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## **NEW INTERVARSITY PRESS BOOKS RESPOND TO BESTSELLERS**

Richard Dawkins, atheist, Oxford University professor and author of the bestseller *The God Delusion*, has met his match. Alister McGrath, fellow Oxford colleague and a former atheist himself, along with professor Joanna Collicutt McGrath, has written *The Dawkins Delusion? Atheist Fundamentalism and the Denial of the Divine*. The book will refute Dawkins's dogmatic and emotionally charged arguments, specifically those against religious practice and belief in God.

The McGraths are ideal candidates to evaluate Dawkins's ideas. Alister McGrath earned a doctorate in molecular biophysics before going on to become a leading Christian theologian. He is currently president of the Oxford Center for Christian Apologetics and professor of historical theology at Oxford. Joanna Collicutt McGrath studied experimental psychology at Oxford, then went on to specialize in clinical neuropsychology, and subsequently studied Christian theology. Currently she is lecturer in the psychology of religion at Heythrop College, University of London. Associate editorial director Jim Hoover comments, "The McGraths show *The God Delusion* to be just what it is—a piece of atheistic fundamentalism. Both are trained in the sciences, so they are on able footing in assessing Dawkins's opinions. As Michael Ruse puts it, they show why *The God Delusion* makes him 'embarrassed to be an atheist.'" The book is scheduled for a July 2007 release.

InterVarsity Press will also publish *Misquoting Truth: A Guide to the Fallacies of Bart Ehrman's "Misquoting Jesus"* by Timothy Paul Jones. Scheduled for an August 2007 release, the book will discuss Bart Ehrman's bestselling *Misquoting Jesus* and its misleading conclusions about how the New Testament came into existence and how biblical documents have been transmitted through the centuries.

In *Misquoting Truth*, pastor and researcher Jones explores and explains the ins and outs of copying the New Testament, why lost Christianities were lost, and why the Christian message still holds true today. While conceding that Ehrman has many of his facts straight, Jones argues that Ehrman is far too quick to jump to false and unnecessary conclusions. Hoover states, "Timothy Paul Jones is a remarkable writer, schooled in biblical studies, but able to make complex issues plain to ordinary readers."

According to director of sales and marketing Jeff Crosby, a national major marketing campaign with print and broadcast media is planned for both books. Crosby states, "The works of Bart Ehrman have deeply impacted the understanding of the historical reliability

of the canon, and the works of Richard Dawkins have popularized the notion that belief in a God who is there and is not silent is simply a delusion. We believe the counter claims Jones and the McGraths make in these books are urgently needed in the face of the bestselling works that have captured the imagination of so many readers who have not tested their claims. Both books are highly accessible in their content, yet borne out of rigorous scholarship and deep reflection on the issues.”

InterVarsity Press was the logical choice to publish these works. Publisher Bob Fryling explains, “As a publishing house that is committed to both the highest standards of scholarship and the need to be critically engaged in contemporary issues, InterVarsity Press is publishing *The Dawkins Delusion?* and *Misquoting Truth* as clear and convincing refutations of the questionable and misleading scholarship that seeks to deny the evidence for the truth of God’s existence and the historical biblical record.”

As an extension of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA, InterVarsity Press serves those in the university, the church and the world by publishing resources that equip and encourage people to follow Jesus as Savior and Lord in all of life.

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