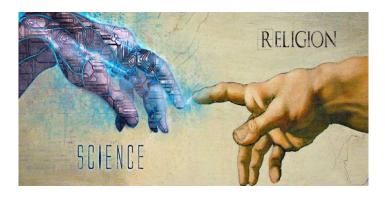
Faith & Reason

Has Science Discovered God? (Part 2 of 3)



The scientific method looks to evidence to settle questions, and the Catholic church has a long history of scientific achievement such as: Clocks, barometers, telescopes, microscopes, scientific fields such as magnetism, optics and electricity. The church has theorized about the circulation of the blood, the possibility of flight, the way the moon affects the tides, the nature of light, even the introduction of plus and minus signs into Italian mathematics.

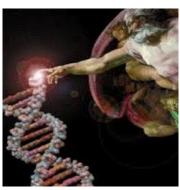
Historically, Catholics are numbered among the most important scientists of all time. Including; Rene Descartes, who discovered analytic geometry, Blaise Pascal invented the adding machine, hydraulic press, and the mathematical theories of probability. Augustinian priest, Gregor Mendel, founded modern genetics, Alexander Fleming, invented penicillin, Louis Pasteur, founded microbiology and created the first vaccine for rabies and Anthrax. Nicolaus Copernicus developed the view that the earth rotated around the sun.

Werner Arber, a Swiss microbiologist and geneticist, shared the 1978 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. He was appointed President of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences in January 2011 by Pope Benedict XVI. Arber says, "I know that the concept of God helped me to master many questions in life; it guides me in critical situations, and I see it confirmed in many deep insights into the beauty of the functioning of the world."

Robert Jastrow, in his book, "God and The Astronomers," describes the discoveries of recent years and the theological implications by science into mankind's place in the cosmos. He writes of the shock and despair experienced by scientists who thought they had squeezed God out of their world. He said, "for the scientist who has lived by his faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountains of ignorance and as he is about to conquer the highest peak, he pulls himself over the final rock and is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries."

Francis Collins, MD, PhD, Director of the Human Genome Project led a team of scientists who read over three billion letters of the human DNA. He has received The National Medal of Science, and the American Presidential Medal of freedom. He writes, "I am a scientist and a believer, and I find no conflict between those world views." As a Christian, Collins sees DNA as "God's language and the elegance and complexity of our own bodies and nature, as a reflection of God's plan." As a former atheist, Collins found that it was impossible to go on living in a state of skepticism and disbelief.





Collins asks, "Can you pursue both an understanding of how life works using the tools of genetics and molecular biology, and worship a creator? Can a scientist believe in miracles like the resurrection?" He says yes, "I have found there is a wonderful harmony in the complementary truths of science and faith. The God of the Bible is also the God of the genome. God can be found in the cathedral or in the laboratory."

Sources: CNN.com/ why this scientist believes in God www.pewforum.org/2009/11/05/scientists-and-belief www.catholiceducation.org/en/science/catholic-contributions/thechurch-opposes-science-the-myth-of-catholic-irrationality.html