"You look at this little cabin and you have no doubt that some intelligent person made a plan and put the materials together. The world in which we live is made according to a far more complicated plan. The complexities of the human body are far beyond anything we can possibly imagine. If it required an intelligent being to plan the little cabin and make it all fit together, how can you imagine that this entire universe -- or even a single human body, for that matter -- came together and began to function without a far greater intelligent Being having planned and directed it?"

LETTER 29 1972

THE MEANING OF ECHAD

The common Hebrew word for "one" is usually transliterated in Latin letters as *echad*. (This particular type of h is pronounced like the German *ch*.) It is used hundreds of times in the Bible to indicate the numeral "one". It also may be the equivalent of our English indefinite article, and is translated "a" or "an" in the King James Version 56 times. It is also translated as "another" 31 times, "a certain" 9 times, "a portion" 11 times, "each" seven times, "everyone" six times, "once" 10 times, "other" 30 times, "some" 5 times, and "any" 17 times. There are a few other ways in which it is translated on one or two occasions.

There are comparatively few instances in the King James Version of the Old Testament where any other Hebrew word is ren dered by the English word "one." Most of these involve the Hebrew word "man" (70 times) or "woman" (6 times) in such expressions as "they said one (literally, 'a man') to another".