

finite wisdom of its Author and thereby more suitable for shaping our spirits and our hearts. This thought is what we should keep before us in all our researches. (Lenhoff and Lenhoff, 1986, pp.187–188).

So to those who would declare that religion and science should be divorced—that it is impossible for a true scientist to be religious—we must direct your attention to the “father of experimental zoology”, an extraordinary experimental scientist of the first degree, as an outstanding counterexample, more than sufficient to refute such a notion.

## References

- Baker, J. 1952. *Abraham Trembley of Geneva*. Edward Arnold, London.
- Lenhoff, H. and S. Lenhoff. 1988. Trembley’s polyps. *Scientific American* 258(4):108–113.
- Lenhoff, S. and H. Lenhoff. 1986. *Hydra and the birth of experimental biology—1744*. (This work includes a translation of Trembley’s book on hydras). Boxwood Press. Pacific Grove, CA.

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## Book Reviews

### *How Now Shall We Live?* by Charles Colson and Nancy Pearcey Tyndale House Publishers, Wheaton, IL. 1999, 574 pages, \$23

The title is derived from a classic earlier book and film series by Francis Schaeffer (1976). Colson and Pearcey trace the negative impact of a secular worldview on Western culture over the last quarter century, where Schaeffer left off. This includes the consequences of Darwinism, sociobiology, New Age nonsense, liberal theology, and the sexual revolution. But there is hope. Many personal stories are related of people who have overcome great odds and succeeded in making a difference with God’s help. Included are several prison rehabilitation stories, as expected from Chuck Colson.

Colson and Pearcey see far beyond the need for personal conversion. They believe, with scriptural backing, that Christians need to confront the secular world in all areas of life. They see the need to redeem both the creation and the culture in a gracious yet bold manner (p. 296).

The book contains 45 short chapters. Many of these resemble transcripts from Colson’s daily “Breakpoint” radio

program, aired on 1,000 stations. Nancy Pearcey is executive director of this program. The book exposes the weaknesses of evolution and promotes creation. There is an emphasis on the Intelligent Design Movement. One inconsistency is the promotion of the big bang theory (p. 58). The authors apparently have not thought through the many biblical contradictions of a big bang origin and its accompanying long ages.

Charles Colson and Nancy Pearcey are excellent writers with a worldwide audience. It is a blessing to have them promote creation in this book and in their ministries.

#### Reference

- Schaeffer, Francis. 1976. *How Should We Then Live?* Fleming H. Revell, Old Tappan, NJ.

Don B. DeYoung

### *The Mythology of Modern Dating Methods* by John Woodmorappe Institute of Creation Research, El Cajon, California. 1999, 118 pages, \$13

Radiometric dating is considered by many creationists and most uniformitarians as the single greatest body of evidence for an old earth. Creationists have critiqued it in a variety of ways, but none has done as thorough and convincing a job as that contained within the pages of this excellent monograph by John Woodmorappe. Woodmorappe takes a decidedly different slant from many other creationists who see inherent structure and organization in the raw data and are searching for a non-chronometric or an alternate chronometric explanation of the perceived organization in the data. The RATE research project, underway at the Institute of Creation Research is an example of

this type of approach. Woodmorappe instead seeks to demonstrate that the elegant conjunction of the numerous data points presented in the literature is an artifact of multiple overlapping subjective factors in data selection and presentation, and a probabilistic agreement that would be statistically expected. The basic premise of this book is sound. If the results of isotopic dating cannot possibly be wrong (due to numerous *ad hoc* explanations), then they cannot possibly be scientifically valid or of evidentiary weight.

As the title advertises, the structure of the work is developed along the presentation of numerous “myths” of isotopic dating, organized into the various chapters, and

followed by irresistible refutation of each myth—often by the exhaustive citation of the technical literature. The most interesting chapter of the book for me was Chapter 9, “How Often Do Dating Methods Agree by Chance? An Exploratory Study.” In this chapter, Mr. Woodmorappe makes a strong statistical case for the non-concordance of isotopic dates. This is a fertile area for any statisticians in the CRS. I would eagerly anticipate additional work in this area, and believe that such research would be of great value to creationism.

This is not an easy book to read, especially if you have no background in the various isotopic methods, but it is rewarding and in my opinion, it stands as the definitive refutation of isotopic dating arguments to date and will proba-

bly remain so until Mr. Woodmorappe decides to put out a second edition! I strongly recommend that serious creationists put this book in their library. If you find it initially intimidating and not an easy read, you will find it an invaluable trove the next time that you face a serious question about isotopic dating. Finally, the book is valuable in its implicit condemnation of those Christians who insist that the “data” demand an old earth—another myth exploded by Mr. Woodmorappe. In light of their persistent refusal to accept God’s Word as their primary historical resource, I hope that they at least have the decency to blush after reading this excellent book.

John K. Reed

### *Ride to Glory* by Warren LeRoi Johns

General Title, PO Box 344, Brookville, MD 20833. 1999, 414 pages, \$28.95

The publication of a book that would set the record straight regarding the public perception of the trial of John Scopes may well have been a goal of many creationists since the biased stage play and movie, *Inherit the Wind*. Warren LeRoi Johns has preempted that goal with his novel, *Ride to Glory*.

The book covers seven days at a fictitious “Mid-Atlantic University,” during which faculty and students stage a campus mock trial of “The People vs. Charles Robert Darwin” and attempt to resolve the question “Is Evolution a Fact?”

The person who hatched the idea for the presentation, Pace Terhune, initially asks a fervent evolutionist, Dr. Karl Striker, to be the main character, a witness for Darwin. When Striker refuses, Terhune settles for Ph D. candidate Joshua Ryan, a firm anti-evolutionist and anti-Darwinist. A major flaw in the story is that no witness is brought forward to take the opposing view. While on the “witness stand” Ryan presents a host of reasons for not believing Darwin’s theory, with a panel of eight people sitting as a jury to decide the outcome.

The author employs a unique method for presenting facts by having Ryan quote from creationists and others opposed to evolution. In almost all of Ryan’s testimony he does not give credit to his sources, although the reader is made aware of the origin of the facts by means of extensive references. The storyline would have been made more ac-

ceptable had Ryan put the quotes into his own words or given credit where it is due.

Touted by the publisher as a novel “wrapped in a fascinating storyline designed to attract readers not otherwise interested in evolution’s flaws,” it is instead a litany of many of evolution’s deficits, eminently acceptable to creationists. However, I fear that the scientific details will prove a barrier to the non-scientifically minded reader. Diehard evolutionists will not accept the extensive criticisms of Darwin and evolutionary theory, even though a well-written, thoroughly enjoyable, romance courses through the pages.

The author is to be commended for the extensive research he has done, using 205 references from publications familiar to members of the Creation Research Society. Creationists owe a debt of thanks to author Johns for bringing the creation/evolution debate to the public stage. People who, heretofore, had not even realized that Darwin had said anything wrong will be astonished at what scientists have said and what research has revealed. Creationists should read this book and give it to their evolutionist friends and then discuss the book’s contents. Creationists have wanted a book such as this with a fictional storyline to keep the interest of people with a limited science background. We hope that this is it.

Clifford L. Lillo

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## Erratum

CRSQ 37(3), December 2000, page 153. In footnote 1, replace “xzero” with “ $x_0$ ”.