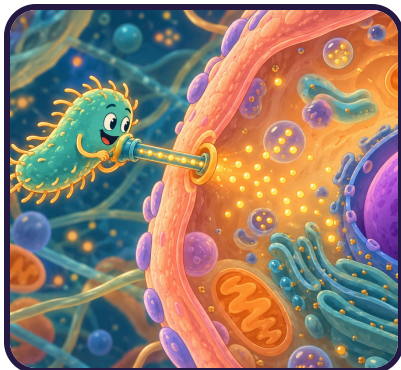




BIG QUESTION

Could evolution build the cell's machines?

In the 1872 edition of *The Origin of Species*, Charles Darwin wrote that if any complex organ “could not possibly have been formed by numerous, successive, slight modifications, my theory would absolutely break down.” In 1996, the biochemist Michael Behe said some of the cell's machines are “irreducibly complex”: take away one part, and they stop working, like a mousetrap with no hammer. His main example is a germ's motor.

In 2004, Kenneth Miller replied that some of the motor's parts look like a tiny syringe, and in 2006 Mark Pallen and Nicholas Matzke sketched how the motor might have been pieced together from older parts. Behe answered that parts that look alike aren't a tested path. In 2007 he pointed to malaria, which needed at least two mutations working together to resist chloroquine.

**Time line**

Number these from 1 to 5, from earliest to latest. The story has the dates.

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Behe calls some of the cell's machines “irreducibly complex.”

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Pallen and Matzke sketch how the motor might have been pieced together.

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Darwin writes that his theory “would absolutely break down.”

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Behe points to malaria and chloroquine.

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Kenneth Miller points to the tiny syringe.

Memory verse

“Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.”

John 1:3

Fill it in: “Through him all _____ were made;
_____ him _____ was made that has
been made.” John 1:3

I can say it! ☆ ☆ ☆ Color a star each time you say it.

Talk about it

1. Darwin named a test for his own theory. Why is that a fair way to argue?
2. What's the difference between parts that look alike and a path that's been tested, one step at a time?
3. Revelation 4:11 says God created all things. If he made you, what does it mean to belong to him?



Watch the video