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June 2024 “Developing Kingdom Thinking”

Dear Friend,

In my April letter I wrote about artificial intelligence and how it may be involved with end-time prophecy. This month I am sharing additional information I believe you will find quite interesting. I had intended to condense the following research but decided it best to simply reprint it here. You can find this May 10, 2024, article by Dallin Grimm at this website: <https://www.tomshardware.com/tech-industry/full-scan-of-1-cubic-millimeter-of-brain-tissue-took-14-petabytes-of-data-equivalent-to-14000-full-length-4k-movies> (Please note that tomshardware.com, Dallin Grimm, Google, or Harvard University have no connection with our ministry.)

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Mind-Boggling Mind Research

A recent attempt to fully map a mere cubic millimeter of a human brain took up 1.4 petabytes of storage just in pictures of the specimen. A collaborative effort between Harvard researchers and Google AI experts took the deepest dive yet into neural mapping with the recent full imaging and mapping of the brain sample, making puzzling discoveries and utilizing incredible technology. We did the back-of-napkin math on what ramping up this experiment to the entire brain would cost, and the scale is impossibly large — 1.6 zettabytes of storage costing \$50 billion and spanning 140 acres, making it the largest data center on the planet.

The study is full of mind-numbing stats. To image a human brain, the researchers needed to utilize Google's machine learning tech, shaving estimated years off of the project. Scientists first sliced the sample into 5000 wafers orders of magnitude thinner than human hair. Electron microscope images were taken of each slice, which were recombined to count around 50,000 cells and 150 million synapses, the connection points where neurons meet and interact. To recombine these images and map the fibers and cells accurately, Google's AI imaging tech had to be used, digitally working out the routes of the gray matter.

The synthesized images revealed many exciting secrets about the brain that were previously totally unknown — some cell clusters grew in mirror images of one another, one neuron was found with 5,000+ connection points to other neurons, and some axons (signal-carrying ends of nerves) had become tightly coiled into yarn ball shapes for totally unknown reasons. These and other discoveries made in the course of research excited their scientists beyond reason. Jeff Lichtman, a Harvard professor said to The Guardian on the project, "We found many things in this dataset that are not in the textbooks. We don't understand those things, but I can tell you they suggest there's a chasm between what we already know and what we need to know."

For context on the size of the brain sample and the data collected from it, we need to get into mind-numbingly colossal numbers. The cubic millimeter of brain matter is only one-millionth of the size of an adult human brain, and yet the imaging scans and full map of its intricacies

comprises 1.4 petabytes, or 1.4 million gigabytes. If someone were to utilize the Google/Harvard approach to mapping an entire human brain today, the scans would fill up 1.6 zettabytes of storage.

Taking these logistics further, storing 1.6 zettabytes on the cheapest consumer hard drives (assuming \$0.03 per GB) would cost a cool \$48 billion, and that's without any redundancy. The \$48 billion price tag does not factor in the cost of server hardware to put the drives in, networking, cooling, power, and a roof to put over this prospective data center. The roof in question will also have to be massive; assuming full server racks holding 1.8 PB, the array of racks needed to store the full imaging of a human brain would cover over 140 acres if smushed together as tightly as possible. This footprint alone, without any infrastructure, would make Google the owner of one of the top 10 largest data centers in the world, even approaching (if not reaching) the scale of Microsoft and OpenAI's planned \$100 billion AI data center.

All of this is to say the human brain is an impossibly dense and very smart piece of art, and the act of mapping it would be both impossibly expensive (we didn't even begin to guess how long it would take) and likely foolish. Just because mapping is done does not mean that scientists would know what to do with the maps, as just the one-millionth piece of the brain we have mapped will pose questions for researchers for likely years to come. Thankfully, we apparently don't need to know everything about the brain to start meddling with it; in case you missed it, Elon Musk's Neuralink has begun rolling out to very early adopters. And if you want more on Google's efforts in the AI space, OpenAI is not playing very nice with them today.

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I agree that the above article gets rather technical at times. To summarize its content: It is impossible for artificial intelligence to fully mimic the abilities or capacities of the human brain. One of the reasons people are impressed by – and even frightened by – artificial intelligence is because they see it as an advancement beyond human capacity. The truth is humans have not unlocked the potential of their own brains. The primary reason for that is due to what happened in Genesis chapter three when Adam sinned against God and corruption was released into all creation. That corruption includes the failure of humans to tap into the immeasurable potential of their own minds.

Another interesting aspect of the research explained in the article is that it actually refutes the theory of evolution. In short, evolutionists tell us that over billions of years some kind of primordial soup developed into sea creatures, which crawled out of the sea to become land creatures, which developed into tree-dwelling primates, which developed into grunting cavemen, who developed into the humans of today. If that were true, wouldn't the evolutionary process have resulted in all the tree-dwelling primates evolving into humans, meaning there would be no more primates? But we still have primates with us today. So, what happened to the evolutionary process causing it to cease?

Furthermore, a person would have to be deceived beyond credible measure to think that a random evolutionary process having no intelligence guiding it could produce the human brain with all its complexities as described in the article above. Even so, schools from the elementary level all the way to the most highly regarded universities teach that all forms of life we see are a result of evolution. One of the arguments pro-evolutionists use is the change that has taken place in various species, claiming these changes are proof of evolution. But is that definitive proof?

You see, there is a huge difference between evolution and adaptation. Adaptation is when a species adapts to accommodate living in a particular environment. Example: My brother served in the United States Air Force and was assigned to Andersen Air Force Base in Guam, a tropical island in the Pacific Ocean. It is a hot, humid climate where the mean high temperature is 86° F. After serving there, he was transferred to Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, our hometown. It was wonderful to have him back with us, except he struggled greatly with the temperatures in Dayton; people here would be walking around in shorts and T-shirts enjoying temperatures in the low-to-mid 70's while he was shivering, bundled up in sweatpants and a sweatshirt with a hood pulled over his head. His body had adapted to the heat and humidity in Guam, and there was no evolution involved.

Another example of non-evolutionary adaptation is one to which we can all relate. When the lights in a room are turned out at night, our eyes immediately begin adapting to the darker environment. At first, we may not be able to see anything; but after adapting, even light from a very small, lit candle helps us see our way around the room.

The whole process of adaptation is also very applicable to Christians.

People do not become Christians through some kind of spiritual evolutionary process. A person becomes a Christian only one way: faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Faith in Jesus causes a person to instantly be spiritually born again, having the spiritual life and nature of God. The moment this happens, the newly born Christian is faced with two conflicting forces within: one is a mindset that has been continually influenced and dominated by circumstances in this fallen world, and the other is the mind of Christ which comes with the born again spirit.

For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ. (1 Corinthians 2:16)

The word “mind” in this verse comes from the Greek word *noús* which means, “the intellectual faculty, the understanding; a particular mode of thinking and judging, i.e. thoughts, feelings, purposes, desires.” In other words, it is the process we use to analyze conditions and circumstances to arrive at a conclusion pertaining to a course of action.

As Christians, we have access to a process of thinking we can use to analyze conditions and circumstances to arrive at a conclusion pertaining to a course of action that aligns with the Kingdom of God and the corresponding action Jesus would take. The problem is that the *noús* of Christ is completely foreign to the *noús* of this fallen world. This, then, is the challenge before all Christians: Will we adapt to the operation of the mind of Christ, or will we continue to allow ourselves to be dominated by the critical thinking of the fallen world?

Mindset 1 – that of the fallen world – says that man must work out problems on his own.

Mindset 2 – the mind of Christ – says, ***5Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. (Proverbs 3:5-6)***

Mindset 1 says there is no such thing as supernatural healing.

Mindset 2 says, ***20My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. 21Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. 22For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. (Proverbs 4:20-22)***

Mindset 1 says the only valid ministries today are those of the evangelist, pastor and teacher.

Mindset 2 says, *7But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. 8Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. 11And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers (Ephesians 4:7-8, 11)*

Mindset 1 challenges the concept of casting out demons and says speaking in tongues is not of God.

Mindset 2 says, *And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; (Mark 16:17)*

Mindset 1 says our material and financial blessings are based on tithing and how much we give in offerings.

Mindset 2 says, *He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? (Romans 8:32)*

Mindset 1 says Christians still have a sin nature.

Mindset 2 says, *And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. (Ephesians 4:24)*

Becoming a Christian does not remove the fallen world mindset. Rather, it gives us an alternative mindset that is the same as what Jesus had when He was on Earth. That is why it is called the mind of Christ. The mind of Christ is fully aligned with the Kingdom mindset of God. Further, the mind of Christ is fully aligned with scripture. Yes, there is a major difference between the fallen world nous and the nous of Christ.

8For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. 9For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. 10For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: 11So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. (Isaiah 55:8-11)

God's thoughts and His Word are synonymous. Jesus was the Word made flesh (John 1:14). Christians have the mind of Christ, or a nous that is directly connected to the Word of God. Therefore, in order for a Christian to live by every Word that comes from God (Matthew 4:4), it is imperative that God's Word becomes a diligent pursuit.

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind (Ephesians 4:23)

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. (Romans 12:2)

The only way we can develop a Kingdom way of thinking and no longer remain conformed to a fallen world mindset is to sow and sow and sow the Word of God into our mind, As this is done, the mind of Christ way of thinking and analyzing situations will begin dominating the fallen

world way of thinking and analyzing what we encounter. His Word will truly be the spiritual scalpel that separates the worldly mind from the Kingdom mind (Hebrews 4:12). We will come to the place of truly believing that God shall supply all our need according to His riches in Glory by Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19). We will not doubt that Jesus took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses (Matthew 4:17). Over time, our mind will be filled more and more with thoughts that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of a good report, virtuous, and praise-worthy (Philippians 4:8). Furthermore, this transformation will also result in supernatural peace that will protect our minds from despair (Isaiah 26:3, Philippians 4:6-7).

As Christians, we have the life of Christ. Now, we absolutely must adapt our way of thinking so that it is fully compatible with the mind of Christ. As the Apostle Paul wrote to the Philippian church, ***Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus (Philippians 2:5)***

In His Grace,

Jim

P.S. – I have additional teaching on this subject in a sermon titled, *A Tale of Two Minds*. Use the order form below to order a CD of that sermon.

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