

Annotated Bibliography of Creation Resources

By Tim Nichols, October 2009

This list will provide a starting point, and I've tried to give you a sense of the scope of what's available. But this is not even close to exhaustive, so if you have an area of particular interest and you don't see anything about it here, dig around a little; there's a lot more where these came from.

Top Picks

Charles Clough, *The Bible Framework*. Far more than just a creation resource, the *Framework* is a detailed look at the worldview of the Bible itself as it applies to modern life. Takes some warming up to; to give it a fair trial, listen to the first few hours at least. Recordings, notes and transcripts available at <http://www.bibleframework.com/>.

Walt Brown, *In the Beginning*. A compendium of young-earth creationism, and the best way to get a bird's-eye view of current creation science. Brown updates every few years, so be sure to get the newest edition. Extensively footnoted and loaded with helpful photos and illustrations.

Various authors, *Radioisotopes and the Age of the Earth, vols I-II*. Eight years in the making, the RATE project takes a detailed and carefully documented look at radioactive dating, and comes to some surprising conclusions. The two volumes present the authors' papers and conclusions. Technical and expensive in print, but available for free download online at <http://www.icr.org/rate/>. (Popular-level presentation of the RATE project conclusions is available in DeYoung's book, below.)

Nancy Pearcey and Charles Thaxton, *The Soul of Science*. Demonstrates that modern science arose in Christian Europe and not anywhere else because modern science depends on a particular worldview in order to even get started. Quiet as it's kept, that worldview is Christianity.

Philip Johnson, *The Wedge of Truth*. Johnson is the architect of the Intelligent Design movement, and one of the best strategists in the fight right now. *Wedge* gives the wider community a valuable look at how a small band of mavericks brought Intelligent Design to national prominence.

Benjamin Wiker and Jonathan Witt, *A Meaningful World: How the Arts and Sciences Reveal the Genius of Nature*. In terms of scope, one of the broadest ID books out there right now: covers the gamut from the periodic table of elements to Shakespeare and back again, showing that the world is charged with meaning.

You Can't Tell the Players...

...without a scorecard. There are three basic groups of people producing material that is at least semi-friendly to a Christian view of creation and evolution.

Young-earth Creationists: Take the first chapters of the Bible as sober history, and set out to explore the world on that basis. By far the best source of information on creation science. Find their works at the websites of organizations such as the Institute for Creation Research, Answers in Genesis, and more.

Various kinds of old-earth semi-creationists/theistic evolutionists: Having come to believe that evolution simply *couldn't* happen by chance, these folks are often very *good* sources of information about the improbability/impossibility of naturalistic evolution. On the other hand, they are very *bad* sources of information about the Bible, because they like to play games with Genesis to avoid the plain teaching of the text that the earth is no more than several thousand years old. None of their books appear on this list.

Intelligent Design theorists: Some Christian and some not, some young-earth and some not, what these folks agree on is a particular strategy for attacking Darwinism. Their program (which was largely designed by Philip Johnson) aims to show that the universe in general, and biological life in particular, was designed. This agenda causes their opponents to argue, not just that they're doing *bad* science, but *that they're not doing science at all*. That critique gives them the opportunity to expose Darwinism as a religious commitment first, and a scientific agenda second. In Dembski's simple terms, "Why should we have to ask 'What's the best *materialistic* answer for how the universe came to be?' Why can't we just ask 'What's the best answer?'" Some of the best analysis of how Darwinists think comes from the ID guys, but the apologetic agenda here is mostly negative: take down Darwinism. They're not trying to show that the Bible is true, and they are consciously trying to have as broad a coalition as possible, friendly to Christians, Jews, Muslims, and anyone else skeptical of Darwinism.

Bibliography

Michael Behe, *Darwin's Black Box*. An examination of how certain inner workings of the living cell defy Darwinian explanation. One of the seminal Intelligent Design books.

William Dembski and Jay Wesley Richards, eds., *Unapologetic Apologetics*. Far broader in scope than just creation and evolution, but contains a helpful summary of Intelligent Design by Dembski.

William Dembski, *The Design Inference*. Dembski's Ph.D. work in mathematics; argues that design can be detected mathematically, and proposes a set of filters for that purpose.

_____, ***Intelligent Design: The Bridge between Science and Theology*.** A popular-level treatment of the same concepts as *The Design Inference*.

_____, ***No Free Lunch: Why Specified Complexity Cannot Be Purchased without Intelligence*.** The sequel to *The Design Inference*, this book further explores why the Darwinian mechanism for generating the marvels around us simply cannot work.

Don DeYoung, *Thousands...Not Billions*. The popular-level presentation of the RATE project's results. A blessing for believers who don't speak math fluently.

Henry Morris and John Whitcomb, *The Genesis Flood*. The book that launched the modern creation science movement. Dated, but still a classic.

Henry Morris, *The Long War Against God*. Evolution is not by any means a modern idea; the neo-Darwinian synthesis is just a very old idea touched up for a modern audience. In *Long War*, Morris shows the antecedents to modern evolutionary theories.

Jason Lisle, *Ultimate Proof of Creation*. Haven't read the whole book and can't vouch for it. However, the first chapter "The Nature of Evidence" is available online for free, and makes some good points. <http://www.nlpg.com/store/images/lookinside/ultimate-proof.pdf>

James B. Jordan, *Creation in Six Days*. A careful demonstration of the six-literal-day reading of Genesis one, and a refutation of the alternative views. Jordan gives particular attention to how the alternate views arise and the errors they all have in common at a worldview level.

Russell Humphreys, *Starlight and Time*. If the universe is only six to ten thousand years old, then how come we can see light from galaxies hundreds of thousands of light years away? Humphreys takes on the question, turning the Big Bang theory inside out in the process. The book is half popular-level presentation and half technical papers.

Philip Johnson, *Darwin on Trial*. Johnson's seminal work on Darwinism.

_____, ***Reason in the Balance: The Case against Naturalism in Science, Law and Education*.** A sweeping assault on naturalistic philosophy and the marginalizing of theism in the public sphere; its central theme is an attack on the notion that rational thought must leave God out.

_____, ***Defeating Darwinism by Opening Minds*.** A primer for high school students in the central issues (from an ID perspective) surrounding the creation/evolution controversy.

_____, ***Objections Sustained: Subversive Essays on Evolution, Law and Culture*.** What the title says. Very much worth reading.

_____, ***The Right Questions: Truth, Meaning and Public Debate*.** Johnson turns his keen intellect from answering questions to asking them—and more importantly, making sure that good questions get asked so that they can be answered.

Terry Mortenson, *The Great Turning Point*. A book about the original creation scientists. Back at the beginning, there were God-fearing scientists who took the Bible seriously, and therefore opposed old-earth geology. This is the story of how those men were sold out *by the church*, effectively killing creation science for a hundred years. A valuable lesson that we don't want to repeat.

Geoffrey Simmons, *What Darwin Didn't Know*. A treatment of the complexities of the human body.

Tom Vail, *The Grand Canyon: A Different View*. A small but exquisite coffee-table book showing evidence for the Flood—and against an old earth—from the Grand Canyon.

John Woodmorappe, *Noah's Ark: A Feasibility Study*. Gives a serious hearing to common objections to the Noah's Ark story (not enough space for the animals, where would they keep all the food, etc.), and shows in detail how the story could have happened just as the Bible records it.