

Stanley L. Jaki

Intelligent Design?



This booklet on the Intelligent Design theory of evolution was prompted by the front-page report which *The New York Times* devoted to that theory in three consecutive days this past August. Those reports and other cover stories surely exposed an aspect of that theory which is its at least indirect connection with biblical fundamentalism.

But that theory has in its armor other and far more serious chinks about which Christians, who take seriously Saint Paul's warning in the Romans that their service is a "reasoned service," should be fully aware.

On no account should they espouse the fallacy of the "biblical" doctrine of the special creation of each species. This notion flies in the face of sound exegesis and sane theology.

The shortcomings, often very serious, of Darwinian theory cannot be remedied with Intelligent Design theory, which philosophically cannot cope with design and purpose. Moreover, it is a subtle rehash of the doctrine of special creation. Even worse, as it claims to be a "scientific" theory of evolution, it implies that design, insofar as it means purpose (and indeed divine purpose) can be the object of measurements, which is the touchstone of truth in science.

ISBN 0-9774826-0-X



2005

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Real View Books
1436 Devonshire Lane
Port Huron, MI. 48060
www.realviewbooks.com

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Jaki, Stanley L. (1924-)

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1. Theories of evolution 2. Intelligent Design 3. Science and religion

ISBN 0-9774826-0-X

The cover is a reproduction of William Blake's "The Ancient of the Days."

Printed in the United States of America

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