The Magical Highway

The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. – Isaiah 40:3

On a previous broadcast, we told you about the complex molecular machine called kinesin. As we mentioned, kinesins carry cargo from one part of the cell to another, walking along self-assembling highways called micro-tubules. Today we're taking a closer look at those magical highways. Though physician Geoffrey Simmons is not a creationist, we wholeheartedly agree with this description in his book *What Darwin Didn't Know*: "Similar to a skyscraper with crisscrossing steel girders, the cell is supported by a skeleton of crisscrossing microfilaments and micro-tubules. Unlike a skyscraper, however, some of these structures are like movable scaffolding."

To give his readers a clearer picture of what is going on inside the cell, he writes: "Envision a building with changing stairwells and elevators to accommodate the changing business needs of the day. If the boss needs to check out the third floor, a stairwell will suddenly appear. If he needs to go to the basement, a chute will open up. Changes like these happen rather frequently within the cell, and the evidence indicates all the activity is purposeful."

To use our mailman analogy, microtubules are like sidewalks that assemble themselves just before the mailman gets to them. It really is a wonder to behold. Too bad that Charles Darwin never knew what really goes on inside the cell. If he had, perhaps he might have thrown his *Origin of Species* into the trash bin.


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