Science in the Bible

The Paths in the Seas

Psalm 8 is a beautiful psalm (worship song) in the Bible, written by King David, about 1,000 BC. It is a song that praises God for creation and that God has given man a special place in His world. Part of that psalm says, "You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands...even the...fish of the sea that pass through the paths of the seas" (Psalm 8:8).



That last phrase especially grabbed the attention of oceanographer, Matthew Maury. He told his son, "If God said there are paths in the sea, I am going to find them." And he did. He consulted old ships' logs, floated 'drift bottles' from which he was able to detect ocean currents, kept detailed records of wind activity (inspired by Ecclesiastes 1:6, in the Bible) and soon worked out the Gulf Current (from the Gulf of Mexico), the Japanese Current, and the California Current, to name a few. With this information he wrote pioneering textbooks on sea navigation and reduced long journeys by several weeks. Today, a monument in Monument Avenue, Richmond, Virginia credits him as, "...the genius who first snatched from the oceans and atmosphere the secret of their laws. His inspiration, Holy Writ, Psalm 8:8; Ecclesiastes 1:6." So again, the Bible has been proven to be scientifically accurate!