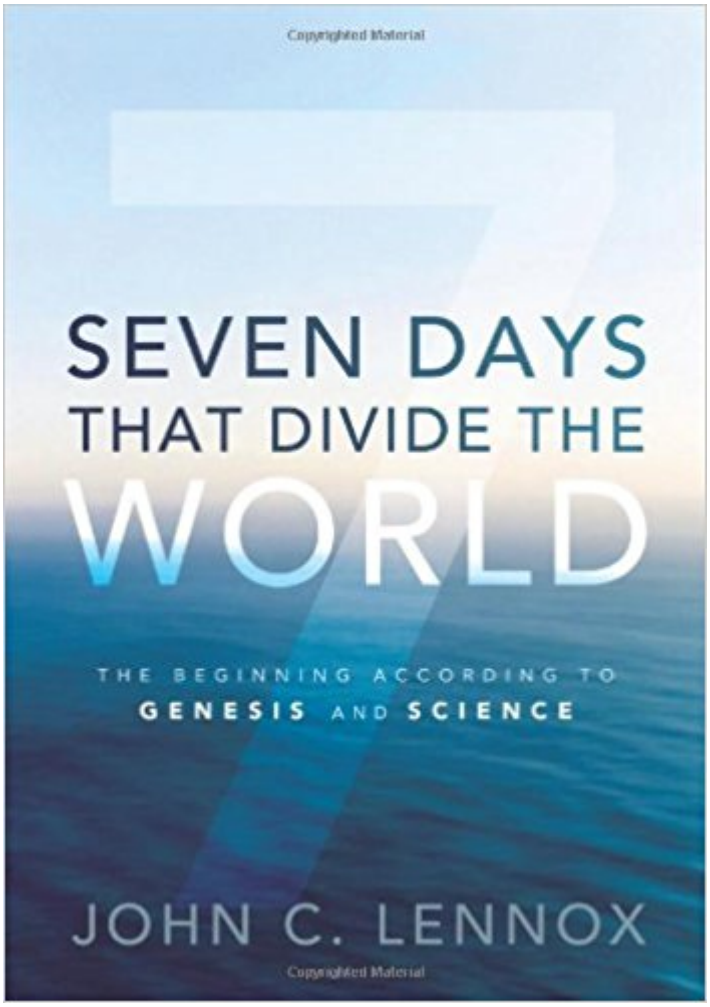
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Seven Days That Divide The World: The Beginning According To Genesis And Science



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Synopsis

What did the writer of Genesis mean by Ã¢â ¬Å“the first dayÃ¢â ¬Â•? Is it a literal week or a series of time periods? If I believe that the earth is 4.5 billion years old, am I denying the authority of Scripture? In response to the continuing controversy over the interpretation of the creation narrative in Genesis, John Lennox proposes a succinct method of reading and interpreting the first chapters of Genesis without discounting either science or Scripture. With examples from history, a brief but thorough exploration of the major interpretations, and a look into the particular significance of the creation of human beings, Lennox suggests that Christians can heed modern scientific knowledge while staying faithful to the biblical narrative. He moves beyond a simple response to the controversy, insisting that Genesis teaches us far more about the God of Jesus Christ and about GodÃ¢â ¬â„¢s intention for creation than it does about the age of the earth. With this book, Lennox offers a careful yet accessible introduction to a scientifically-savvy, theologically-astute, and Scripturally faithful interpretation of Genesis.

Book Information

Hardcover: 192 pages

Publisher: Zondervan; 37571st edition (August 27, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0310492173

ISBN-13: 978-0310492177

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.8 x 7.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 167 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #52,659 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #59 inÃ Â Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Criticism & Interpretation > Old Testament #66 inÃ Â Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Science & Religion #131 inÃ Â Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Bible Study > Old Testament

Customer Reviews

John C. Lennox (PhD, DPhil, DSc) is Professor of Mathematics in the University of Oxford, Fellow in Mathematics and the Philosophy of Science, and Pastoral Advisor at Green Templeton College, Oxford. He is author of God's Undertaker: Has Science Buried God? on the interface between science, philosophy, and theology. He lectures extensively in North America and in Eastern and Western Europe on mathematics, the philosophy of science, and the intellectual defense of

Christianity, and he has publicly debated New Atheists Richard Dawkins and Christopher Hitchens. John is married to Sally; they have three grown children and four grandchildren and live near Oxford.

Lennox has proven himself here and elsewhere, especially with God's Undertaker, to be a brilliant mathematician and thinker. This book tackles a broad spectrum of creation and life. Lennox approaches the subject from the view point of the initial chapters of Genesis. He discusses competing theories about how the world came into existence and exists. These include varying interpretive approaches to Genesis from Biblical scholars and from atheistic scientists and philosophers. Lennox, rather than turning up a big stone, kicks many smaller stones in an attempt to shine a light on evidence for a Creator that is the Biblical God.Lennox displays expertise in the areas of these stones he kicks up. He has read Biblical theology and commentaries, scientists, philosophers, professors of various fields, etc., He is a battle-tested defender of the Christian faith having debated Richard Dawkins and others. His writing and assertions are at a high caliber of intelligence and cogency. I think they could be better focused to make a narrower yet stronger case for his theories on creation and life. Nevertheless, his voice offers strong support to the Biblical worldview, whether readers disagree in whole or in part. Lennox provides a message that must be dealt with by advocates of other views that want to maintain legitimacy.A shortcoming for me is the lengthy discussion and refutation that occurs with Old Testament Biblical scholar John Walton with whom I was unfamiliar. I imagine those familiar with Walton may find the 15 pages more fruitful than I did. I'm not sure Lennox is in his best arena debating Walton who seems to be a renowned and prodigiously published Old Testament scholar.I think the final appendix that discusses Theistic Evolution and the God of the Gaps was the strongest section of the book. I encourage readers to read this section, as it is every worthwhile.This book is interesting and substantive and will spark more thinking and research by readers.This book is interesting and helpful

In a world where so many yell, scream, and call their opponents names in order to score Religious Points against their opponents (and here I refer to both believers and non-believers), John C. Lennox offers a much-needed sanity check. In this book, Lennox clearly, politely, and succinctly lays out his case why the Bible in its original Hebrew does not require one to believe that the Earth was created a few thousand years ago over the course of 168 hours. For a believer such as myself who does not buy the case for Young Earth Creationism, this book is helpful and much appreciated.

I personally am not a Christian and don't believe any of the new Creationist 6500 year old theories so finding a Christian who uses correct science while keeping to their faith is interesting. Lennox comes across as a very intelligent man and makes his case in an easy to understand way. My only issue with this book is that he sweeps many things under the rug. While I quite enjoy the fact that he says, I don't have an answer for this and this takes more discussion and understanding, it feels like there is a lot more of that going on in this book than their should be. He is making a case and not trying to make it seem like he knows everything, which again is extremely refreshing, but at the same time he is so bound to what the bible says about each topic that he is afraid to go anywhere else. He says it himself that people need to read the text for what it is, not what is beyond what it's saying, not adding or subtracting from it. I find this a difficult thing to do when you are not bound by strictly biblical principles. For a Christian, this book would probably be a great way to bring science and their faith closer together, but from the outside, this is just an interesting read by a smart, genuine author who tends to miss more often than hit. His book made me look at Christianity in a new way, but not the world.

An excellent, clear, and well written book on the Genesis days of creationÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¦their meaning and the scope of interpretation we can place upon the truth of these words in the light of modern science. For those looking for light to be shined on this centuries old dispute by a scientist having impeccable credentialsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¦this is a brilliant expose that removes much of the confusion and leaves both scriptural integrity and scientific facts in place without compromising either or oversimplifying the issues. An excellent book I would recommend for anyone interested in this subject.

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