

INSIDE THE WOMB

Within the womb takes place the 'miracle' of procreation. A single cell, so small it cannot be seen with the naked eye, begins to divide and multiply. First question - why should it do that if there is no overriding plan to multiply in nature and therefore no instructions to do so? Next: Why would an evolving human not develop along the lines of its own self-preservation rather than the perpetuation of the race which involves the eventual death of the host? Death must be a horrible problem for the evolutionist as it goes so much against this theory of an ascending order of development.

The Christian has no difficulty with any of those problems for the Word of God answers and explains them all. Unfortunately, proud man does not want to meet the arguments of Scripture. He will not face them and insists in burying his head in the unreality of evolution.

Back inside the womb the multiplying cells are doing strange things. Some are beginning to beat like a heart when there is as yet no heart. Others are marching off to form the rudimentary organs, bones, tissues. Without some sort of plan this would be chaotic.

But there is a plan. Within each cell, itself invisible to the naked eye, there is the deoxyribonucleic acid molecule (DNA). It resembles a tiny rope ladder with rungs. The astronomical information contained on each rung directs the growth of the unborn child. Yet we are expected to believe that all this happens by chance. To believe that is a greater act of faith than to believe in God, the evidence of whose presence is everywhere for those who have eyes to see. However, as someone has said, there is none so blind as he who will not see.

For nine months within the darkness of the womb the Lord weaves a beautiful tapestry according to Psalm 139 in preparation for one of the most astounding events in history the birth of the child. Because it is such a common occurrence in both the animal kingdom and humankind people often do not reflect on the wonder of it all.

THE BIRTH OF THE CHILD

The writer, while serving his engineering apprenticeship, saw the launch of several great ships from the shipyard that produced the *Titanic*. First the keel would be laid on dry land and it was a matter of great interest to watch as the hull slowly grew.

Over a period in excess of a year the great metal plates would come together. The ship did not assemble itself. It was the result of years of planning. Thousands of engineers and construction workers swarmed over the growing vessel until the hull was complete.

Then came the exciting day of the launch planned years in advance when the great vessel would move from a dry land life to the water. Workers would come out from the neighbouring factories to see this moment. Slowly the ship would begin to slide down the greased slipway and into the water. Great chains and cables would snap as they did their work in slowing the vast hulk. The newly launched ship was, however, far from complete. It was virtually an empty shell. Tugs would tow it to a dock where for months, sometimes in excess of a year; the equipment that would turn it into an operating ship would be fitted. Then, and only then, could it be considered a ship that

would ply the sea routes of the world.

The birth of a child is a much more stupendous event than the launch of even a great ship. Unlike the ship the baby has been growing in a liquid environment. At some stage, as yet unknown to science, a signal goes forth to begin the process of birth. The child will pass from that environment to one where it will breathe air for the first time. That is amazing in itself!

Unlike the ship the child is a living, complete entity and perfect in its details. Who can look at a newly born baby without marveling at the wonder of it all? It survives the harrowing birth. The little body is covered in minute and perfectly formed hairs. Its tiny fingers are so perfect that the 'half moons' on the nails are clearly seen. It immediately knows to feed.

Can you imagine a tiny little boat, completely formed, being launched and then watching as it grows? That is impossible for an inanimate object! But not for a living baby.

It has no teeth when it is born no room at that size. But they will come. And then as growth continues a second and larger set will grow, replacing the first. One wonders what sort of evolutionary procedure could call for that to happen.

As time progresses the child will grow and develop its faculties. It will become active and begin to crawl. Then happens one of the most amazing things in the child's development, it begins to walk.

On the face of it that may seem simple. But think a little. For a child to learn to walk is absolutely amazing.

Everybody has a centre of gravity, that point around which its weight is evenly distributed or balanced. When a child stands up the centre of gravity dictates whether it will stand or fall. Even to stand the brain is making thousands of corrections just to maintain balance. Watch a child swaying as it tries to stand; its brain is compensating for the movement and striving for balance.

Now as the child begins to move forward in its first steps the centre of gravity begins to move with it. It is then that millions of tiny corrections to maintain balance are made and the tiny computer (brain) ensures that it can safely make the transition from crawling to standing to walking. What a wonderful process!

Now, what an amazing thing it is that those thus wonderfully formed should eventually begin to question the existence of the great Designer. It is easy to postulate that these developments happened over millions of years. That is a simple way of trying to refute the obvious.

But that does not get down to the nitty-gritty of how those functions necessary for survival, developed in real time when the creature did not have them and without which it could not survive.

Evolution is only a theory, and not a good one. It comes from the fallen nature of man that wants to throw off the rule of God in his life, a life that was marvellously given to him by the God, the Great Creator and Sustainer of all things.