



E-Worship 4:23

An online resource for officers and worship leaders in the 21st century

"A time is coming...when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks." - John 4:23

Fearfully and wonderfully made...

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men."

- John 1:1-4

"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

"Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there... For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

- Psalm 139:7-8, 13-14



I have often pondered on the verse in Colossians that says, in speaking of Christ, that "in Him all things hold together" (Col. 1:17b). The Bible makes it clear that not only did Christ create the universe, but He "sustains all things by His powerful Word" (Hebrews 1:3b), and it is in Him we "live and move and have our being" (Acts 17:28). Whenever I study the marvelous mysteries of biology, the vast complexity of the universe, from stars or living organisms, I marvel that anyone could believe it all came about by happenstance. For me it is a miracle that electrons continue to happily spin around their nucleuses, yet we never stop to contemplate their constancy... or the awful thought that if they stopped, they would collapse into the nucleus and orchestrate our own destruction in the process.

Few people realize that although our bodies are entirely made up of amino acids, they only contain "left-handed amino acids"... that in an entire universe of mirror-image left and right-handed amino acids who freely interact with each other, somehow all of life negated 50% of the building blocks available to it. Yet few scientists have ever attempted to answer why or

how this is possible, without a divine command to make it so.†

Recently I have been reading up on the miracle molecule "laminin"... a protein molecule that exists by the billions in each of our bodies, and which is literally the molecule that "holds us together". Here is an encyclopedia definition:

"Laminin is a protein found in the 'extracellular matrix', the sheets of protein that form the substrate of all internal organs also known as the 'basement membrane.' It has four arms that can bind to four other molecules. The three shorter arms are particularly good at binding to other laminin molecules, which is what makes it so great at forming sheets. The long arm is capable of binding to cells, which helps anchor the actual organs to the membrane... They are a family of glycoproteins that are an **integral part of the structural scaffolding in almost every animal tissue**... Laminin is vital to making sure overall body structures hold together... Improper production of laminin can cause muscles to form improperly, leading to a form of muscular dystrophy. It can also cause progeria.*"

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† Simply by googling "left right amino acids", an influx of science internet sites discussing this mystery will pop up. There is currently a theory that the earth was showered with meteorites that were primarily made of left-handed amino acids, and that it was those amino acids that formed the first life forms. But all the sites will note this phenomenon to be a mystery that scientists have yet to adequately solve.



Fearfully made...

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Wikipedia adds this: "The laminins are an important and biologically active part of the basal lamina, influencing cell differentiation, migration, adhesion as well as phenotype and survival... Laminin is vital for the maintenance and survival of tissues. Defective laminins can cause muscles to form improperly, lethal skin blistering disease... and defects of the kidney filter."

What makes laminin interesting is not only what it does, but what it looks like. Laminin is made up of three collagen strands that twist together in the shape of a cross --- the three short ends attach themselves to other laminin molecules while the long end attaches to a cell to hold it in place. Thus as laminin molecules bind to each other, they literally form a net that holds all the cells in position to form each of our organs, including our skin.

So is it some kind of wacky coincidence that our bodies are biologically held together by billions of cross-shaped molecules, or has Christ literally implanted His stamp into us, an artist's signature if you will, verifying that He and He alone is the author of our existence, and the One who 'holds us together'?

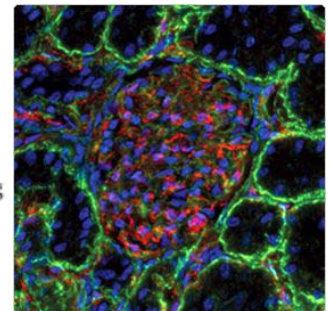
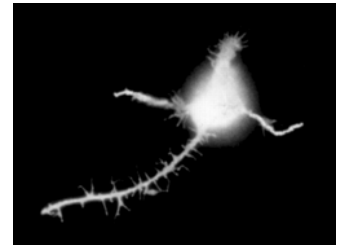
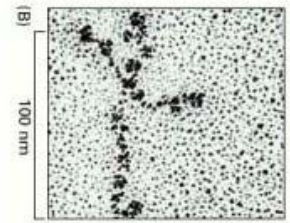
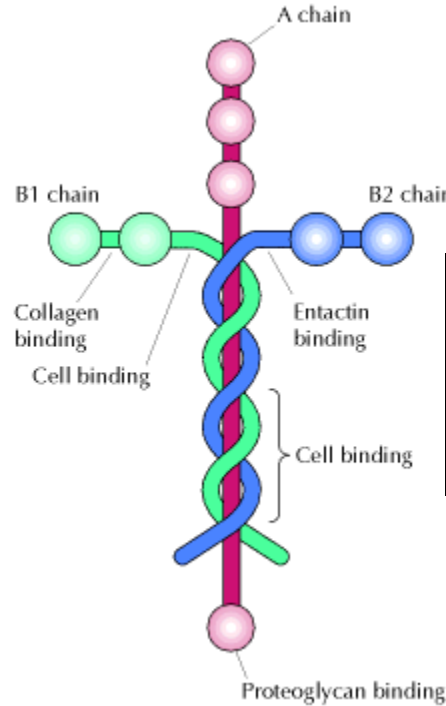
If you subscribe to the latter, then Psalm 139 will take on a whole new significance for you: How can we possibly doubt God's omnipresence in our lives, and His tender love for each one of us, when He chose to knit us together in such a manner, weaving throughout our bodies the symbol of all of Christendom, that each cell in our body would have attached to it the cross of crucifixion declaring the sacrifice that redeems us wholly for eternity? Every laminin molecule reminds us that we are not our own, that we have been bought with a price (1 Cor. 6:19,20).

This Thanksgiving, take time to thank God for the miracle of creation you are, and for the Creator who lovingly purposed you into being. For you contain throughout your body a reminder that you have been sealed by Him for His glory, to spend eternity with Him. You are truly 'fearfully and wonderfully made'!

* Progeria is the pre-mature aging disease that causes children to die as old men and women before the age of fourteen. To read the laminin definition in full, go to

www.reference.com/browse/wiki/Laminin

"God gave you a gift of 86,400 seconds today. Have you used one to say "thank you?"" – William Arthur Ward



Above: a scientific drawing of a laminin molecule.

Top and middle right: photographs of laminin

Bottom right: the 'netting' formed by laminin molecules binding together. This is a photograph of the kidney of a mouse.

Found on the web...

www.darynkagan.com - positive real life news stories of inspiration and hope

www.reelverse.com - short downloadable videos answering common questions about God - How can we know He exists? Why does He allow pain and suffering? Can we know absolute truth? How can a loving God send people to hell?

Did you know that YouTube has all kinds of creative scripture videos that are downloadable by using Real Player (download for free at **www.realplayer.com**)? And by using **www.any-video-converter.com**, you can convert the videos to wmv format, to insert into PowerPoint, EasyWorship, MediaShout or any other presentation software program. Simply go to **www.youtube.com** and type in the scripture chapter you're looking for in the search engine.

www.nwcreation.net/ssl/survey_sites.html
Lists the top ten creation science websites (Seven literal-day creationism, young earth)

www.intelligentdesign.org - evidence that the earth was created by an Intelligent Mind and could not have simply evolved.

