
Quickening

A Changing Definition

□ Common modern usage

- *the first motion of a fetus in the uterus felt by the mother usually somewhat before the middle of the period of gestation*

□ Less common

- *Make or become faster or quicker*
- *Stimulate or become stimulated, excited*
- *Give or restore life to*

□ 1611 (KJV)

- *to endue with life, produce alive, preserve alive (Gr. zoogoneo)*

□ Examine Biblical implications of this broader definition

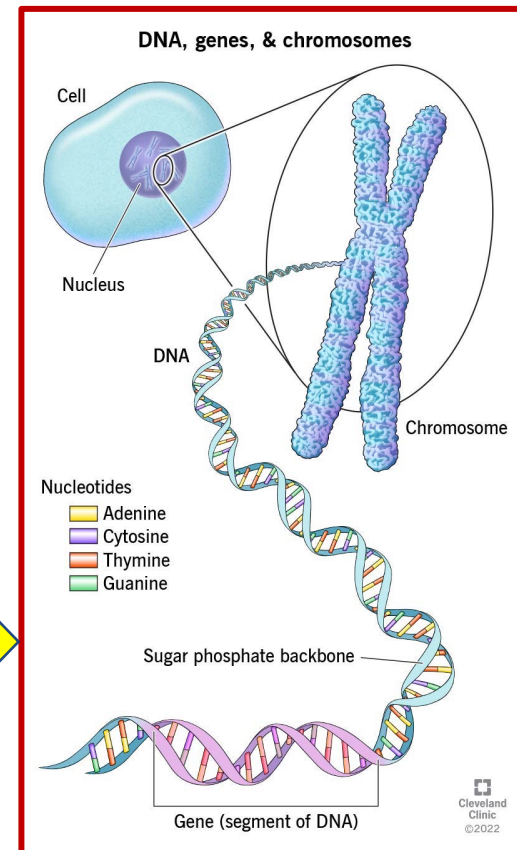
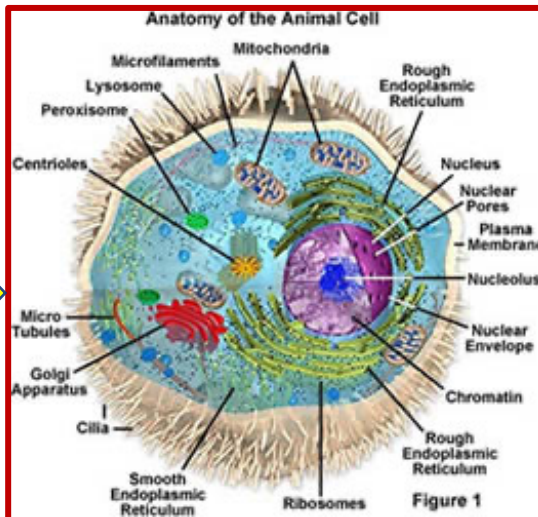


Seven Applications

- “In the beginning ...” – The miracle of life
- “I’m pregnant...” – Sex/parenting responsibilities
- “I want it!” – Lust and the birth of sin
- “It is finished ... He is risen!” – Jesus’ atonement
- “The new birth” – Spiritual rebirth
- “Newness of life” – Christian living
- “Come forth!” – The resurrection to eternal life

“In the beginning ...”

- Gen. 1-2 – plants, animals, humanity
- Underlying cellular and molecular basis
- From non-life to “simple” life
 - Insurmountable complexity for random, natural processes



“In the beginning ...”

What distinguishes “living” from “non-living”?

- Have a boundary container and maintain balance with environment (homeostasis)
- Absorb/digest nutrients/food
- Absorb oxygen
- Generate/distribute energy
- Remove waste products
- Fabricate replacement parts
- Regulate/coordinate activities

- Reproduce, typically by cell division in “simpler” organisms

Analogy of modern self-contained city

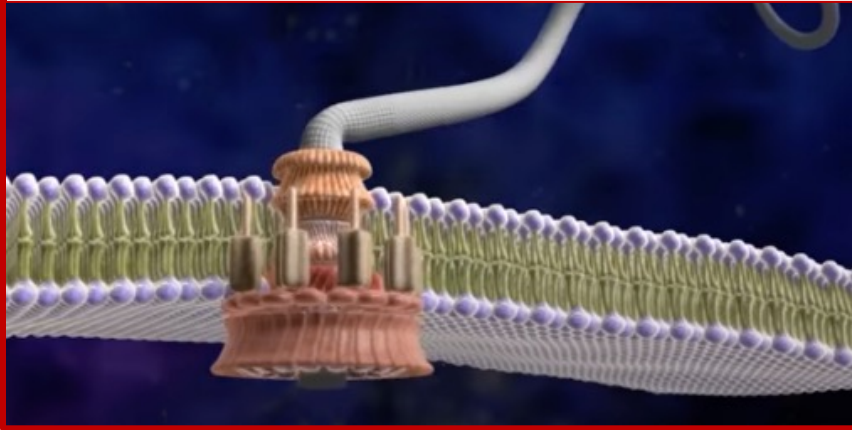
- City walls, gates, guards
- Pipes/trucks for bringing in water, raw materials
- Electricity/gas production, distribution
- Sewage/trash collection
- Factories, roads
- City hall, blueprints
- Communication networks

- Reproduce???

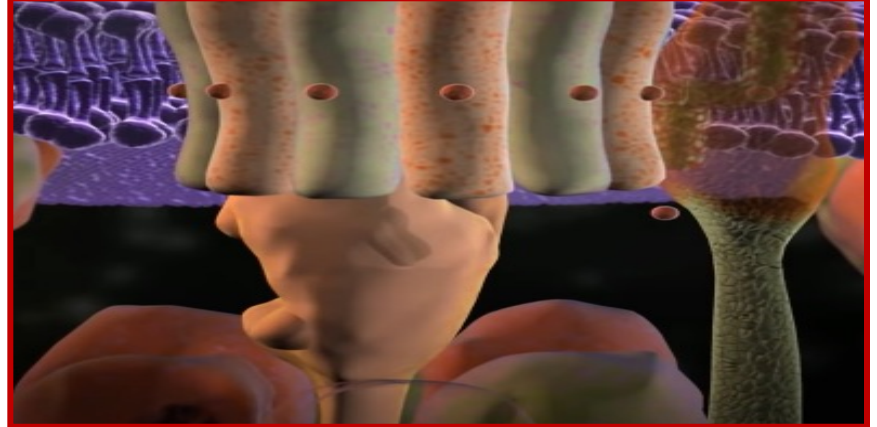
And, it ALL must function perfectly together from the beginning or it will malfunction & die

Molecular Machines

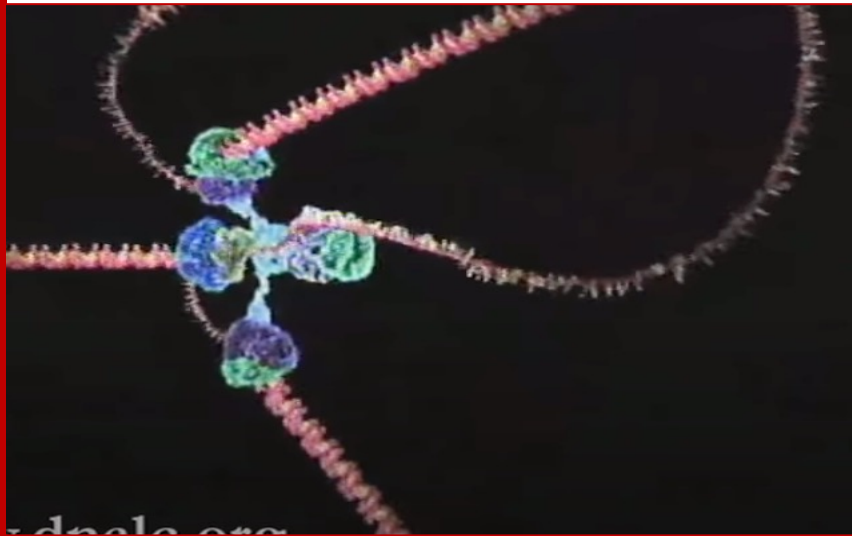
Motion (bacterial flagellum)



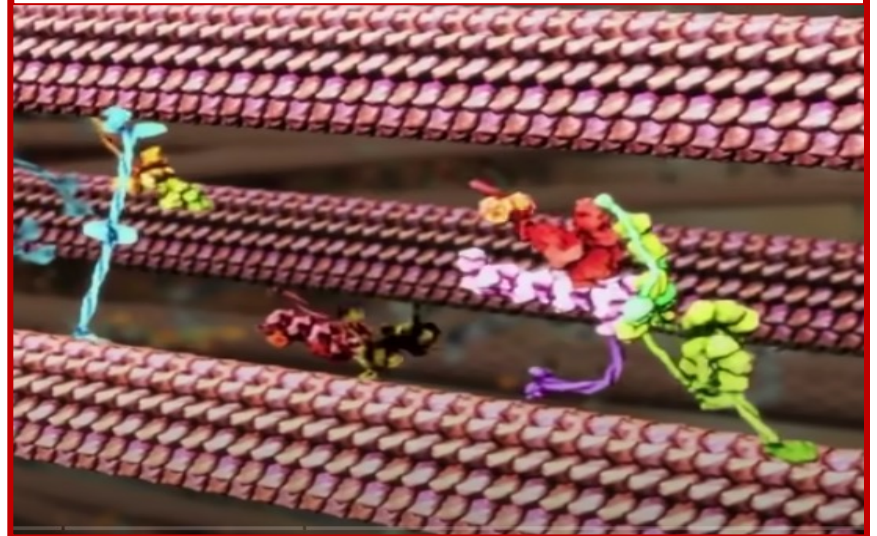
Energy production (ATP)



Blueprint copying (DNA)

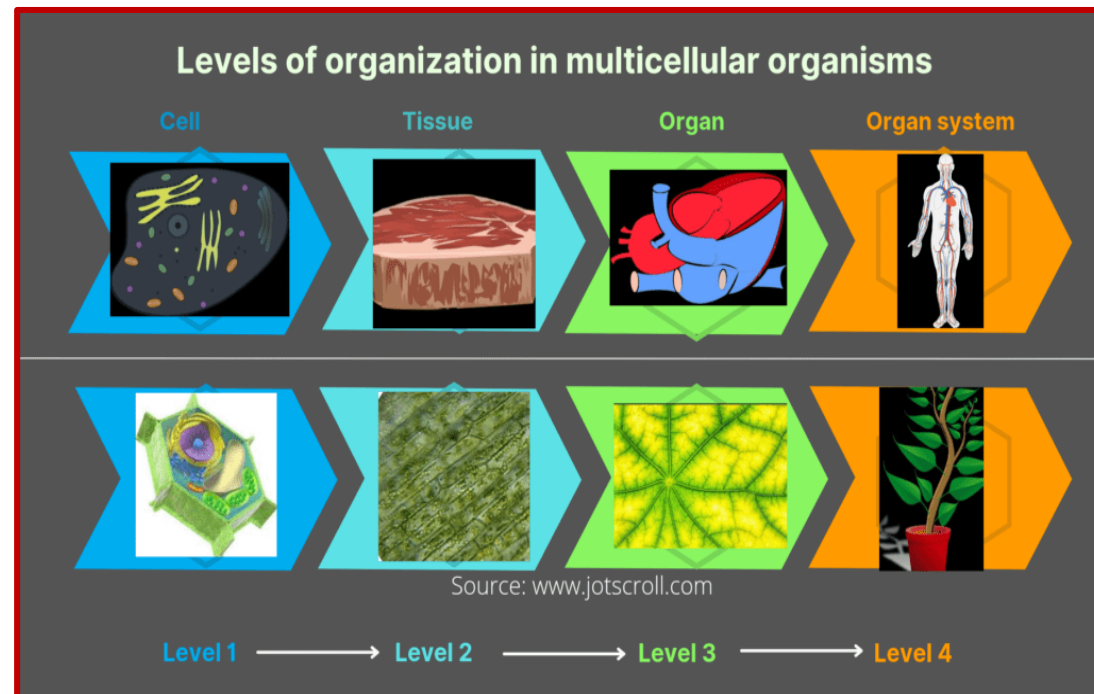


Reproduction (mitosis)



And even more complexity...

- ❑ Multi-cell organisms with specialized cells, tissues, organs
- ❑ Photosynthesis
- ❑ Circulatory system (blood, vessels, heart, clotting)
- ❑ Nervous system (sensors, relays, processors, actuators)
- ❑ Skeletal system (bones, joints, muscles, tendons)
- ❑ Immune system
- ❑ Sexual reproduction (union/meiosis)



Evolutionist's answer?

- Small, random changes to the blueprint (DNA mutations) that give the organism a competitive advantage (natural selection)



Reasonable and scientific?
NO!



“In the beginning ...”

□ Psm. 19:1

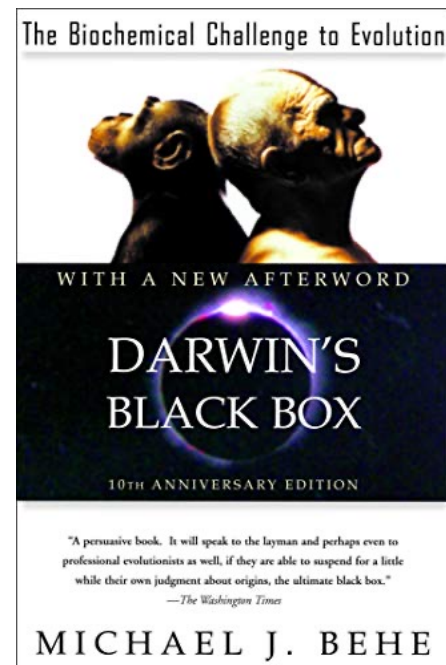
- *The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork.*

□ Rom. 1:20

- *For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,*

□ For more, search the Internet for

- “molecular machines”
- “irreducible complexity”
- “intelligent design”
- “Michael Behe”
- “Christian evidences”



“I’m pregnant...”

□ Matt. 19:3-6

- *“Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’ 5 and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’?”*

□ 1 Cor. 7:1-9

- *1 ... It is good for a man not to touch a woman. 2 Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. 3 Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband. ... 8 But I say to the unmarried and to the widows: ... if they cannot exercise self-control, let them₉ marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.*

“I’m pregnant...”

□ Heb. 13:4

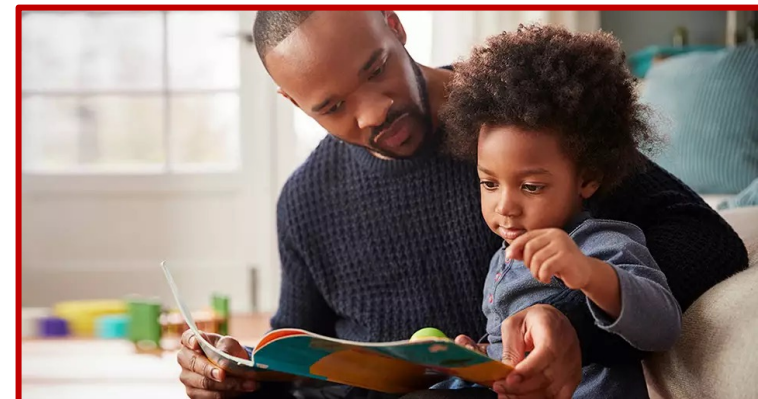
- *Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.*

□ The sin of fornication and adultery

□ The evil of murdering unborn babies via abortion

□ The good of raising godly children

- Eph. 6:4 *And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.*



“I want it!”

□ Lust and the birth of sin – Gen. 3

□ 1 John 2:16

- *For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.*

□ James 1:13-15

- *13 Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. 15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.*

“I want it!”

□ Rom. 3:9-12

- *For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin. 10 As it is written: “There is none righteous, no, not one; 11 There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. 12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.”*



“It is finished ... He is risen!”

- The answer to the “sin problem”? Jesus!
- Rom. 6:23
 - *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*
- Heb.13:12
 - *Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate.*
- Rom. 1:4
 - *declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness by the resurrection from the dead.*



“The new birth”

□ John 3:1-8

- *“Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” ... 5 Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.*

□ Eph. 2:1-5

- *1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ... 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),*

□ Col. 2:13

- *13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,*

“The new birth”

□ Rom. 6:3-4

- *3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*



“Newness of life”

□ 1 Pet. 2:2

- *as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,*

□ Psm. 119:37-88

- *37 Turn away my eyes from looking at worthless things, [And] revive me in Your way. ... 40 Behold, I long for Your precepts; Revive me in Your righteousness. ... 88 Revive me according to Your lovingkindness, So that I may keep the testimony of Your mouth.*

□ 2 Pet. 3:17-18

- *17 ... beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; 18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*



“Come forth!”

□ John 5:28-29

- *28 Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice 29 and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.*



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Conclusion

□ “Quickened”

- *To endue with life – Restore life to – To stimulate or become stimulated, excited – To preserve alive*

- God exists and as Creator is the source of all life
- All have spiritually died and need to be reborn
- Through God’s grace, our faith, and initial obedience to the gospel
- Ongoing walk in “newness of life” & excited service
- Looking forward to the resurrection and eternal life

Do you need to be quickened
by the “Giver of Life”?