

Review: Eric Barrett and David Fisher, *Scientists Who Believe: 21 Tell Their Own Stories*, Scripture Press Foundation, England, UK, 1986 (1988 edn.)

Pages: 208

Inspiring Testimonies

This book demolishes the atheistic trope that “no scientist believes in creation”. Twenty-one scientists tell their unique stories of conversion to Christ and how it augmented their scientific endeavours.

Written at a time when the Soviet Union overshadowed Europe, there are some unique insights into the fallacies of atheistic reasoning.

I) Flight to Faith (p. 1-9)

Christian preaching was illegal in the Soviet Union.

Physicist and mathematician Dr Dotsenko realised there must be a very powerful *organising* force counteracting nature’s disorganising tendency. Such a force must be nonmaterial, otherwise it too would be subjected to disorder.

II) Cause and Effect (pp. 10-18)

Environmentalist Paul Jutzkiewicz cites answer to praye as confirming God’s existence.

III) Seeing Things Differently (pp. 19-27)

Plant biochemist Dr Robet Selvendran compares his research into edible plants to discovery of eternal life found in Christ.

IV) Forsaking Fallacies (pp. 28-35)

Three common fallacies concerning Christianity are:

1. One born in a 'Christian' country will become a Christian.
2. Most Christians are simple people.
3. Many become Christians solely for material gain.

Ex-Muslim and telecommunications scientist Talib Barwan.

V) From Witches to Worship (pp. 36-45)

Laser physicist Ron Smith got involved into the occult as a teenager which still has aftereffects to this day. However, as a student saturated with evolution, he looked into Genesis and found the Biblical creation account of God setting a perfectly-ordered universe into motion which defies man's explanation.

VI) The Axiomatic God (pp. 46-54)

Math lecturer Anne Sweeney speaks of her assurance found in God, also that her faith is placed in unprovable axioms of mathematics as self-evident truth, much like God's existence is self-evident.

VII) "I Couldn't Help Others Because I Couldn't Help Myself" (pp. 55-63)

Meteorologist Susan Steinmetz found out God could direct her career path.

VIII) Anxious for Nothing (pp. 64-73)

Geographer Joseph Greeson is involved with AgI geoengineering research.

As a seeker, he went to a Bible study to argue and thought the people there were too close-minded. Later, he was convinced by the harmony between Old and New Testaments that there was one mind behind the Bible.

Other scriptures like Ecclesiastes 1.7 describing the phenomenon of the hydrologic cycle convinced him of the Bible's accuracy.

IX) In Search of Truth (pp. 74-82)

AI expert Dr David Tonge remarks on *experiencing* the truth of God (John 14.6) by being born again.

Scientific investigation answers *some* questions but never *all*. Its 'truths' are only ever contingent and subject to revision at any time.

The spiritual realm is far more real than the material, which is transient.

X) Beyond Einstein (pp. 75-90)

Physicist Dr Randall Fisk sees God's excellence at the sub-atomic level.

Where Einstein couldn't believe in a personal God, Randall found Him via Jesus Christ's love and personal, after rejecting blind chance as an acceptable reason for the world's existence.

Neutrino detection requires a 300T flash tube detector, which glows if the particle strikes it by chance.

XI) The God Who Couldn't Be Hidden (pp. 91-101)

Soviet architect Alexander Semyonov (alias) found the form and function of nature irresistible evidence of a Creator.

Materialists believe mind is nothing more than a reflection of our physical environment as conveyed by our senses. This creates a paradox for designers; how can they create something new out of an environment which has never contained it?

In the Soviet Union, atheism is inculcated from the primary grades through the university level...Radio, television, and the printed word are often used for atheistic propaganda, of which the fundamental thesis is: 'Science refutes religious delusion'.

Alexander read atheistic literature because he, "wanted to verify my views that God did exist. And the many materials I read could not give me a single argument sufficient to undermine my convictions".

XII) Moon Man in Moscow (pp. 102-108)

Astronaut Col. James Irwin recounts his trip to the moon on Apollo 15 and how God's presence actually *intensified* the farther he travelled from earth.

XIII) Twenty-Four Million Mile Man (pp. 109-118)

Astronaut Col. Jack Lousma made 858 orbits in Skylab at a 270 mile-altitude, each one taking 93 min.

XIV) From One Heavenly Subject to Another (pp. 119-130)

Astrophysicist Dr Robert Newman has four degrees, but changed his career to theology when considering the high opportunity cost of lost souls if remaining in physics.

XV) Crossing Bridges (pp. 131-139)

Mathematician John Holmes steps out onto the bridge of faith and is not let down. He sees merit in Pascal's Wager, and that his faith grew in academic circles despite opposition.

XVI) I'm a Missing Link (pp. 140-151)

Radio broadcaster David Fisher took the gospel to the Soviet Union via radio waves, which was the method reaching 80% of converts.

Unbelievers are taught the Bible is a man-made book, and that 'science' has disproven God.

Atheists assume matter is eternal and so have no need of a creator.

In the 1950s, Soviet cosmonauts Yuri Gagarin and Gherman Titov didn't see God in space, which was taken as evidence He doesn't exist.

XVII) Medical Magellan of Paediatric Surgery (pp. 152-163)

Paediatric surgeon Dr Koop once separated three sets of Siamese twins. He was US Surgeon General under Ronald Reagan.

Esophageal atresia is absence of a normal esophageal opening.

He points out the schizophrenic nature of the U.S., that one team of doctors will work on saving the life of a premature baby, while at the same time others in another hospital are killing one.

XVIII) Researching the Longer Youth (pp. 164-171)

Biochemist Dr Robert Herrman has studied longevity; the oldest people live in Georgia, Ecuadorian Andes, and Nepalese Himalayas.

Aged creatures have more of a hairpin-shape DNA molecule than uniform double-helix. This creates problem with DNA reading and therefore replication.

He contrasts this earthly finite life with eternal life guaranteed by the Gospel.

XIX) Communicating-With God! (pp. 172-182)

British radio pioneer Richard Andrews explains one can be certain of successful communication with God.

In the 1920s, it was fashionable to believe science could explain everything.

Richard recounts his battle with cancer and comfort found in the Bible, a battle which he lost in May, 1980.

XX) Good Enough for God? (pp. 183-190)

Quality Assurance engineer Robert Peach likens his studies to the ultimate standard God shows in the Ten Commandments, which are unobtainable and lead to sub-standard lives.

XXI) The Wisdom of Hindsight (pp. 191-204)

Climatologist Dr Eric Barrett developed a science-based radio program to broadcast the gospel into the Soviet Union.

It is sometimes claimed that faith in God is “beyond logic”.

He uses an analogy of the Scientific Method (Observation, Analysis, Modelling, Experimentation) to the Christian’s walk in life.

Appendix (pp. 205-208)