

WHAT IS IMPOSSIBLE?

One of the ongoing themes of this newsletter is that it is impossible for the universe to be here without supernatural acts, the supernatural acts being acts of God.

Evolutionists point to a south sea island where some bird beaks were larger than other bird beaks and concluded there was no God. We agree that bird beaks can vary in size and that evolution occurs. Feed a small child a lot of ice cream and he will evolve into a fat kid. That is evolution, or at least micro-evolution.

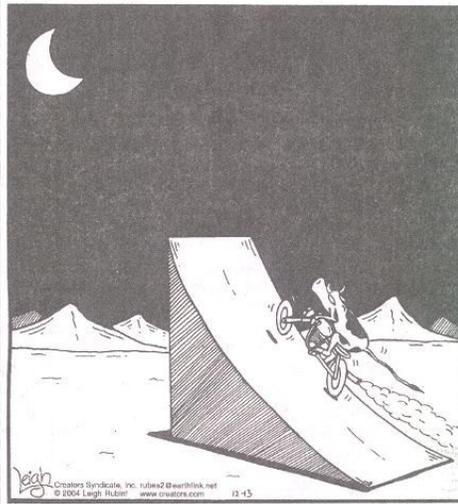
If you feed him enough ice cream to form wings, you have done something else, also called evolution, or macro evolution. The basic concept of evolution is that if a bird's beaks can change in size, given enough time you can grow invent and perfect wings.

It is sort of like if you saw a cow jump over a fence, you might believe that if the cow tried long enough, it might be able to jump over the moon. Several Impossibilities are between the accomplishment of that jump, no matter how many millions of years the cow jumps.

This newsletter will attempt over time to identify parts of creation which are clearly impossible to happen without supernatural assistance. If you accept that a single

event which has happened could not have happened without supernatural assistance, you must believe in something supernatural. The next step is that God is the supernatural.

Rubes



At the Mother Goose X Games

In the Jan/Feb issue of Does God Exist? Ralph Epperson had a good article titled "How Did The Universe Begin?" discussing the probabilities of events happening. His general conclusion is that "Any event with a probability of less than one chance in 10¹¹⁰, therefore, cannot occur by chance." The number 10¹¹⁰ is 10 followed by 110 zeros. He then relates that someone estimated that the chance that a molecule could occur by chance is 10⁴⁵⁰, DNA 10⁶⁰⁰, insulin molecules 10¹⁵⁸, and simplest life 10^{40,000}. He says that "In other words, the universe originating by chance has NO CHANCE!".



WHAT IS IMPOSSIBLE?.

What you have agreed to with this concept? You have not agreed to “no chance”, but rather that **there is a chance**. You might think $10^{40,000}$ is an extremely remote probability. The evolutionist quickly believes and indication that the universe is 14 billion years old and you have lots of opportunities for something to happen.

You might have one chance in $10^{40,000}$ for something to happen, but you don't have to have $10^{40,000}$ events before it actually happens. Consider that the probability of getting a 6 on a die roll is 1 chance in 6. You don't have to wait until the sixth roll to get the six, you can get the six on the first roll. In like manner if you agree that there is an extremely remote chance that simple life can occur by chance, it can happen on the first day. Literally if you agree that there is remote possibility of it happening by chance on the first day, you have lost the discussion before you started.

This newsletter will not be discussing what is remotely possible, it will be discussing things for which there is no natural causal mechanism. In other words, it is impossible without God. When we say “impossible for evolution”, we mean “impossible for evolution”.

SUSTAINED SCRIPTURAL CHURCH GROWTH CONFERENCE

We are considering sponsoring a conference on sustained scriptural church growth in the greater Houston area. If you would like to speak at such a conference, would attend, or be involved in any other way, let us know at info@thearray.com.

The conference would not address doing the same things to continue to not

FILL-IN PREACHERS

We are starting a pilot program to co-ordinate fill-in preachers for various congregations in the greater Houston Area. The presumption is that there are some larger congregations who have more men willing to present an occasional sermon than opportunities exist, and there are some smaller congregations where more opportunities exist that speakers.

Visit thearray.org and click on FILL-IN PREACHERS to see if any of the speakers / topics are interesting to you, or if you would like to add a topic to the list.

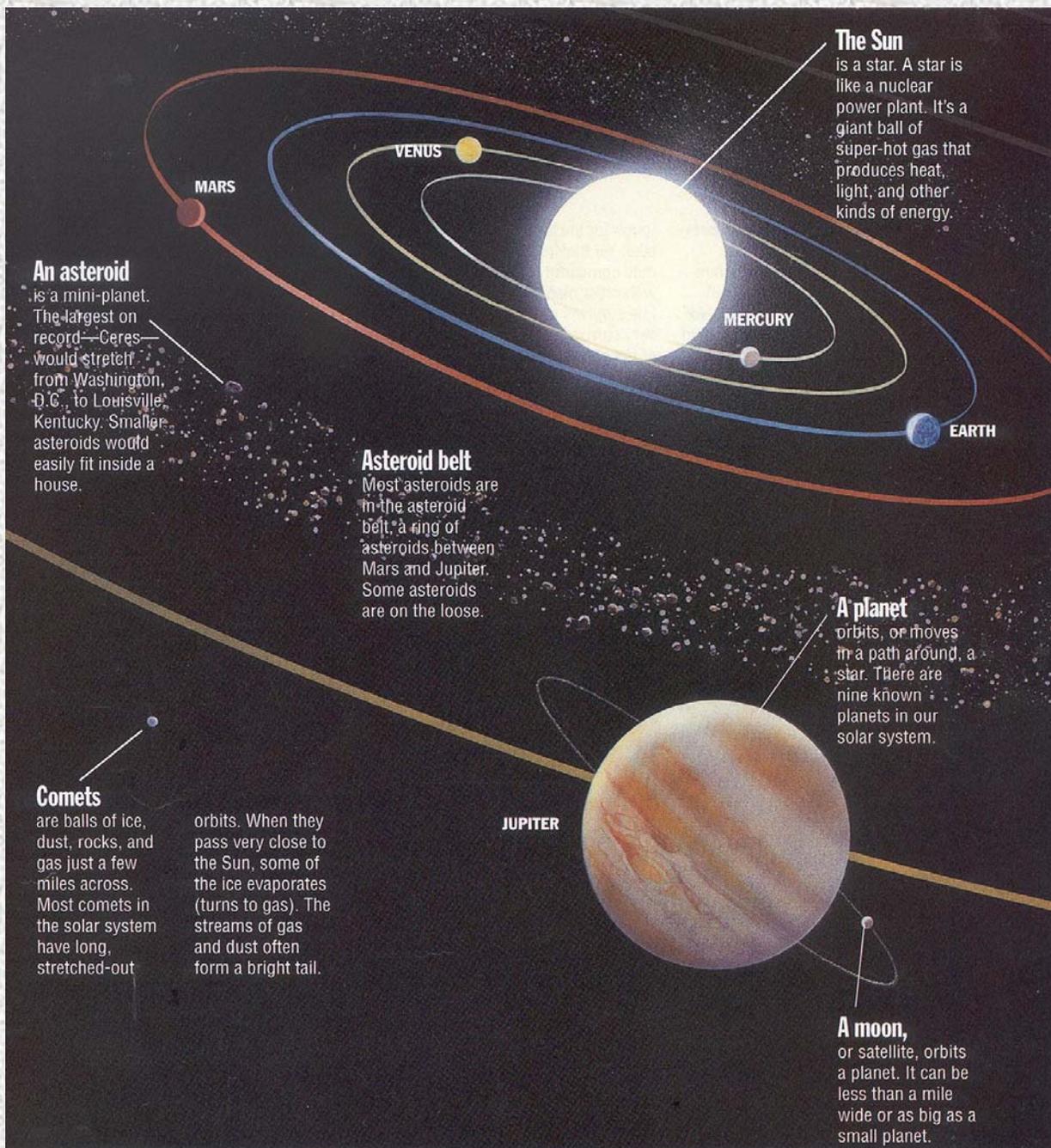
If you want to add a topic, you need to indicate your name, home congregation, phone number, and 1 to 4 topics. Each title and description of a topic should be 15-30 words. Send the list to

ARTICLES NEEDED

Whereas we are interested in articles which support the themes of this newsletter and articles of general interest, we want to request articles which oppose these viewpoints. It is educational to be exposed to and understand various points of view.

IMPOSSIBLE: THE INCREDIBLE DESIGN OF THE UNIVERSE

The Earth orbits around the Sun without falling. The Moon orbits around the Earth without falling. Many other planets and stars in an orbit and rotate. If we were created by a gigantic “big bang” as is current scientific belief, there would only be radial motion from the center of the explosion. The incredibly intricate clockwork design of our solar system (and all the others) simply cannot be the result of an explosion. It is impossible for an explosion to cause such order.



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WHAT IS A LUKEWARM CHURCH?

We seem to feel that a lukewarm church is something that someone else did in another time and place. We as a group frequently say – we may not be growing, but other congregations aren't growing either. The question is whether we are just as good as they are, or we are just as bad as they are? Is your glass half full, or are you lukewarm?

The definitive discussion of a lukewarm church is:

"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this: 'I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot endure evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false; and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary. 'But I have this against you, that you have left your first love. 'Remember therefore from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you, and will remove your lampstand out of its place — unless you repent. 'Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. (NASB Rev. 2:1-6), and

"And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: He who has the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars, says this: 'I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. 'Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God. 'Remember therefore what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent. If therefore you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come upon you. (NASB Rev 3:1-3), and

"And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says this: 'I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I would that you were cold or hot. 'So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth. 'Because you say, "I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing," and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked, (NASB Rev 3:14-17)

Some commendations made of the lukewarm churches are: you toil, have perseverance, cannot endure evil men, have not grown weary, hate the deeds of Nicolaitans (stand for the truth), and are not cold.

A lukewarm church has Bible Classes, worship services, and other activities. It is still a church. Lukewarm is not cold or dead. It will always have a default level of activity.

What is a reasonable indication that a church is lukewarm – that it has stopped growing. If your attendance is flat for several years without a planting of another congregation, you are most likely a lukewarm church. If so, please read the verses above again.

If your judgment day defense is going to be that no one else was growing either, imagine your luck at traffic court telling the judge that it was OK to speed because everyone else was speeding.



MONEY PAGE

GUARANTEED CHURCH GROWTH

If your congregation does the following, BCE Publications guarantees that it will grow.

Poll your congregation three times at 6 months intervals with the following results:

- 50% of the members know who their elder is
- 50% of the members will say that a minister is their friend
- 50% of the members will say that they are uplifted by the song services
- 50% of the men will say that their input is considered before physical decisions are made
- 50% of the members will say they are an important part of the work
- 50% of the members will say they are aware of the goals of the congregation
- 50% of the members will say that they know what their part is in achieving your goals

GUARANTEE: For the first congregation which does this and does not grow by at least 10%, we will send \$1000 to the church related children's home of your choice in your name.

I have never met a person who said that if they did this their church would not grow. If your congregation is not growing, what have you got to lose? (Offer made since 2001)

IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION?

We will offer \$100 to the first person who can explain how we could have violated the first law of thermodynamics and have come into existence without God.

We will offer \$100 to the first person who can explain how we could have violated the second law of thermodynamics and have existed forever without God.

(Offer first posted 8/08)

IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION!

This publication continues (since 1991) to make a standing offer of \$100 to the first person who can give any reason (1 or more) as to why atheistic evolution is a better explanation for the universe and/or life than creation by God, The Father of Adam, Abraham, and Jesus; as revealed in the Bible.

We will also give you \$100 if we cannot give you 12 reasons why atheistic evolution is impossible as an explanation for our existence.

We will discuss this any place, any time, and in any forum.

(This offer has been made repeatedly since June of 1991 with no takers)

AREA WIDE ACTIVITIES

Feb 27-28, 2009 Area Wide Men's Retreat, Camp Holy Wilde, New Caney, Texas

HoustonCofC is a Yahoo group hosted by Steve Sandifer [steve.sandifer@sbcglobal.net] for the purpose of communicating Houston area news among the brethren. It is open to any member of the church at no cost.

The Christian Array Newsletter

This newsletter will be sent to members of the church on a monthly basis as an attempt to promote area wide activities and church growth. If you do not want to receive this newsletter, send an e-mail to info@thearray.org and it will be stopped.

If you know of anyone who would like to receive this newsletter, send their e-mail addresses to info@thearray.org. All past copies of the newsletter can be found on the website "thearray.org".

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

A goal of this newsletter is to develop a mailing list of as many members of the church as possible and to communicate church related information to as many members as possible. In that light, we would appreciate:

1. Your forwarding the church member e-mail addresses which you have.
2. Sending the directory of the congregation you attend or any other directories which you might have.
3. Give us an idea of how to collect church member e-mail addresses.

The Christian Array is dedicated to support the sustained scriptural growth of the churches of Christ. It is published by BCE Publications, a 501(c)(3) organization with Benton F. Baugh, Ph.D., P.E. as editor. BCE is solely responsible for the content. Any announcements, requests for publication, or comments should be e-mailed to info@thearray.org.