



# @ctivated

DO YOU FEED YOUR BODY BUT STARVE YOUR SOUL?

## THE MIRACLE OF CREATION

ACCIDENT? OR MASTERPIECE?  
THE GREATEST WORK OF ALL  
TIME AND ITS EFFECT ON  
TODAY.

## HOLY HOLES

“NOTHING” IS IMPORTANT.  
A HUMOROUS LOOK AT HOW  
EXISTENCE DEPENDS ON  
HOLES.

## BOY BY THE RIVER

A YOUNG CHINESE BOY, AND  
THE ENCOUNTER THAT  
CHANGED HIS LIFE.

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## personally speaking



There's no question: Science and technology have made astounding advances in the past several decades. New worlds of information are being opened to us almost daily. We send spacecraft to chart and study the universe. Robots probe the oceans' depths to discover previously unknown life forms or peer inside the wreck of the *Titanic*. Scientists unlock the mysteries of DNA and chart the human genome. But the more we learn about the world we live in, the more we see how intricately designed and beyond our understanding it is.

How did such an amazingly complex and wonderful world come into existence? Was the universe born 20 billion years ago when "a very small agglomeration of matter of extremely high density and temperature" exploded, as proponents of the big bang theory claim? Did life on Earth originate by chance some 3.4 billion years ago, and did we evolve from lower life forms, as evolutionists teach? Is the Bible's explanation of creation—"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1)—at odds with true science?

In this issue of *Activated* we look into some of these questions.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Keith Phillips". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and personal.

Keith Phillips

For the *Activated* family

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# *Eminent Scientists and Thinkers Conclude...*

This most beautiful system of sun, planets, and comets could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent and powerful being.

—Sir Isaac Newton (1642–1727), English mathematician and scientist, formulator of the law of gravitation

Posterity will some day laugh at the foolishness of modern materialistic philosophy. The more I study nature, the more I am amazed at the Creator.

—Louis Pasteur (1822–1895), French chemist, founder of modern microbiology

All human discoveries seem to be made only for the purpose of confirming more and more strongly the truth contained in the sacred Scriptures.

—Sir Fredrick William Herschel (1738–1822), German-born astronomer, discoverer of the planet Uranus

The commencement of life upon Earth certainly did not take place by any action of chemistry or electricity or crystalline grouping of mol-

ecules. We must pause, face to face with the mystery and miracle of the creation of living creatures.

—First Baron William Thomson Kelvin (1824–1907), British mathematician and physicist, formulator of the second law of thermodynamics

As biochemists discover more and more about the awesome complexity of life, it is apparent that its chances of originating by accident are so minute that they can be completely ruled out.

—Sir Fred Hoyle (1915– ), English astronomer and mathematician

If the solar system was brought about by an accidental collision, then the appearance of organic life on this planet was also an accident, and the whole evolution of man was an accident too. If so, then all our present thoughts are mere accidents—the accidental by-product of the movement of atoms. And this holds for the thoughts of the materialists and astronomers as well as for anyone else's. But if their thoughts—i.e., of mate-

rialism and astronomy—are merely accidental by-products, why should we believe them to be true? I see no reason for believing that one accident should be able to give me a correct account of all the other accidents. It's like expecting that the accidental shape taken by the splash when you upset a milk jug should give you a correct account of how the jug was made and why it was upset.

—C.S. Lewis (1898–1963), British writer and critic

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..."

—Dr. Arthur H. Compton (1892–1962), Nobel Prize winner in physics



# *The Miracle of Creation*

*By David Brandt Berg*

People can't help but believe in God if they just look at creation. All they have to do is look at the creation to know Somebody had to design it, pattern it, put it together, and make it work like it does. God's beautiful creation works so beautifully, so systematically, so perfectly, it's obvious that all that didn't just happen by accident. Creation, so-called

Nature, is not just natural. It's God-created. It's supernatural. It's miraculous!

If you don't know whether God exists, just look at the sea, the sky, the clouds, the mountains, the valleys, the trees, the flowers—everything. They're all virtually shouting, "There is a God! Look what He made! Look what a beautiful world He made for you to live in!"

The greatest proof of God's existence is His creation. The Bible says that God's "invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made" (Romans 1:20). The existence of our invisible God is proven by His visible creation. It's "clearly seen" through the beautiful world He made.

Evolutionists try to explain away creation by saying that it just happened by accident and God had nothing to do with it, that it somehow just threw itself together. Dr. Robert A. Millikan, winner of the 1923 Nobel Prize for physics, had a good answer to that: Just as there had to be a watchmaker behind the synchronized perfection and order of every watch, so there had to be a Creator behind the synchronized perfection of the universe.

Yet evolutionary doctrine has become the general theme of modern science and is now referred to as the "great principle" of biology. But a principle, according to the dictionary, is a foundation truth or fact; the basis of other truths—and evolution has never

been proven to be either a truth or a fact, much less the foundation or basis of other truths.

There is no proof for evolution. It has to be believed; therefore it's a religion. Even the founding father of this false faith, Charles Darwin himself, confessed, "The belief in natural selection [evolution] must at present be grounded entirely on general considerations. When we descend to details, we can prove that no one species has changed, nor can we prove that the supposed changes are beneficial, which is the groundwork of the theory."

So evolution is really a religion of unbelief in God. That's its whole purpose: to eliminate faith in God and to foster the false belief that the creation created itself; God had nothing to do with it, so there doesn't need to be a God.


The first verse of the first chapter of the first book of the Bible says, "In the beginning, God"—not chaos, not some nebulous cloud of gases—"created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). And a few verses later, "God created man in His own image; He created him in the image of God; He created them male and female" (Genesis 1:27). God formed man out of what?—Previous life forms?—Apes?—Beasts? "And God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Genesis 2:7). This is the truth of God's Word!

Even if you don't believe the Bible, reasonable scientists concede that if the world's two or three million species of animal and plant life came about by evolution, we would be ten miles deep in fossils of evolutionary "missing links." Instead, the evolutionists search the world over trying to find one! Nearly every one of those fossils that evolutionists claim to be missing links have now been debunked, and some are confessed fakes, like Piltdown Man.

Evolution has no foundation in fact whatsoever. There's no evidence for it. No discovery has been made to prove it. As one of its foremost proponents, Margaret Mead, wrote in her introduction to her textbook on anthropology: "We as honest scientists must confess that science has yet to discover one single iota of concrete evidence to prove the evolutionary theory!"

Do you believe in God?—Look at the world; look at the beautiful trees; look at the flowers; look at the sea; look at the sky. Does God love you?—You can see it and feel it in the beautiful world He made for you.

God created this wonderful world for you to live in and enjoy, and He is the only One who can give meaning to the universe and purpose to the planets and love to our hearts and peace to our minds and health to our bodies and rest to our spirits and happiness to our lives and joy to our souls. □



Have you ever wondered how the theory of evolution measures up to basic laws of physics and other findings of true science? The following may surprise you.

# AMAZING FACTS

By Anthony Mizrany

## **The laws of thermodynamics**

The first law of thermodynamics states: “Matter cannot be created or destroyed.” So how did everything get started? Evolution has no answer to this whatsoever. Creation says simply that God made it all by outright miracle, and He made it so that it couldn’t be added to or destroyed. This answer fits perfectly—and it’s the only one available!

The second law of thermodynamics states: “Everything tends toward disorder.” In other words, if you leave something alone long enough, it doesn’t get better, it gets worse (e.g., decay, corrosion, “wear and tear,” etc.). This is the absolute *opposite* of the theory of evolution, which says that everything is getting better and better all the time, evolving into higher, more complicated life forms. The Bible agrees with the second law of thermodynamics. “You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the Earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment” (Hebrews 1:10–11).

## **The law of conservation of angular momentum**

This law states: “If a spinning object explodes, the pieces that fly off will spin in the same direction.”

In other words, if an object spinning clockwise explodes, *all* the fragments will spin clockwise.

This is a law. It *always* happens. This is bad news for the “big bang” theory!

If the big bang had actually happened, then everything, by law, should be spinning in the same direction—but it's *not!* According to evolution, all the planets in our solar system came from the sun, but Venus and Uranus are spinning backwards! There are 60 moons in our solar system, and many of them are also spinning backwards. Several are even *orbiting* backwards!

### **The age of the solar system—6,000 years, or billions of years?**

With the advent of lasers and atomic clocks, measurements of time, size, and distance are far more accurate than ever before. Did you know...

The sun burns off 5 million tons of gas per second. That means, of course, that the sun used to be bigger. If the biblical account of Creation is true, the universe and everything in it is about 6,000 years old. At the rate the sun is burning up, the difference between its size 6,000 years ago and its size now is negligible.—Good news for life on Earth! But at that same rate, the sun would have been so much bigger and therefore so much closer to Earth as “recently” as 20 or 30 million years ago that *no*

life forms—not even bacteria, much less dinosaurs—would have been possible. Meanwhile, evolutionists contend the sun is about 4.7 billion years old, and that life on Earth began forming in the oceans about 3.4 billion years ago.

Newton's law of universal gravitation tells us that the bigger any two heavenly bodies are, the greater the gravitational pull between them, and as those bodies come closer to each other, the gravitational pull between them increases by the “inverse square” (e.g., at half the distance, the gravity is quadrupled). So a significantly older and larger sun would have exerted a significantly stronger gravitational pull, and Earth and the other planets could not have existed except in far more distant orbits. This fact creates more problems for the theory of evolution, because as the sun decreased to its present size and its gravitational pull diminished, the planets would not have been pulled in to smaller and closer orbits, but rather would have drifted into larger, more distant orbits.

Earth's magnetic field is getting weaker. Archaeological measurements show that

Earth's magnetic field was 40% stronger 1,000 years ago than it is today. If Earth's magnetic field is caused by a decaying electric current in Earth's metallic core—the most plausible explanation—Earth could not be much older than about 10,000 years, or else that electrical current's original strength would have been large enough to melt the planet.

Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto are cooling off. Jupiter, for example, radiates about twice as much energy as it receives from the sun. Saturn radiates about three times as much as it receives from the sun. If the solar system were billions or even millions of years old, these five planets would have been dead cold a long time ago.

Saturn's rings are expanding. In other words, the “clouds” of particles (thought to be a mix of rocks, frozen gases, and water ice) that make up Saturn's rings are becoming larger and less dense. At the rate they are expanding, they would have dissipated long ago if the solar system were anywhere near as old as evolutionists contend it is. □



Where would we be without holes? Where would people be without seven holes in their heads? (Count 'em!) If it weren't for your seven holes, you couldn't eat or taste or smell or hear or see or even breathe. And actually, you've got lots more holes than that, because every little pore in your skin is a hole. Without those little pores, your skin couldn't breathe and you couldn't sweat. Without holes, you wouldn't have any hair either, because every hair grows in a little hole called a follicle.

Holes are an almost endless subject because there are so many of them! It seems like *everything* is composed of holes. Your whole body is full of holes. Your blood vessels are holes, your lungs are holes, your heart's got big holes in it for the blood to flow in and out, and your navel is a hole without which you couldn't have been born. Wow! There are so many important holes! We're really *full* of holes!

The whole world is full of holes! If it weren't for holes, there wouldn't be any pretty trees or flowers or vegetables or fruit, because they all grow in holes in the ground and they're full of holes: The sap in the trees flows through holes, and the juice in the leaves flows through holes.



What is a house but a hole in which you live? And if your house didn't have window holes, you couldn't look out or let the light and air in. Without holes, there wouldn't be any taps for water, and you'd get awfully thirsty. And worst of all, the house wouldn't even have a door, so you couldn't get into it in the first place—or if you were inside, you couldn't get out! How many other useful holes can you think of?

The earth itself is a hollow sphere full of fire, and every now and then the fire comes out through holes called volcanoes. All the seas are great big holes in the ground full of water, and all the lakes and springs and wells are holes, too. We get diamonds and other jewels and all kinds of minerals—gold and silver and copper and iron and tin and lots of others—out of holes in the ground called mines. We wouldn't have any of these useful and valuable things if it weren't for holes. The world is one great big ball of holes!

And if you could look *real* close, you would see that everything is made up of very little holes full of energy, called atoms. So everything is *mostly* holes with just a little bit of something around them.

Everything is more *nothing* than anything—like the universe is mostly space. The universe is a great big hole full of nothing, except for few things called stars and planets and moons and things like that, which are all very, very small compared to all that nothing called space that surrounds them. The universe is such a great big hole that we don't even know where it ends. So much nothing!

The Bible says that God even hung the world on nothing (Job 26:7), and that He made it out of nothing (Genesis chapter 1; Hebrews 11:3). So you see, there is a lot more nothing than anything else, and everything is made mostly out of nothing. God makes everything out of nothing—nothing surrounded by Him!

If you can believe in God, then *anything* is possible, because He makes everything out of nothing—even you and me! We're nothing and we're impossible except for God. He takes our nothing and makes it something. He's like the circle around our nothing that makes it something. With God all around you, even your nothing can be something. In fact, you can be almost anything!

So the next time you see a hole, remember it wouldn't even be a hole if there wasn't something around it—and you're just like that hole! If you feel like nothing or a big zero or only a hole, just surround yourself with God's something and you can become a very useful and important little hole—nothing surrounded by God, out of which He made everything. You could be almost anything if you're a good hole—a nothing that's got God around it—because God is in the business of making somethings out of nothings.

There's no end to nothing. There's always an end to something, but there's never an end to nothing. So if you'll just be nothing, you can even be bigger than something.

The poet Emily Dickinson once wrote:

I'm nobody! Who are you?  
Are you nobody, too?  
Then there's a pair of us—don't tell!  
They'd banish us, you know.

How dreary to be somebody!  
How public, like a frog,  
To tell your name the livelong day  
To an admiring bog!

All the big somebodies  
wouldn't be anybody if it  
weren't for us nobodies; all

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David Brandt Berg

# HOLY HOLES

the people that think they're something wouldn't be anything if it weren't for us nothings!

And do you know what love is? It's a hole that needs to be filled—plus something to fill it with, like you and me and Jesus.

There are square holes and round holes and all kinds of holes, and it takes all kinds of

pegs to fill them, so whatever kind of peg you are, somewhere there's a hole where you'll fit. And no matter what kind of hole you are, God's got you pegged!

All holes are nothing made for something, so if you feel like nothing, there's something for you somewhere. Are you a hole? Then God's got something for you!

Folks that aren't holes can't have anything, because they already think they're something, when they are really nothing. The Bible says: "If anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself" (Galatians 6:3), and God "has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty" (Luke 1:53).

## answers to your questions



I'm presently facing a decision that will have a major impact on my life. I've prayed for God to show me what He knows will work out best, but how will He do that? How can I make sure I get His answer?

If you've asked the Lord to help you make the right decision, you've already taken the first step in what is essentially a three-step process.

Second, you need to determine in your heart that you will believe and *accept* God's answer—even if it's contrary to your own reasoning or desires in the matter. In other words, you need to sincerely want *Him* to make the decision according to what He knows will work out best for you and everyone else involved. This is often the hardest part because it requires you to surrender your own will to God, in favor of His.

Once you have done that, you are in the position to, third, receive His answer. If you sincerely ask God to show you what is His will for you in any given situation, He will—and He will probably do it through one or more of the following seven means, which

are listed here in order of importance and reliability:

**Number 1: God's Word.** The first place we look to find the will of God is in His Words recorded in the Bible. He has put the *basic* answers to nearly every question or problem we will face in life right there. When God speaks to us out of His Word, we know it's right! Bible study guides such as *Bible Basics* and *Keys to Happier Living* can be helpful when we don't know what the Bible has to say about a certain topic relevant to decisions we face.

**Number 2: The Voice of God's Word.** Have you ever been thinking or praying about something when the Lord brought to mind a certain verse or passage from the Scriptures that shed His light on the issue? That's what is known as hearing the voice of God's Word. Or have you ever been reading the Bible when all of a sudden a verse or passage spoke directly to you, as though it had been written just for you in regard to some situation you face? That is also

If a hole is already full, God can't put anything into it. Everything falls out when He tries to put something into it, because it's already so full of something that it can't hold anything more. You've got to be a *hole to hold* something. Who ever heard of trying to fill anything but a hole?

God loves holes. Scientists say, "Nature abhors a

vacuum." But I say, "God *loves* holes, because He loves to fill them up." Are you a good hole full of nothing? Then God can fill you with something and make you a very happy hole full of anything God wants to fill you with!

You've got to be nothing to be something, so please be one of God's little holes, will you? Let's be holy too, okay?

Are you a hole? Then you're holy. Let's all be holy holes!

And do you know what? Jesus even called Himself a hole: the Door (John 10:9). He is the Hole you've got to get through to get into His Father's house, and He is the *only* Hole you can go through (John 14:6). Have you entered the Father's house through Jesus, the Hole, the only Door? □

the voice of the Word. The Lord applies His Word to you personally, and you get the answer you were seeking.

**Number 3: Direct Revelation.** God also speaks to us through messages received by the gift of prophecy, or through dreams or visions. If such revelations are truly from God, they won't contradict His written Word. You have to measure your revelation against the Word. It's wonderful to be able to get our answers straight from the Lord, and then confirm those answers with His Word, because then we know we're on the right track and can proceed in full faith. That settles it! We've heard from Heaven!

**Number 4: Godly Counselors.** The Bible tells us that "in the multitude of counselors there is safety" (Proverbs 11:14; 24:6). When you're trying to find God's will in a given situation, it is often wise to ask for the counsel and opinions of others who are strong in the Lord, wise in His ways, and whose lives show the good fruit of following Him

closely (Matthew 7:15–20).

**Number 5: Circumstances and Conditions** (also known as "*open and closed doors*"). If something is God's will, He will usually open a door of opportunity that makes it possible. Or if something is *not* His will, He will often show us that by creating or allowing circumstances and conditions that stop us from doing it. Circumstances and conditions, when relied on solely, are generally a poor means of finding the will of God. They can, however, provide a confirmation of what the Lord has indicated through the other more reliable means.

**Number 6: Strong Impressions or Feelings** (also known as "*the witness of the Spirit*" or "*burdens*"). Feelings can be deceiving, but if God wants you to take a certain course of action, He will often give you an inner conviction that that is the right thing to do. Or if He *doesn't* want you to do something, His Spirit will give you a warning not to. Either way, He gives you a certain faith and peace that you're doing what

He knows is best. It's best to then confirm this with one or more of the other ways of finding God's will.

**Number 7: Specific, Pre-determined Signs in Answer to Your Requests** (also known as "*fleeces*"). You can sometimes check or double-check your decision by asking God to give you a specific sign, like Gideon did with his fleece, when he wanted a confirmation that he'd gotten God's instructions straight (Judges 6:36–40).

Above all, believe that God loves you and is always ready, willing, and able to help you make the right decision—the one He knows will make you and others happiest in the long run. Jesus said, "Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock and it will be opened for you" (Matthew 7:7). That's a promise!

(For a more complete explanation of how to use these means to make wise, godly decisions, write for *God Online*—a collection of articles by David Brandt Berg that includes "Seven Ways to Find God's Will"—as well as the booklet *Making Great Decisions*. For more on the gift of prophecy, specifically, write for *Hearing from Heaven*.)

# THE BOY BY THE RIVER

From Matthew and Claire, China

It was the kind of meeting you see in movies—strangers scanning faces in a hotel lobby, searching the crowds, hoping to catch a glimmer of recognition in someone’s eyes. Then we saw it! That smile was unmistakable. “Shao Feng! After thirteen years ... it’s really you!”

By this time the grin that graced his rugged features had erupted from ear to ear. As we shook hands vigorously, this handsome Chinese businessman marveled, “It’s a miracle of God! No one could deny it!”

We certainly agreed, for we had last met Shao Feng thirteen long years before, on one of our first visits to China. At that time he was a teenage boy, full of dreams and questions. We had met him by the side of a river one day, where he struck up a conversation with us in order to practice his newly learned high school English vocabulary. He asked about our life abroad, what we did, and how we lived.

That’s when we were able to tell him about Jesus. We told him our life stories and how we had found an answer to so many of the questions that at one time had seemed so baffling. We explained how we found a Savior who loved us enough to die for us, who would help us live forever with Him. Sitting with us on the banks of the river as the sun went down, Shao Feng prayed with us to receive Jesus into his heart.

We talked and talked for much of that night and most of the next day. We spoke of love and of hate, of the world’s aching past and of Heaven’s bright future. We talked about sadness and happiness, and how one day Jesus would wipe away all tears from our eyes. We saw hope born that evening in that young heart, and we knew that even though we would have to leave Shao Feng, God’s presence would remain with him forever.

We never saw him again until that wonderful day in the

hotel lobby recently, thirteen years later. Oh, we had written him a number of times, sending encouraging little cards or notes of greeting. Oddly, we had received no replies. We weren’t sure if it was the censorship of the mail or problems with the address, but finally, after receiving no response to our many letters, we ceased writing. Years passed, and we moved. And moved again...and again. You know how the life of a missionary is!

Then one day it came. A fat envelope arrived in our post office box, covered back and front with forwarding addresses and stamps. We opened it up to find a 10-page letter! The eager young boy we had known had matured into a successful businessman. Since we had last seen Shao Feng, he’d studied, traveled abroad, and experienced many changes in his life. He’d known happiness and sadness, love and loneliness. China herself had passed through nearly as many changes as had our friend—from Tiananmen



Square, to economic reforms and the current open-door policy to the outside world.

Shao Feng wrote that he'd found a measure of success in his work and adventure in his life, yet hunger and yearning for something more remained deep in his heart. He realized after many years of futile attempts that such emptiness could only be filled by God's love. Could we help him, he asked, regain that peace he had once found by the river so long ago?

It would be several more years, a number of letters and phone calls, as well as moving our family to China, before we would actually meet face to face again. Searching the crowds that happy day in the hotel

lobby, we found those same bright smiling eyes. We thought we would burst from happiness, thanking the Lord over and over for bringing us back together again.

As we sat at a table in a quiet restaurant, filling each other in on the details of all that had transpired since we'd seen each other last, Shao Feng pulled a crumpled packet from his suit jacket. Gingerly unfolding the worn paper which had been carefully reinforced with tape along the creases, we saw a dog-eared poster proclaiming "What Everybody Needs Is Love!"

"Over the years, whenever I was discouraged I'd read that and think of you. It gave me peace. I carry it with me

wherever I go." He also pulled the many letters and notes we had written him from the packet, and told us how much each one had meant to him.

Shao Feng is now studying God's Word and learning more about the Man he met by the river so many years ago.

Every hungry heart shall be filled, and they that seek shall find (Luke 1:53; Matthew 7:8). Almost everywhere we look, we see other young people who remind us of the boy we met by the river so many years ago. They also search for hope, truth and a purpose in life. The Man of Love is waiting to come into their lives too. We pray we'll be able to lead many of them to Him. □

The probability of life originating from accident is comparable to the probability of the unabridged dictionary resulting from an explosion in a printing shop.

—Edwin Conklin  
(1863–1952), American zoologist

That the universe was formed by a fortuitous concourse of atoms, I will no more believe than that the accidental jumbling of the alphabet would fall into a most ingenious treatise of philosophy.

—Jonathan Swift  
(1667–1745), Irish-born English writer

I could prove God statistically! Take the human body alone. The chance that all the functions of the individual would just happen is a statistical monstrosity!

—George Gallup  
(1901–1984), American statistician

what are the chances ...?



## GET THE MESSAGE?

Chemist Charles Thaxton makes a compelling argument for Intelligent Design. Reduced to simplest terms, his argument goes like this: The DNA molecule, which is the basis of life, is a message—information coded in a double helix. It's not *like* a message; it *is* a message. The molecule itself is an elaborate, complex design that is a message—and when there's a message, an intelligence had to create that message. "We know from experience that when there is a design, there is a designer," Thaxton concludes.

(*The Mystery of Life's Origin* by Charles B. Thaxton, Walter L. Bradley, and Roger L. Olsen. [Dallas: Lewis and Stanley, 1984].)

*God's creative activity went far beyond the minimum requirements for getting the job done. Butterflies in the rain forest seldom seen by human eye are creatures of breathtaking beauty. The delicate transparency of the man-of-war and the hummingbird's wings are inimitable.*

—LeRoy Koopman

*All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen.*

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

## THE BEST WAY TO FIND GOD'S WILL



### IS TO SAY "I WILL" TO GOD!

*By David Brandt Berg*

God may give us our choice, but He alone knows what's best. He also wants only what's best for us and others, so the smartest thing we can do is learn to always ask Him what to do.

The first requirement for finding out what God wants is to have no will of our own. We need to surrender our body, mind, and will to Him, so He can override our previous mindsets and help us see things as He does. Then and only then will we know "what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:1–2).

If you're God's child and you're letting Him do the choosing, what's He going to choose for you? He's going to choose what's best—the unbeatable choice!

*He knows, He loves, He cares;  
Nothing His truth can dim.  
He gives the very best to those  
Who leave the choice with Him.*

### HOW TO FIND THE WILL OF GOD

#### **The prerequisite—submit your will to the Lord:**

Luke 22:42  
John 5:30  
John 6:38  
John 7:17  
Romans 12:1–2

#### **The first place to look for God's will is in His Word:**

Psalms 119:105  
Psalms 119:130  
2 Timothy 3:16

#### **God sometimes reveals His will through prophecy and revelations:**

1 Kings 19:12  
Ezekiel 3:10–11  
Acts 10:19–20

#### **God sometimes reveals His will through dreams:**

Job 33: 15–17  
Genesis 15:12–16  
Genesis 20:2–7  
Genesis 31:22–24  
Matthew 1:20–21

#### **Seek godly counsel:**

Proverbs 11:14  
Proverbs 15:22  
2 Corinthians 13:1

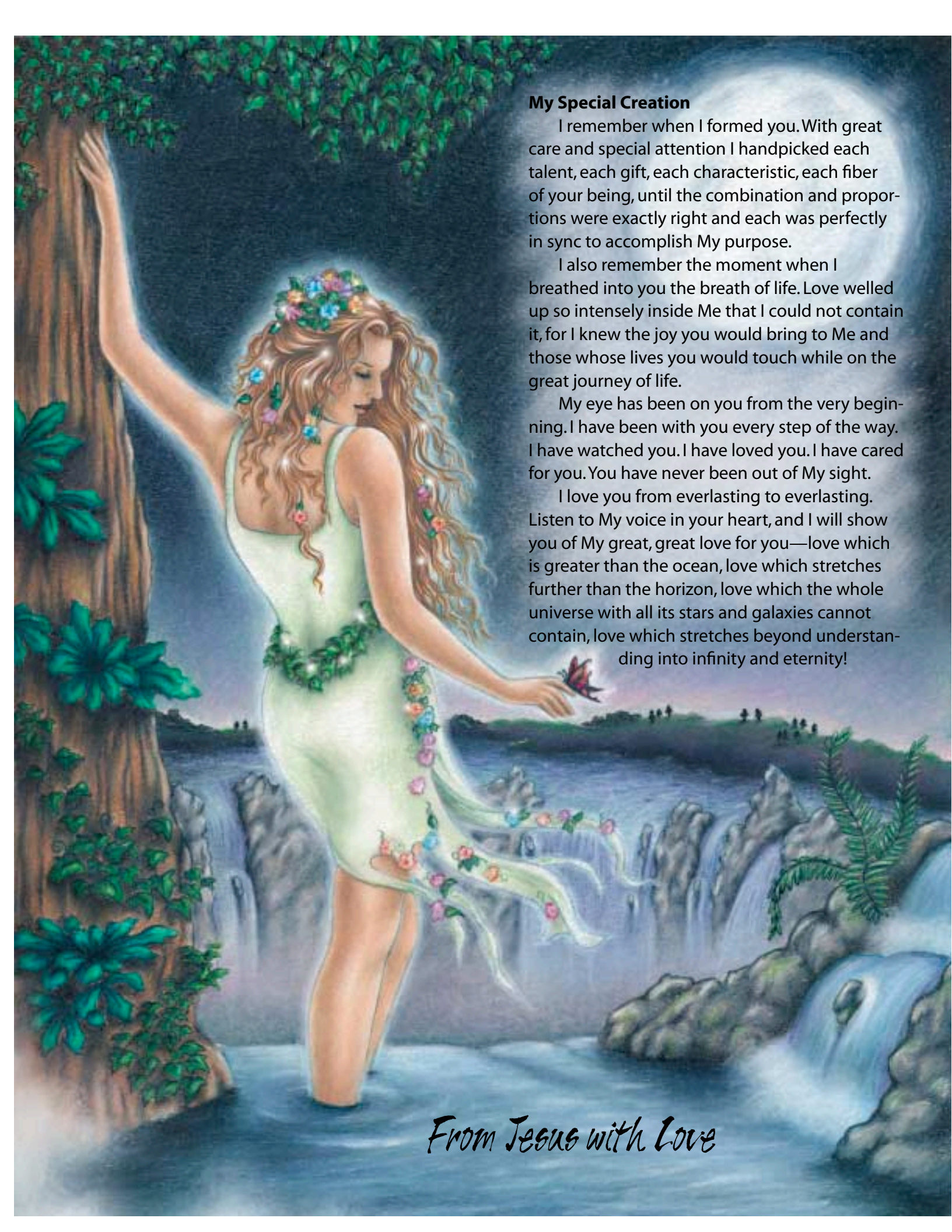
#### **Consider obvious circumstances:**

2 Samuel 5:22–25  
1 Kings 17:1–9  
Mark 14:12–16

#### **Ask for confirming signs:**

Genesis 24:14  
1 Samuel 14:8–10

feeding reading



### **My Special Creation**

I remember when I formed you. With great care and special attention I handpicked each talent, each gift, each characteristic, each fiber of your being, until the combination and proportions were exactly right and each was perfectly in sync to accomplish My purpose.

I also remember the moment when I breathed into you the breath of life. Love welled up so intensely inside Me that I could not contain it, for I knew the joy you would bring to Me and those whose lives you would touch while on the great journey of life.

My eye has been on you from the very beginning. I have been with you every step of the way. I have watched you. I have loved you. I have cared for you. You have never been out of My sight.

I love you from everlasting to everlasting. Listen to My voice in your heart, and I will show you of My great, great love for you—love which is greater than the ocean, love which stretches further than the horizon, love which the whole universe with all its stars and galaxies cannot contain, love which stretches beyond understanding into infinity and eternity!

*From Jesus with Love*