

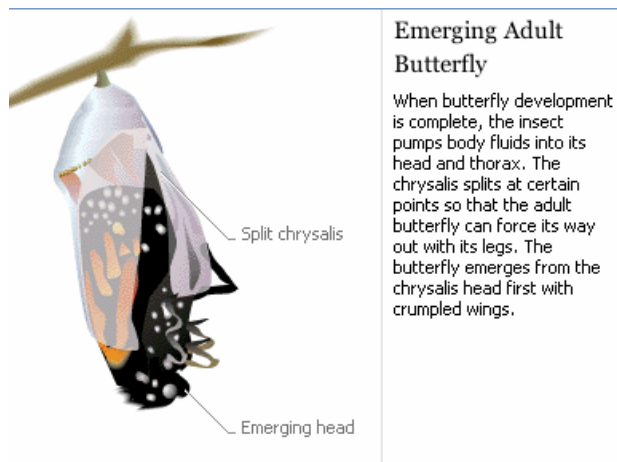
Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Hello Benjamin Christian Rainer,

How are you doing on this fine day - have you been learning, growing, playing, thinking, running, laughing and doing all the things that a young fellow does?

I just can't get over how much you've changed from that 6 year old fellow that I knew so well - you have changed much and will continue to do so in the coming years. Much change will usher you from being a boy to being a teenager like Matthew and Abby; this change will bring a host of new things that are both expected and unexpected, understood and misunderstood, certain and uncertain...yes, this change is somewhat of a mystery but no less required in the maturing and development from boy to man.

Consider some of the animal life that undergoes changes in their form from an egg or infant to an adult. The caterpillar begins: as larval in some weird



state; than a crawly, wormy creature with various coloring and features; than a cocoon in which metamorphosis begins; and finally a beautiful, elegant moth or butterfly. So the changes occur by God's design as the young, unborn are hatched and nurtured to an age when they in turn begin their adult life; they generally raise young of their own and the

cycle continues one generation after another.

Such aspects of life and creation are beautiful as we think of God's ingenuity and imagination. It is beyond our capacity to comprehend God's power and majesty, his design and engineering of all creation, and his love for all mankind in the giving of his son, Jesus Christ. I love you Ben.