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By John F. Haught



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Esteemed theologian John Haught brings his considerable experience to a controversial and thought-provoking topic: evolution. Writing within the formula of the well-known Responses to 101 Questions series, he gathers here questions that have arisen from conversations over the years with a variety of people--believers and scientific skeptics, those who embrace evolution and those who disdain it, and scholars and the scientifically uneducated.

The questions fall into seven categories: Darwin's Revolutionary Idea; Darwin and Theology; Creationism; Darwin and Design; Divine Providence and Natural Selection; Evolution, Suffering and Redemption; and Teilhard de Chardin and Alfred North Whitehead. They range from "Could life have originated by chance?" to "What is creationism?" and "What does our hope for 'redemption' really mean in the context of evolution?"

Haught's responses, while addressed from the perspective of Christian tradition, can be useful to persons of other traditions as well. The questions and answers, while following a progression, can be read separately and in random sequence for ease of use. With this thoughtful and concise book, Haught makes a significant contribution to the ongoing conversation on this controversial and often explosive topic.



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From Library Journal

Haught, author of several books on related subjects (e.g., *The Promise of Nature, Science and Religion*), has here taken up a daunting hotcake of a subject and treated it with an admirably calm deliberation. He is a respectful student not only of Darwin himself but also of the most respected Darwinist thinkers of our time, and his conclusion is deeply informed by the ideas of Teilhard de Chardin and Alfred North Whitehead. He holds, and few would willingly argue, that our purpose in this world is "a labor of intensifying the reign of beauty." Highly recommended.

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Review

Beginning with simple, easily accessible explanations, Haught builds up a cumulative vision of great power and beauty. -- *ST. ANTHONY MESSENGER*

Haught has here taken up a daunting hotcake of a subject and treated it with an admirably calm deliberation. -- *Library Journal*

This book is recommended for anyone who wants to think about some of the key issues concerning religion and science. --*The National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly*

About the Author

John F. Haught, who holds a Ph.D. from The Catholic University of America, is the Landegger Distinguished Professor of Theology at Georgetown University. A prolific author, his last book for Paulist Press™ was *Science and Religion: From Conflict to Conversation* (1995).

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