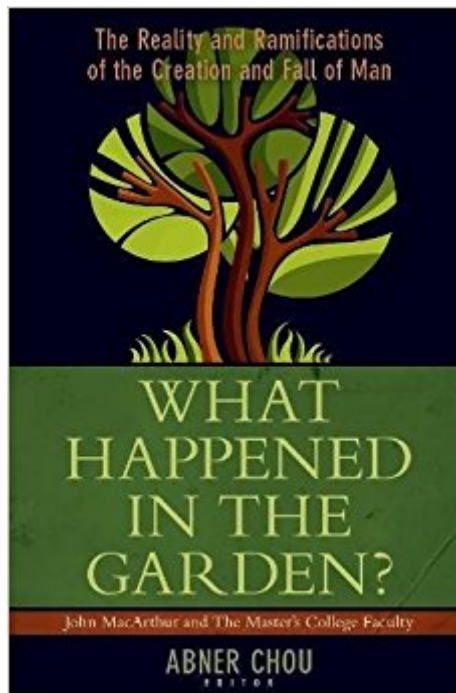


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What Happened In The Garden?: The Reality And Ramifications Of The Creation And Fall Of Man



Synopsis

Evangelicals are no strangers to the creation versus evolution debate. Now the argument has spread beyond the contents of the creation account and into Genesis 2-3, with speculation about the historicity of Adam, and the fall. But does it matter which position one holds? Is anything really at stake? The faculty of The Master's College come together to contend that the second and third chapters of Genesis are indeed historical, that there are excellent reasons for believing so, and that it is an essential issue within Christian thought and life. The contents of these chapters establish the history of how everything in the world came to be what it is today. This Scripture passage—Genesis 3 especially—explains what we observe in the legal system, literature, gender roles, education, psychology, and science. Far from irrelevant, the theology and historicity of Genesis are in fact critical to our everyday lives. *What Happened in the Garden?* includes new scientific, literary, business, educational, and legal perspectives on creation. Through this multidisciplinary look at the debate, the contributors prove that to change our understanding of the fall is to change the way we understand reality, to revise the Christian worldview, and to reshape the faith itself.

Book Information

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Kregel Academic (April 27, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0825442095

ISBN-13: 978-0825442094

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 0.6 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 17 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #49,975 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #52 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Criticism & Interpretation > Old Testament #121

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Customer Reviews

Abner Chou is professor of biblical studies at The Master's College and Seminary. His other works include *I Saw the Lord: A Biblical Theology of Vision* and a commentary on *Lamentations* (Evangelical Exegetical Commentary).

very interesting book

Purchased this book because I was familiar with the editor, Abner Chou, and I highly recommend it to anyone interested in a Biblical view of Genesis 1-3. This book is written by faculty members of the Masters College and Seminary and the high standards and view of the Bible are quite evident. I appreciate how the importance of the Biblical text was explained from so many angles, historicity, theology, science, sociology and even law from experts in their own fields. For anyone interested in the Bible, I can not recommend this book enough, It unveils the foundation that Genesis presents so that everything that follows comes together like a puzzle and reveals something deeper and allows you to see the bigger picture. The reading level is very accessible even for someone who barely made it through high school a long time ago but not so simple that it won't challenge anyone who reads it. But most of all this book makes you think and is a great resource to have when your beliefs are challenged.

What Happened in the Garden?: The Reality and Ramifications of the Creation and Fall of Man edited by Abner Chou is the collective effort of John MacArthur and The Master's College and Seminary faculty, and includes new scientific, literary, business, educational, and legal perspectives on creation and the fall of man. It is a worthwhile volume that will both equip and prepare the reader for a lifetime of reflection. The book is divided into three major sections with fifteen chapters, including an introduction and conclusion. Part one contains four distinct essays on Genesis 2-3. Each essay is significant in its own right, and the ground covered properly sets the stage for the remainder of the book. The opening chapter surveys the hermeneutical issues and provides the reader with adequate lenses to understand the challenges involved. Part two contains two important essays and primarily looks to deal with the theological consequences of the creation and fall. The initial chapter establishes the historic position of the Christian church regarding the universal effect of Adam's transgression. The second chapter affirms the messianic prophecy of Genesis 3:15 and theological importance of the historical Adam and Eve. Part three covers the worldview implications of the creation and fall. This final section includes seven essays and will be the practical heartbeat of the book for most readers. It is here that the contributors seek to view various aspects of reality through the lenses of Genesis 3 and the previously established worldview. There are few realities more imperative to our theological understanding of the present world than that discovered in Genesis 1-3. What Happened in the

Garden?: The Reality and Ramifications of the Creation and Fall of Man edited by Abner Chou provides an up-to-date engagement on this age-old discussion. The content is clear and appropriately organized. The presuppositions are conservative evangelical in nature, and thus some readers will be met with significant disagreement. Nevertheless, as stated above, this is a worthwhile volume that will both equip and prepare the reader for a lifetime of reflection. It comes highly recommended!

Sometimes you might think that Satan is attacking the Bible in book-chapter-verse order. It might take him a while to accomplish his purpose as there still is a remnant who believe and are willing to fight for the veracity of the Scriptures. But, eventually he gets a foot in the door and that's all he requires. Case in point Satan has already had widespread success in his attack on Genesis 1 and 2 with the attack coming from both outside and inside the walls of the church. Once Satan slithered through the doors of the church in his attack on Genesis 1 and 2, he began on the next chapter Genesis 3. What about this whole incident in the garden? Did it really happen? Were Adam and Eve real people? And whoever heard of a talking serpent? These issues (well, almost all of them) are what this volume engages. What Happened in the Garden: The Reality and Ramifications of the Creation and Fall of Man is a scholarly, technical defense of Genesis 3. The book consists of a series of focused essays that is divided into three parts: 1. Reality of Genesis 2-3, 2. Theological Ramifications of the Creation and Fall, and 3. Worldview Ramifications of the Creation and Fall. The volume is edited by Abner Chou, professor of biblical studies at The Master's College and Seminary and published by Kregel Academic. The contributors are all experts in their various fields. Chou readily admits that the content of the essays is technical by demand but that there was an attempt to make the material understandable to the lay reader by placing "technical detail in the footnotes." Unfortunately, this goal had limited success. Virtually all of the essays contain various amounts of technical detail. But that is not to infer that the lay reader cannot digest the material. All of it is well-written and all of the arguments are presented logically. The technicality of the book is its nature. Each essay is specialized. For example, if one is scientifically minded, Taylor B. Jones' contribution entitled "Thermodynamics and the Fall: How the Curse Changed Our World" is a moderately technical examination of how the laws of thermodynamics were affected by what happened in Genesis 3. It will appeal to the science buff. Jo Suzuki engages the gender debate. John MacArthur provides the concluding chapter "A Sin of Historic Proportions" one

that will be liked by theologians and Bible students. Bottom line: Regardless of your field of study or expertise, if you have even a passing interest in Genesis 3 and the importance of its literal interpretation, I would recommend that you examine this book even if you concentrated on the essays that attract your interest. Disclaimer: This book was provided to me by Kregel Publications for a fair and honest review.

Very pleased with the service and really enjoy the book

Very clear and cogent writing on historicity issues in Genesis. Highly recommended.

The book is great, just what I was looking for. thanks

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