"...Why, I ask, when we see that the structure of both ventricles is almost identical, there being the same apparatus of fibers, and braces, and valves, and vessels, and auricles, and both in the same way in our dissections are found to be filled up with blood similarly black in color, and coagulated-why, I say, should their uses be imagined to be different, when the action, motion, and pulse of both are the same? …

... And I ask, as the lungs are so close at hand, and in continual motion, and the vessel that supplies them is of such dimensions, what is the use or meaning of this pulse of the right ventricle? And why was nature reduced to the necessity of adding another ventricle for the sole purpose of nourishing the lungs?"

William Harvey (1578 –1657), Exercitatio Anatomica de Motu Cordis et Sanguinis in Animalibus