

Animal Marvels — and Us

You don't have to journey to some far away place to find animal marvels — or even see wildlife programmes on the BBC. All you need do is watch some of the creatures we see almost every day.

Imagine if we offered the chance to see a bird whose life force burned with such fury that it had a pulse rate of nearly a thousand beats a minute! Just look at the nearest sparrow in our garden. In all our common little birds, the pulse of life pounds along at that almost impossible rate.

How about an animal whose eye is so constructed that it can see, not only ahead of it and out to the sides, but at the same time keep watch on what is happening behind its back? Look no farther than the rabbit you can spot in the field or at the side of the road. His eyes are built with such a sweeping convexity that it can see a full circle around him.

Or, again, the dragonfly buzzing around our rabbit in the summer. That everyday insect's eyes are faceted — each eye is compounded of a cluster of "little eyes," each of which gives its owner a separate view of a piece of the world. You and I see one view. That dragonfly sees twenty-five thousand views!

The woodpecker hammering away at the tree to find insects. His head-bashing is at a rate of fifteen to sixteen times a second — a rate of fire twice the speed of a machine gun, the bird's head travelling at twice the speed of a bullet! And his tongue: so long that it can extract the insects. Yet, how can its tongue be stored? The answer is, instead of being rooted in the woodpecker's gullet, it actually runs back over the bird's brain and is anchored in front of its skull!

The butterfly flitting from one blossoming flower to another is using a taste faculty so fantastically subtle. It can detect the presence of sugar in a mixture of one part to three hundred thousand!

The toad is another example of split second speed. It catches insects by thrusting out its long sticky tongue and seizing them. The whole operation—flinging the tongue out, taking the prey, and hauling the titbit back inside the mouth—takes place in no more than a fifteenth of a second!

Read books on natural history, watch such programmes on the television, or study science subjects at college, and all will tell you that these creatures "evolved" their characteristics. It was all a matter of chance, random processes. The theory of evolution cannot be scientifically proven, and yet we are bombarded with propaganda that claims it is scientific fact. Common sense alone will tell you that it takes more faith to believe that these animal marvels just "evolved" than that an all-wise Creator designed and made them that way in the beginning.

"O LORD, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them
all: the earth is full of thy riches" (Psalm 104:24).

Shouldn't we then, worship Him, and find out why He has made *us*? Come and join us on Sunday at 10.30am or 6.00pm at Holywell Evangelical Church. Our services are not

for entertainment — you can get that anywhere. They are for worshipping God, and for hearing God’s Word, the Bible, preached. If you come along, we promise you a warm welcome. And it will be our privilege to share with you what it means to know this great and wonderful Creator personally — as our heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ.

Doubt — What the authorities had to say

The following statements are taken from official documents, newspapers and magazines widely read during their day. Listen to what the “authorities” had to say:

1840 – “Anyone travelling at the speed of thirty miles per hour would surely suffocate.”

1878 – “Electric lights are unworthy of serious attention.”

1901 – “No possible combination can be united into a practical machine by which men shall fly.”

1926 - (from a scientist) “This foolish idea of shooting at the moon is basically impossible.”

1930 - (another scientist) “To harness the energy locked up in matter is impossible.”

There have always been those who said, “It can’t be done.” Yes, even the experts can be wrong. But the real tragedy is that 99 percent of the people believed them.

The greater tragedy is when people listen to the “authorities” who say the Bible is full of contradictions and mistakes: many clergymen and professing Christians. They, too, are wrong. *Real* gospel ministers and Christians have found the Bible is everything it claims to be: God’s Word, literally true from cover to cover. By it, they have come to know God Himself. When it comes to Christianity, the only “authorities” are those who can speak from personal experience.

Can you Face the Music?

The expression “Face the music” is said to have originated in Japan. According to the story, one man in the imperial orchestra couldn’t play a note. Being a person of great influence and wealth, he had demanded that he be given a place in the group because he wanted to “perform” before the emperor. The conductor agreed to let him sit in the second row of the orchestra, even though he couldn’t read music. He was given a flute, and when a concert would begin, he’d raise his instrument, pucker his lips, and move his fingers. He would go through all the motions of playing, but he never made a sound.

This deception continued for two years. Then a new conductor took over. He told the orchestra that he wanted to audition each player personally. One by one, they performed in his presence. Then came the flautist's turn. He was frantic with worry, so he pretended to be sick. However, the doctor who was ordered to examine him declared that he was perfectly well. The conductor insisted that the man appear and demonstrate his skill. Shamefacedly he had to confess that he was a fake. He was unable to "face the music."

In the realm of Christianity, many professing believers go through the motions, but they are only pretenders. One day they will be called upon to stand before the Judge of heaven and earth, and their deception will be revealed. God will then separate the counterfeit Christians from the real ones. No one will be able to hide in the crowd. Each will be made to "Face the music." Can you face it?