

# Did You Know...

- The average adult body contains around *80 trillion cells*?
- It takes *over half a million normal skin cells* lumped together before you can even see them with the naked eye.
- If you were to count all the atoms in just *one cell* of your body, at the rate of *one atom per second*, it would take you *over 300,000 years* to count the atoms in just that one cell!
- If you do the math: *multiply 80 trillion cells times 300,000 years*; that equals an astounding *24,000,000,000,000,000 years*! That is roughly how long it would take to count the atoms in your BODY.
- The time it would take you to count these atoms, at one per second, would predate the supposed Big Bang by trillions upon trillions of years.
- The *DNA strand of genetic information* from just one cell in your body stretched out would be *6-10 feet long*.
- Each DNA strand is made up of over *75 billion atoms* and is like a *massive library of genetic information*.
- If you took all *80 trillion strands of DNA* from your body, and attached them end to end, *it would be long enough to go around our entire solar system, the sun and all the planets!*

Mind-boggling, huh!

So, you ask, what do all these facts have to do with me? Let me tell you. Have you ever questioned whether there is a God? Some people doubt God even exists. Atheism's popularity is on the rise. **Do you realize the facts I just presented you *prove* there has to be a God?— How?**

Think with me. Could 80 trillion cells in your body, made up of multiplied trillions of atoms, have ever come together by sheer chance, in perfect harmony, to make a living, breathing, thinking, feeling, functional you? Could such physical complexity and metaphysical harmony have ever happened by random chance as atheistic naturalism teaches? In a word, **"No!" It is statistically IMPOSSIBLE.** Let me explain.

As unbelievable as this may seem, the odds of you getting *only 300 things* (such as 300 numbered lottery balls) in the right order by random chance, *is a number far greater than the estimated number of atoms in our entire universe!* Math doesn't lie. If you don't believe me, ask any statistics professor. The equation is:  $300 \times 299 \times 298 \dots \times 2 \times 1$ . So what are the odds of getting, not just 300 items, but multiplied trillions upon trillions of atoms in your DNA, enough to go around our entire solar system, in the right order by random chance? What are the chances? — **ABSOLUTE ZERO!**

The atoms in your body, or any living organism with DNA for that matter, could *never* have assembled themselves by random chance. **It is an absolute mathematical impossibility!** Further, how could love, intellect, thought, feelings, personality and a

moral sense of right and wrong have evolved from mindless atoms? It's unthinkable.

As mind-boggling as it is, the evidence overwhelmingly points to the existence of a rational, creator God. **It takes an irrational leap of faith of infinite proportions to believe life came about by random chance.** As one person said, **"I simply do not have enough faith to be an atheist."**

Pascal, the French mathematician-philosopher, said, *"In the end there are only two kinds of reasonable (wise) people: There are those who seek God with all of their hearts because they do **not** know Him, and there are those who serve God with all their hearts because they **do** know Him."*

Anyone not actively seeking or serving God, Pascal said, is a *fool*. So, where are you in relation to God? Are you seeking, serving or ignoring the One who created you? Reason with me: since God created you with *unbelievable complexity*, it means **you are a person of unfathomable worth**. It also means *you were created for a purpose*, not the least of which is to know and love God.

Here is another major piece of information to consider. Most agree that the person who has had the greatest historical impact upon our world was Jesus of Nazareth. Did you know Jesus claimed to be the eternal, Creator-God become man? Virtually every major name and attribute of *God* used in the Old Testament is applied to *Jesus* in the New Testament of the Bible.

Think with me: any man claiming to be God would either be a liar, a lunatic, or just maybe, He really was/is God. What if God,

the Creator, actually wrote Himself into His own story and became one of us to show us the way to Himself? How could we know? Answer: Simply weigh the evidence. Think!

Jesus' first coming to earth was foretold in the Bible hundreds of years before He arrived. Credible witnesses testified that He performed miracles. He was crucified and the evidence for His resurrection from the dead is overwhelming. Consider the fact that His disciples were willing to die for what they believed. (Would you die for a lie, saying He was alive if you knew He was really dead?) And even secular historians have to admit the Bible is the best preserved document from antiquity. Not even one word in a thousand is in doubt. [I strongly encourage you to read Lee Strobel's two books: "*The Case For Christ*" and "*The Case For Faith*." Lee was an atheist who tried to disprove Christianity and couldn't.]

John, one of Jesus' 12 disciples, wrote an eyewitness account of Jesus in the *Gospel of John* (Bible). In your search for truth, I encourage you to get a modern version of the Bible and simply read John's Gospel with a critical yet open mind.

Jesus claimed to be the "*light of the world*." Just maybe He is. Please don't reject Him until you've investigated the facts. And, don't judge Christianity by the *religion* some have made through the misuse of His name. Jesus and the Apostle Paul both warned of false teachers who would infiltrate the church. (Matthew 24:24; Acts 20:29,30) Sadly, Satan does some of his greatest work from within the church. (E.g., *Inquisition*.)

Use your head, but also listen to your heart. Doesn't your heart cry out for love? Do you feel an emptiness inside? You see, there is a God-shaped vacuum in each of us which only God can fill. That's how He created us. Is the road you are on leading you to God; to love, beauty, purpose and an eternal relationship? Or, is your life a "*tale told by a madman, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing*?" (Shakespeare)

The question is not whether God exists, but do you know Him? Have you said "yes" to having a love relationship with the God who created you?

God promises: "*You shall seek me and find me when you seek for me with all your heart.*" (Jeremiah 29:13) ***If you want to know the truth, and if you are willing to follow it, God is big enough to show you!*** Even now, do you feel God drawing you to Himself? An honest beginning prayer would be: "*God, if you're real, if you love me, and all of this is true, please show me. I want to know.*"

Allow me to simply state for you some of what the Bible teaches about salvation. Please get a Bible and look up these verses.

1. God created you and He loves you incredibly. (Romans 8:35-39; I John 4:16-19)

2. God is holy, sinless, pure and we are not. We've all sinned and rebelled against God. In short, we've blown it and our sins have created a moral barrier between us and a holy God. (Romans 3:23) Apart from God's grace and forgiveness, we stand condemned. (Romans 1:18-20) We need a Savior.

3. According to the Bible we can never earn or "*work*" our way to God, which is

why God entered our world in the person of Jesus. He purposely became a man to die on the cross for the sins of the whole world, thus paying the penalty for our sin. (John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Colossians 1:15-20)

4. Salvation is a ***free gift***. (Ephesians 2:8, 9; Romans 6:23) We receive it by faith, generally expressed through prayer, as we humbly ask God to forgive us and we invite Christ to live within us. (John 14:6, 15-17; Romans 10:9-13; Revelation 3:20) If and when you are ready to take this step, may I recommend a prayer similar to the following:

*"Dear Lord Jesus, I thank you for loving me. I am so sorry for my sin, my pride, my stubbornness and all that has ever kept me from you. I believe you died on the cross and rose again to pay for all my sin. As best as I know how, right now, I invite you to come live within me. With your help I willingly choose to turn from my sin and embrace your forgiveness. Transform me into the person you created me to be. Calm my fears, carry my burdens, and open my heart to receive your love. May I know your peace and your presence from this day forward. Thank you for loving me and for hearing this prayer. Amen."*

To grow as a new believer: pray, read your Bible daily (start with the New Testament) and we invite you to get plugged into our church (or any church that teaches God's Word). For other resources go to our website, **TheJourneyFamily.com**.

With love and much respect,

Bart Larson, hospice chaplain

