

## **Recommended Resources for Science & Christian Faith**

### INTRODUCTORY BOOKS

Barbour, Ian, *When Science Meets Religion: Enemies, Strangers, or Partners?* Accessible survey of ways of thinking about these questions. From a more theologically liberal perspective.

Falk, Darrel R., *Coming to Peace with Science: Bridging the Worlds Between Faith & Biology*. Christian biology professor gives a clear summary of evidence for common ancestry aspect of evolution and discusses how he has come to view that as God's way of creating.

Giberson, Karl W., & Francis S. Collins, *The Language of Science and Faith: Straight Answers to Genuine Questions*. In Q&A format, defends the compatibility of science with orthodox Christianity.

Haarsma, Deborah B., & Loren D. Haarsma, *Origins: Christian Perspectives on Creation, Evolution, and Intelligent Design*. From 2 profs at Calvin College, excellent and fair overview of "origins" issues from both scientific and Biblical standpoints. **My #1 recommendation**.

Murphy, George L., *Toward a Christian View of a Scientific World*. From a Ph.D. physicist and Lutheran pastor, good introduction to thinking constructively about science & faith issues.

### INTERPRETING THE EARLY CHAPTERS OF GENESIS

Atkinson, David, *The Message of Genesis 1-11*. Accessible commentary geared toward understanding the message and practical implications for Christian living.

Enns, Peter, & Jared Byas, *Genesis for Normal People: A Guide to the Most Controversial, Misunderstood, and Abused Book of the Bible*. Well-written and brief overview of the whole book of Genesis, making scholarly insights clear. Also available as an inexpensive E-book.

Hyers, Conrad, *The Meaning of Creation*. Good overview of the early chapters of Genesis, bringing out the "literary framework" aspects and the way it speaks against Babylonian myths. (much of Genesis 1 portion at <http://www.asa3.org/ASA/PSCF/1984/JASA9-84Hyers.html>).

Walton, John H., *The Lost World of Genesis One: Ancient Cosmology and the Origins Debate*. Excellent presentation of what Genesis 1 probably meant in its cultural and historical context [video summary: <http://biologos.org/blog/series/genesis-through-ancient-eyes>]

Wilkinson, David, *The Message of Creation*. Exposition of various passages on the theme of God as Creator throughout Scripture, not just Genesis.

### READING THE BIBLE (IN GENERAL)

Fee, Gordon D., & Douglas Stuart, *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*

Stott, John R.W., *Understanding the Bible*

Wright, N.T., *Scripture and the Authority of God: How to Read the Bible Today*

### SPECIFIC TOPICS AND LESS INTRODUCTORY OVERVIEWS

Alexander, Denis, *Creation or Evolution: Do We Have to Choose?*. Gives a variety of Christian options for affirming both good science and good theology with regard to the title question.

Alexander, Denis, *Rebuilding the Matrix: Science and Faith in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. British molecular biologist and editor of the journal *Science and Christian Belief* discusses why there should not be "warfare" between science and faith and how the church can do better. Many excellent insights.

Bube, Richard H., *Putting it all Together: Seven Patterns for Relating Science and the Christian Faith*. Excellent for big-picture issues of thinking about the relationship between science and Christian theology.

Collins, Francis S., *The Language of God*. Director of the Human Genome Project tells about his faith journey and how he sees science (including the evolution he sees evidence of in his work) and Christian faith as being in harmony instead of conflict.

Enns, Peter, *Inspiration and Incarnation*. Uses examples from the Bible to illustrate the point that we can affirm the divine inspiration of Scripture (including Genesis) without ignoring the fact that it was written by real humans whose historical and cultural situations shaped their writings.

Enns, Peter, *The Evolution of Adam: What the Bible Does and Doesn't Say About Human Origins*. The author, an Old Testament scholar and expert in the way the OT is used in the New Testament, discusses the story of "Adam" (and Eve) in its ancient Hebrew context, and the use of this story by the Apostle Paul in his Jewish context.

Giberson, Karl W., *The Wonder of the Universe: Hints of God in Our Fine-Tuned World*. Christian physicist discusses how he sees the discoveries of science providing hints (not proof) of the Creator.

McGrath, Alister E., *Surprised by Meaning: Science, Faith, and How We Make Sense of Things*. Scientist-turned-theologian discusses science and faith and how they can combine to satisfy our desires to understand and find meaning in the world around us.

Murphy, George L., *The Cosmos in the Light of the Cross*. Mainly theological, uses the "theology of the cross" advocated by Martin Luther for insight into God's often-hidden activity in creation.

Numbers, Ronald L., *The Creationists: From Scientific Creationism to Intelligent Design*. The definitive history of the "creationist" movement(s).

Numbers, Ronald L. (ed.), *Galileo Goes to Jail (and Other Myths about Science and Religion)*. Scholars debunk various myths that have arisen about science and faith, like the myth that the medieval church thought the Earth was flat or that Darwin renounced evolution on his deathbed.

Venema, Dennis R., & Scot McKnight, *Adam and the Genome: Reading Scripture after Genetic Science*. A New Testament scholar and a geneticist combine to examine what the Biblical witness (in its context) and the evidence in nature combine to tell us about the place of "Adam" in Christian theology.

Wright, Richard T., *Biology Through the Eyes of Faith*. Biology professor at a Christian college offers wise thoughts on issues relating biology and faith, including evolution and creation care.

Young, Davis A., & Ralph F. Stearley, *The Bible, Rocks, and Time: Geological Evidence for the Age of the Earth*. Christian geology professors give thorough summary of the ways Christians have thought about this question through the years, and of the Biblical and scientific evidence.

## RESOURCES ON THE WEB

<http://www.asa3.org> (American Scientific Affiliation, professional organization for Christians in science, also has some educational and other informative material).

<http://biologos.org> (Biologos, organization founded by Dr. Francis Collins to promote harmony between science and Christian faith. Has a wealth of constructive material).

<http://ministrytheorem.calvinseminary.edu/> (material developed by Calvin Seminary and the Science Division of Calvin College to help churches engage science in a constructive way).

<https://sites.ualberta.ca/~dlamoure/wl.html> (free online course on science & religion by Prof. Denis Lamoureux [an Evangelical with doctorates in both science and theology], who presents concepts clearly and with great insight).

<http://fpescienceandfaith.wordpress.com/> (material from the "Scientists in Congregations" program at First Presbyterian Church in Boulder [2011-2013], including some class material and FAQs).

<http://steamdoc.itgo.com/sci-nature/index.html> (material from class "Science and Nature in Christian Perspective" taught by Allan Harvey at First Presbyterian Church of Boulder in 2007).