

GENETICS, PHILOSOPHY, SOFTWARE, THEOLOGY

FIRST EMAIL OR THE DRIVING FORCE OF SCIENCE

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According to Wikipedia on May 24, 1844 Samuel Morse sent his famous words "[What hath God wrought](#)" from the B&O's Baltimore station to the Capitol Building along the wire - the first email.

[Apollo 8 - the first flight to the moon - transmitted the message](#): "We are now approaching lunar sunrise and, for all the people back on Earth, the crew of Apollo 8 has a message that we would like to send to you. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth...".

The sequence of the human genome, [was announced by U.S. President Bill Clinton and British Prime Minister Tony Blair](#) at a White House news conference with Francis Collins and Craig Venter according to the original [transcript](#) with the following words

Today, the world is joining us here in the East Room to behold a map of even greater significance. We are here to celebrate the completion of the first survey of the entire human genome. Without a doubt, this is the most important, most wondrous map ever produced by humankind.

The moment we are here to witness was brought about through brilliant and painstaking work of scientists all over the world, including many men and women here today. It was not even 50 years ago that a young Englishman named Crick and a brash even younger American named Watson, first discovered the elegant structure of our genetic code. “Dr. Watson, the way you announced your discovery in the journal ‘Nature,’ was one of the great understatements of all time. This structure has novel features, which are of considerable biological interest.” (Laughter.) Thank you, sir. (Applause.) How far we have come since that day. In the intervening years, we have pooled the combined wisdom of biology, chemistry, physics, engineering, mathematics and computer science; tapped the great strengths and insights of the public and private sectors. More than 1,000 researchers across six nations have revealed nearly all 3 billion letters of our miraculous genetic code. I congratulate all of you on this stunning and humbling achievement. Today’s announcement represents more than just an epic-making triumph of science and reason. After all, when Galileo discovered he could use the tools of mathematics and mechanics to understand the motion of celestial bodies, he felt, in the words of one eminent researcher, “that he had learned the language in which God created the universe.”

Today, we are learning the language in which God created life. We are gaining ever more awe for the complexity, the beauty, the wonder of God’s most divine and sacred gift. With this profound new knowledge, humankind is on the verge of gaining immense, new power to heal. Genome science will have a real impact on all our lives — and even more, on the lives of our children. It will revolutionize the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of most, if not all, human diseases.

So, whatever you think of this comment, at least history teaches that the belief in a supernatural power leads to scientific discoveries, yea, yea.

