

# CREATION MOMENTS

*Proclaiming Evidence for Truth*

## THIS WEEK'S CREATION MOMENT

### Feathered Pilots



*But ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee;  
and the fowls of the air, and they shall tell thee...  
Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the  
LORD hath wrought this? (Job 12:7,9)*

You are the pilot of a Boeing 767 airliner, bringing the great ship in for a landing. Approaching the airport, you extend the slat on the leading edge of each wing so that you have more lift as your speed slows. As the runway nears, you raise the nose of the plane to catch more air. In the final moments of landing, you bring the feathers, which act as air brakes, out of the wing to reduce your lift and settle easily onto the runway.

Yet, without any training, young birds do this very same thing every day. High-speed photography has revealed that birds follow each one of these sequences as they approach and land. First, as they prepare to land, they slow their speed and increase their lift by extending and lowering the front part of the wing. Then, to slow even more, they angle their body from a horizontal flying position to a more upright angle. Finally, they drop the feathers on the back of their wing – after which the plane's feathers are named – to settle nicely on a tree branch, with virtually no effort at all.

Yes, the principles of flight, refined by over 80 years of man's experience, were simply taught to the birds by their loving Creator. What a wonderful testimony birds offer to the work of our Creator!

Ref: "A Lesson in Landing," *Time-Life*, Flight. Photo: Barn Swallow coming in for a landing. Courtesy of João Trindade. Licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic license. (CC BY-SA 2.0 Generic)

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