

THE MAMMALIAN AORTIC ARCH

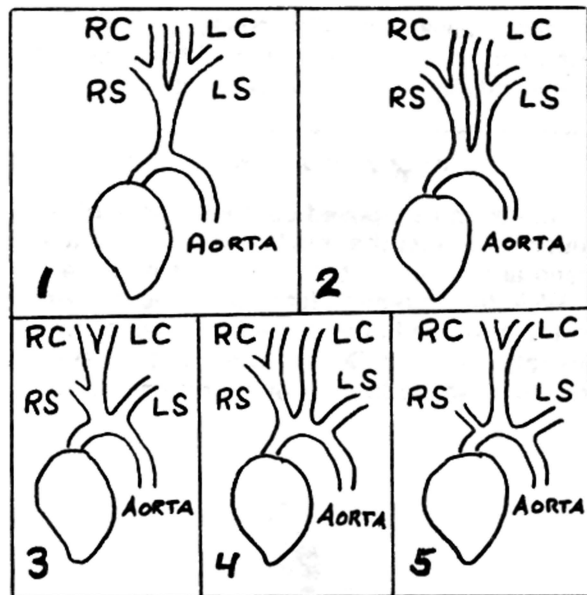
With hardly an exception, all mammals have one of five different aortic arch arrangements. The chart below illustrates each of these five patterns.

(1) *Each arrangement is actually strikingly different than all the others*; there is no possibility that one could have evolved from another type. Imagine trying to tinker with your house plumbing and change its arrangement while the water pressure is on! You would flood your house! How could an animal change the shape of its aortic arch from one of these five patterns to another—all the while its blood was still flowing under pressure from the heart? It simply could not be done.

(2) *Each arrangement has certain remarkable similarities to the others*; random selection (which is all that "natural selection" is) would never have produced *an arch* over each one. It was the hand of the Creator which produced that thoughtful pattern. Thoughtful? in what way? Indeed, why is there a need for an arch?

It is simple enough: If you have ever seen a living heart in action, you will understand. It shakes back and forth wildly. If the aorta did not go out from it in a semicircle, that pounding action would quickly wear through the side of the aorta! Yet the descending aorta must go down past the heart, it was designed to first go out in a wide arch and then separate into two branches, one going upward and the other downward.

As usual, perfect planning by the Master Designer.



Study the diagram above. It is truly incredible. All the blood which flows OUT from the heart first enters the aortic arch. From there some of it flows upward through ascending arteries, while the rest flows downward through the aorta, the largest artery in the body. The blood flowing upward branches off into one of four major arteries: the *right carotid (RC)*, *left carotid (LC)*, *right subclavian (RS)*, and *left subclavian (LS)*. It is the way those four arteries branch off that produce five different aortic arch patterns. There is no way one pattern could evolve from one into another—while the animal was alive. And dead animals—with the blood pump turned off—do not evolve into anything!