THE UPSIDE TO TACKLING TROUBLESONE QUESTIONS

By Katy Siedentopp

Can you recall a time when you wondered where or how evolution fits into the science-and-faith conversation? Have you tried to talk with someone about the topic and found yourself tangled up in its complexities? You’re not alone. David Walton, a donor from Australia, says he had long been troubled by the “evolution idea.”

Baptized in his teens and committed to following Christ, David still had nagging questions and concerns about evolution. Being a naturally questioning person, David searched for an explanation of the topic that aligned with his faith in Jesus and trust in God’s Word. After much scouring of the internet, he came across the RTB website and began devouring articles about evolution—the differences between macro- and microevolution, whether the theory stacks up against the scientific evidence, and how it all relates to the Bible.

“RTB was a HUGE help to me,” David says, “to answer basic problems that come up when we take the common Scripture versions of creation, with sometimes poor translation, literally. I became much more confident of the reality of God and the truth of the Scriptures.”

If not for the resources you make possible, David’s story might have taken a different turn. David discovered peace in sound scientific explanations that support his faith, and he now donates to RTB for the sake of others who need similar help along their faith journeys.

The impact you make as a donor in the lives of those searching for truth is invaluable. Your support encourages people like David to tackle their questions and doubts head-on, ultimately bolstering their conviction and their love for God. Thanks to you, many are discovering the harmony between science and faith in Christ—and that’s an outcome worth rejoicing over.

Visit shop.reasons.org/donate-now to help others like David find answers to the nagging questions that are hindering their faith in Jesus this holiday season.
For many Christians, bold statements about “evolution as established fact” raise doubts they hesitate to address—or even to admit. In RTB’s new book, Thinking about Evolution: 25 Questions Christians Want Answered, Fazale Rana and his coauthors seek to change this response.

What’s the significance of the book’s timing?
In some respects, this book is timeless. I often encounter people who believe that since “evolutionary biology can explain everything in nature,” we don’t need God. For these people, evolution keeps them from faith. We want them to reconsider. The book is timely because many Christians also assume the case for biological evolution is unassailable and struggle with how to fit evolution into a Christian framework. This book shows real scientific concerns surrounding evolutionary theory; the theory does not have an all-encompassing explanatory power.

What led you to take a Q&A approach?
It’s impossible to produce a comprehensive book on such an expansive topic as evolution. The Q&A approach seemed like a more manageable way to address it. The questions we chose reflect what people typically ask about key issues surrounding the relationship between evolutionary theory, the Bible, and Christianity. This book will help curious Christians and non-Christians think through the intersection of creation and evolution on their own.

Why work with multiple authors?
Legitimate, diverse scientific and philosophical concerns with the evolutionary paradigm do exist. What better way to show this reality than by having three PhD scientists and a philosopher of science collaboratively make the case that evolution is scientifically—not just theologically—insufficient.

How were the authors chosen?
Selection was based on our different areas of expertise. The now late Sue Dykes, a distinguished paleoanthropologist, was an obvious choice. Mark Perez is an articulate philosopher of science. Anjeanette Roberts and I have both published research in the molecular life sciences from different vantage points. These various backgrounds made us a well-balanced team to tackle the questions posed in the book. We’ve all encountered scientific reasons to be skeptical of evolution. This book also allows us to showcase Mark and Sue’s work as members of RTB’s Scholar Community.

What do we hope this book will accomplish?
I’d consider this book successful if it helps Christians—especially those completing high school or college biology courses—develop a contextual framework for examining evolution in light of their faith. Many Christians feel the tension between scientific credibility and commitment to their faith. One option is to embrace evolutionary creation (sometimes called theistic evolution). Another option is to realize that shortcomings within evolution leave room for further investigation and pose no threat to Christianity. I also hope Christian readers will gain a set of tools to engage in conversations about evolution and to do so from a position of confidence.

You can receive Thinking about Evolution as our thank-you for your gift of any amount between now and December 31. To make a gift and request your copy of the book, visit shop.reasons.org/donate-now.

In this season of thankfulness, we want to take a moment to express our deep gratitude for you. RTB has grown and touched countless lives this year because of your generosity. Here is what one person told us:

“I want RTB to grow and reach all across the globe. Dr. Ross and others have restored my faith when it was at its lowest and will always have my love and respect more than I can convey.”

You helped restore a faith that can now reflect God’s light to others. Thank you for your sustained dedication and partnership in helping skeptics, seekers, and Christians see that science and faith are allies. May God bless you this holiday season!
“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” —Romans 15:13

Even though 2020 has been unlike any we could have anticipated or imagined, God’s goodness and faithfulness have remained steadfast through it all. In fact, the Lord has blessed RTB with unique opportunities to reach out—even to grow—in the midst of unprecedented challenges.

Your steadfast prayers and support brought forth an abundance of new YouTube content, as well as two new books, *Weathering Climate Change* and *Thinking about Evolution*. These resources opened up scores of interview opportunities and connected us with a much wider audience, especially among not-yet-Christians. You enabled us to transition to a more robust software system and expand our graduate degree program at Regent University. You laid the foundation for the soon-to-come unveiling of our totally renovated website and our updated logo.

We count it a privilege to do ministry alongside you, and we eagerly await the opportunities God has prepared for us as we step into 2021 together.

Overflowing with gratitude and hope,

Your RTB teammates