



ERIC LYONS

Thave always loved dogs. I am thankful that **L**God chose to create dogs. In my lifetime, I have owned several different dogs. I remember getting my first dog (a mixed-breed named Frosty) when I was four. I have fond memories of all the fun I had in middle school with my German Shepherd named Lady. I frequently recall the weird ways of Mitzy, the peculiar (but friendly) poodle I had when I was in high school and college.

> I have fond memories of all of the dogs I've ever owned. My dogs kept me company when I was alone. They calmed me when I was stressed. They lifted my spirit when I was sad. Dogs can be wonderful animals to have around. They can be trained to do amazing things (check out the article on the back of this issue of *Discovery*). Aren't you glad that God created animals that can be so helpful and enjoyable?

> > We need to be careful, how-

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ever, not to think more of dogs than we should. Though dogs may be "man's best friend," we must keep in mind that dogs are just animals. They are not created in the "image of God" as humans are (Genesis 1:26-28), and they do not have an immortal soul as humans have (Matthew 10:28; Luke 16:19-31). Although we may become very attached to our dogs, we must keep in mind that the value of a dog in no way compares to that of a human.

Whereas many people seem to put their love and admiration for dogs on nearly the same level as their affection for people, God does not give these animals such value. One Bible encyclopedia called International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia summed up the Bible's references to dogs in the following way: "References to the dog, both in the Old Testament and in the New Testament, are usually of a contemptuous character. A dog, and especially a dead dog, is used as a figure of insignificance." Simply put, God does not attach great importance to dogs (or any animal for that matter).

As early as Genesis chapter one, God revealed that humans are on a higher level than the rest of God's creation.

> Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have **dominion** over the fish of the sea. over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth...." Then God blessed them, and God said to them,

"Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have do**minion** over the fish of the sea. over the birds of the air, and **over** every living thing that moves on the earth" (Genesis 1:26,28).

Since the time of Adam and Eve, God gave His image-bearers (humans) the right to rule over all of the creation. Until Jesus returns and this world is burned up (2 Peter 3:10), God has given man permission to use His creation in order to survive and flourish. In addition to the rocks, minerals, and vegetation that God made for man's benefit, God told Noah that all animals "are given into your hand. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs" (Genesis 9:2-3).

Man not only has been given permission from God to train and work animals, and to kill animals for clothing or sacrifices (Genesis 3:21; 4:4), but also to eat animals—including dogs. As hard as this is for some Americans to admit, dogs are every bit as much an animal as cows, chickens, and pigs. I once asked

a friend of mine from Southeast

Asia what his favorite food back home was. I'll never forget his response. Without hesitating, he said: "black dog."

In America, it is common to eat cows. In other countries (especially India), it can be offensive to eat cows. At the same time, the eating of dog meat is very common in certain cultures. In fact, some people raise dogs, like many Americans raise cows, for the sole purpose of selling them as meat. Though eating dogs might gross you out, in actuality there is nothing wrong with it.

Personally, I don't plan on eating dog anytime soon. But, sometimes dog lovers like myself need to be reminded that even though dogs can make great pets, they are still just animals. They are a part of God's cre-

ation that He gave for man to responsibly subdue, rule over, and,

> if need be (and as gross as this may sound to you), even eat.

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Created Dogo Kyle Butt

God knows everything. When He created the world, He made sure to put the animals and plants on the Earth that were best for His purpose. On day six of Creation, the Bible explains that God created all land living animals (Genesis 1:24). That means on day six, God created dogs, or what we might call the "dog kind." The reason we use the word "kind" is because God did not create all the thousands of types of dog on that day. He did not create Chihuahuas, German Shepherds, pugs, Dalmatians, and all the other dogs we see today. Instead, God created one or a few types of dogs that had all the information in their genes (or DNA) to become the different breeds of dog

that we see today. Let me explain.

Every animal has a special code in its body called DNA. That DNA determines what color the animal will be, how tall or short it will grow, how many legs and arms it will have, and all its other physical characteristics. But in each animal there is "more" information than is "expressed." That means, a black dog might have information in its DNA to be the color red, white, brown, or black, but only the black code is turned on. That is why a black mother dog can have babies that are brown, white, red, or spotted. Her DNA can have the code for all the colors.

Let's say that we wanted dogs that are always brown. How could we get all brown dogs? The answer is really simple. We just take a brown dog and breed it to another brown dog. Then, if those two have puppies that are black, brown, or red, we simply take only the brown ones and breed them to brown dogs. If we do this enough times, we can get rid of the DNA code for black, red, or white, and we will have all brown dogs.

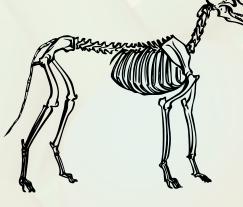
But notice what happened. We started off with a dog that had the DNA code to give us black, brown, red, white, or other colors. After we kept picking the brown ones, we eventually had dogs that **had lost the code for black, white, red, or any other color**. We did not get more DNA code or information. We actually lost information. This is important to know, because people who believe in evolution say that dogs have evolved from lower life forms over millions of years. Evolutionists claim that all the different breeds of dogs are evidence that dogs can evolve and **gain new DNA code**. But that is simply not the case. In fact, the different breeds of dogs prove just the opposite, since new DNA information is never added.

In truth, the different varieties of dogs prove to us that evolution could not have occurred. Here is why. In nature, the Law of Biogenesis says that all animals come from other animals of their own kind. That means that puppies come from mother dogs, kittens come from mother cats, and snakes come from mother snakes. Yet evolutionists tell us that at some point in the past, a "non-dog" gave birth to a dog. But that could not have happened according to the Law of Biogenesis. Not only that, but all dogs that humans have ever seen give birth have always given birth to puppies, never to animals that were part puppy and part kitten, or part puppy and part whale. We might see a brown mother dog give birth to a black puppy, a white puppy, and a brown one. But we have never seen a mother dog give birth to anything other than a puppy!

The Bible explains to us that when God finished creating the world, He said that it was "very good" (Genesis 1:31). When God looked down on His creation, He knew it was the perfect place for humans to learn to love Him. He created all the land living animals on day six, including dogs. Dogs did not evolve over millions of years by adding new DNA information. They were created by the same intelligent Creator Who created humans.



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Dogs are created "in the image of God."

TRUE OR

FALSE

- 2. ____ God created animals on day four of Creation.
- 3. On day six of Creation God created all of the types of dogs we see today, including Chihuahuas, German Shepherds, Dalmatians, and Maltipoos.
- _ Black dogs cannot give birth to white dogs.
- 5. ____ Dogs have been used for many purposes for hundreds of years due to their unique abilities.
- 6. ____ The Bible depicts dogs as "man's best friend."
- 7. ____ Some people around the world like to eat dog meat.
- 8. ____ We should mistreat dogs.
- 9. Jesus died on the cross so that dogs can go to heaven.
- Dogs are a part of God's cre-10.____ ation that He gave for man to responsibly subdue and rule over.

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These dogs are used as guidance dogs for \overline{c}

blind people and for guard dogs for families

3. Dogs that have been used as search and res-

cue dogs for people caught in avalanches

2. Special code in every animal's body

4. Are made "in the image of God"

5. Used war dogs in battle

6. The Creator of all animals

animals of their own kind

8. This false thery breaks the Law

7. Says that all animals come from other

www.DiscoveryMagazine.com 🕼 🛭 COPYRIGHT, APOLOGETICS PRESS, INC., 2010, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED 1. "Then God said, 'Let Us make in Our according to Our likeness; let them have over the fish of the sea.

over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.... Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the _ living thing that air, and over ____ moves on the earth' (Genesis 1:26,28).

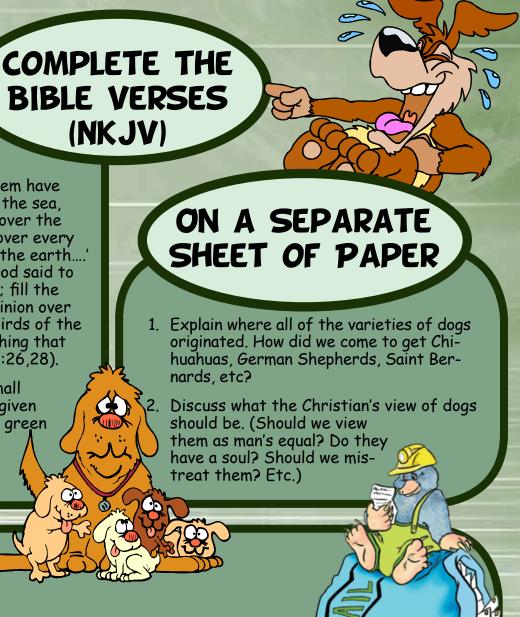
2. "Every moving thing that lives shall for you. I have given be _ things, even as the green you " (Genesis 9:3).

Dear Digger Doug,

Do dogs go to heaven?

Dear Reader,

Several years ago there was a movie titled "All Dogs Go to Heaven." That title brings to mind a very interesting question. Do animals really go to heaven? When God created humans, He made them different from all the animals. He created them "in His image" (Genesis 1:26-27) and He gives each human a soul that will live forever in either heaven or hell. God did not create any of the animals in His image, nor do animals have immortal souls. Even though we may love our dog, cat, hamster, guinea pig, or pet cockroach (yes, people in other countries have very expensive pet cockroaches), those animals do not go to heaven or hell when they die. Animals are like plants, or bacteria, they simply die and that is how their lives end. When we think about that, it makes perfect sense. We know that God does not send dogs to hell for stealing bones from other dogs. He does not send lions to hell for eating gazelles. Nor do animals earn heaven by being obedient to their masters or helping blind people get around. God does not reward oxygen for allowing you to breath and live. And water does not go to heaven because it helps humans stay alive. Even so, animals do not go to 🗣 heaven or hell when they die; they simply cease to exist. But don't worry about missing your animal in heaven; God has designed eternal life to be so wonderful for humans, they will not miss the pets that they had on Earth.



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Scent to HELP Humans

JEFF MILLER

Engineers are constantly trying to improve technology to make things easier for humans, especially when there are things that humans cannot do very well or that are dangerous. However, engineers are beginning to realize that we simply cannot design things as well as God has already designed them in the natural world around us. Instead of trying to design something "from scratch," engineers are starting to figure out ways to use God's amazing designs to suit our needs.

> One example of this sort of work involves canines—or dogs. Dogs have been used for many purposes for hundreds of years. The Romans used

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war dogs in battle. Humans have used dogs for hunting and pulling sleds, as well as shepherding sheep and herding cattle. German Shepherds are so intelligent that they have been used as guide dogs for blind people, guard dogs, and for tracking criminals.

Saint Bernards have been used as search and rescue dogs for people caught in avalanches. They have thick fur that allows them to stay warm in spite of freezing temperatures. They can smell people, even if they are trapped under several feet of snow! When they have found a person trapped in the snow, they will lay beside the person to keep him warm while another Saint Bernard goes back for help. Saint Bernards are also said to be able to predict storms, due to their ability to hear very low sounds that cannot be heard by human beings.

Due to their incredible sense of smell, dogs are being used for many unique purposes today, including detecting bombs and drugs. They are even used for finding bed bugs (yep, bed bugs!), pipeline leaks, cell phones, and stolen property. Some have trained Labradors to be controlled remotely, like a remote control car! God created many amazing animals on the Earth to help us while we are living here. Dogs are certainly some of them.

ANSWERS

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