



Moreland, J.P. editor, *The Creation Hypothesis: Scientific Evidence for an Intelligent Designer*. InterVarsity Press, 1994 J.P. Moreland.

This book argues for the possibility of an intelligent designer as an alternative to Darwinian evolution concerning the question of origins.

Chapter 1 *Theistic Science and Methodological Naturalism*, J.P. Moreland makes a case for “theistic science (TS)” and how it, along with science, can be integrated to aid in discovering the truth of origins. He answers objections to TS and demonstrates that there is

nothing non-scientific about TS by appealing to personal agency and the like in scientific explanations. For even as some branches of science (SETI, archeology, forensic science, psychology and sociology), use personal agency as descriptions for causal entities, processes, events or actions to explain certain phenomena, so does TS.

Chapter 2: *The Methodological Equivalence of Design and Descent: Can There Be a Scientific “Theory of Creation”?*, Stephen C. Meyer demonstrates that even though modern biologists deplore a teleological notion when considering living forms, their language often backs them into a corner to explain life forms that appear to have *purpose*. Of special apologetic value, is the fact that the more we learn about the chemical

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details of life, from molecular biology and origin-of-life studies, the less likely a strict naturalistic explication of origins obtains.

Chapter 3: *On The Very Possibility of Intelligent Design*, William A. Dembski deals with notion in the scientific community that if one invokes God as a possibility as agent, it is “blocking the way to inquiry,” for it is seen as superstitious speculations. Apologetically, the value I see is that for strategic purposes, dialoging with a naturalist, one must first clear the faulty notions they hold before making any headway to a possibility of an intelligent designer. This is where philosophy of science can be extremely useful.

Chapter 4: *Astronomical Evidences For a Personal, Transcendent God*, Hugh Ross considers alternate views for and against a theistic view of origins, but that which argues strongly for an intelligent Designer, and has most apologetic value for me, is his evidence for the fine tuning of the universe. It seems that there is someone behind all of the “coincidences” and his name does not appear to be *chance*, but rather *God*.

Chapter 5: *Information and The Origin of Life*, Walter L. Bradley & Charles B. Thaxton among other things, they deal with the *pre-biotic* notion of origins, and through the complexities of DNA, RNA, and the like, demonstrate that pre-biotic evolution is not only based on philosophical naturalism, but it does not appear to best explain the origin of life question. However, an intelligent design hypothesis seems to.

Chapter 6: *The Origin of Life’s Major Groups*, Kurt P. Wise among other issues, considers evidence that evolution does not explain. He points out that a hypothesis of a Designer and Judge as revealed in the Scriptures is more successful at explaining the major features of life than is macro-evolutionary theory.

Chapter 7: *Origin of The Human Language Capacity: In Whose Image?*, John W. Oller Jr. & John L. Omdahl consider the origin of human

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language capacity. They argue for a metaphysical aspect of language that is not strictly physical, and conclude that metaphysical notions as reason and asking questions are not something we have received from monkeys or chimps through the evolutionary chain. Rather, the capacity of speech a human being obtains is the product of an intelligent being.

The Appendix: *Rational Inquiry and The Force of Scientific Data: Are New Horizons Emerging?*, John Ankerberg and John Weldon consider the emerging evidence for intelligent design and see that the hypothesis of God to answer the origins of life question, is not only what theists are advancing, but the evidence is beginning to sway even the naturalists to consider seriously the possibility of an intelligent designer in light of the evidence.

Overall, this book is advanced reading. However, the apologetic value of the book, other than the extensive bibliographies at the end of each chapter, is the scientific evidence that argues strongly on behalf of an intelligent designer and as such, it seems to be a useful tool for dialogue with naturalistic skeptics. Moreover, it's also a much needed tool to educate the church who have unwittingly swallowed a naturalistic worldview, and as such, have crippled many in their respective vocations (be it biology, education, law, philosophy, etc.) to letting their *light shine* for Christ.

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