

THIS WEEK'S CREATION MOMENT

The Best Camouflage of All



And God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea... (Genesis 1:28b)

If you held a *salpa maggiore* in one hand and looked at it closely, what you would see is ... your hand!

That's because this strange marine invertebrate is transparent! Put it back in the water, and it would almost completely disappear. A fisherman who found one floating near the top of the water said, "It felt scaly and was quite firm, almost jelly like, and you couldn't see anything inside aside from this orange little blob inside it."

Paul Cox, director of conservation and communication at the National Marine Aquarium, said: "The salp is barrel-shaped and moves by contracting, pumping water through its gelatinous body. It strains the water through its internal feeding filters, feeding on phytoplankton from the upper sunlit layer of the ocean. They have an interesting life-cycle with alternate generations existing as solitary individuals or groups forming long chains."

Getting back to its transparency, Cox observed, "In common with other defenseless animals that occupy open water ... the translucence presumably provides some protection from predation. Being see-through is a pretty good camouflage in water." Indeed it is. And the *salpa maggiore* couldn't have acquired such camouflage through mutations no matter how many billions of years you allow for evolution to take place. In the hands of an all-powerful Creator, however, such remarkable camouflage is no problem at all. In fact, God specializes in creating animals and plants that shut the mouths of evolutionists and open the mouths of His followers with words of praise!

Ref: Leon Watson, "Now that's a jelly fish! Stunned fisherman catches wobbly shrimp-like creature that's completely see-through," DailyMail.com, 1/21/14. Photo: Salpa maggiore. © Caters News Agency (Fair Use)

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