possibility no matter how obvious creation is via logic and kno\-w

proteins that insure the DNA is coated at exactly the correct diameter for maximum compression without damaging the DNA by coiling too tight. Then those coils are coiled. Three to five inches of DNA has to be coiled multiple times so that it is between 0.2 and 20 micrometers long. Now the cell can divide.

Finally the cell wall pinches together to make two cells. All this took one hour. All 23 chromosomes have to prepare and divide at exactly the same time.

Next, you can see the chromosomes being pulled to each side of the cell. Nobody has the slightest idea how the edge of cell structure and operation.

But it gets worse. Even if RNA could self-replicate, the only thing the RNA could do is make copies of a mechanism that can copy itself. What good is RNA that can replicate itself, but not produce any other function? What is needed is information that would allow the RNA to make nanomachines that do other things.

Let’s say that RNA could self-replicate and do a function. That is infeasible. Look back at the first article. If all those amazing machine parts also included a self-replicating mechanism, the self-replicating part would get in the way of its other function. And, we should find some residual machinery somewhere on some nanomachine. We don’t.

And, by the way, to fold amino acids into a proper shape, the cell uses nanomachines to guide the process because proper folding doesn’t happen unless guided. Natural actions of a chain of amino acids results in a mess, not a tight folded protein. The same problem would occur with self-replicating RNA. There would need to be robots and other machines to help with the process. Where do they come from?

I can understand Darwin and Hume and others making claims that they do as the chromosomes are pulled to the sides.

Naturalists claim this process can be built one little step at a time. But the first cell had to have all of this in perfect working order or there could never be a second cell. The machinery that duplicates DNA has to be complete. If one part is missing, it doesn’t work. The really amazing question in all of this is how the cell knows how to do all of this in perfect timing and coordination.

God, in the person of Jesus, created an amazing, irreducibly complex design with a communication system for cell division, the universe, you and me. Join us in the amazing joy of praising our Creator! Jesus loves you and is waiting for you to claim the joy He wants you to have.
Jesus suffered something none of us will ever suffer in death. When a friendship or marriage ends because of death, it is very sad and we understandably mourn. But Jesus, the Father and the Spirit had been one person in an eternal, perfect, loving relationship. Jesus was about to lose that relationship through death. He was going to be separated from the Father and Spirit for the first time in eternity! It wasn’t the pain of death He feared, it was the break in a perfect relationship.

We cannot fathom the loss that occurred. On the cross, He asked the Father, My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Because Jesus loves us, He was willing to go through with this loss so that we could die and then be reborn in a perfect loving relationship with Him. Death became necessary for us to suffer. Were we to live forever as we are now, self-centered and incapable of fully loving someone, we would spend eternity suffering as we do now in our imperfect relationships. By us dying, and Jesus dying, we can be resurrected into perfect loving people and spend eternity in a paradise of perfect love with others.

Is it any wonder that on psychological tests, Christians, as a demographic, are the happiest and most content of all people? We handle adversity better than any other demographic. We do not fear death because we know death is what will heal us. It is no wonder Christians have the best life. And soon, we will have the eternal blessed life. YOU CAN TOO! Just decide to make Jesus Lord of your life.

Christianity is the only religion where God became as one of us, fully human. In every way, Jesus suffered despair, rejection, loneliness, poverty, torture, imprisonment and all other things that humans suffer during life. He fully comprehends the suffering of mankind. He ended all the suffering without ending us or Himself. It is easy to understand how a man who killed hundreds of slaves could write a song and call it, “Amazing Grace.” (He also stopped working in the slave trade upon his giving his life to Jesus.) Grace is getting that which you do not deserve. Mercy is not getting what you do deserve. Jesus is the source of all mercy and grace.

Restoration, not consolation. New age religions give you consolation. When you die, it is thought that your spirit is released by never having to deal with the physical again and we are supposedly consoled because now it will be different in the spirit world. This is gnosticism. It assumes that the physical is evil and the spiritual is good. New age believers have even tried to apply that to Jesus. But, Jesus claimed to be the creator of all that is spiritual and physical. It was ALL good in creation. It is man’s self-centeredness that has caused the physical world to become evil, not the Creator. Indeed, the physical world is evil for humans because our spirit is evil. Our body doesn’t decide to be self-centered, it is our spiritual nature. It is our spirit that causes us to do evil. Our bodies just do what our spiritual mind tells it to do. The suffering we experience is in relationships because we don’t have a good spirit that supports good relationships. Our spirit is self-centered. Good, loving relationships require spirits that are other-centered.

Christianity offers restoration. It rights what is wrong with the world because it rights what is wrong with our spirit. We are resurrected into repaired bodies that are controlled by repaired spirits that will not suffer again. God restores our spirit so we don’t corrupt the physical again. We get to live forever in a physical realm that is perfect in every way.

The Hero and Savior is Jesus Christ. The spirit of Jesus is always urging you to open your spiritual eyes to Him. When you make Jesus Lord of your life, you get His Spirit. The Holy Spirit of Jesus takes up residency with your Spirit in your life. You get all the benefits that scientific research has shown Christians have. Sin still hurts us because until we are resurrected, our spirit will be self-centered to some degree. But, as the martyrs knew, eternal restoration awaits those who bow to Jesus! Join us in the joy of knowing Jesus, our restorer.

QUOTE: We cannot expect to explain cellular evolution if we stay locked in the classical Darwinian mode of thinking… The time has come for biology to go beyond the Doctrine of Common Descent. Carl Woese, professor of microbiology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, discoverer of Archaea, the third domain of life.