

**FEATURE: What Truth Have We Found in the Test Tube?**

ANNCR: Two voices have been synonymous with the “Truth in the Test Tube” program since we began producing it. Dr. and Mrs. Michael Quicke – Michael and Carol – have discussed topics ranging alphabetically from astronomy to zoology.

But the Quicques have relocated to their native England. Our next program will be their finale. Before they left, they reminisced about some of the topics they had discussed. Carol began by observing...

VOICE: Well, Professor, I've enjoyed working with you. We've discussed a wide range of subjects on the “Truth in the Test Tube” program.

PROF.: But our conversations will soon end. Next week will be our last program.

VOICE: Before we end the series, let's summarize what we've learned as we have tested various ideas that claimed to be the truth. What truth have we found “in the test tube”?

FORMAT: THEME AND ANNOUNCEMENT

PROF.: The Bible book of I Thessalonians encourages us to “Test everything. Hold onto the good.” (5:21). That's what scientists do. And that's what we have done with various theories that claim to be true.

VOICE: We've had discussions on various topics related to science. I've enjoyed them and learned a lot.

One thing that has convinced many scientists that an intelligent Creator-God exists, is the intricate design in many parts of nature.

PROF.: One example is the complex structure of the ear, which we discussed in the episode called “The Pipe Organ in Your Head.” We also learned about the clever way bats use sound waves to navigate in a way that resembles radar, but they had been using it for many centuries before man invented anything like it.

VOICE: One of my favorite episodes was “What Nobel Scientists Think about God.” We quoted some Nobel laureates who are atheists and some who believe in God. One physicist said he couldn't walk across his church's fellowship hall without tripping over at least a dozen scientists.

PROF.: Another said, “Those who say that the study of science makes a man an atheist, must be rather silly people.”

I still remember saying near the end of the program: “There are [proportionately] as many atheistic truck drivers as atheistic scientists. Brains are not a hindrance to belief in God.”

VOICE: Many episodes have centered around topics that my friends discuss frequently at university. For example, has the universe always existed, or did it have a beginning?

PROF.: Less than a century ago, most scientists believed the universe had existed eternally and that the Bible's first words, “In the beginning,” were wrong.

But then they discovered a specific type of radio waves, called cosmic background radiation. Physicists who analyzed these waves realized that they had been generated “at the beginning.”

VOICE: Two physicists shared a Nobel Prize for discovering them and demonstrating that they are “the radio echo of the beginning.” I remember one of them saying his data agree perfectly with what the Bible says in multiple places about “the beginning.”

PROF.: Yes. That was Dr. Arno Penzias [AR-noh PEN-zee-us]. He expanded that statement by saying, “...the best data we have are exactly what I would have predicted, had I had nothing to go on but the five books of Moses, the Psalms, the Bible as a whole.”

VOICE: So science demonstrated that the Bible was accurate when it said there was a beginning.

PROF.: The Bible also spoke about God “stretching out the heavens” – long before scientists discovered that the universe is expanding.

VOICE: Several times we've talked about "fine tuning." Scientists have found intricate details that are precisely balanced in nature. Throughout physics, chemistry and biology, thousands of parameters need to be accurately "fine-tuned."

PROF.: Someone illustrated the situation as a large control panel with many dials, where all of them have to be adjusted with very high precision. We covered some of these in "Inferring the Best Explanation."

As we continue to learn more about the intricate processes in the universe and the intricate organs in our own bodies, we find two possible explanations: Some scientists think we got lucky, like a winner at a casino. A growing number of scientists believe the best explanation is that a genius-level Creator designed and built everything.

VOICE: We've also featured interviews with outstanding scientists. One series featured Dr. Francis Collins, the man who directed a 15-year international project, the Human Genome Project. His team mapped the entire genetic structure of humans, and researchers are following through on his discoveries, to develop new ways to prevent and to cure diseases.

PROF.: Dr. Collins is one of the many scientists who previously were atheists. But when he seriously studied the reasons that atheists and Christians gave for their respective beliefs, he was surprised to discover that Christianity was more logical. Our series of programs about him began with one entitled "The General of the Genome."

We also interviewed Charlie Duke, a Christian astronaut who walked on the moon.

We expect to keep all the programs on our website for some time in the future. That's where we have the programs we mentioned today – plus other titles like "Facts Too Big for Science to Explain" and "Is Science the Same as Scientism?"

VOICE: Several friends have told me they don't believe in God because evolution is true. That idea was publicized even more during 2009, because it was the 200th anniversary of Darwin's birth and also the 150th anniversary of his famous book, *Origin of Species*.

PROF.: The thought that Darwin replaced God is a very common opinion. A century and a half of scientific progress has shown that some of Darwin's ideas were true, but others were mistaken. Evolution seems to have occurred on the micro level, but there is still a lot of doubt about macroevolution.

VOICE: We studied how the first living cell could have originated. Experiments have demonstrated that taking non-living chemicals and developing them into a living cell is much harder than some scientists thought. No one has succeeded in doing that in the laboratory.

PROF.: We discussed that issue in detail in several programs. One NASA expert says life almost certainly did not originate on Earth, so he speculates that maybe it might have originated on Mars and been exported to Earth. “The Mystery of Life's Origin” and “Maybe We're All Martians” are two of the episodes that are available on our website.

You can also refer your friends to the episode entitled “Does Evolution Justify Atheism?”

VOICE: Participating in this “Truth in the Test Tube” series has enabled me to converse more knowledgeably with my friends. When a friend told me he thought all scientists were atheists, I could quote a number of scientists who explained what evidence convinced them that God exists.

PROF.: Related to that, we had conversations entitled “Why Did Science Develop in a Christian Culture?” There's good evidence that the Bible did not retard scientific discovery, but actually encouraged it.

VOICE: The Bible contains 66 books. One scientist called nature “the 67<sup>th</sup> book of the Bible.”

PROF.: One philosopher had a slightly different angle in a program called “God's Two Books.” He says nature is one way God reveals himself, and the Bible is the other revelation.

VOICE: Professor, I've really enjoyed the discussions that we've had during this past year. Thanks for all the interesting and informative things we've talked about.

PROF.: If I had to summarize the entire series in a few words, I would say two things: "Nature is an effect, whose cause is God." That's a paraphrase of what the Bible says in the book of Romans: "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities – his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse." (Romans 1:20).

VOICE: So the Bible is saying that we see a large amount of wise engineering in nature. That's why "men are without excuse" when they fail to recognize that the wise Creator-God designed and built the universe and every organ in our bodies.

PROF.: We talked about that in a program called "Who Wrote Nature's Laws?"

Just before the verse that I quoted, God inspired the Apostle Paul to explain that the only way to avoid the obvious implication that God created, would be to "suppress the truth." In his words, "The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them." (Romans 1:18-19).

VOICE: In various program episodes we discussed "How Did Life Become Alive?" and "Did the Universe Know We Were Coming?" And I remember discussing computer-related topics like "When God Logs In" and "Defragmenting Your Thinking."

PROF.: As we've evaluated the Bible's statements in the "test tube" of 21<sup>st</sup>-century scientific knowledge, we've discovered that it passes the test – and *demonstrates its truth!*

VOICE: Next week will be our last new episode of “Truth in the Test Tube.” **[EDITOR'S NOTE: That will be the last program in which Dr. and Mrs. Quicke participate, not the end of the program series].** But the programs will continue on our website. That will give people the opportunity to listen again – and to record them to share with friends.

PROF.: And while you're encouraging your friends to listen and to record, tell them intellectual curiosity isn't the only reason we've had these discussions.

VOICE: (SURPRISED) Really? What other reason is there for talking about the subjects we've featured here on “Truth in the Test Tube”?

PROF.: I'll keep you guessing. But here's one clue: We will call next week's final episode “Progressing Beyond Curiosity.”

VOICE: “Progressing Beyond Curiosity”? Now you've really got me curious!

PROF.: Good! Next week we'll satisfy that curiosity – when we reveal the real purpose for all the things we have discussed.

FORMAT: THEME AND ANNOUNCEMENT

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