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## **Fearfully and Wonderfully Made**

*May 2009 Commentary*

I am often awed by the job God did in creating me. I am fearfully and wonderfully made, and I am awed by the complexity of my being. I realized that this morning. Being old and on many medicines, I was carefully taking each pill when I noticed that there were two large pills obstructing the smoothness of my pill taking. Without thinking, I took two fingers and moved them out of the way. It was a deft move, and I only had a fleeting thought that they should be moved. When I realized what I did and the dexterity with which it was done, I was awed.

My life has always been filled with awe at the complexity of the human body, and above all the human brain. I am a neuroscientist and when I learned neuroanatomy, I realized then I could never know all the connections of various structures in the brain because they are too numerous. The workings of our brains and the minds that reside there are supernatural and will never be deciphered. After all, there are at least 3,000,000,000 cells, each of which has 100 or more connections. The number is so overwhelming that no one could ever draw a complete diagram of the circuitry. Interestingly, some computer scientists have predicted that within a few years they will design and complete a computer that will be able to function like the human brain. Ha! When I think of the

way the brain has its origin in a fertilized ovum, I cannot help but believe in an intelligent designer.

I have to admit I am a creationist. I read this morning, though, that I am deluded. I have been taught the truth that cosmic evolution is the way it all came about, but I haven't believed it! The people who did the study, and found that 70% of people in the US believe in creationism, could not understand why. I do!! God is visible in the things he made. Their excuse is that they have not taught evolution well enough.

God, who is omniscient, did an awesome job in designing the universe including us, but there are some puzzling facts that make his design difficult to understand. One of them is its composition. Recently, out of curiosity and the urging of the Holy Spirit, I took a course called Dark Matter and Dark Energy that I obtained on DVD's from The Teaching Company. I had known for a long time that my worldview requires that I have an up to date cosmology; I wanted to know more about the structure and composition of the universe we live in. I knew that astrophysicists have analyzed the composition of the universe and found it consists of matter that can be seen and demonstrated, "dark" matter that cannot be seen or demonstrated, and another constituent that is pure "dark" energy. According to the mathematical calculations of Einstein, the universe should end with a "Big Crunch" just as it started with a Big Bang, but what Edwin Hubble found in 1922, is that the expansion of the universe is not decelerating, but instead is accelerating. The expansion he demonstrated has most recently been theorized to be

due to dark energy, but scientists also believe, because of their calculations, there is dark matter, too.

They have labored to demonstrate the existence of these two constituents – especially dark matter – but they are unsuccessful. They have focused their hope on the possibility that the Large Hadron Collider at Cern in Switzerland, recently completed, will demonstrate the presence of dark matter. The only problem is the collider broke down and will not be fixed until September. We will have to wait to see if their calculations are confirmed.

As I watched and listened to the instructor, it was awesome to realize God put this universe together, **but made only 5% of it visible**. The other 95% is not visible. The rest is 70% dark energy and 25% dark matter. Scientists do, however, believe that these invisible constituents exist because mathematical calculations say they exist even though they cannot hear, see, feel, taste or smell them. They have no empirical observations to support their theory.

Matter is said to be made up of basic particles called bosons. The dark boson is called the Higgs boson. This is what they hope to demonstrate at Cern.

As the instructor discussed dark matter he could describe what he thought were its characteristics. He knew it had to be a boson and not an electron or neutron. It has a mass that is larger than most other particles. It does, however, only have a minimal

electrical charge. Even though they know its characteristics, science cannot find a way to demonstrate its existence. They accept its existence by faith.

“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see” (Hebrews 11:1). There are many things we have to accept on faith, and those of us who believe in God have to accept his existence by faith. He did, however, reveal himself in Jesus.

Jesus was the visible evidence of the invisible God, but people did not accept him or believe his claims. Instead, they crucified him. Still there were those who believed he was God, and were transformed when they believed in him and asked him into their life. Dark Matter and Dark Energy are also believed to exist because there is inferential evidence they exist. Therefore, scientists can hope for their existence. Since neither can be demonstrated empirically, their existence has to be accepted by faith just as we accept God’s existence by faith.

God exists in dimensions above our own. The observation by C. S. Lewis that our minds are supernatural makes it possible for a supernatural God to come and live in us. We know he lives with us, but the only evidence we have that he is in us is we can *feel* his presence in our lives. We also can see the extraordinary transformation of our lives and the lives of others when his lordship is accepted by faith. Radically bad men and women can be turned into radically good men and women. God can dwell in us. He does this by installing himself, and serving

as a template for our soul to operate through. He also installs a kind of power that we do not ordinarily possess. He, through us, often reveals his power to transcend nature and does what we call miracles.

In addition, we perceive truths that we have not perceived before. These truths are evidence of his omniscience. The fact that he can install himself in us and millions of others is evidence of his omnipresence. The fact is that he can give us strengths we do not have without him, and it is also true we have inexhaustible supplies of energy to help confirm the presence of his omnipotence.

Jesus' birth, life, crucifixion, death and resurrection are evidence of his supernatural nature. He performed miracles that confirmed his supernatural power. He raised the dead, cast out demons, multiplied food, calmed storms, walked on water, the blind saw, the deaf heard, the lame walked, and lives were transformed. He then demonstrated his supernatural nature by being resurrected from the dead and appearing to over 500 people who could witness to his presence. He was not a ghost or a figment of their imagination. He was himself, even though he now existed in one or more extra dimensions. He translated himself from one place to another. He could appear in a locked room. He could eat fish, and he could allow one of his followers to put his hand on the wounds in his hands and feet and in his side where the spear pierced him. Even though his wounds were apparent, we have no record that he was bleeding. Through Jesus, we can see God's omnipotence, omnipresence and omniscience.

Now, when we inquire into modern physics we find that Dark Energy expands with the expansion of the entire universe. That is omnipotence. Dark Matter is everywhere and as the universe expands so does it. That is omnipresence. Dark Energy is constantly creating new stars, planets and galaxies and life. That is omniscience. Can it be that what we call Dark Matter is what some have called the God particle? And because we cannot demonstrate its presence, is Dark Energy the force (power) of God?

God is supernatural. The Bible says so. It also testifies to existence beyond the four dimensions we live in. Mathematically more than four exist. There are at least nine dimensions of existence and possibly even 11. Can it be that the dark constituents of the universe are evidence of God, but we cannot discern them because they exist above our four dimensional universe? Even though there is as yet no sensor created by man that has detected matter and energy in dimensions above our own, there is a sensor that allows us to perceive the higher dimensions.

It is our mind, but since science is deterministic, it cannot admit to the supernatural even though our minds say it exists mathematically, and we sense its existence. The Bible says that God's Spirit can join to our spirit to tell us that we are God's children (Romans 8:16). For most Christians this is all it takes to confirm the existence of God. The other obvious evidence is that we are changed

people, for we have become more Christ like. Is this change due to Dark Energy that might be the energy and power of God?

Are the visions of angels and demons manifestations of dark matter and energy that have given us a peek into the dimensions above our own? Are miracles such as the resurrection of the dead, and casting out demons evidence of dark energy that is channeled through us? Is the multiplication of food again evidence of dark energy being used to create the food out of dark matter? I think these phenomenons are evidence of God. So do others. Jesus said they testified to his deity.

It is an interesting fact that we can theorize just like physicists do. The only problem is that people will think we are a little “wacko” if we do. You see, worldly people do not want to admit there is a God. Satan certainly does not want us to know God. The world and its ruler would rather find that there is another particle they can measure and classify – one that fits nicely in their equations. They also would rather find that there is an earth sized planet orbiting a distant star. It would then be even more exciting for them to find that it had water on it. They could then say there may be life there. They still look for evidence for other living beings using radio astronomy, but alas all the huge radio telescopes and arrays of antennae they have created have received no messages from other worlds. If they can discover these things, the belief that we live on a unique planet created just to sustain our lives and the lives of all the other organisms on it could be put

to a lie. They would then have inferential evidence that there is no God.

I am sure most scientists engaged in these endeavors would deny that my allegations are true, but having worked with scientists for most of my life, I can discern their hidden motives. I have the further evidence of my own motives before I became a Christian.

I am excited about the course I took. It really strengthened my faith. Even if the Large Hadron Collider does demonstrate that there is a Higgs boson, I will not be in the least discouraged. I am certain they will never be able to measure dark energy. They have not been able to demonstrate the nature of gravity in spite of herculean efforts. It is there, and they can see its effect, but it is invisible. You see, I believe God's thoughts are above my thoughts, his ways are above my ways, and he knows all things. I eagerly anticipate talking to him about these weighty issues.

In spite of being retired, I continue to read the scientific literature. One of my best sources is the newsletter of *Sigma Xi*, an honorary research society. In reading scientific news, I am impressed with the hubris of many researchers. They formulate great theories about their subjects of interest that have only minimal, if any, supporting evidence. They accept them on faith, and promote them as truth. I am convinced these arise out of pride.

It is amazing what the pride of some scientists does to their tongue or pen. I remember years ago I read in a scientific journal that a psychoanalyst said if his profession could psychoanalyze the leaders of the world, they could stop war. Jesus said there will be wars and rumors of wars until the end. Then there are claims that being able to unravel the genome is going to result in cures for chronic diseases. So far, they have not. Some scientists have claimed that fetal stem cells will do the same. They have not in animals, why do they think they are going to in humans? Unfortunately, these guys are messing with creation. I don't know if God likes that.

Sadly, many of our people in the Christian world are afflicted with pride too. I distinctly remember that before the turn of the century there was talk of making such an evangelical thrust throughout the world that the proponents were going to give Christ the evangelized world as a gift in the year 2000. Didn't happen! As I also attend meetings of leaders in church, I again hear all kinds of claims that "I" am chosen to be an apostle or a prophet, and "I" have done and can do great things. Humility is not one of the fruits of the Spirit in these people.

As I watch TV, I realize that some megachurch pastors are afflicted with pride. They bring in big bucks, pay themselves big salaries, live in mansions, and have private airplanes to fly them around. In contrast, Jesus said, "Foxes have holes and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head" (Matthew 8:20). I agree with the statement in the Bible that one should not muzzle the ox

that is tramping out the grain (Deuteronomy 25:4), but must they be allowed to gorge themselves?

Pride is the queen of the seven deadly sins. Out of pride come all of the other six deadly sins. Pride is inordinate self-esteem. It is being your own God and focusing on what you have done, not on what God has done through you. Jesus made it plain he did only what God told him to do. He taught us to do what God told him to teach. He was wholly obedient to God's will (John 5:19-22). This is what the cross meant.

Years ago, I was confused by the meaning of the Cross. I read all I could about it in the Divinity Library at Duke, but I still did not have an answer that satisfied me. I then started praying about it. On my way home from work one afternoon I was praying, and as I pulled into an intersection a large sign surrounded by flames appeared in my mind's eye (eidetic imagery). In the middle in capital letters was the word OBEDIENCE. I was at last satisfied. Two weeks later, I was reading in Philippians when I ran across the scriptural answer:

“In your relationships with one another, have the same attitude of mind Christ Jesus had: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human being, he humbled himself by becoming

**obedient** to death — even death on a cross. Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name. That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 2:5-11).

We all need to subdue our pride and humble ourselves as Jesus was. We can only do this if we repent. Then we need to listen to God and determine what he wants us to do; of which one command is to make disciples to the end of the earth. Our faith will help us accomplish his desires for us.