

Viruses and Bacteria Are Everywhere

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[Viruses are raining down from the sky.](#)

“An astonishing number of viruses are circulating around the Earth’s atmosphere – and falling from it – according to new research from scientists in Canada, Spain and the U.S.

“The study marks the first time scientists have quantified the viruses being swept up from the Earth’s surface into the free troposphere, that layer of atmosphere beyond Earth’s weather systems but below the stratosphere where jet airplanes fly. The viruses can be carried thousands of kilometers there before being deposited back onto the Earth’s surface.

“Every day, more than 800 million viruses are deposited per square meter above the planetary boundary layer—that’s 25 viruses for each person in Canada,” said University of British Columbia virologist Curtis Suttle, one of the senior authors of a paper in the *International Society for Microbial Ecology Journal* that outlines the findings.”

This is likely true; actually the number is probably far higher. Here are some related numbers from the article "[Viruses Create More Biodiversity Than Any Other Comparable Taxon](#)":

- There are 15-25 million viruses in a teaspoon of seawater.
- The number and variety of viruses and bacteria in the soil is probably 5X that of ocean water.
- The total number of virus particles is 10X the total number of cells on Earth.
- Approximately 10^{23} viral infections occur in the ocean every second.

No worries about any of this. It does not mean that disease is raining down upon us as well. Not at all.

The real point is this: Viruses and bacteria are EVERYWHERE. Not only is there no way of avoiding them, the truth is that we would not be alive without them. EVERYTHING, including all viruses and bacteria work together to make life possible, evolving and wonderful.

The real issue is that it is the Health of the Immune System that is paramount. Keep the immune system and all other systems functioning in tiptop shape, and everyone is happy. If the immune system is weak, it means that one's whole body is probably very weak, so bacteria and viruses jump in to do their job: take over, eat you up and recycle you.

Medical science found out about penicillin all those decades ago, and that made a big splash. Germs are Bad! Kill 'em All! Sterilize Everything! Science only crudely understood the roles of these germs, and did not know that trillions of them were everywhere. So with their similarly crude knowledge of the relationship of the germs to the human body, and with the scientists' natural desire to reduce disease and suffering, an all-out war on germs was launched.

Science is coming to realize that the little buggers are literally everywhere, doing the absolutely necessary work of breaking down and recycling almost everything. Science also keeps learning more about the many other beneficial roles they play for all life on Earth, and that wholesale killing of them can have dire consequences.

Antibiotics are certainly very useful in rare, specific situations. But back in the mid to late 20th century, the whole picture of germs got blown way out of proportion. Several generations of humanity have been highly conditioned to freak out with fear whenever they hear the words bacteria or virus. As well, antibiotics were and are being haphazardly used and overused in all manner of circumstances where they are not necessary.

Nature really doesn't take kindly to this unnecessary slaughter, and the blowback is predictable - the creation of "super-bugs." Certain bacteria have managed to withstand the constant bombardment of stronger and stronger antibiotics, and are now impervious to them; i.e. the strongest antibiotics no longer kill the bacteria.

Therein lies the dilemma. The All-Out War On Germs is completely misguided; it's a war that can never be won. And even if it were somehow won, it would be suicide for us, and the rest of life on Earth as well. The war wastes countless trillions of dollars; it wastes countless years of human energy, brainpower, scientific research and engineering expertise that could and should be put to far better use: teaching people how to be healthy, and supporting all the facets of our environment that make that effort sensible and achievable.

However, whole industries have sprung up, making massive profits from exploiting the manufactured, conditioned fear of germs instilled in people all over the globe. We're talking, of course, about Big Pharma and their influence on medicine, health care, nutrition, agriculture, public health policy, government health care programs, and so on.

In light of the new knowledge of the ubiquity of microscopic life forms everywhere on Earth, medicine and big pharma could and should stop all their ignorantly destructive incursions into public life with their War On Germs. All the good people working in big pharma and related endeavors could refocus all their time, energy, brainpower and money into positively and radically improving the Life Systems that provide the foundation for healthy people and environment. In other words, dial way back the obsessive focus on What Causes Disease, and instead focus obsessively on What Causes Health. Chronic disease will then largely eliminate itself.

But the fear-mongering, money-obsessed psychopaths and their useful idiots in medicine, pharma and government will try their best to continue exploiting everyone's overblown fear of germs, and use this new info about viruses raining down from the sky to push hundreds of new vaccines, drugs and God-knows-what-else.

Fortunately, anyone with a lick of sense thinks to himself, "Hmm... billions of viruses and bacteria in the air I breathe, the water I drink, the food I eat... in the oceans, lakes and ponds I swim in; in the soil I walk on and grow my food. Must be that they are all there for a very good reason. Ain't no way I'm gonna avoid them, so I guess I'd better keep myself healthy and my immune system in good shape."

Enlightened self-interest will eventually win the day... but that day may be long in coming, because the propaganda techniques of the psychopaths are very clever, highly effective and far-reaching.