
Book Review

Undeniable –How Biology Confirms Our Intuition That Life Is Designed,

by Douglas Axe. New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers, 2016. 304 pages, hardcover, \$25.99.

This book's subtitle reads "How biology confirms our intuition". The premise is that intuitively we know the origin of life cannot be the result of random processes over a really long period of time. So one of the basic premises of evolutionary biology goes against our intuition.

Dr. Axe says, "Tasks that we would need knowledge to accomplish can be accomplished only by someone with knowledge." This should be obvious, but those who support a materialistic theory of evolution deny that it applies to the development of life.

Axe specializes in protein chemistry, specifically looking at enzymes. He shows that changing from a useful enzyme to a different but related enzyme is statistically impossible. There is not enough time even in the longest available evolutionary time table to account for the life as we know it. His experiments with enzymes confirm this. Even the simplest changes require too many steps to be possible. On page 57 he calculates that to get an amino acid sequence that will function as an enzyme, there will be 10 to the 74th power bad sequences that will not function. Pages 81 and following look at two enzymes that are very similar and how long it would take for one to evolve into the other. This is a relatively simple change compared to the origin of life as we see it today. Yet through mutation Axe and his coworker could find no evidence that one enzyme could evolve to another.

I have this against the book: It is not until the second to last chapter that it identifies God as the designer. Even then the author describes God as guiding evolution over a really long time. This denies the Genesis account that our Savior affirmed and it eliminates the first Adam which Paul told us about.

I found the book interesting and useful, even though I was disappointed that it did not follow God's clear revelation. It is probably not necessary for your creation library, but does provide food for thought.

James A. Sehloff

