

Did Adam Have a Naval?

The humor in this question does not go unnoticed. However, it is an interesting question, nonetheless. And, here is why.

When God made the Heavens and the Earth (Genesis 1:1ff), each item of creation was spoken into existence (1:3) in its full form, even though it would appear to have grown into its present state. Except for Revelation, one would not be able to distinguish between the "winged bird" (1:21) just created from the subsequent "winged bird" hatched through natural processes. The "tree that yields fruit" appeared at that Word of the Lord (1:11), so did the fruit tree have growth rings? So, God created man from the dust of the earth (Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7) and created the woman from man's rib (2:21-22). The studied, but cautious, implication one may take from this account is that when Adam was made, he had what appeared to be a fully formed body with fully formed body parts that, visually, appeared as though they had matured over the normal course of time.

It is interesting, also, that inspired spokesmen of the Bible also referenced their existence as being "formed out of clay" (Elihu, Job 33:6) when, in fact, the speaker had been born and had a "Yankee Shot" (Southern for navel). On the other hand, the Psalmist would exclaim that he was "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14), referencing his mother's womb (v. 13), understanding that being "made" and being "formed" are synonyms in the case of natural birth (cf. Isaiah 43:7; 1 Timothy 2:13). The process is described quite graphically (Ezekiel 16:6-7) but that is the natural process through which Adam did not traverse.

Finally, if all of creation appeared at the Word of God fully formed and matured, why would Adam not have a navel? He had all of the other parts of his physical body that appeared fully formed by natural means.

Of course, this does not matter, *"as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust"* (2 Peter 1:3-4). So, we can know what does matter.