

From Darkness to Light

From Darkness to Light



I am not a Scientist



- ▣ Just a guy who owes all of his adult formal education to them
- ▣ Just a guy who is trying to understand God and what he has made.
- ▣ An unworthy man, humbled to be here standing before you.

My Worldview

- ▣ Facts are not neutral. Everyone interprets them based on their own presupposition that is their beliefs concerning the origins of knowledge and truth. An individual's belief of the origin of truth interprets the presented facts. As a result, the presented facts are always biased.
- ▣ My worldview says facts need examination by the inspired truth of scripture. I believe that the scriptures in their original language and original context are flawless (2 Peter 1: 20 -21). A simple reading of most Bible passages reveals their meaning; others require study to peel away bias that I carry.

My Worldview

- ▣ My worldview biases me. It starts with a kingdom view that starts Malachi 4:5.-6, which extends through Luke 1.17 to the realized kingdom that we now dwell in of Rev 21 and 22. It includes the paradigm that God defines success. Proverbs 13:22 and Job 42:15-16

I understand this to mean that God defines success not by the results in the current generation but 3-4 generations later. I need to catch a multi-generational vision.

My Worldview

- ▣ Almost everything in American culture promotes pragmatism and the pursuit of personal pleasure, power and prestige. The Scriptures in my view teach just the opposite, God-centered service and dependence. Again, my worldview sees the solution, to the problems of the family, church and state, as matching bookends. The first involves turning the hearts of the fathers to children and the hearts of the children to the fathers. The second is living in a fully realized presence of God which includes the dimension of salvation from contemporary religious, moral and political cultures.

My Worldview

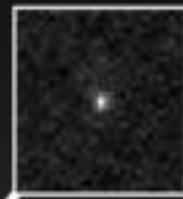
- ▣ I understand the world around me and interpret the world around me through the filters of Romans 1:19-20, Psalm 19:1-2 and 2 Timothy 3:16-17. I understand these passages to teach that God had conspicuously revealed everything Man needs for life and Godliness by the destruction of the Temple in AD 70. God revealed some of that knowledge though His inspired words and through His creation. We continue to seek the full meaning of what He revealed to this day even though full knowledge of what God has done has been available for nearly 2000 years.

- ▣ 5319. φανερόω phaneróō; contracted phanerō, fut. phanerōsō, from phaneros (5318), manifest, visible, conspicuous. To make apparent, manifest, known, show openly. Zodhiates, Spiros: The Complete Word Study Dictionary : New Testament. electronic ed. Chattanooga, TN : AMG Publishers, 2000, c1992, c1993, S. G5319
- ▣ Jude 3, Daniel 9.24, 1 Corinthians 13:8-10



From Our Moon

You are here



Earth From Mars



The Effects of This Worldview

- ▣ THIS WORLDVIEW AFFECTS HOW I LIVE AND RAISE MY CHILDREN.
 - DISCIPLESHIP OF MY CHILDREN
 - HOME EDUCATION OF MY CHILDREN
 - LIVING AS A SUBJECT OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD
 - THIS HAS BEEN DISCUSSED AT OTHER TRUTHVOICE CONFERENCES AND WILL BE FURTHER EXPANDED TOMORROW

The Effects of This Worldview

- ▣ THIS WORLDVIEW ALSO AFFECTS HOW I UNDERSTAND WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED FROM THE SCRIPTURES, BOTH HEBREW AND GREEK, AND WHAT HE HAS REVEALED FROM WHAT HE HAS MADE.

My Worldview



- ▣ I hold the Hebrew and Greek scriptures as the ultimate authority of All truth
 - no man's interpretation of the scriptures

My Worldview

- ▣ No interpretation of scientific data above anyone else's
 - I try to ascertain how the interpretation of data fits with the scriptures



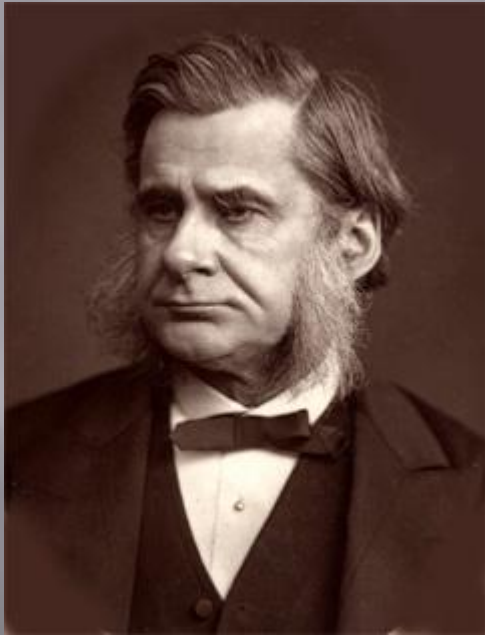
My Worldview

- ▣ Why is this important?
 - Because it is the presuppositions we make which affect our conclusions not the presented “facts”



Darwin's Bulldog

THE GREAT TRAGEDY OF
SCIENCE — THE
SLAYING OF A
BEAUTIFUL THEORY BY
AN UGLY FACT.



—BIOGENESIS AND ABIOGENESIS

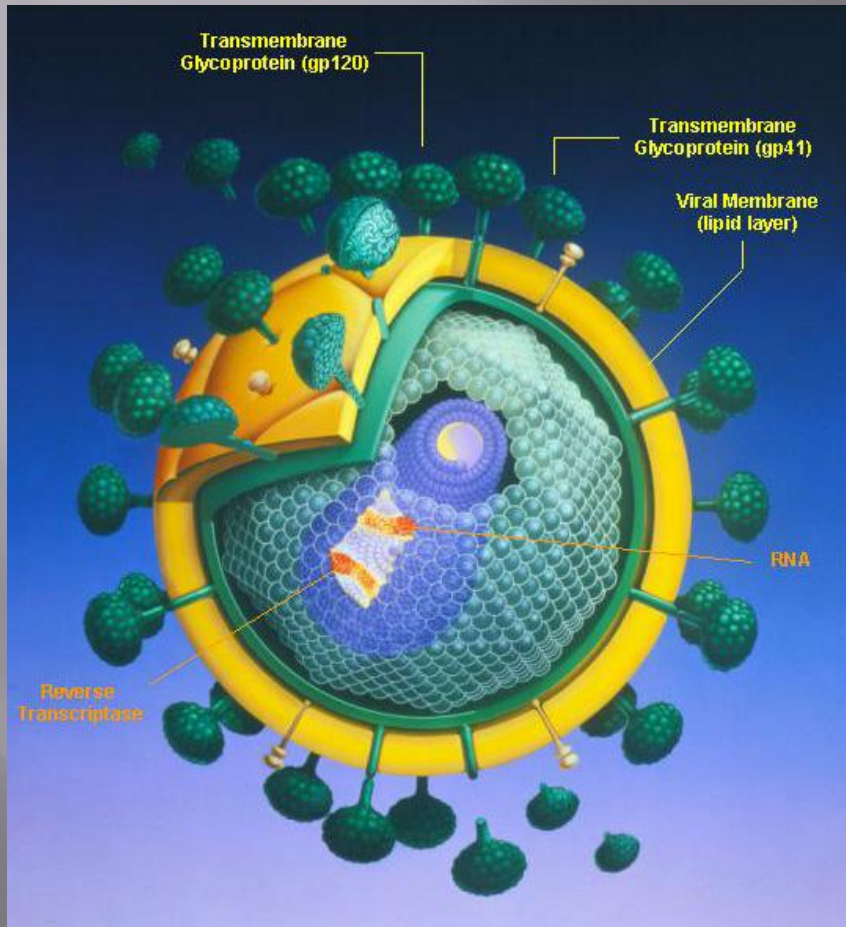
This may be the great
tragedy of Theology
as well.



The Effects of This Worldview

- ▣ CONCLUSIONS I DRAW FROM THIS WORLDVIEW
- ▣ WORLD VIEW AFFECTS HOW I INTERPRET FACTS WHICH ARE PRESENTED TO ME
- ▣ COVENANT ESCHATOLOGY AFFECTS HOW I LIVE MY LIFE AND HOW I RAISE MY CHILDREN
- ▣ GOD REVEALED ALL TRUTH THROUGH THE HEBREW AND GREEK SCRIPTURES AND THROUGH THE UNIVERSE HE MADE. THAT TRUTH HAS BEEN AVAILABLE TO HUMANITY FOR NEARLY 2000 YEARS
- ▣ SINCE WE HAVE BEEN ON A JOURNEY TO UNDERSTAND WHAT HE HAS REVEALED

An Example



- ▣ NEW INFORMATION ON THE TREATMENT OF HIV DISEASE.

An Example

- ▣ CASE REPORT OF A HIV INFECTED INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS TREATED WITH BONE MARROW TRANSPLANT FOR ANOTHER CONDITION.



February 12, 2009

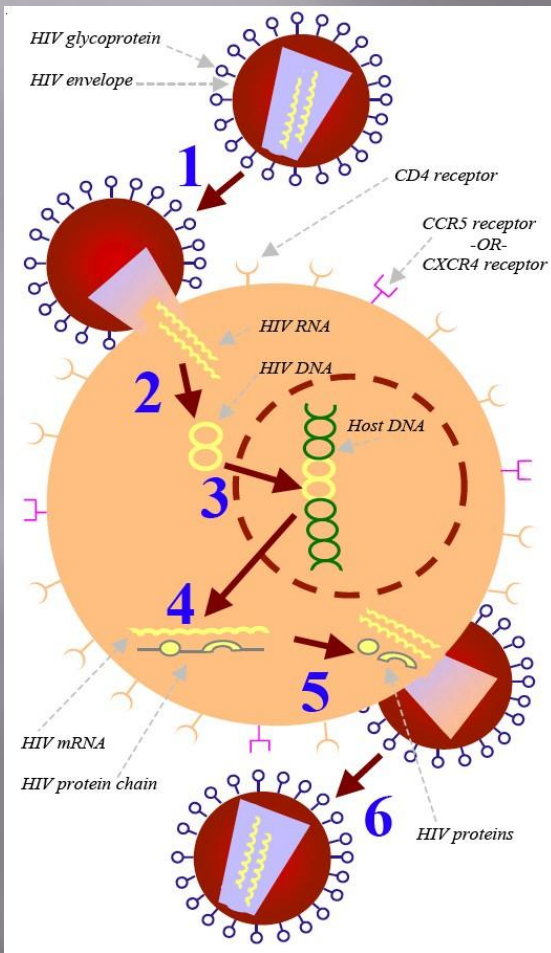
An Example



- ▣ THE TRANSPLANTED CELLS WERE DEFICIENT A CELL RECEPTOR WHICH IS IMPORTANT IN HIV INFECTIVITY.
- ▣ 20 MONTHS AFTER TRANSPLANTATION AND DISCONTINUATION OF ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY THE PATIENT WAS WITHOUT VIRAL REBOUND.

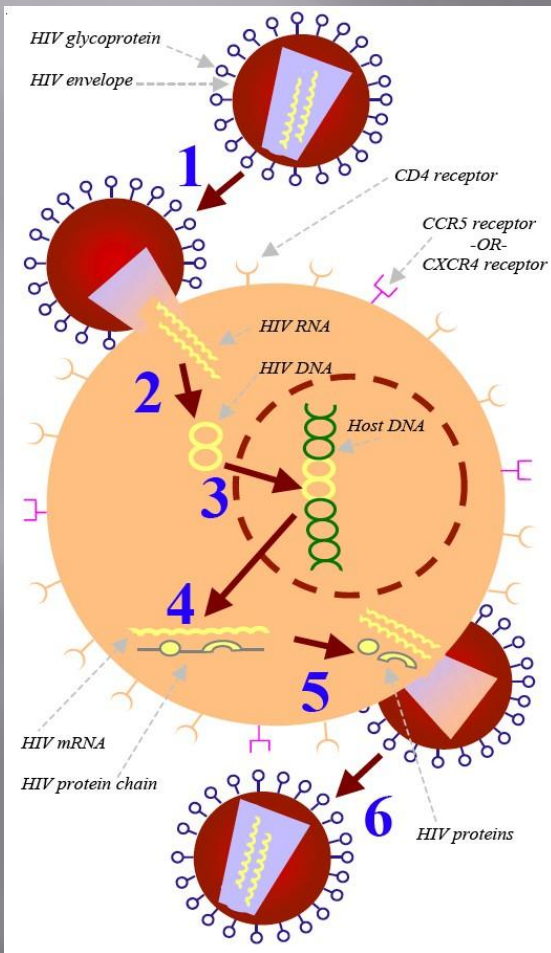
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HIV Life Cycle



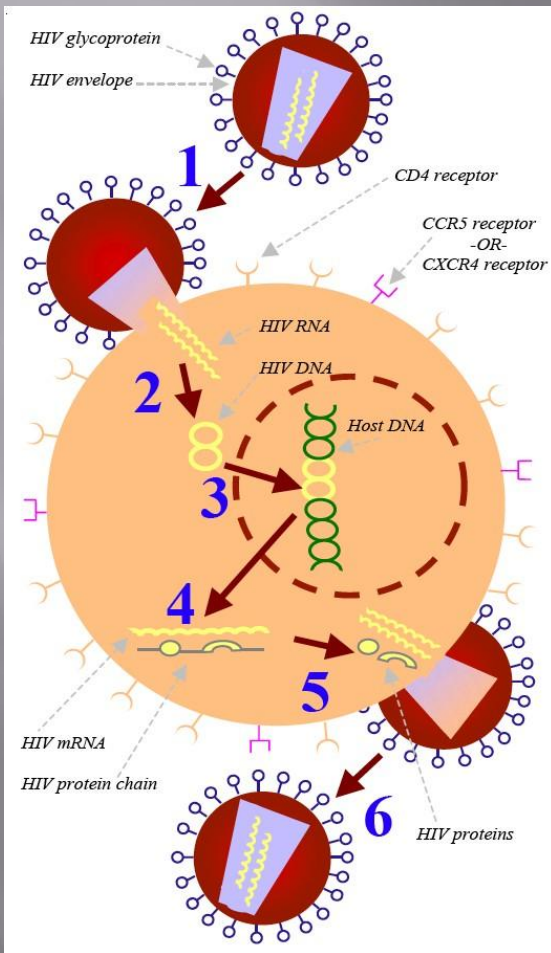
- THE HIV VIRUS TYPE, R5, ATTACHES TO THE CD4 CELL AT THE RECEPTOR, CCR5. THE HIV VIRUS TYPE, X4, ATTACHES AT THE RECEPTOR, CXCR4. CCR5 AND CXCR4 ARE THE TWO MOST COMMON RECEPTORS.

HIV Life Cycle



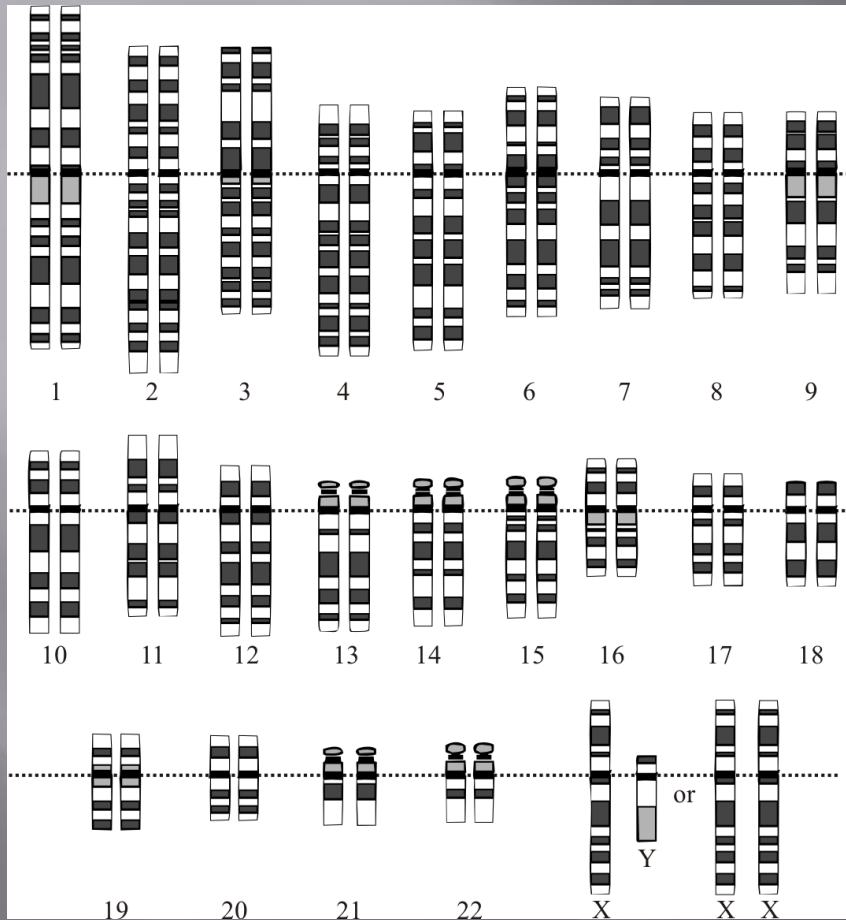
- HIV TYPE R5 IS THE MOST PROMINENT VIRUS AFTER TRANSMISSION.

HIV Life Cycle



- BETWEEN 1 AND 3 PERCENT OF THE WESTERN POPULATION DOES NOT HAVE THE CCR5 RECEPTOR ON THEIR CD4 CELLS.

Why?



- ▣ THIS GENETIC MUTATION CONFERS RESISTANCE TO DISEASE PROGRESSION FOR INDIVIDUALS EXPOSED TO OR INFECTED WITH THE HIV VIRUS SINCE THE VIRUS CANNOT ATTACH AND DESTROY THESE RECEPTOR DEFICIENT CELLS.

Why?



- ▣ **THESE INDIVIDUALS HAVE GONE UP TO 30 YEARS AFTER EXPOSURE, HAD NO TREATMENT AND ARE STILL WITHOUT DISEASE.**
- ▣ **THIS CASE REPORT ILLUSTRATES THE LINK BETWEEN GENETIC MUTATION AND DISEASE RESISTANCE.**

Why Does this Mutation Exist?



1. Random mutations in the human genome caused by purposeless environmental stimuli.
2. The Human genome is as it has always been, without the ability to adapt to environmental stimuli.

Why Does this Mutation Exist?



3. The human genome was pre-engineered by an external force for all of the potential risks that humanity might face over time, but some individuals would succumb to environmental stimuli and others not in a purposeless way.

Why Does this Mutation Exist?




4. Nonrandom mutation in the human genome caused by purposed environmental stimuli designed for humanity to discover at the time of time of a life threatening environmental stimulus.

Why?

- ▣ Nonrandom
- ▣ Purposed
- ▣ To be discovered in the things which have been made.
- ▣ **Romans 1:20(ESV)**²⁰For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made...

Other options?

- ▣ **Absolutely!**
 - **IT IS POSSIBLE THERE IS ANOTHER EXPLANATION**
 - **IT IS POSSIBLE THE EXPLANATION IS UNKNOWABLE.**

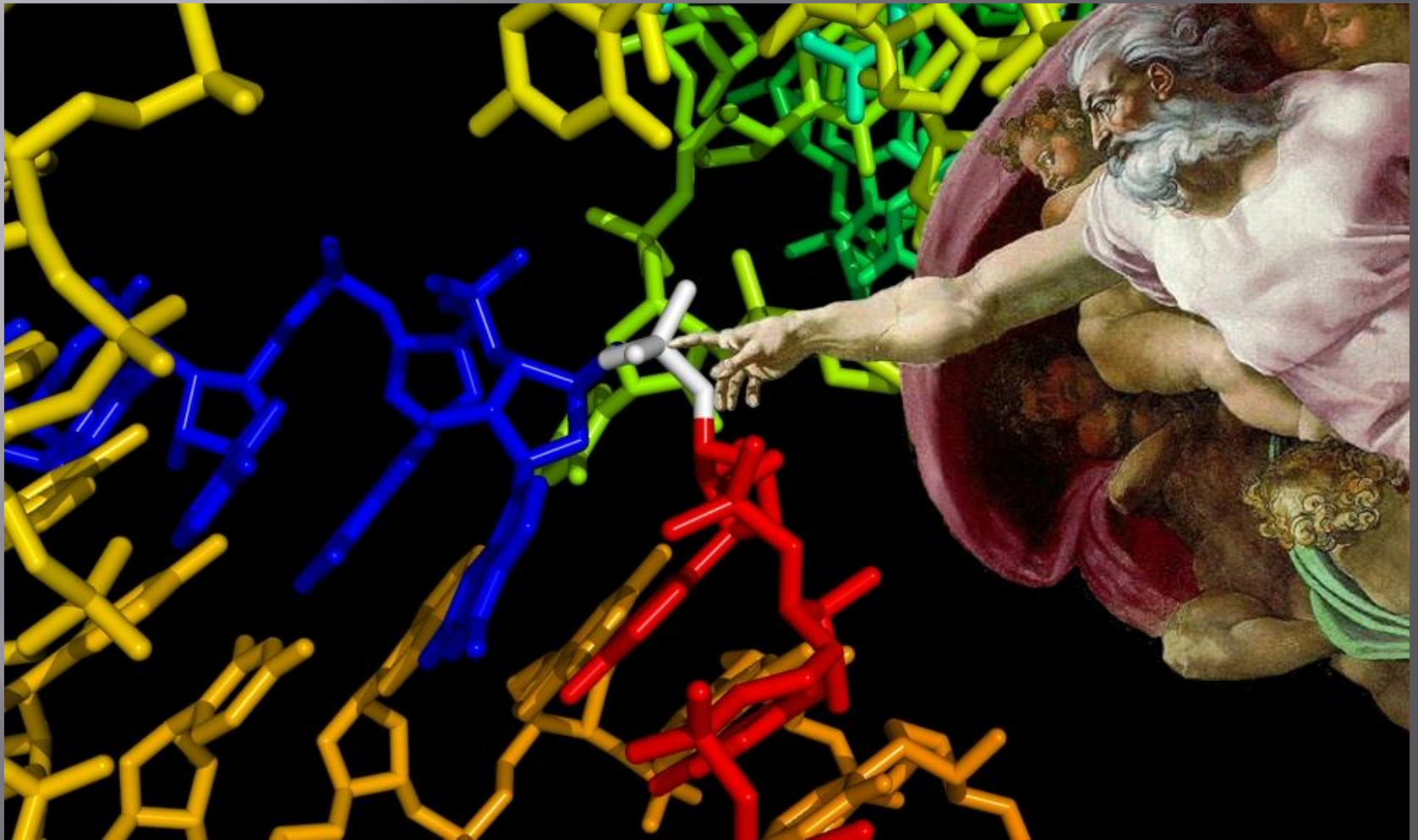


HUMILITY

I'm Not So Arrogant as to Think I've Arrived at the Truth about Anything,
But I'm Pretty Sure Everything You Say Is Not Only Dead Wrong,
But Really, Really Stupid, Too.

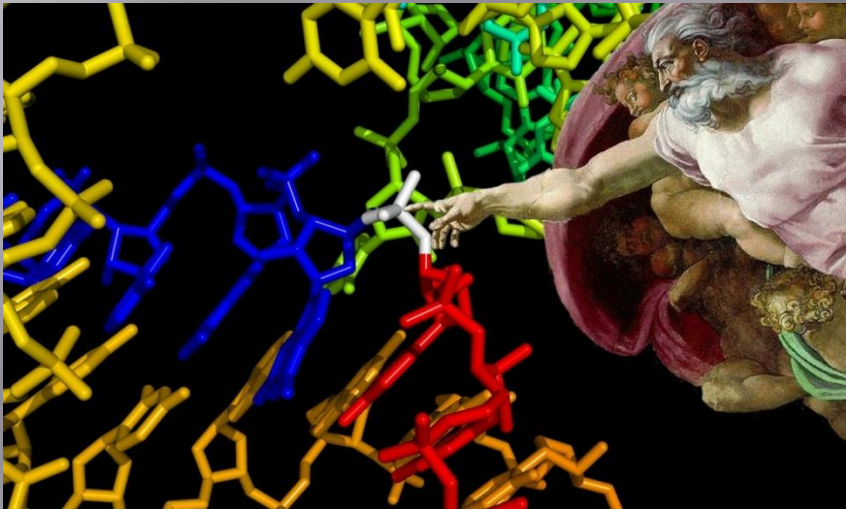
EMERGENT-SEE
PO-MOTIVATORS
FOR EMERGENCY CHRISTIANS

God and the Limits of Evolution



God and the Limits of Evolution

- ▣ Infectious diseases can serve as a model for understanding the limits of evolution and the design of God.

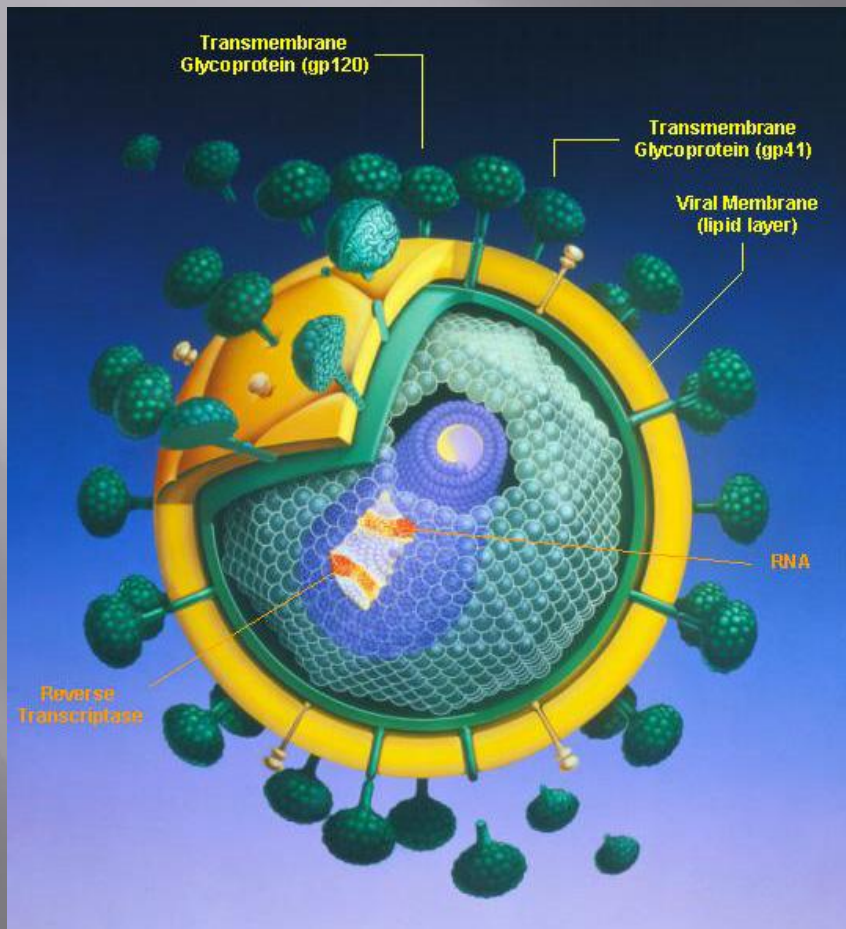


God and the Limits of Evolution

**Resistance
is not
Futile**

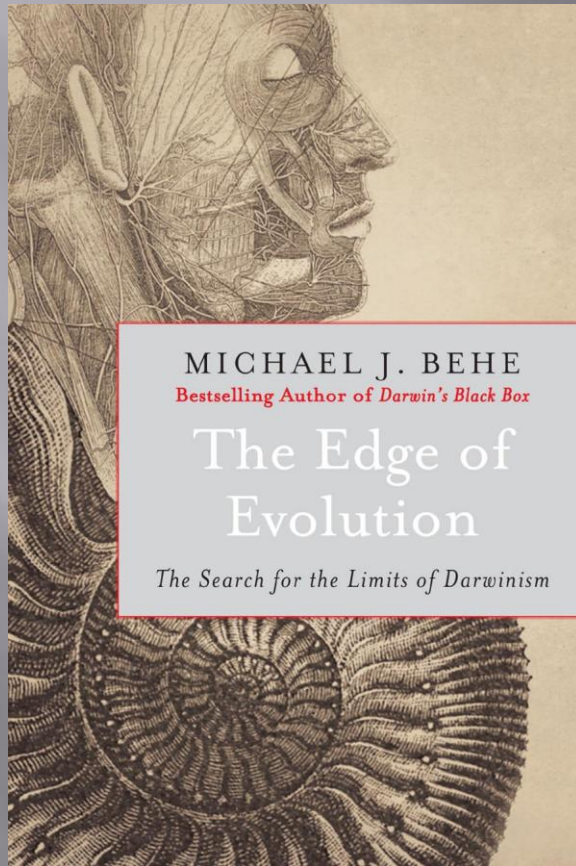
- ▣ History and Infectious Diseases
- ▣ Two types of Immunity
 - Acquired
 - Natural

The Battle Between Humanity and HIV



- Modern research has developed a number of drugs to fight HIV/AIDS. Invariably they lose their effectiveness some times in only days.

God and the Limits of Evolution



- ▣ The reason is Darwinian Evolution.
- ▣ Random changes during viral replication, combined with selective pressures exerted by medicines, allow drug-resistant varieties of HIV to prosper in a quintessentially Darwinian process.

God and the Limits of Evolution

Malaria is an ancient scourge of humanity which kills half of all children less than five years old in some part of the world. In the middle of the twentieth century drugs were developed that could cure the disease and hope or eradication surfaced. Yet within a decade the malaria parasites developed resistance to these drugs, with only temporary benefit.



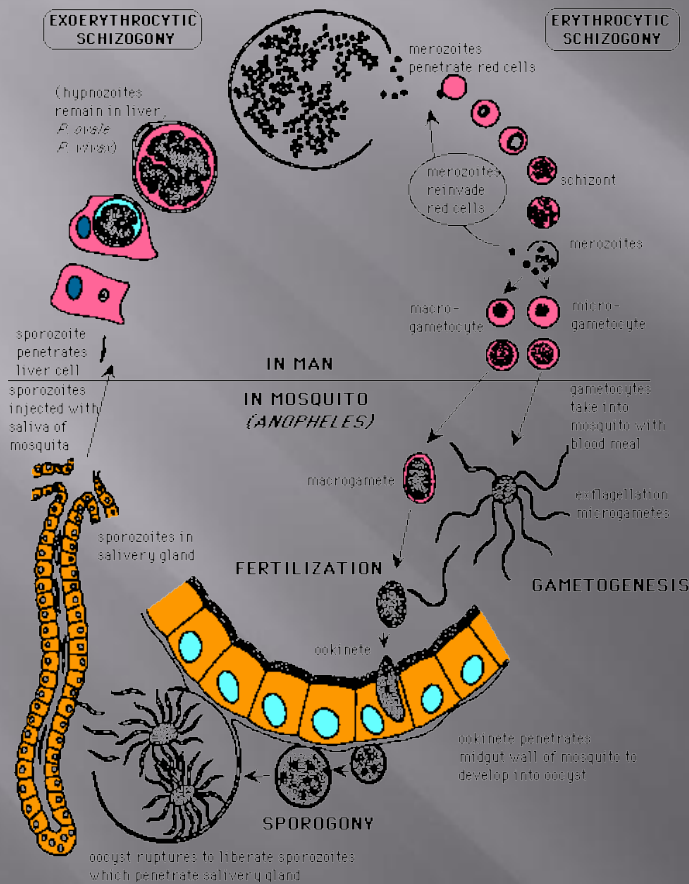
The Battle Between Humanity and Malaria

- ▣ Evolution is relentless, brushing aside the best efforts of modern medicine.



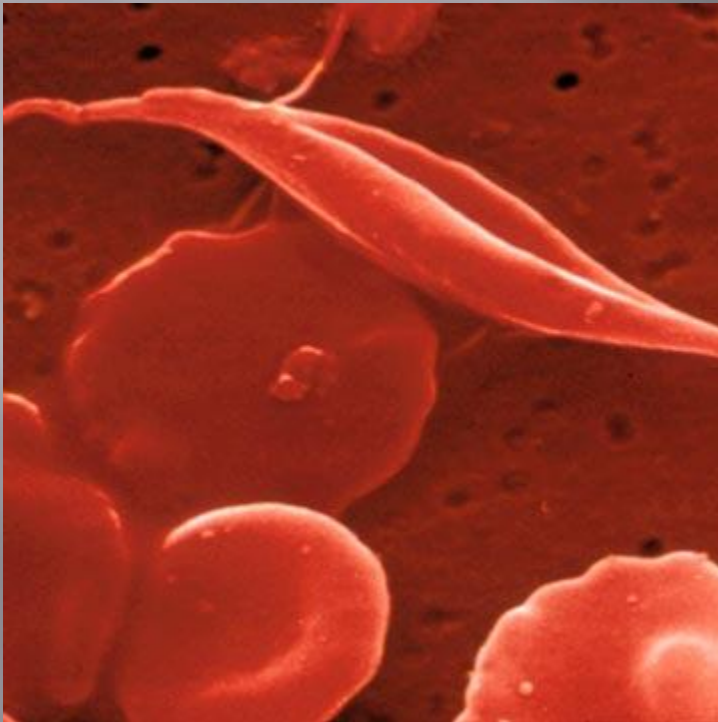
Malaria and Evolution

The life-cycle of *Plasmodium vivax* in man & the mosquito. (after Vickerman and Cox, 1967)



- ❑ Malaria has limitations. It cannot reproduce in its mosquito host unless the climate is warm enough.
- ❑ Other organism in nature have developed ways of surviving in subfreezing temperatures.

Sickle Cell Anemia and Mutation



- Sickle cell disease is caused by a single genetic change in the portion of the human genome responsible for making hemoglobin. This mutation arose in Africa, perhaps ten thousand years ago. People who have one copy of the gene have resistance to malaria.

The Battle Between Humanity and Malaria



- ...despite having a thousand-fold more time to deal with the sickle mutation than with modern drugs, malaria has not found a way to counter it. While the evolutionary power of malaria stymies modern medicine, a tiny genetic change in the host organism foils malaria

God and the Limits of Evolution

- ▣ There is no evidence from the best evolutionary studies that random mutation leads to gene regulatory networks or the complexity of cell differentiation – that is class-level biological distinctions



God and the Limits of Evolution

- ▣ ...work has been done in recent years yielding some persuasive evidence that random changes in existing control networks can helpfully affect animal form at the species level.



God and the Limits of Evolution



- ▣ ...random mutation and natural selection can account for many relatively minor changes in life...
- ▣ Changes in the appearance of animals, the different sizes and shapes of dogs, the patterns of coloration of insect wings, and more can very likely be attributed to Darwinian processes affecting gene switches

God and the Limits of Evolution

The Surprising Depth of Fine-tuning of Nature for life on Earth



The tentative edge of random evolution

Contingency in Biology

Laws of nature
Physical constants
Ratios of physical constants
Amount of matter in the universe
Speed of the expansion in the universe
Properties of elements such as carbon
Properties of chemicals such as water
Location of the solar system in the galaxy
Location of planet in the solar system
Origin and properties of Earth/Moon
Properties of biochemicals such as DNA
Origin of life
Cells
Genetic code
Multiprotein complexes
Molecular machines
Biological kingdoms
Developmental genetic programs
Integrated protein networks
Phyla
Cell types
Classes
Orders
Families
Genera
Species
Varieties
Individuals
Random mutation
Environmental accidents



Multiple coherent steps required at least to this point.

God and the Limits of Evolution

- ▣ Does God have anything to say in the scriptures about this “edge of evolution?”



Worldview

- ▣ 2 TIMOTHY 4.3(ESV) FOR THE TIME IS COMING WHEN PEOPLE WILL NOT ENDURE SOUND □ TEACHING, BUT HAVING ITCHING EARS THEY WILL ACCUMULATE FOR THEMSELVES TEACHERS TO SUIT THEIR OWN PASSIONS...

Worldview



- ▣ Are non-random, planned events in the nature of God?
- ▣ Are random, unplanned events in the nature of God?

Worldview

- ▣ NONRANDOM
PLANNED WORKS ARE
IN THE NATURE OF
GOD.
 - Jeremiah 29:11



Worldview

- ▣ Do unplanned, random events reveal anything about the power of God?



Chaos to Order



- ▣ GOD USES HIS POWER AND PLANNING TO TAKE THE RANDOM AND CHAOTIC THINGS OF THE WORLD BEAUTIFUL AND PEACEFUL.
- ▣ HE DOES THIS THROUGH COVENANT AND HE DEMONSTRATES THIS THROUGH HIS CREATIVE WORK.

GOD'S CREATION CLARIFIES

HOW GOD WORKS IN THE RESTORATION
OF ALL THINGS

- ▣ THE WRITERS OF THE GREEK SCRIPTURES EXPLAIN THE ACTION OF GOD USING THE ANCIENT IMAGES OF CREATION
 - 1 John 1:5
 - 1 Peter 2:9-10

- ▣ **1 John 1:5(ESV) ⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.**

- ▣ **1 Peter 2:9-10(ESV)**⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Separation to Reconciliation

- ▣ Imagery of how God reconciles Man to Himself.
 - Darkness = separation from God
 - Light = God's presence



The Origin of the Imagery

- ▣ **Genesis 1:1-4**
 - God acts and brings order and form to earth.
 - God brings light and separates it from the darkness.



I submit...



- ▣ This historical fact is used by ancient Hebrews to describe how God works in the lives of men.
- ▣ **THIS IS A RECURRING THEME THROUGH THE HEBREW AND GREEK SCRIPTURES DESCRIPTIVE OF HOW GOD ACTS IN THE UNIVERSE TO EXECUTE HIS PLANS.**

I submit...

IN THE SAME WAY THE
CREATION OF MAN
DESCRIBES HOW GOD
BRINGS MAN INTO HIS
PRESENCE.



Genesis 2:7-9(ESV)



⁷then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. ⁸And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

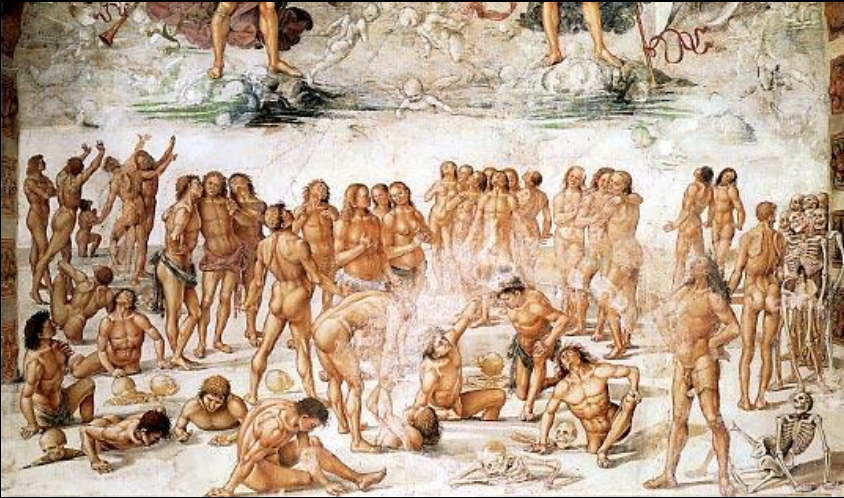
Genesis 2:7-9(ESV)



- ▣ Compare the imagery here with passages which deal with “resurrection”
 - EZEKIEL 37:1-15
 - REVELATION 11:7-13

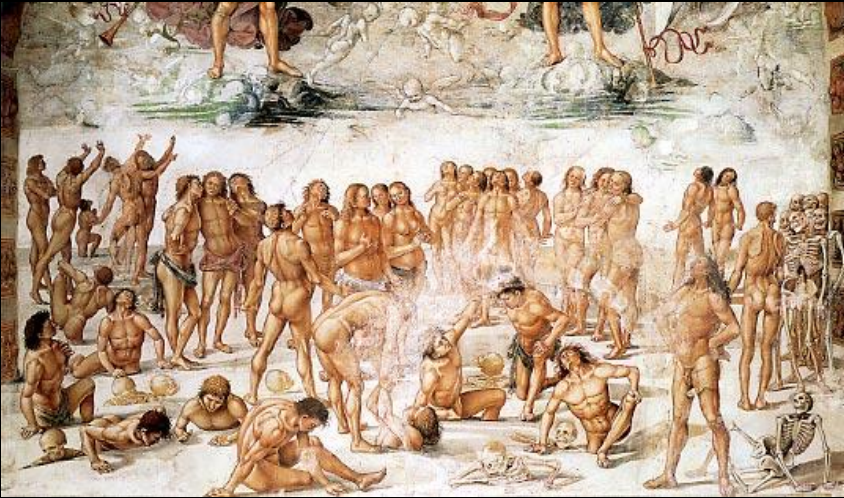
Resurrection: EZEKIEL 37:1-15

- ▣ ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live
- ▣ ¹⁴And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land.



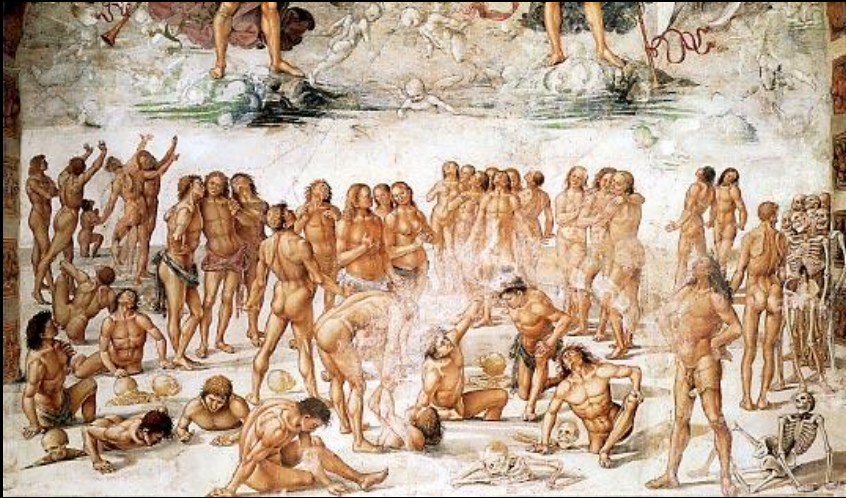
Resurrection: EZEKIEL 37:1-15

- ▣ Breath is “breath of life” in Vs. 5 in LXX
- ▣ Those that receive the breath of life enter the land promised by God, I submit the presence of God



Resurrection: Revelation 11:7-13

- ▣ ¹¹But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood up on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. ¹²Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here!” And they went up to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies watched them.



Revelation 11:7-13

- ▣ The great city is Jerusalem.
- ▣ Three and a half days is the three and a half years of the roman siege of Jerusalem ending with the destruction of the temple in ad 70.



Revelation 11:7-13



- ▣ Breath of life communicates the bringing of people into the presence of God.
- ▣ This is also the imagery of resurrection.

The Imagery of Resurrection

Genesis 2:7-9(ESV)⁷then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. ⁸And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Formed

יָצַר (*yā·šār*): verb 1. (qal) **form**, fashion, shape, forge, i.e., create an object out of existing material, or within existing events of time (Ge 2:7); (qal) **plan**, devise, prepare, i.e., think about future actions with a particular plan of action as an extension of forming an object by artistic, careful design (2Ki 19:25 (qal) **cause**, formally, forms, i.e., cause an event to happen as a figurative extension of fashioning an object (Ps 94:20)

Formed

- ▣ God took Adam from real human history; carefully designed him with a future purpose in mind



Dust

עָפָר (‘ā·pār): noun masculine 1. LN 2.14-2.28 **earthen dirt**, dry dust, soil, rubble, ground, sand, i.e., the natural earthen material which may vary from solid (even packed) earth to dry, coarsely crumbled soil, to very fine dust or sand (Ge 2:7; Ne 4:4[EB 10]); 2. LN 2.14-2.28 **fine material**, powder, i.e., any fine particle substance such as dried fungus (Lev 14:41; Nu 19:17; 2Ki 23:6); 3. LN 10.14-10.48 **descendants**, formally, dust, i.e., **the progeny of a person, with a focus on the abundance of those offspring (Nu 23:10)**; 4. LN 23.142-23.184 unit: גִּישׁ עָפָר (gîš ‘ā·pār) dirty scabs, formally, clods of dust,

Dust

- ▣ HE TOOK HIM FROM THE DESCENDANTS OF THE LAND



BREATH OF LIFE

- ▣ God brought Adam into his presence; brought him from death to life; from darkness to light; he established covenant with him



GARDEN



- ▣ IN THE LXX THE GREEK WORD IS THE SAME AS THE WORD JESUS USES WHEN HE SPEAKS TO THE THIEF ON THE CROSS AND SAYS, "TRULY, I SAY TO YOU, TODAY YOU WILL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE."

Genesis 2.7-9

- ▣ Adam was real historical figure.
- ▣ GOD DEVELOPS AND EXECUTES A PLAN TO TAKE ADAM FROM EXISTING DESCENDANTS OF THE LAND,
- ▣ THIS PREFIGURES WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR ALL HUMANITY THROUGH JESUS CHRIST.
 - IN THAT PLAN GOD GIVES HUMANS THE BREATH OF LIFE, BRINGING THEM INTO HIS PRESENCE, A PREPARED PARADISE.

CONCLUSIONS

- ❑ WORLDVIEW AFFECTS OUR INTERPRETATION OF THE FACTS.
- ❑ HAVING A WORLDVIEW ANCHORED IN COVENANT ESCHATOLOGY CHANGES EVERYTHING.
- ❑ GENETIC MUTATION MAY NOT ALWAYS BE A RESPONSE TO AN ENVIRONMENTAL STRESS, BUT MAY BE PRE-ENGINEERED BY GOD FOR MAN TO “DISCOVER” AND USE FOR MAN’S BENEFIT AS MAN TAKES DOMINION OVER WHAT GOD HAS MADE.
- ❑ ANY THEORY OF ORIGINS WHICH INCLUDES RANDOMNESS OR DISORDER THAT DOES NOT OFFER GOD AS THE SOLUTION TO THAT RANDOMNESS OR DISORDER IGNORES WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT HOW GOD WORKS IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE.
- ❑ THE CREATION ACCOUNT DESCRIBES REAL HISTORICAL EVENTS, BUT ALSO HAS MEANING WHICH EXTENDS TO GOD’S PLAN TO CREATE COVENANT WITH MAN.