

mar 7

the cross in our bodies

"for by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones, or dominions, or rulers, or authorities – all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." col 1:16-17 nasb

this is a pretty neat story and an interesting thing that few of us know. it's brief and from a doctor.

a couple of days ago i was running (i use that term very loosely) on my treadmill, watching a DVD sermon by louie giglio... and i was blown away. i want to share what i learned. but i fear not being able to convey it as well as i want. i will share it anyway.

he (louie) was talking about how inconceivably big our God is; how He spoke the universe into being; how He breathes stars out of His mouth that are huge raging balls of fire, etc. etc. then He went on to speak of how this star-breathing, universe creating God also knitted our human bodies together with amazing detail and wonder. at this point i am loving it (fascinating from a medical standpoint, you know.) and i was remembering how i was constantly amazed during medical school as i learned more and more about God's handiwork. i remember so many times thinking... 'how can anyone deny that a Creator did all of this?

louie went on to talk about how we can trust that the God who created all this, also has the power to hold it all together when things seem to be falling apart... how our loving Creator is also our sustainer.

and then i lost my breath. and it wasn't because i was running my treadmill, either! it was because he started talking about laminin. i knew about laminin. here is how Wikipedia describes them: 'laminins are a family of proteins that are an integral part of the structural scaffolding of basement membranes in almost every animal tissue.' you see, laminins are what hold us together, literally. they are cell adhesion molecules. they are what holds one cell of our bodies to the next cell. without them, we would literally fall apart. and i knew all this already. but what i didn't know is what they looked like.

but now i do. and i have thought about it a thousand times since (already). here is what the structure of laminin looks like. (and this is not a christian portrayal of it.) if you look up laminin in any scientific/medical piece of literature, this is what you will see.

now tell me that our God is not the coolest! amazing. the glue that holds us together, all of us, is in the shape of the cross.

call me crazy. i just think that is very, very cool. thousands of years before the world knew anything about laminin, paul penned these words from colossians 1:17 - "He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." and now we see that from a very literal

standpoint, we are held together. one cell to another.
by the cross.

you would never in a quadrillion years convince me that
is anything other than the mark of a Creator who knew
exactly what laminin 'glue' would look like long before
adam breathed his first breath!

we christians already know our God is amazing. it's
just that everyday, as we explore the wonder of Him
more and more, as our eyes are opened to His goodness
and glory, as we come to realize His holiness and how
far we have fallen from it, our spirit seeks new
outlets to express the love and gratitude than yearns
to come forth from us; knowing words alone could never
suffice.