

God is in the Details

Everyone loves giraffes! These cute, long-necked, long-tongued denizens of the Savanna have become a signature picture of Africa. Did you know, though, that according to evolution giraffes should be extinct? Let's consider an analogy. Imagine that there is a bucket on a very high platform and you need to get water into this bucket. Imagine that to solve your problem you built a pump to push the water up a ramp and into the bucket. This is a very clever solution, since the water mainly takes care of itself now. However, continue imagining as the bucket lowers itself down to the ground. Now, with the added force of gravity, your pump is so powerful that the waters just hits the bottom of the bucket and shoots right out! Giraffes' heads are like the bucket. Their hearts need to be so powerful to pump blood to their heads that when they bend down to get a drink the forceful blast of their own blood from their powerful hearts hitting their brains would kill them! But God in His infinite wisdom designed in the Giraffe a special system unique to the species. At the base of a Giraffe's brain there is a sponge. This sponge collects blood from the heart when the giraffe is standing, and when it bends over to drink some valves close off the blood flow to it's head, and the brain survives on the blood stored in the sponge! Amazing! If that sponge had not been there from the beginning of giraffes' existence, every single one would have died when they tried to take a drink.

"And God said, 'Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good." Genesis 1:24-25

Proof that God is Active in Our World

It's amazing the world that our God has created for us, so intricate that even today, some 6,000 years after man first was on the earth, we are

still learning about our home planet and its other inhabitants. However, for truly staggering evidence of God's existence, the best examples come from prophecy. Prophecy is God telling man what is going to happen before it happens. It's sort of like the weatherman telling you what the weather will be like next week, except that God is always right, unlike the weatherman.

Today the nation of Israel is a very controversial topic to discuss. Bible students, though, have been anxiously awaiting the birth of the nation of Israel for centuries. This is the power of prophecy, that before the nation came to be, people knew and expected it's birth.

Jeremiah 30:10-11 is a bit of an ominous promise for the land of Israel.

"Therefore fear thou not, O my servant Jacob, saith the LORD: neither be dismayed, O Israel: for, lo, I will save thee from far, and thy seed shall return from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and shall be in rest, and be quiet, and none shall make him afraid. For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished" Jeremiah 30:10-11

From this, Bible scholars were able to know that God would bring the scattered nation of Israel out from the nations that it had been driven to, and would give Israel back their land of promise. However, Bible scholars could also see that life in Israel would not be all fun and games, there would be a punishment for Israel's hard-heartedness and rejection of their God. This is the punishment that we are seeing today, this constant struggle with all of their neighbors. But the prophecy says that this is only a correction and not the state in which things will remain. There is hope for the nation of Israel!