
SPOKANE CHAPTER

REASONS TO BELIEVE

NOVEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

Happy Thanksgiving!

As we celebrate, we can remember the many miracles God did to give humans the best place to live in the universe. Every good thing that we have has been provided by God, directly or indirectly. Here are a few examples to remind you of his creativity and divine providence.

Our star is incredibly stable compared to most stars, so we haven't been fried to a crisp.

Earth is protected from continual asteroid/comet bombardment by the gravitational pull of the beautiful gas giant planets in our solar system.

Early in the earth's history, the bombardments that did take place enriched our planet with minerals and nutrients that allowed advanced civilization to occur, so that we live in remarkable comfort.

Our atmosphere is a perfect balance of usefulness and clarity. Not only can we breathe, we can also see the night sky, which speaks so eloquently of God.

God also takes a personal interest in each of us, and has a plan for our lives that includes infinite communion with him in his next act of creation – a new heaven and a new earth. His free gift of salvation makes this joy possible! Thank God!

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Chapter Meeting: Sunday November 22, 3-5pm

We invite you to attend our monthly meeting. Once again, we are invited to Coy Fullen's house for this meeting. See below for directions. Thanks for hosting, Coy and Nancy!

We'll watch more of the April 2009 debate between William Lane Craig and Christopher Hitchens that we started last month. The topic is, "Does God Exist". Even according to atheists, Craig won the debate. Here are a couple of quotes: According to Biola Professor Doug Geivett, Craig "was thoroughly prepared for every aspect of the debate and never faltered in his response to objections by Hitchens," and Hitchens's arguments "were largely unfocused, sometimes disconnected, and often irrelevant." From commonsenseatheism.com, an atheist reviewer said, "Frankly Craig spanked Hitchens like a foolish child."

Date: Sunday, November 22

Time: 3-5pm

Host: Coy Fullen

Location: 24006 N Rose Meadow Ln
Colbert, WA

Phone: 276-6388

Directions: From Spokane, go north on Hwy 395 (stay left at the Y). Go about 9.5 miles, and watch for Half Moon Road. The next street will be Wild Rose Rd. Turn left. Watch for Rose Meadow Lane on the right. Coy's house is the first on the right.

SCHEDULE NOTE: We will not meet in December. Next Meeting: January 17, 2010.

RTB Releases New “Rough Cuts” DVD Series

A new set of eight DVDs has just been released from RTB. They are from events on campuses and other speaking events across the country where RTB scholars have participated. Available for \$35+S&H from reasons.org/catalog.

Volume 1 - The Great Debate: Hugh Ross and Victor Stenger At the 2008 Skeptics Society Conference entitled Origins and the Big Questions, Hugh Ross debated Victor Stenger, emeritus professor of physics and astronomy, on the question of God as Creator. Hugh, on the affirmative side, argues that science affirms the God of the Bible as the Maker of all things. His strategy of integrating interpretations of God's Word with evidences from God's world sets the stage for an exchange you won't want to miss. Recorded on October 4, 2008 at Caltech.

Volume 2 - UCSB Skeptics Forum: Hugh Ross and Fazale Rana with Harry Nelson and Kevin Plaxco In this lively exchange, Hugh Ross and Fazale Rana present their testable creation model while Harry Nelson, professor of physics, and Kevin Plaxco, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, present their alternate views and debate the creation model's viability. Audience interaction is included. Recorded on February 20, 2008 at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Volume 3 - Beyond the Cosmos: Hugh Ross Join Dr. Hugh Ross as he describes the implications of discoveries confirming extra-dimensional reality. These findings carry profound impact for understanding paradoxical Christian doctrines that have perplexed and even divided believers for long: a How can God be both singular and plural? a How can God foreknow everything and yet grant us free will? a How can God listen and respond to billions of prayers all at the same time? Explore answers to these and other challenging questions surrounding science and faith--in a language everyone can understand! First aired on CCN TV Nov 2, 2006.

Volume 4 - Religious Pluralism: Kenneth R. Samples Join Kenneth R. Samples as he addresses common questions skeptics raise about the Christian faith, including such topics as the problem of evil, science and the Bible, and religious pluralism. Audience interaction is included. Recorded on February 27, 2007 at the Second Baptist Church, Houston, TX.

Volume 5 - Divine Design: Jeff Zweerink Discover that science and faith are allies as Jeff Zweerink shares how the Bible describes a big bang creation event. Learn about recent scientific advances that dramatically affirm Scripture and demonstrate that the universe is intricately designed to support human life. Recorded on August 22, 2008 at village View community Church in Summerfield, Florida.

Volume 6 - Made in the Image of God: Kenneth Richard Samples Join Kenneth Richard Samples as he explores the historic Christian doctrine of imago Dei. Discover ways to test antropological theories—including Darwin's view that humans naturally evolved from animals. Learn seven significant differences that separate human beings from animals. Recorded on October 23-24, 2009, at Christ's Church in Washington, D.C.

Volume 7 - The Cell's Design: Fazale Rana Hear Fazale Rana describe his journey to faith and show how current scientific discoveries at the cellular level provide evidence for a supernatural Designer—the God of the Bible. Your spirit will soar as you see the elegance of the cell's features as testimony to God's creative majesty. Recorded February 2009, at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

Volume 8 - A Revealing Fossil Record: Hugh Ross Here Hugh Ross discusses the fossil record from an astronomer's perspective, explaining how solar flares, biodeposits, and extinction events all point to a divinely designed world. Discover how the history of life yields evidence for a Creator rather than for blind evolutionary processes. Recorded on October 23-24, 2008 at Christ's Church in Washington, D.C.

“Signature in the Cell” Makes Bestseller Science Book List

According to the Discovery Institute’s blog, www.evolutionnews.org, Amazon.com announced their bestselling books of 2009 and Signature in the Cell: DNA and the Evidence for Intelligent Design (HarperOne) by Dr. Stephen C. Meyer made the top ten in the science category.

According to the [online retailer](#), books are “[r]anked according to customer orders through October. Only books published for the first time in 2009 are eligible.” Signature in the Cell’s publisher, HarperOne, reports that the book is entering its fifth printing in as many months, and continues to sell strongly both online and in stores.

“Here we are, celebrating the 150th anniversary of the publication of *Origin of Species*, a book mistakenly assumed to have killed the design argument in science,” said Robert Crowther, director of communications at Discovery Institute’s Center for Science and Culture, which is the intelligent design research program directed by Dr. Meyer.

“Did Darwin refute the design argument? No. And here’s a book about the science of intelligent design that shows how the design argument is being revived with powerful new arguments relevant to our culture.”

In *Signature in the Cell* Dr. Meyer shows that the digital code imbedded in DNA points powerfully to a designing intelligence and helps unravel a mystery that Darwin did not address: how did the very first life begin?

He weaves together a journey of discovery with an argument for intelligent design and explains how intelligent design can be formulated as a rigorous scientific argument using the very same method of reasoning that Darwin used.

Text from www.evolutionnews.org.

William Lane Craig: More News and information

For those interested in the debate we’ve been watching together at our meetings, you may like to know that Craig debated another atheist this November, biologist Francisco Ayala. Visit <http://bradleymonton.wordpress.com/2009/11/06/report-on-the-craigayala-debate-at-indiana-university/>

For a brief description of the debate and links to an audio version available online.

Craig also has transcripts of a number of his debates (not his latest ones, yet) available at his website, www.reasonsfaith.org. Click on content to link to debates, articles and more by this professor in the philosophy of religion. Craig teaches at Talbot School of Theology and has written a number of scholarly apologetics books and articles, and some popular titles and articles as well. He is considered to be a major Christian apologist.

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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