



## Scientists Find Evidence of God

The Darwinist hegemony in the natural sciences may be threatened by a cutting-edge, revolutionary movement that sees intelligent design in nature — and a Designer.

Chemist Charles Thaxton was amazed 15 years ago when *The Mystery of Life's Origin*, a book he co-authored on chemical evolution with two other scientists, provoked a very positive response from scientists around the country. Thaxton, a visiting assistant professor at Charles University in Prague, expected a negative reaction, if indeed the book (which since has come to be regarded as one of the opening salvos in what is called the Intelligent Design Movement) even was so much as noticed.

After all, *The Mystery of Life's Origin*, which became a best-selling college text, tentatively proposed the case for intelligent design in nature, and pointed out serious flaws in Darwinism. Such views were regarded as unthinkable and most definitely unscientific by the vast majority of scientists at the time, not only because Intelligent Design suggested that evolution wasn't the random, chaotic process most biologists believed it to be, but (even more unacceptably) indicated the probable existence of a designer — God, perhaps — who was responsible for the design. The notion that a designer might be at work behind nature was a concept no self-respecting scientist wanted to bring into the scientific scheme of things.

"I didn't think anyone would accept the book. When we wrote it, it was like being a lone wolf out there," Thaxton tells *Insight*. "Hard-core materialists aren't going to tolerate intelligence in nature," he says.

"Then I got lots of calls from scientists and mathematicians who did" — men and women in a variety of scientific fields who were coming to the same conclusions that Thaxton had described in *The Mystery of Life's Origin*. They (like Thaxton and his co-authors) daily were coming across data in their laboratories and scientific pursuits that no longer could be explained by the standard model of Darwinian evolution. Such data could be better — and more scientifically — understood by arguing that certain highly complex entities in nature — the DNA molecule, for example — had been *designed* to do what they do and hadn't evolved randomly, by accident, which is how Darwinian evolution says they came about.

Thaxton's argument for Intelligent Design, reduced to simplest terms, runs like this: The DNA molecule, the basis of life, is a message, he says. It is information coded in a double helix. It's not *like* a message; it *is* the message. The molecule itself is an elaborate, complex design that is a message.

We humans know from experience that, when there's a message, an intelligence created that message, Thaxton says. No other explanation will suffice to account for the existence of the message. We don't receive letters from a random, undirected source, for example. Thus the implication is clear that DNA, a message, was produced by intelligent design. "We know from experience that when there is a design, there is a designer."

By Stephen Goode, Reprint from *Insight*, April 4, 1999



Louis Pasteur (1822–1895), the French chemist who founded microbiology, said, "The more I study nature, the more I am amazed at the Creator."

The great physicist Sir Isaac Newton (1642–1727), wrote, "This most beautiful system of sun, planets and comets could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent and powerful being."

Nobel Prize winner in physics Dr. Arthur Compton (1892–1962), said, "For myself, faith begins with a realization that a supreme intelligence brought the universe into being and created man. It is not difficult for me to have this faith, for it is incontrovertible that where there is a plan there is intelligence — an orderly unfolding universe testifies of the truth of the most majestic statement ever uttered: "In the beginning God ..."