

## THE BIRDS AND THE BEES

### Int.

1. Aim: To show from a study of these two creatures that there is a proof of God.
2. Ps. 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."
3. Acts 14:17 "Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness."
4. We live in an age of doubt and atheism
  - a. An atheist does not believe in God
  - b. Some doubt that we can know anything
  - c. A university student said: "There is no evidence of God anywhere".
5. Birds and Bees declare evidence that there is a God
  - a. These words normally bring thoughts of sex education
  - b. We use these words to prove there is a God
  - c. We need only eyes and a logical mind to see the evidence of God.
  - d. After 12/16/20 years of study many people are convinced that for every design there must be a designer.
  - e. How can anyone study the Birds and the Bees and remain unconvinced that there is an intelligent creator.

## Discussion

### I. THE BIRDS

#### A. Introductory matters

1. 10,000 to 12,000 species of birds
2. We will look at certain features of the bird which show that they were designed by God

#### B. BONES

1. Evolutionists say birds evolved from reptiles
2. How can solid bones become hollow so flight is possible?
3. The bones of birds are filled with a spongy network which fills with air as it breathes.
4. But no strength is sacrificed. The bones are stiffened with ridges that resemble advanced engineering techniques.
5. The braces in a vultures wings are almost identical to the famous Warren Truss commonly used in steel structures.
6. How did this all happen? God designed the birds this way.

#### C. Wings

1. Gen. 1:21 "And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good."
2. A bird is like a living airplane. They fly by the same principles.

3. A bird has wings, propeller, steering gear, even slots and flaps for take off and landing.
4. The feathers change direction automatically according to the wing as it moves up and down.
5. The Eagle is one of the great flying champions: <sup>1</sup>
  - a. They have a wing span of nearly 8 feet.
  - b. The wings of a female bald-eagle weighs less than 2 lbs.
  - c. The 7,000 feathers would weigh 21 ounces - 30 weight less than a penny
  - d. They can fly swift and slow over the water and extend their claws into the water and catch a fish.
  - e. They have curved claws with rough bumps on its toes to help it hold wet, slippery fish.
  - f. The eagles are designed for flying and catching prey.
  - g. Their bodies are both light in weight and very strong.
  - h. Could this have happened by chance? - God designed the Eagle in this way.
6. The Albatross - God's Champion Gliders <sup>2</sup>
  - a. If birds were airplanes, the albatross would be used for all overseas flights.
  - b. It has a wing span of over 9 feet.
  - c. Its wings are long and narrow and are designed for riding on wind currents.
  - d. They can soar above the sea without flapping their wings. They use the wind currents.

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<sup>1</sup> Discovery May 1996 p. 34 Article by Gary K. Brantley "Eagles, God's Flying Champions"

<sup>2</sup> Discovery - July 1996 p. 52 Article by Gary K. Brantley

- e. Depending on the strength of the wind, these birds can reach a top speed of 62 miles per hour.
  - f. The albatross comes to land only when nesting. The rest of its life is spent at sea, bobbing on waves, and scooping up fish near the surface.
  - g. Since they spend most of their time at sea, they must drink salt water. They have large nasal glands that flush out the salt. Their nose is designed so that it keeps the salty solution from getting in their eyes.
  - h. All of this was designed by God who created them.
7. Birds are the fastest creatures on the earth.
- a. A peregrine falcon can go up to 180 mph
  - b. The Eagle can swoop down on it's prey at 100 mph and yet stop within 20 ft.

#### D. EYESIGHT

1. The eagle can keep perfect focus while diving on its prey.
2. They have a third eyelid that serves as a windshield wiper to keep the eyeball free of dust
3. This didn't happen by chance - God designed it.
4. The eagle has eyes that can spot a rabbit nearly 2 miles away. It can spot a school of fish swimming near the surface of the water.

#### E. BEAKS

1. The birds have different kinds of beaks.
2. Some have heavy beaks to crush nuts. Others have hooked beaks to tear apart their prey - like the owls and eagles.

3. Some have straight beaks for boring - eat insects or bugs in trees - the woodpecker is an example: <sup>3</sup>
  - a. The woodpecker drills holes in a tree by pounding its sharp hard beak against a tree. They can do this up to 100 times per minute.
  - b. These holes allow the bird to feed on wood-boring insects that live inside the tree.
  - c. He has special feet with two toes that point forward and two that point backward to enable him to keep his grip on a tree.
  - d. It uses its short stiff tail feathers to steady itself against the trunk.
  - e. Its neck and head are perfectly designed for drilling into hard wood. It has strong neck muscles which allow it to hit the tree with great force.
  - f. It has an extra thick skull to protect it when banging into a tree.
  - g. Its bill is attached to its head in such a way that it provides extra protection when it hammers a tree. Its beak and skull are connected by a spongy tissue that acts like a shock absorber.
  - h. They can pound on hard wood for several hours a day without getting a headache! These features of the woodpecker did not happen by chance.
4. Some birds have a spoon type beak. They eat fish and other creatures from the water.
5. How did each of these have the correct type of beak?
  - a. God designed them this way
  - b. Suppose a woodpecker had a spoon type beak???

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<sup>3</sup> Discovery Aug. 1996 p. 58-59

## F. NESTING ABILITIES

1. Have you ever watched a bird build it's nest?
2. Who taught them how to do this?
3. There is a bird called a tailor bird that sews large leaves together using its beak for a needle.
4. Chimney Swift pastes twigs to a chimney or a hollow tree. It has glue manufactured in its mouth. It is the only bird that has glue in building its nest.

## G. NAVIGATIONAL ABILITIES

1. How do the birds travel without a map, or compass?
2. The Golden Plover flies from Canada to South America -Non-stop
3. There is a little bird called Wheatear which travels every year from Africa to Greenland. They have a fixed schedule.
4. The Blackpoll warbler:
  - a. It nests in Canada
  - b. Then it flies to Brazil which is 4,000 miles away
  - c. Much of this flying is done at night over large stretches of water.
  - d. Who tells them where to go?

## H. The Birds are evidence of a God

1. We question the honesty of anyone who observes the birds and says there is no evidence of God.
2. Mt. 6:26 "Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?"

3. Hummingbirds are big eaters
  - a. They eat up to 60 times a day
  - b. They eat flower nectar, tree sap and insects.
  - c. Before the time for migration they eat a little extra and put on extra weight.
4. Luke 12:6, 7 "Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? 7. But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows."
  - a. Sparrows were plentiful and were sold for about a penny
  - b. Yet they are not forgotten by God even though small and insignificant.
  - c. Nothing is too small for God to take note of it.
  - d. We are never lost in the crowd. God cares for us.
5. God made the birds and he cares for them!!
6. He made us and loves us even more than the birds!!!

## **II. THE BEES**

- A. Introduction to bees
  1. The study of the bee should be enough to convince us that an intelligent creator had a hand in their making.
  2. Many books have been written about the bee's instinct and anatomy
  3. We are dealing not only with a creature but a creator!!

B. MAKING HONEY<sup>4</sup>

1. God gave bees the ability to change nectar into honey.
  - a. Nectar is a sweet liquid in many flowers of plants
  - b. A honeybee has a tongue which is a long tube
  - c. It uses its tongue to suck nectar from flowers
2. The bee has a honey-stomach where it stores nectar.
  - a. The stomach has special chemicals which help turn the nectar into honey.
  - b. Bees bring out the nectar from the honey-stomachs when they return to the hive, and they mix juices with it.
  - c. Other bees work with the nectar to make it get thicker.
  - d. They place the nectar into a cell where the juices from the bee continue to change the nectar into honey.

C. The Honeycomb<sup>5</sup>

1. The bees make a cell called a honeycomb in which they store the honey, pollen, and developing bees.
2. The cell is made in the shape of a hexagon.
3. This is the best design for storage and strength.
4. The greatest Architect - our God and Creator - made the honeybees with intelligence to make the honeycomb as a perfect storage place.

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<sup>4</sup> Discovery March 1993 p. 20

<sup>5</sup> Discovery March 1994 p. 24

D. CLAWS

1. They have sharp tips so they can walk on rough surfaces
2. They have little cushions between the claws so they can walk on smooth surfaces - even on glass

E. CROSS POLLINATION

1. Main purpose is getting the nectar
2. Yet their work in pollination is of greater value
3. Many crops would not be grown without bees
4. Pollination from bees is worth much more than all the honey they produce

F. WINGS

1. The bee has a large bulky body - it requires large wings to fly
  - a. Large wings like a dragon fly would prevent entering the cell in the bee-hive
  - b. According to conventional helicopter flight theory the bees perform miracles by getting off the ground.
  - c. Their weight and the lifting force of their wings is not enough to make them fly according to the schools of engineering!
  - d. The designer [God] solved the problem. - He gave them 2 sets of wings - connected by ridge that overlaps when not in flight - they fold up
2. Move in a figure 8 design
  - a. They can fly in any direction - up & down - side to side - backward & forward -- hover - just like a hummingbird
  - b. Man has never been able to duplicate the design of this wing

G. COMMUNICATE

1. They have special movements & scents to communicate
2. They tell the presence, position, distance and direction of pollen and nectar to the other members of the bee colony
3. A scout bee goes out and finds nectar -- he returns and gives all a sip from his mouth - then he begins a little dance - <sup>6</sup>
  - a. If he dance is in a circle then it means the flowers are very close.
  - b. If he dances in a figure eight pattern and points toward the Sun, it means the flowers are toward the Sun.
  - c. If the bee dances away from the Sun, it means the flowers are on the other side of the hive away from the sun.
  - d. From this scout bee the other workers know right where to go and get the nectar.
4. The bee can glance at any part of the sky and determine the sun's position, the time of day, and its own position in relation to its hive or a place where there is food.
5. The eyes serve as a compass
6. They tell the direction by a slight tail wagging motion
7. God made the bees in a wonderful way!!

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<sup>6</sup> Discovery May 1997 p.38

## H. GENERATE HEAT

1. Bees are cold blooded creatures
2. When they are cold they cluster together and begin shaking their bodies and fanning their wings. This creates heat.
3. When they are hot they gather outside and beat their wings to blow in the air they need to cool down the bee-hive.

### I. How did they learn all these things?

1. Was it by trial and error? If so how did they survive?
2. The first bees knew as much as they bees do today.
3. A fossilized bee looks exactly like the bees of this time

## **CONCLUSION**

1. The more we study the creatures around us the more we are convinced there is a designer and a creator.
2. Birds and Bees speak of a designer just as an automobile or refrigerator, really even more.  
Gen. 1:21
3. Man has never created anything that has either instinct or intelligence.
4. Man cannot create a blade of grass much less a bird or a bee
5. We can study them and be reminded there is a God who created all things.
6. Gen. 1:1 "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."
7. Ps. 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."