
SPOKANE CHAPTER

REASONS TO BELIEVE

OCTOBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

Dawkins' Latest Attack on ID is More of the Same

By Cathy Bakken

In late September, Richard Dawkins' latest book was published. And at first glance [The Greatest Show on Earth: The Evidence for Evolution](#) is written specifically for us, the non-believers. According to one reviewer, "Dawkins came to realize that a disturbingly large percentage of the American and British public didn't share his enthusiasm for evolution. In fact, they actively abhorred the idea, since it seemed to contradict the Bible and diminish the role of God. So Dawkins decided to write a book for these history-deniers, in which he would dispassionately demonstrate the truth of evolution beyond sane, informed, intelligent doubt."

However, the book itself belies any true kindness toward us. "After only a few pages of *The Greatest Show on Earth*, however, it becomes clear that Dawkins doesn't do dispassionate, and that he's not particularly interested in convincing believers to believe in evolution." There is no mention of any of the arguments... See Page 2

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Chapter Meeting: Sunday October 18, 3-5pm

We invite you to attend our monthly meeting. We'll have refreshments, talk about the latest ID news, and usually watch a DVD or hear a presentation from Dan.

Date: Sunday, October 18

Time: 3-5pm

Host: Dan and Cathy Bakken

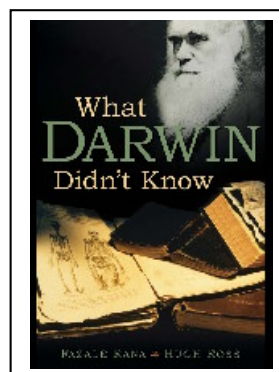
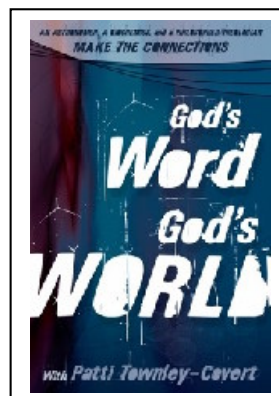
Location: 13216 N. Peone Rd, Mead, WA

Phone: 466-2693

Directions: Our new house is on the eastern side of Peone Prairie, which is between the Argonne Hill and Greenbluff. Feel free to call us if you need more specific directions.

Two New Booklets

These two booklets, are \$5 each from RTB. In the first an ordinary Christian interviews RTB scholars to answer compelling questions about science and faith. The second booklet presents evidence against evolution and for a creator. Available from RTB's web site, www.reasons.org.



Resources to Be Aware Of

Here are three resources that will help you to be more informed about apologetics and intelligent design.

Stand to Reason: Stand to Reason is an excellent apologetics organization based in Southern California, with a focus on relativism and its effects on our culture. The organization deals especially well with cultural issues such as abortion, homosexuality, and ethics. Many excellent books and audio products are available. Two we've enjoyed are "Bible in Fast Forward" – an audiobook, and the book "Relativism: Feet Firmly Planted in Mid-Air". There are also lots of great articles available on the web site, www.str.org. You can either search for key words, or click on "Content Categories". And under "Links" is one of the best lists of apologetic organizations out there.

Darwin's Dilemma: This is the latest video product put out through Illustra Media and the Discovery Institute. We watched it together last month. It covers the Cambrian Explosion, and the problems it brings for neo-Darwinian evolution. Visit www.darwinsdilemma.org to learn more about it, and we have a few copies available for purchase at our meeting this month. At this web site, by clicking on "Multimedia", you can view a clip from the DVD, as well as a wonderful 3 ½ minute video of the inside of the cell, and how it works.

Evolution News and Views: The Discovery Institute's Center for Science and Culture has one of the best blogs on the intelligent design movement, giving you the most recent news in the intelligent design battle. Look here for in-depth coverage of any news items to do with evolution. <http://www.evolutionnews.org/>. Here is where you'll learn about the anti-ID movement's efforts to thwart intelligent design, such as the recent case where Darwin's Dilemma was to be screened in Los Angeles – the Smithsonian Institute insisted that the site holding the event cancel it.

Dawkins Continued

of the foremost intelligent design advocates. He repeatedly attacks young-earth creationism, ignoring the old-earth view.

The evidences he does cover fall often into the category of "poor design" examples. That is, he argues that because a particular feature is not optimized, God could not have been the creator of that design – God would have done it better than that. Unfortunately, this kind of argument has frequently fallen down, as over time good uses and purposes have been found for so many of these "poor designs".

Dawkins also talks a lot about research into e coli that Michael Behe has specifically dealt with in his 2007 book, [The Edge of Evolution](#).

For a more complete review of the book from an ID perspective, visit the Discovery Institute's Evolution News and Views blog, http://www.evolutionnews.org/2009/10/richard_dawkins_the_greatest_s.html#more

Who We Are and What We Do: Your Local Reasons To Believe Chapter

We're here to answer your questions and help local Christians and churches get more answers about science and the bible issues.

- * We offer trained apologists and bring in national speakers to speak at local churches and other events to share these exciting discoveries.
- * We help Christians overcome their fear of science and equip them to use it as an effective tool in spreading the Gospel.
- * We reach out to skeptics and non-believers with gentleness and respect, encouraging them to evaluate their worldviews.

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