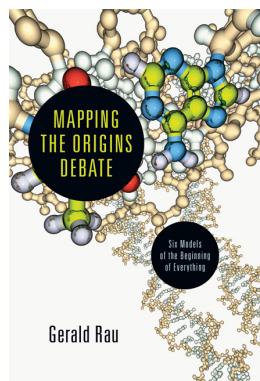


BOOK DETAILS



Mapping the Origins Debate: Six Models of the Beginning of Everything

Available January 2013

\$18, 210 pages, paper
978-0-8308-3987-2

A civil approach to the origins debate

Guiding our way through the eternal conflict between natural and supernatural, *Mapping the Origins Debate* outlines the six predominant models for explaining the birth of the universe. Gerald Rau, former biology professor at Wheaton College and Trinity Christian College, works his way through these models after a long personal journey and battle between faith and science.

“For many years I wandered the poorly mapped frontier of origins research, seeking a path that would reconcile modern science with conservative Christianity,” says Rau. “As a science teacher, I struggled to develop a method to present the diversity of opinion in a way that students could understand, that was faithful to the science without promoting or denigrating any religious position. A myriad of philosophical, theological and scientific threads intersect in the area of origins, but few Christians have the time and expertise necessary to unravel them. This book was written to help students identify the traps baited with half-truths, set by proponents of various models to ensnare the unsuspecting.”

Rau details not just what the differences are among the options but why the proponents of each model disagree and why a resolution between them should not be expected as long as their philosophical assumptions remain the same.

The six models outlined are

- Naturalistic evolution
- Non-teleological evolution
- Planned evolution
- Directed evolution
- Old earth creation
- Young earth creation

“There is a war going on, but it is not a war between science and religion. Rather, it is a war about what science is, a war that is philosophical more than religious,” says Rau. The text reveals how the same scientific evidence is interpreted with vast differences in each model, based on unique sets of

BOOK DETAILS



Gerald A. Rau (Ph.D., Cornell) is founder and chief editor at Professional English International, Inc., a team providing high quality editing services in English academic writing, based at National Chung Cheng University in Chiayi, Taiwan. He was previously an adjunct professor teaching biology courses at Wheaton College (IL) and at Trinity Christian College (IL). Rau has an impressive history of education with degrees in biology, science education, horticulture, plant breeding, vegetable crops and international agriculture, which are all subjects he continues to include in his writings as an independent scholar.

philosophical and theological assumptions. This ultimately leads to deep-seated conflicts between each model. In light of this, there is an increased emphasis throughout *Mapping the Origins Debate* on remaining civil. Rau says, “The book seeks to present six models of origins in as objective and non-critical a way as possible, to promote understanding, mutual respect and constructive dialogue.”