

**Carmyle and Kenmuir Mount Vernon Church's Website article**  
***The origin of proteins – Assembling Amino Acids by chance***

Evolutionists reject out of hand the possibility of Supernatural Creation of the Universe and Life on Earth. Most scientists accept that the universe came into existence with the 'Big Bang' some 13.7 billion years ago from a quantum fluctuation in - well nothing.

Christians believe that the universe was spoken into existence ex-nihilo by God and that God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) always existed - not created. What about life? How did it originate? Evolutionists postulate that life is a natural phenomenon that happened purely by chance - this unproven hypothesis is termed 'biogenesis'. Biogenesis assumes that there was a primordial pond choc-full of suitable chemicals and an atmosphere of methane and other gases, with abundant lightning (to provide energy). This primordial 'soup' of chemicals, by pure chance, was stirred and mixed until some of the chemicals converged and formed **amino acids**, which are known to be the building blocks of life. These amino acids must be assembled into long chains that eventually are folded to become proteins. All of this is done under the control of the living organisms' DNA.

So what is the chance (probability) that life emerged from this idealised primordial chemical 'soup' with an idealised and perfectly suited atmosphere? This 'just-so' story simply doesn't 'hold water' - it collapses at the very first hurdle that it encounters. Life, as we know it, is predicated on amino acids being assembled into meaningful proteins - without that there can be no life! The wonderfully complex informational molecule DNA, along with other complex protein 'machines', in all living organisms enables the amino acids to be correctly assembled. But for life to have emerged spontaneously without DNA and other proteins, as Evolutionists claim, the first protein must have self assembled by random processes – that is by pure chance and with sufficient time available. Sounds plausible? Evolutionists claim that it is possible, and if it is possible then it is probable.

**Utter nonsense – it is so improbable as to be virtually impossible**

There are 20 naturally occurring amino acids, and all of these are required to be assembled in a very particular order into extremely long chains, some 100's and even 1000's of amino acids long to make a single protein. Proteins have 4 major functions in all living organisms –

- Structural components of tissues (such as muscles, skeletal, nerves, etc)
- Hormones (such as Insulin, Thyroxin, Calcitonin)
- Antibodies (part of the body's immune system to neutralise bacteria and viruses)

- Biological catalysts (enzymes essential to enable chemical reactions to occur rapidly)

Consider the chance (or probability), given that all 20 amino acids are abundantly available, that a relatively simple protein consisting of only 151 amino acids can self-assemble these amino acids in the correct order over time to form a functioning protein. Take the first amino acid and now the second amino acid. For a particular protein, given the first amino acid in the chain then only one particular second amino acid will do, so it has 1 chance in 20 of being the correct amino acid if added randomly (as evolutionists claim). The third amino acid will also be 1 chance in 20 as there is always available 20 different amino acids, but only one particular amino acid can be added at this point in the chain, as will the fourth and so on for the next 150 before we have a meaningful protein chain (that can fold into the correct shape to function as a particular protein). The probability of this happening correctly is 1 (for the first amino acid) times  $(1/20)$  for the second amino acid times  $(1/20)$  for the third and so on for the next 150. This is written as  $(1/20)^{150}$  - that is 1 chance in 20 raised to the power 150 - that is a very small number indeed. Let us simplify this by saying it is  $(1/2 * 1/10)^{150} = (1/2)^{150} * (1/10)^{150}$  or approximately  $(1/10)^{50} * (1/10)^{150} = (1/10)^{200}$ .

In mathematics this is normally expressed as  $10^{-200}$  and can be written as 0.00000....0001 (200 zeros after the decimal point). That is how small a chance there is of a very simple protein self assembling (without the aid of another very complex controlling DNA molecule). To put this in context, suppose every fundamental particle (not atoms, not even Protons, Neutron and Electrons but their constituent particles) in the entire universe had its own primordial 'soup' and all of them tried to assemble this one protein every single second from the 'Big Bang', how many proteins would be expected to be assembled? Well none actually. The best estimate of the number of fundamental particles in the entire universe is estimated to be  $10^{85}$  and the number of seconds since the 'Big Bang' until now is less than  $10^{18}$ . So the chance of one protein self assembling under these ridiculously favourable assumptions would be  $10^{85} * 10^{18} * 10^{-200} = 10^{-47}$ . That is no chance at all!

Scientists, Atheists, Humanists and Evolutionists all know this – but they make sure that the general public do not know this. Indeed, even with these ridiculously favourable assumptions, there would need to be  $10^{47}$  parallel universes similar to our own to have any chance of a protein self-assembling by chance – hence the need for the multi-verse conjecture that there are an infinite number of universes 'out there' of which we know absolutely nothing and our universe just happens to be the lucky one on which life emerged. It is much more likely that there is an omnipotent, omniscient God who created one universe and who created life on it. Television programmes continually refer to the guesstimate (normally stated as a fact) that our Milky Way galaxy consists of 100 billion stars and there are 10 trillion galaxies in our universe. That amounts to  $10^{14}$

stars and  $10^{19}$  galaxies or a total of  $10^{33}$  stars in the known universe. If we replace  $10^{85}$  fundamental particles with  $10^{33}$  stars then the chance of a protein chain assembling spontaneously would decrease from 1 chance in  $10^{47}$  to 1 chance in  $10^{99}$ . Pundits bamboozled the general public with billions of stars and trillions of galaxies – but they come nowhere near providing the probabilistic resources necessary for even a trivial protein to self assemble. And without proteins life is impossible.

Of course, the above estimates make assumptions with which not everyone would agree. But they were made to simplify what is a complex biological process. For example, there are some amino acids that can replace another amino acid in building a protein chain, and so the probability of selecting not the 'right' amino acid but an 'acceptable' amino acid would not be as low as 1/20 but on occasions may be as high as 1/5. This would favour the Evolutionists case. However, a much more damning consideration was ignored that more than compensates for this assumption -that is the problem of amino acid 'Chirality'. All 20 amino acids exist in two forms that are mirror images of each other - termed left- or right-handed, and the two forms exist in approximately equal numbers. But, in building a protein chain only left-handed amino acids are used and as each amino acid is added to the chain there is a 50/50 chance only that the 1/20 chance of an acceptable amino acid being added is left-handed. If the right-handed amino acid is added it destroys the entire protein chain, not because it can't be added but because the final protein chain cannot fold correctly and is useless as a protein. Sugars on the other hand use only right-handed amino acids. Miller and Urey in 1952 conducted a chemical experiment that created all 20 of the amino acids necessary for life. After 50 years of continuous experimentation no one has been able to resolve the Chirality problem. Chemically creating amino acids (the 'building blocks of life') is not the problem - it is the sheer impossibility of assembling 150 (and more) of these into exclusively left-handed chains of amino acids in the correct order so that they will fold into meaningful proteins – that is the problem.

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