



# SUGGESTED READING MATERIALS

*If you found today's message valuable and you would like to engage in further reading as a result, we would encourage you to check out the following resources in your journey. These resources range in ease and difficulty of reading and so we would encourage you to check them out online prior to purchasing them.\**

## **THE REASON FOR GOD - TIM KELLER**

Timothy Keller, the founding pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City, addresses the frequent doubts that skeptics and non-believers bring to religion. Using literature, philosophy, anthropology, pop culture, and intellectual reasoning, Keller explains how the belief in a Christian God is, in fact, a sound and rational one. To true believers he offers a solid platform on which to stand against the backlash toward religion spawned by the Age of Skepticism. And to skeptics, atheists, and agnostics he provides a challenging argument for pursuing the reason for God. (Amazon)

## **THE CASE FOR A CREATOR: A JOURNALIST INVESTIGATES SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE THAT POINTS TOWARD GOD - LEE STROBEL**

Has science discovered God? When Lee Strobel was a high school freshman, science convinced him that God didn't exist. Since then, however, incredible scientific discoveries have not only helped restore Lee's faith, but have strengthened it. Lee is not alone. More and more scientists, confronted with startling, cutting-edge evidence from many areas of research, no longer believe the universe just "happened" or that life arose by mere chance. Behind a universe of staggering complexity, they are seeing signs of a Master Designer. Are your science textbooks still telling you the same "facts" that Lee's did years ago? Prepare to be astonished by what some of today's most respected experts have to say about: the birth of the universe, Darwinism and the origin of life, the astounding fine-tuning of the cosmos, and amazing molecular machines & DNA research. Then weigh the evidence for yourself, and consider this question: Could it be that the universe looks designed ... because it is? (Amazon)

## **DARWIN'S BLACK BOX: THE BIOCHEMICAL CHALLENGE TO EVOLUTION - MICHAEL BEHE**

Naming Darwin's Black Box to the National Review's list of the 100 most important nonfiction works of the twentieth century, George Gilder wrote that it "overthrows Darwin at the end of the twentieth century in the same way that quantum theory overthrew Newton at the beginning." Discussing the book in *The New Yorker* in May 2005, H. Allen Orr said of Behe, "he is the most prominent of the small circle of scientists working on intelligent design, and his arguments are by far the best known." From one end of the spectrum to the other, *Darwin's Black Box* has established itself as the key text in the Intelligent Design movement—the one argument that must be addressed in order to determine whether Darwinian evolution is sufficient to explain life as we know it, or not. (Amazon)

## **THERE IS A GOD: HOW THE WORLD'S MOST NOTORIOUS ATHEIST CHANGED HIS MIND - ANTONY FLEW**

In *There Is a God*, one of the world's pre-eminent atheists discloses how his commitment to "follow the argument wherever it leads" led him to a belief in God as Creator. This is a compelling and refreshingly open-minded argument that will forever change the atheism debate. (Amazon)

## **DARWIN ON TRIAL - PHILLIP E. JOHNSON**

Is evolution fact or fancy? Is natural selection an unsupported hypothesis or a confirmed mechanism of evolutionary change? These were the courageous questions that professor of law Phillip Johnson originally took up in 1991. His relentless pursuit to follow the evidence wherever it leads remains as relevant today as then. “The facts and the logic of the arguments that purport to establish a theory of evolution based on Darwinian principles,” says Johnson, “continue to draw their strength from faith – faith in philosophical naturalism.” In this edition, Johnson responds to critics of the first edition and maintains that scientists have put the cart before the horse, regarding as scientific fact what really should be regarded as a yet unproved hypothesis. Also included is a new, extended introduction by noted biologist Michael Behe, who chronicles the ongoing relevance of Johnson’s cogent analysis. (Amazon)

## **WHERE THE CONFLICT REALLY LIES: SCIENCE, RELIGION AND NATURALISM - ALVIN PLANTINGA**

This book is a long-awaited major statement by a pre-eminent analytic philosopher, Alvin Plantinga, on one of our biggest debates – the compatibility of science and religion. His theme in this short book is that the conflict between science and theistic religion is actually superficial, and that at a deeper level they are in concord. Plantinga examines where this conflict is supposed to exist – evolution, evolutionary psychology, analysis of scripture, scientific study of religion – as well as claims by Dan Dennett, Richard Dawkins, and Philip Kitcher that evolution and theistic belief cannot co-exist. Plantinga makes a case that their arguments are not only inconclusive but that the supposed conflicts themselves are superficial, due to the methodological naturalism used by science. On the other hand, science can actually offer support to theistic doctrines, and Plantinga uses the notion of biological and cosmological “fine-tuning” in support of this idea. Plantinga argues that we might think about arguments in science and religion in a new way – as different forms of discourse that try to persuade people to look at questions from a perspective such that they can see that something is true. In this way, there is a deep and massive consonance between theism and the scientific enterprise. (Amazon)

## **THE LANGUAGE OF GOD - FRANCIS S. COLLINS**

An instant bestseller, *The Language of God* provides the best argument for the integration of faith and logic since C.S. Lewis’s *Mere Christianity*. It has long been believed that science and faith cannot mingle. Faith rejects the rational, while science restricts us to a life with no meaning beyond the physical. It is an irreconcilable war between two polar-opposite ways of thinking and living. Written for believers, agnostics, and atheists alike, *The Language of God* provides a testament to the power of faith in the midst of suffering without faltering from its logical stride. Readers will be inspired by Collin’s personal story of struggling with doubt, as well as the many revelations of the wonder of God’s creation that will forever shape the way they view the world around them. (Amazon)

## **WEBSITES**

[www.reasons.org](http://www.reasons.org)

[www.bethinking.org](http://www.bethinking.org)

*\*Please note that not all the content contained in any of these books or on any of these websites represents the viewpoint of RockPointe Church and its leadership. We advise you to use discernment as you engage with these materials.*