

It Is Written

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Intelligent Design Must Be Taken Seriously

By Ken Weliever

David Gelernter, once called by the New York Times a “rock star,” is a renowned writer and a Yale University computer science professor has recently denounced Darwin’s theory of evolution.

In an essay reviewing Stephen Meyer’s book, *Darwin’s Doubt*, the Professor argues that Darwinian evolution has too many holes and flaws for him to continue to accept its theory.

“Darwin’s theory predicts that new life forms evolve gradually from old ones in a constantly branching, spreading tree of life,” the professor wrote in a paper titled, “Giving Up Darwin.” “Those brave new Cambrian creatures must therefore have had Precambrian predecessors, similar but not quite as fancy and sophisticated. They could not have all blown out suddenly, like a bunch of geysers.”

Gelernter added that “each must have had a closely related predecessor, which must have had its own predecessors.” Furthermore, he explained that there are not enough fossils to back up the theory.

To be fair Gelernter does not personally believe the theory of Intelligent Design, yet acknowledged that it is an “absolutely serious argument,” noting that it is the “first, and obviously most intuitive theory that comes to mind.”

Speaking at a conference in June, Gelernter was candid in admitting that academics who question Darwinism are unfairly attacked by their colleagues.

“I have to distinguish between the way I’ve been treated personally, which has been a very courteous and collegial way by my colleagues at Yale, they’re nice guys and I like them, they’re my friends,” he said in a discussion hosted by the Hoover Institute.

“On the other hand, when I look at their intellectual behavior, what they publish, and, much more important, what they tell their students, Darwinism has indeed passed beyond a scientific argument. As far as they are concerned, take your life in your hands to challenge it intellectually. They will destroy you if you challenge it.”

Most in the academic field show “nothing approaching free speech on this topic,” Gelernter warned. The “bitter, fundamental, angry, outraged rejection” of intelligent design “comes nowhere near scientific or intellectual discussion.” Indeed, in rejecting Darwinism, “I am attacking their religion.”

As a new school year begins, many of our young people will be exposed to various evolutionary theories both in High School and at state universities. Some will have to sit in classes where God is mocked and their faith is attacked. They will be made to feel intellectually inferior for their religious beliefs. Ironically, evolution will be taught as fact with a religious fervor. And it will be implied, if not stated that all serious scientists believe in evolution. That is a lie.

In a 2017 Huffington Post article, “12 Famous Scientists on the Possibility of God,” writer Carol Kuruvilla reports a survey that says 51% of scientists believe in God or some form of a Higher Power.

Francis Collins, a Geneticist, who holds a Ph.D. from Yale was appointed by President Barack Obama to head the National Institutes of Health and was retained in that position by President Trump. Collins is highly respected in his field and has written a number of books on science, medicine, and religion, including the New York Times bestseller, “The Language of God: A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief.”

In an essay for CNN Collins wrote, “I have found there is a wonderful harmony in the complementary truths of science and faith. The God of the Bible is also the God of the genome. God can be found in the cathedral or in the laboratory. By investigating God’s majestic and awesome creation, science can actually be a means of worship.”

There are many scientists today who would echo the sentiments of Dr. Joseph H. Taylor, a 1993 Nobel Prize winner in Physics, “A scientific discovery is also a religious discovery. There is no conflict between science and religion. Our knowledge of God is made larger with every discovery we make about the world.”

Taylor’s words remind me of Paul’s inspired declaration in Romans 1:20. “For since the creation of the world His

invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.”

Young people, don't give up your faith, which is founded on solid, sound evidence, for unproven scientific theories espoused by atheists and infidels.

Continued scientific discovery and increased knowledge about our cosmos will lead honest scientists farther away from Darwin and closer to the Psalmist who exclaimed, “The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork.”

A Pattern To Follow

By Jesse Flowers

The apostle Paul exhorted the younger evangelist, Timothy, “Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus” (II Tim. 1:13).

Merriam-Webster defines pattern as “a form or model proposed for imitation.”

Do the Scriptures provide us with a specific pattern that must be followed and not deviated from in any way? In a number of areas, the answer is a definitive “YES!”

First of all, the New Testament (i.e. the Law of Christ) makes abundantly clear that we must do all that Christ has commanded us (Matt. 28:20; 2 John 9-11), and also warns of the very serious consequences if any changes are made to the teachings of Christ (Gal. 1:6-9; Rev. 22:18-19).

Let's briefly observe a few examples of where Christians have been given a specific pattern to follow, where we are not at liberty to “think beyond what is written” (1 Cor. 4:6; cf. 1 Pet. 4:11).

Worship. Jesus said, “God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth” (Jn. 4:24). The worshiping of God is not left up to us to determine. We **MUST** worship God in spirit and truth. The New Testament identifies five specific acts of worship: the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 11:23-26; Acts 20:7), preaching (Acts 2:42; 20:7), singing (Eph. 5:19), collection (1 Cor. 16:1-2), and prayer (Acts 2:42).

Organization. Paul wrote of the simplicity of local church organization when writing to the church in Philippi. “...to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons” (Phil. 1:1). Those who composed a local church in the first century were simply saints, bishops (or elders), and deacons. A lot has changed in 2000 years!

Work. When it comes to the work of a local church, three specific areas are identified in the New Testament: evangelism (1 Tim. 3:15), edification (Eph. 4:12), and benevolence to needy saints (Acts 11:27-30). Consider the many different works and ministries that churches are involved in today, but these are the only three with any Bible authority (Col. 3:17).

Marriage. There is also a specific pattern when it comes to the marriage relationship. From the very beginning, God ordained that marriage is a special union between one man and one woman for life (Matt. 19:4-6). The only exception Christ allowed to end the marriage is if sexual immorality has been committed by the husband or wife (Matt. 19:9).

Salvation. God has also revealed a specific pattern to be followed as it pertains to man's salvation from sin (Rom. 1:16). Sinners must hear the gospel message to have faith (Rom. 10:17), believe Jesus is the Christ (Jn. 3:16) repent of sin (Acts 17:30), confess Christ (Rom. 10:9-10), and be baptized into Christ for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). Then the child of God must remain faithful until death to receive eternal life (Rev. 2:10).

Let us be sure to “hold fast the pattern of sound words.”