Of creationism and stem cells

Richard B. Anderson, MD

Once upon a time, a long time ago, primitive man looked to God for comfort and understanding of the terrible plagues and illnesses that beset mankind. This of course was long before there became different religions, each with their own God. Here again each religion sought comfort in their God and all respected their fellow man as well as tolerance for each other.

Even longer ago, God created man in his own image and placed him on earth. This was a very brilliant idea (experiment) that God figured out how to do. I suppose we could call this creation a scientific experiment or “intelligent design” that God performed. This scientific success was of course later referred to as cloning.

Shortly, God realized that the man he had created (cloned) was alone on earth and could not survive. Therefore, God tried a new experiment to create a companion for man (Adam). Being a very clever and intelligent fellow, God took a piece of Adam’s rib (stem cells) and created a woman (Eve) who was similar yet different from Adam.

Now, the early child descendants of Adam and Eve learned how to survive and gather information concerning their environment from their parents and teachers. They were able to experiment and form their own opinions, some of which enriched their lives while others were mistakes and forgotten.

Now children have always loved to ask questions and to explore new ideas (experiments). They are encouraged to do so by their parents and teachers.

Today’s children are probably wondering why their parents are arguing over whether or not it is right for scientific researchers to use stem cells in order to cure illnesses and make life better for the man God cloned in his own image and the woman God created from the stem cells of man’s rib.

Well the answer to the question, of course, is it is the right thing to do. God did it to show the scientists how!

I suppose we could call this creation a scientific experiment or “intelligent design” that God performed.

At first God thought he may have made a mistake by just taking a piece of Adam’s rib/stem cells; however, God realized that the two individuals he had created began to like each other and after a while (with a few mistakes/sins) learned to make an individual on their own that combined the characteristics of both parents.

Now, the early child descendants of Adam and Eve learned how to survive and gather information concerning their environment from their parents and teachers. They were able to experiment and form their own opinions, some of which

Doctor Anderson is an emeritus professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. Please address correspondence to: Richard Anderson, MD, 5605 Mendota Dr, Middleton, WI 53562; phone 608.231.2752.
The mission of the *Wisconsin Medical Journal* is to provide a vehicle for professional communication and continuing education of Wisconsin physicians.

The *Wisconsin Medical Journal* (ISSN 1098-1861) is the official publication of the Wisconsin Medical Society and is devoted to the interests of the medical profession and health care in Wisconsin. The managing editor is responsible for overseeing the production, business operation and contents of the *Wisconsin Medical Journal*. The editorial board, chaired by the medical editor, solicits and peer reviews all scientific articles; it does not screen public health, socioeconomic or organizational articles. Although letters to the editor are reviewed by the medical editor, all signed expressions of opinion belong to the author(s) for which neither the *Wisconsin Medical Journal* nor the Society take responsibility. The *Wisconsin Medical Journal* is indexed in Index Medicus, Hospital Literature Index and Cambridge Scientific Abstracts.

For reprints of this article, contact the *Wisconsin Medical Journal* at 866.442.3800 or e-mail wmj@wismed.org.

© 2006 Wisconsin Medical Society