The View from Shepherd's Knoll ...





## When the Paradigm Shifts ...

hen long-held values, ideologies, understandings, and ways of envisioning lose their grip and become replaced with new, radically different ways of thinking, we call this transformation a paradigm shift. Thomas Kuhn in his classic treatise, *The Structure of Scientific Revolution*, described this phenomenon by pointing out that advancements in science occur with revolutions driven by agents of change in which "one conceptual world view is replaced by another." A paradigm shift shakes our world causing us to see reality differently!

As Christians, committed to the way of Jesus, we have experienced a similar life-changing experience that has transformed our very way of thinking and doing. In foretelling the word of the Sovereign Lord, Ezekiel describes the mechanism of such a paradigm shift: "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and keep my laws" (Ezekiel 36:26–27, NIV). In the New Testament, such a paradigm shift is called salvation and is descriptive of the agency of God's grace that transforms our being and recreates us in the image of Jesus.

Such a change profoundly alters understandings and relationships in our lives. Evidence of this transformational paradigm shift is that we walk in the light and honor Jesus instead of continuing to stumble in the darkness serving ourselves. This paradigm shift is not a self-reformation but a divine transformation of our being. Does such a personal change affect our work in science? I believe the answer is a resounding, yes! Many of the articles within the pages of this journal have been written because scientists have encountered the transcending Creator in their investigation of the natural world. May we continue to apperceive and explore the wonders God has wrought! \*

Let's honor the Divine Paradigm Shifter! Roman J. Miller, *Editor* 

## In This Issue

Two outstanding new features can be found in this issue of *PSCF*. First, due to the generosity of an anonymous donor, each issue in 2004 will be expanded by a set of eight pages. Consequently instead of a normal 72-page issue, we will be printing an 80-page issue. A second feature is a new section found in the final journal pages called, "Art Eyes Science." Readers are encouraged to submit original art pieces that illuminate the connection or integration of Christian faith and thereby continue this section in future issues.

In the Articles section, we begin with Denis Lamoureux who argues that popular perceptions of Charles Darwin have missed important theological understandings. Del Ratzsch visits the intelligent design debate and suggests that design may enhance and enrich naturalistic science. Walter Thorson proposes agreements and disagreements between intelligent design and "Thorsonian naturalism." Finally, Robert Boomsma frames the embryonic stem cell controversy with a Reformed Christian perspective.

The Communications section features two Davids. David Wilcox considers genetic and paleoanthropological information in understanding Adam, while David Wollert uses complexity theory to provide insights into the church. Book reviews, Letters, and "Art Eyes Science" sections follow. Finally the last page contains information about membership in our society. Maybe you will be moved to share that page with colleagues who would be interested in joining us.