



- Introduction – Brad really excited about a protein called laminin
 - He was in a hurry to get somewhere, but I remember him being overwhelmed with awe of God and excitement about a video that the youth had watched in which Louie Giglio had spoken about “laminin.” He told me that I absolutely needed to check it out.
 - Wikipedia – “Laminins are a family of glycoproteins that are an integral part of the structural scaffolding in almost every tissue of an organism.” In other words, Laminin is quite literally the glue that holds our bodies together. Without it, we would literally fall apart.
 - Still, if you’ve never seen a molecule of laminin, you are probably thinking, “So what’s the big deal?”
 - Here is what laminin, the substance that holds our bodies together, looks like... (Advance slide to the first picture of laminin.)
 - And here is laminin as seen through a microscope... (Advance slide)
 - Clearly, God’s glory is magnified when we seek to know Him through what He has made.
- **Big Idea: The wise are those who seek the Lord in all things.**
- Read Matthew 2:1-12. Pray.

I. The wise seek the Lord through science.

A. God makes Himself known in Creation.

1. Psalm 19:1-6.

2. Since science is the observation and study of Creation (or, as secular scientists would call it, “the natural world), God reveals Himself through Science.

a. In 1996, Dan Graves wrote a book entitled *Scientists of Faith: Forty-Eight Biographies of Historic Scientists and Their Christian Faith*. On the back cover Graves tells the reason why he wrote the book:

“Secular thought often portrays religion as the enemy of science, but the truth is that many of the world's greatest scientific discoveries were made by persons of faith, seeking to honor God and His creation. *Scientists of Faith* relates the personal stories of forty-eight [Christian] scientists and provides a brief overview of each person's contribution in their own particular field. Included are such notables as Johannes Kepler, Blaise Pascal, Michael Faraday, Gregor Mendel, and George Washington Carver.”

Graves writes, “Christians and the Christian worldview were crucial to the formation of the early sciences.... They began their search for truth with the assumption that God exists, that His Word is true, and that He has created an orderly universe that reveals Himself. [There is] irrefutable evidence of the historic link between the Christian faith and the advancement of science through the centuries.”

b. This truth about the foundations of modern science belies common atheist assertions that reason opposes Christian faith, including the substantial advertising campaign atheists launched this Christmas season.

-- **Pictures of the advertisements: #1, #2, #3**

c. Atheism is not as reasonable as it claims to be.

-- **Expelled clip**

Francis Crick, Nobel Prize winner for co-discovering the DNA Molecule (with James Watson), claimed life came to be according to a theory called “Directed Panspermia,” in which he claims that “Life on earth began when intelligent life in the universe intentionally seeded other planets with their own form of life.” Regarding Crick’s theory, the IDEA (Intelligent Design and Evolution Awareness) Center writes:

“[This theory is] advocated by Francis Crick in his book *Life Itself*. Dr. Crick speculates that a race of space aliens seeking to find a home for forms of life on their dying planet could shoot life into space on rockets, hoping to seed the universe with life. Perhaps a rocket landed on earth. Of course this is a totally untestable and unfalsifiable hypothesis--but critics have stated that it is unlikely that life could have survived such a trip through space. However, what is more interesting about this hypothesis is its reasons for being proposed.

“Crick basically proposed directed panspermia because he looked at the state of origin of life theories on earth, and determined that it was highly unlikely that life could have originated naturally on earth. Indeed, many advocates

of panspermia do so because they believe that life could not have originated on earth (see Crick, F. H. C. and Orgel, L. E., 1973, *Icarus*, 19, 341.). Crick, an atheist, then turned to outer space to preserve a naturalistic mechanism for the origin of life on earth. Thus, this theory is interestingly the result of one scientist who rejected mainstream naturalistic theories on the origin of life. The theory itself appears to have a religious motivation: to escape belief in a Creator-God... Crick's hypothesis only shifts back the question, "Well how did the aliens come to exist?" Perhaps Crick hopes that conditions on their planet were more favorable for naturalistic evolution, so that a fully naturalistic account of life on earth could be retained. Such an untestable hope is clearly the result of philosophy and faith—not data." 3. The consequences of failing to see God in science, as expressed in Romans 1:18-32, are absolutely tragic.

a. Could these words be any truer of our culture?

b. Romans 1:18-32 is not one mere possibility. It is the unavoidable outcome of purely secular science.

B. Through their study of astronomy, the Magi found Christ (v. 1-2).

1. These Magi were most likely astronomers.

2. Through their careful study of the skies, these Magi observed an exciting new star that led them to Jerusalem to inquire of Herod about the newborn King of the Jews.

3. Their studies of science led them to worship the Lord.

C. The truly wise consider Creation in order to worship our Creator.

1. As it was for the first scientists and as it was for the Wise Men, so it should be for you and me.

2. Our studies of Creation should reveal God to us and draw our minds nearer to Him in faith, service, love, and worship.

II. The wise seek the Lord through Scripture.

A. God makes himself known in His Word.

1. Psalm 19:7-11

2. In the Old Testament, God had already revealed the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

a. Matthew 1:21-23 quotes Isaiah 7:14

b. Matthew 2:6 quotes Micah 5:2

B. Looking to Scripture to learn about God is the best and surest path to wisdom (v. 4-6).

1. Scripture is the only place where we are guaranteed to find unblemished truth about God and His will.

a. Our understandings and interpretations of Creation can be misguided.

- b. God's Word, however, is perfectly inerrant and infallible instruction for our lives.
- 2. The chief priests and teachers of the Law looked to Micah 5:2 to learn about the birthplace of the coming King.
- C. Looking to Scripture in order to advance one's own selfish agenda, like Herod did, is foolish at best (v. 8, 16-18).
 - 1. Herod was not seeking *God* through Scripture; he was motivated by pride and seeking his *own* power (v. 3-8, 16-18).
 - 2. When we go to Scripture, what is our goal? To submit to it or to twist it for our own purposes?
 - There are many elaborate attempts to make impossible arguments from Scripture, such as: "God doesn't mind abortion," or "homosexuality is approved in Scripture," or "all religions worship the same God."
- D. The wise seek God and His will in the Scriptures.

III. The wise seek the Lord through sacrifice.

- A. We cannot grow in wisdom unless we surrender to God.
 - 1. Ezekiel 14:3 (NLT) – *"Son of man, these leaders have set up idols in their hearts. They have embraced things that lead them into sin. Why should I let them ask me anything?"*
 - 2. Matthew 7:24-27 – *"Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."*
 - 3. Herod had heard God's Word, but he was so hungry for power that he refused to submit to the message of God's King. He missed true life by trying to hold on to a life that could never last.
- B. God reveals Himself to those who are completely committed to Him.
 - 1. Psalm 19:12-14 – (The picture of an undivided heart)
 - 2. Psalm 86:11 – *"Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name."*
 - a. Notice why David wants an undivided heart: So that he may fear God's name.
 - b. Psalm 111:10 – *"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise."*

c. We will only grow in true wisdom when our hearts are fully devoted to knowing God and doing His will.

3. Jeremiah 29:13 – *“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”*

C. Growing in wisdom requires a sacrificial spirit.

1. The Wise Men are still celebrated today, not because they saw a star, but because they made great sacrifices to follow it and worship Christ.

a. They gave costly gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

b. They sacrificed their time and energy (this journey may have taken two years to complete).

c. These Wise Men sacrificed their lives in order to journey to Jesus. *Will you?*

2. We will never really know God and live for Him until we are willing to give Him our all.

a. Luke 9:23-24 – *“If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it.”*

b. Romans 12:1 – *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.”*

-- In summary, then...

-- Because God is the Creator, we can see Him in Creation. Wise men, therefore, seek the Lord through science.

-- Because the Bible is God-breathed, we know God through His Word. Wise men, therefore, seek the Lord through Scripture.

-- Because Christ sacrificed His life for us, we will grow in wisdom only when we are willing to sacrifice everything to follow Him.