

BRINGING THE WORD OF LIFE

E-MAIL NEWSLETTER

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'...that you may know that you have eternal life.' 1 John 5:13

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Many years ago, in a small house on the bank of the Hudson River, there lived a man with his wife and two children—a daughter and a little son. He was in charge of the train bridge, a large swing bridge near their house that he had to open in order for big boats to pass by and close so trains could cross the river.

One day, however, his daughter could not make the trip to the little house on the other side of the bridge where her father sat at the controls, so mother asked the little boy if he thought he was now big enough to take Daddy's lunch to him. He had always wished to go along with his sister someday, and felt very honored to be asked to do this job alone. He assured his mother that he would be very careful and do a good job, so she kissed him and sent him on his way.

As he approached the big bridge, he felt a little unsure, but seeing where his father was at the other end gave him fresh courage. Carrying the lunch basket which was almost as big as himself, he slowly made his way down the tracks. His father, realizing it was now approaching noon-time, looked out the window to see if his daughter was on her way, and was surprised to see his little boy coming in her place. He was happy to see how big his little boy was getting, and lovingly watched him take his small, careful steps.

On and on the little boy trudged, looking only straight ahead, when to the father's horror a train whistled for the bridge. The signal down the tracks let the train know that the bridge was already closed, so it did not slow down. The father quickly realized that his son was in the very middle of the bridge, and would have no chance to escape the oncoming train. As the train came into view, the father thought that he could save his son by opening the bridge—but that would cost the lives of all those on the train. Bravely, he held the bridge closed, and the speeding train made it safely to the other side.

The people on the train were saved, but at the great cost of the bridgeman's son. Saving those people cost the father his only son, and it cost the son his life. This story was reportedly often told by the famous evangelist D.L. Moody as a powerful illustration of the loving sacrifice God made when

*"... the Father sent the Son to
be the Saviour of the world"*
(1 John 4:14).

Just like the bridgeman in the story, God "spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all" (**Romans 8:32**). In His great love for us, God chose to give "His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved" (**John 3:16, 17**).

When God saw our terrible, lost condition brought on because of sin, He (the righteous Judge) knew the sentence of everlasting punishment that was ahead of us. He also knew the one way for us to be saved from that judgment, so He sent His only Son to become our Saviour. Jesus, by suffering sin's judgment—in our place—on the cross of Calvary, has provided salvation and pardon for all who will accept it.

Those on the train that day probably never knew that their lives were in danger, or the great price that a father had paid to save them. I hope you will not ignore the great danger facing your soul: "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (**Hebrews 9:27**).

Consider the cost paid by the Father and the Son to offer salvation to you. There is no need for you to bear your burden of sin any longer, nor face its required punishment of separation from God in the torment of eternal hell (**Revelation 20:15**). Jesus paid the price for you; all you need to do is trust Him today as your Saviour.

"God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life" (1 John 5:11-13).



What the Bible says About Jesus Christ

➤ He is God.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." (John 1:1, 14)

➤ His name is Emmanuel meaning "God with us".

"Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." (Matthew 1:23)

➤ Everything was created through Him and for Him.



"For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are upon earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:" (Colossians 1:16)

➤ He is without sin.

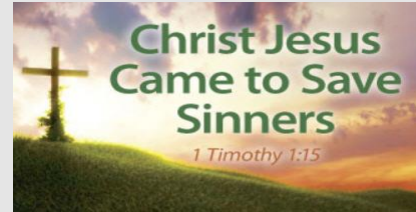
"Who committed no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth." (1 Peter 2:22)

"And ye know that he appeared to take away our sins; and in him is no sin." (1 John 3:5)

"For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." (2 Corinthians 5:21)

➤ He was sent by His Father to be the saviour of the world.

"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son *to be* the Saviour of the world." (1 John 4:14)



➤ He came into the world to save sinners.

"This *is* a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." (1 Timothy 1:15)

➤ He came to seek and to save what was lost.

"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." (Luke 19:10)

➤ He died for our sins, was buried, and was raised on the third day.

"For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;" (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

➤ He is the Good Shepherd that gives His life for the sheep.

"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep." (John 10:11)

➤ He has the authority to judge.

"And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man." (John 5:27)

➤ He has power on earth to forgive sins.

"But that ye may know that the Son of man hath authority upon earth to forgive sins, (he said to the sick with the palsy,) I say to thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thy house." (Luke 5:24)

➤ *He invites sinners to come to Him.*

"Come to me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest to your souls. For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28–30)

➤ *He is the only mediator between God and mankind.*

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;" (1 Timothy 2:5)

➤ *He is able to save everyone that comes to God through Him.*

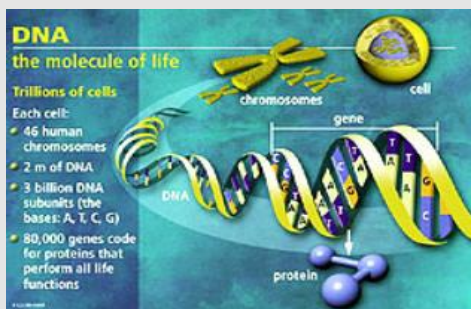
"And they truly were many priests, because they were not allowed to continue by reason of death: But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood." (Hebrews 7:23–24)

➤ *Every knee will bow and every tongue confess that He is Lord.*

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things on earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:9–11) (Aaron Kember)



Life's Book



The amazing design and complexity of living things provides strong evidence for a Creator. We know from the Bible that God rested from (i.e. finished) His creative work after Day 6 (Genesis 2:2,3) and now sustains His creation (Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:3).

One aspect of this sustenance is that God has programmed the "recipe" for all these structures on the famous double-helix molecule DNA. This recipe has an enormous *information content*, which is transmitted one generation to the next, so that living things reproduce "after their kinds" (Genesis 1, – 10 times).

Leading atheistic evolutionist Richard Dawkins admits: "there is enough information capacity in a single human cell to store the Encyclopaedia Britannica, all 30 volumes of it, three or four times over."

Just as the Britannica had intelligent writers to produce its information, so it is reasonable and even scientific to believe that the information in the living world likewise had an original compositor/sender.

There is no known non-intelligent cause that has ever been observed to generate even a small portion of the literally encyclopedic information required for life.

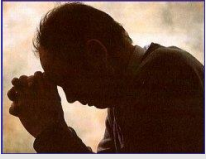
The genetic code is not an outcome of raw chemistry, but of elaborate decoding machinery in the ribosome. Remarkably, this decoding machinery is itself encoded in the DNA, and the noted philosopher of science Sir Karl Popper pointed out: "Thus the code can not be translated except by using certain products of its translation. This constitutes a baffling circle; a really vicious circle, it seems, for any attempt to form a model or theory of the genesis of the genetic code." So, such a system must be fully in place before it could work at all, a property known as irreducible complexity. This means that it is impossible to be built by natural selection working on small changes.

DNA is by far the most compact information storage system in the universe. Even the simplest known living organism has 482 protein-coding genes. This is a total of 580,000 "letters"—humans have three billion in every nucleus.

A pinhead of DNA could hold 100 million times more information than a 40 gigabyte hard drive.

Adapted from "DNA: Marvellous Messages or Mostly Mess?" by Jonathan Sarfati, in Creation 25(2)27 March—May 2003, published by Answers in Genesis, www.AnswersInGenesis.org

POINT TO PONDER



**Tomorrow's history
has already been written...
'at the Name of Jesus every
knee will bow.'**

Paul E Kauffman

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