

Jacob's Dream and Something for Scientists?

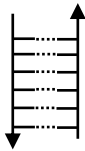
When God speaks, He speaks the truth to us in whatever way we can best understand. (Remember Pentecost?) Sometimes, it's in a song, sometimes in the gentle stirring of the wind, sometimes...well, in Jacob's case, sometimes in a dream. "Truth" is something that goes beyond time, itself, so perhaps, it may mean different things to different people at different times in history. Jacob lived in the far distant past, but we are here, today. In 2020 A.D. (sometimes called 2020 C.E.).

We're all familiar with dreams, but many of us aren't so familiar with the modern day concepts of DNA. Scientists who study DNA "live" in that world. (It's what they do for a living.) Is there any truth in the book of Genesis for them? Let's find out...

DNA houses the basic hereditary material of a cell, so, picture this:

DNA is a double helix.

Its structure is often thought of as a stair, but it's more like an escalator found in many department stores. Why an escalator? Because the DNA railings are what's known as "anti-parallel"; the "outside rails" run both up and down, as seen in the following diagram:



The hydrogen bonds on a DNA molecule (i.e., the dotted lines in the above figure) are like the area between the up and down sides of an escalator. They hold everything together.

However, DNA is a helix and, since I've never seen a circular escalator, we'll just picture it as an up and down staircase, as shown above, which is how most people picture it in today's world, anyway (although I do wonder how such an escalator might work...).

DNA is very small in stature; but in order to fit inside the nucleus of a cell, this DNA must be made even smaller than an outstretched "ladder", as shown above; It must be "condensed"...and the first step in condensation is to wrap the DNA around a nucleosome and secure it with an H1 histone. (See Chapter 5. Packing and Prophase in "Noah in a Cellular World: Mitosis" 2nd Edition.)

Each nucleosome is like a very, very tiny "Noah's ark", much smaller than the "spindle ark" found in a cell going through mitosis.

The “nucleosome ark” consists of 4 positively charged pairs of histones (i.e., the Noah family—Noah, Shem, Ham, Japheth, and their wives) in the form of

- (1) 4 pairs of positively charged histones (H2A, H2B, H3 and H4)
and
- (2) 147 negatively charged animal DNA base pairs, gathered around the Noah family histones
and
- (3) all of this is secured by a “winged” linker histone”: H1. In other word, the Histone Ark is sealed shut by (what Joseph would have seen as) an “angel”.

And there are many angels moving up and down the “stair” (i.e., many “arks” secured by angels). Joseph named the place where he saw this stair case “Bethel”, meaning “House of God”...and, indeed, DNA is a house consisting of all the attributes of our earthly existence. He went on to live to the ripe old age of 147 years. (Was this so that we wouldn’t forget how many base pairs of animal DNA each angel secured?)

When God speaks to us, it changes everything: mentally, physically, spiritually. Size doesn’t matter. God’s House can be any size He wants it to be. Even something smaller than a cell, if that’s what He wants. (Doesn’t He know each hair on your head? [Luke 12:7])

In the book of Genesis, first, there was Adam, then Seth, then Enos (Enosh),..., eventually, there was Jacob, and finally there was Joseph: 23 names, completing one trip through the book of Genesis; each one paired with a wife.

23 male chromosomes, completing one trip through human DNA. Each one was paired with a female chromosome.

Since God speaks to us in whatever way we can best understand—even to those whose entire lives seem to be “lived” in the study of a single cell--perhaps, Jacob’s dream was meant to be understood by them...so that none of God’s children should be lost.