Why I am a Creationist When So Many Other Scientists Are Not by Dr. Jay L. Wile, Ph.D.

Qualifications

- University Professor From 1990 1995
- Helped Develop Indiana's Only Residential High School for Gifted and Talented Students
- NSF-Sponsored Scientist with More Than \$200,000 In Research Grants
- Became Interested in Homeschooling Because of Excellent University Students Who Were
- Homeschooled
- Currently writes homeschool curriculum and Christian apologetics material

My Early Education Made Me an Atheist

I was taught about many famous scientists. If those scientists had religious views, they were excluded. However, the atheistic views of atheist scientists were NOT excluded. This left me to conclude that all scientists are atheists.

In high school, I was a proud atheist.

Dr. Antony Flew was my role model. The son of a Methodist minister, he became an atheist as a teen. He said, "It just seemed flatly inconsistent to say that the universe was created by an omnipotent and perfectly good being."

In *The Presumption of Atheism* (1976), he stated, "The debate about the existence of God should properly begin from the presumption of atheism, that the onus of proof must lie upon the theist."

I Also Learned About Evolution

One of my first high school science projects was to write about an example of how the **scientific method** was used to formulate a theory.

I wanted to do it on the theory of evolution, but when I tried, I found that its predictions hadn't been verified by the data.

I started with the fossil record.

I saw diagrams of human evolution in my textbook, but when I looked for fossils, I was shocked to see that very few bones were used to make these drawings.

We Now Know That the Fossil Record Shows No Gradual Evolution

"Major transitions in biological evolution show...sudden emergence of diverse forms at a new level of complexity...In each of these pivotal nexuses in life's history, the principal 'types' seem to appear rapidly and fully equipped with the signature features of the respective new level of biological organization. No intermediate 'grades' or intermediate forms between different types are detectable." -Dr. Eugene V. Koonin

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I moved on to mutations.

I found lots of experiments about mutations, especially on fruit flies, but all the results showed that mutations caused harm.

Modern Genetics Shows the Same Thing

"For several decades, this was the main thrust of crop improvement research. Vast numbers of mutants were produced and screened, collectively representing many billions of mutation events...The effort for the most part was an enormous failure...low phytate corn is the most notable example of successful mutation breeding...The low phytate corn was created by mutatagenizing corn, and then selecting for strains wherein the genetic machinery which directs phytic acid production had been damaged." -Dr. John Sanford

From that point on, I was a non-evolutionist, but I was still an atheist.

Then, a girl I wanted to date invited me to a debate.

It was called "Atheism Versus Christianity," and BOTH DEBATERS were **SCIENTISTS**! The Christian debater suggested books that used science to argue for God's existence, and they opened up a whole new world of science to me.

The Argument From Design

Did a computer:

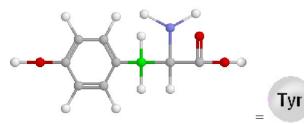
a. Form by an earthquake at Radio Shack?

b. Have a designer?

Atomic Structure

- Neutron / Proton mass ratio <u>cannot</u> vary more than 0.2%
- Electron / Proton mass ratio <u>cannot</u> vary more than 2%
- Electron / Proton charge difference **must** be less than 0.00000001%

Atoms link together to form molecules, which make up most of the substances we see.



This molecule is one example of an amino acid. Amino acids are critical in the chemistry of life.

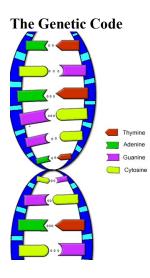
Amino Acids can link together to form proteins



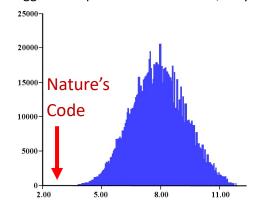
This is one of the **SIMPLEST** protein of life, ribonuclease. It contains 124 amino acids linked together in a precise configuration. Chance of this occurring by random processes:

1 in 10¹⁵²

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There are MANY other ways this could be constructed. Freeland and Hurst suggest 10^{18} possibilities. Of those, they investigated 1,000,000.



Advanced Planning in Animals

The Oriental Sweetlips and the Blue-Streak Wrasse This is an Example of Symbiosis

Symbiosis is Common in Nature

The tickbird and various mammals (like an impala) have such a relationship. The tickbird eats parasites that would otherwise infect the mammals.

In 2003, creationist J.W. Francis predicted that mutualism should be easy to instigate, since it was part of the original creation.

In 2014, The Prediction Was Confirmed

An alga and fungus had never encountered one another in nature, but they each made a chemical the other could use.

The two organisms were put together in an artificial environment, and they formed a mutualistic relationship. The alga even changed its cell wall structure to make the relationship easier!

The Words of Sir Frederick Hoyle:

"...A common sense interpretation of the facts suggests that a **superintellect** has monkeyed with physics, as well as with chemistry and biology, and that there are no blind forces worth speaking about in nature. The numbers one calculates from the facts seem to me so overwhelming as to **put this conclusion almost beyond question**."

When I got to university, I was a Christian and an old-earth creationist. As I started doing my Ph.D. work in nuclear chemistry, that began to change.

While I did not do radiometric dating, I worked in the lab that was considered the most reliable radiometric dating facility in the nation. When I saw "how the sausage was made," I realized that we had every reason to question radiometric dating.

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There Were All Sorts of Contradictions in Radiometric Dating

The island of Hawaii is supposed to be "only" about 0.8-0.4 million years old There are places where the igneous rocks are dated to be 30-32 million years old. There is another spot where the rocks date as 1.4 million years old, but the volcanic eruption that formed those rocks was recorded in history as happening in 1800 and 1801.

Today, The Situation is Worse

Samples of bone from 8 dinosaurs from Texas, Alaska, Colorado, and Montana, China, and Europe had so much carbon-14 in them that they couldn't be more than 39,000 years old. Great care was taken to avoid contamination, and several tests were done to ensure the results were real.

It's Not Just Dinosaur Bones!

Lots of items that are supposedly MUCH OLDER date as relatively "young" with the carbon-14 method

- It coal samples from all over the U.S., supposedly 45-330 MILLION years old, dated 50,000 ± 5,000 years old with the carbon-14 dating method.
- S diamond samples from 5 different mines in Botswana and South Africa are all supposed to be several hundred million years old. They dated as roughly $57,000 \pm 10,000$ years old.
- Baumgardner and others list **NINETY** similar cases in the scientific literature.

As I Looked Into Other Data

There were many examples of data that are utterly inconsistent with a billions-of-years old earth. There are certain data sets that can only be explained by a thousands-of-years old earth. I came to the conclusion that it is more scientifically-reasonable to believe in a young earth. The more I follow the science, the more this conclusion is enforced.