

## SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY ON CREATION AND EVOLUTION

### BOOKS BY CURRENT CHRISTIAN APOLOGISTS AND PHILOSOPHERS

**D'Souza, Dinesh, *What's So Great about Christianity*.** Washington D.C.: Regnery Publishing, 2007. This book covers all the usual categories of apologetics but devotes significant space to the issues of creation and evolution. There are three chapters on Christianity and Science and four chapters on the Argument from Design. He believes that Christianity is fully compatible with science, indeed, Francis Bacon, the father of the scientific methods, was a devoutly religious man. He dedicates an entire chapter debunking the myth of persecuted Galileo. He argues for an old earth (4.5 billion years old) and defends the Anthropic Principle—the design evidence that earth is uniquely rigged to support human life. His solution to origins is to embrace evolution while rejecting Darwinism. In his final “design” chapter he convincingly exposes that naturalistic evolution is a “faith” with a *a priori* rejection of anything miraculous.

**Keller, Timothy. *The Reason for God*.** New York: Dutton, 2008. In Part One of this book, Keller tackles the seven biggest objections and doubts people have about Christianity. One of those is entitled “Science Has Disproved Christianity.” He effectively critiques Dawkins and evolution as an “All-encompassing” theory which attempts to explain all of creation without God. Keller believes that God used “some kind of process of natural selection” in creation and that Genesis 1 is a poetic “song” about creation and that Genesis 2 tells how it happened. Keller is the founding pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City.

**Moreland, J. P. and Reynolds, John Mark, eds. *Three Views on Creation and Evolution*.** Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999. In three sections you will encounter the best arguments from leading advocates for the three leading Christian views of creation: 1) Young Earth Creationism, 2) Old Earth (Progressive) Creationism, and 3) Theistic Evolution. Each section also features follow-up reflections by additional scholars.

**Strobel, Lee. *The Case for a Creator*.** Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004. Strobel was a skeptic until his conversion to Christianity in 1981. He is a trained journalist (University of Missouri) and lawyer (Yale) and worked as the award-winning legal editor of the Chicago Tribune. In this book he travels the country interviewing leading scientists to ask if Darwinism is credible.

### BOOKS BY NEW MODERN MILITANT ATHEISTS

**Dawkins, Richard, *The God Delusion*.** Boston: Mariner Book/Houghton Mifflin, 2006, 2008. Read this book to sample how a leading voice of naturalistic evolution seeks to dismiss Christianity. From Publishers Weekly: *The antireligion wars started by Daniel Dennett and Sam Harris will heat up even more with this salvo from celebrated Oxford biologist Dawkins. For a scientist who criticizes religion for its intolerance, Dawkins has written a surprisingly intolerant book, full of scorn for religion and those who believe. But Dawkins, who gave us the selfish gene, anticipates this criticism. He says it's the scientist and humanist in him that makes him hostile to religions—fundamentalist Christianity and Islam come in for the most opprobrium—that close people's minds to scientific truth, oppress women and abuse children psychologically with the notion of eternal damnation. While Dawkins can be witty, even confirmed atheists who agree with his advocacy of science and vigorous rationalism may have trouble stomaching some of the rhetoric: the biblical Yahweh is "psychotic," Aquinas's proofs of God's existence are "fatuous" and religion generally is "nonsense." The most effective chapters are those in which Dawkins calms down, for instance, drawing on evolution to disprove the ideas behind intelligent design. In other chapters, he attempts to construct a scientific scaffolding for atheism, such as using evolution again to rebut the notion that without God there can be no morality. He insists that religion is a divisive and oppressive force, but he is less convincing in arguing that the world would be better and more peaceful without it.*

**Hitchens, Christopher. *God Is Not Great: How Religion Poisons Everything*.** New York: Twelve, Hachette Book Group, 2007. A British atheist attempts to demolish Christianity—indeed all religion. The “gloves are off” in this book as he claims things like this: 1) Augustine was an ignoramus (64), 2) “Religion comes from the period of human prehistory where nobody...had the smallest idea what was going on” (64), 3) “It goes without saying that none of the gruesome, disordered events described in Exodus ever took place (102), 4) “intelligent design” is “tripe,” and 5) “Religion...no longer offers an explanation of anything important.” (282)

### BOOKS BY INTELLIGENT DESIGN ADVOCATES

**Behe, Michael. *Darwin's Black Box*.** New York: Free Press, 2006. A leading microbiologist argues that discoveries with the electron microscope have demolished Darwinism. Darwin thought that a bacterium was a single cell creature whereas later discoveries show that a bacterium is incredibly complex—even its propelling flagellum is irreducibly complex. By that he means that it is so complex that it is unthinkable that it could have

arisen via an accumulation of long gradual adaptations. Every component has to be in place or the mechanism fails to work. *Highly recommended!*

**Johnson, Phillip.** *Darwin on Trial.* Downers Grove: IL: IVP Press, 2010. Johnson, a law professor, took up the gauntlet of psuing on the plausibility of and evidence for evolutionary theory. His is now one of the leading voices in the Intelligent Design movement. From From Publishers Weekly

In his own era, Darwin's most formidable opponents were fossil experts, not clergymen. Even today, according to the author, the fossil record, far from conclusive, does not support the presumed existence of intermediate links between species. A law teacher at UC-Berkeley, Johnson deems unpersuasive the alleged proofs for Darwin's assertion that natural selection can produce new species. He also argues that recent molecular studies of DNA fail to confirm the existence of common ancestors for different species. Doubting the smooth line of transitional steps between apes and humans sketched by neo-Darwinists, he cites evidence for "rapid branching," i.e., mysterious leaps which presumably produced the human mind and spirit from animal materials. This evidence, to Johnson, suggests that "the putative hominid species" may not have contained our ancestors after all. This cogent, succinct inquiry cuts like a knife through neo-Darwinist assumptions.

### OTHER WORTHY BOOKS

**Berlinski, David.** *The Devil's Delusion: Atheism and Its Scientific Pretensions.* New York: Crown Publishing Group, 2008. A secular Jew with a PhD from Princeton, he has taught mathematics and philosophy on the university level in the U.S. and France. In this book he pushes back against the new militant atheists. Note these accolades: "*Berlinski knows his science and wields his rapier deftly. He makes great sport with his opponents, and his readers will surely enjoy it.*"--Tom Bethell, bestselling author of "*The Politically Incorrect Guide to Science.*" "*A powerful riposte to atheist mockery and cocksure science, and to the sort of philosophy that surrenders to them. David Berlinski proceeds reasonably and calmly to challenge recent scientific theorizing and to expose the unreason from which it presumes to criticize religion.*"--Harvey Mansfield, Professor of Government, Harvard University. "*Berlinski's book is everything desirable: it is idiomatic, profound, brilliantly polemical, amusing, and of course vastly learned. I congratulate him.*"--William F. Buckley Jr. "*With high style and light-hearted disdain, David Berlinski deflates the intellectual pretensions of the scientific atheist crowd. Maybe they can recite the Periodic Table by heart, but the secular Berlinski shows that this doesn't get them very far in reasoning about much weightier matters.*"--Michael J. Behe, Professor of Biological Sciences, Lehigh University, bestselling author of "*Darwin's Black Box*" and "*The Edge of Evolution.*" "*David Berlinski plus any topic equals an extraordinary book.*"--Chicago Tribune

**Mark Driscoll and Gerry Breshears.** *Doctrine: What Christians Should Believe.* Wheaton: Crossway, 2010. Chapter 3 is entitled: "Creation: God Makes." This chapter features a fine overview of the major Christian views of creation, i.e., how to interpret Genesis 1. In a non-incendiary fashion the authors unpack the creation narrative and then offer an irenic defense of the six-24-hour-days position on creation. The chapter gives a good overview and critique of scientific naturalism.

**Kinneman, David.** *You Lost Me.* Grand Rapids: Baker, 2011. Kinneman is president of the Barna Group. Based on interview research, this book uncovers the reason many young people are leaving the church, if not their Christian faith. Part 2 explores the six major disconnections with church and faith. Chapter seven deals with the perception of youth that the church is antiscience. The Barna research revealed that 34% of 18- to 29-year olds who have a Christian background "completely (9%) or mostly (25%) believe that Christianity is antiscience.

**Johnson, Paul.** *Intellectuals.* New York: Harper and Row, 1988. Johnson is a British historian with an impressive list of published works and more than forty television films. The first words of the book are "*This book is an examination of the moral and judgmental credentials of certain leading intellectuals to give advice to humanity on how to conduct its affairs.* He treats twelve prominent intellectuals and then offers a final chapter entitled *The Flight of Reason.* This is largely a depressing book but one that is urgently needed. On the last page he draws a few conclusions: *One of the principle lessons of our tragic century...is—beware intellectuals. Not only should they be kept well away from the levers of power, they should also be objects of particular suspicion when they seek to offer collective advice....Taken as a group, they are often ultra-conformist within the circles formed by those whose approval they seek and value. That is what makes them, en masse, so dangerous....Above all, we must at all times remember what intellectuals habitually forget: that people matter more than concepts and must come first. The worst of all despotisms is the heartless tyranny of ideas.*

Timothy G. Walton  
Alderwood Community Church  
February 5, 2012