



## BE PREPARED

Spring is here, winter seems like a distant memory, and the end of the year is fast approaching. Therefore we would like to urge you to begin preparations for the end of year celebrations and the new year.

Those of you who are interested in children's ministry, we want to draw your attention to our Blessing Bags for 2012. Each bag contains age appropriate books, crafts, or games. There are five age categories available and retail for R45 to R55 each. Orders need to be in by October 5 in order to guarantee delivery by the end of November.

Diaries for 2013 are now available with our suppliers, so be sure to visit our website and have a look at the many great new designs.

Finally, start now at looking at your curriculum for the new year. Have a look at the small group and children's ministry resources on our website. Let us know what you are looking for and we will gladly assist you.

Blessings,  
Glyn and Linda. †

*"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."* (2 Peter 3:18)

## EVENTS

### KidZ at Heart

Children's Ministry Leaders Training

**When:** 10-11 October 2012

**Time:** 09h00-17h00

**Where:** Centurion

**Cost:** R300 (includes training, handouts and refreshments)

**Contact:** Lynnette at 011 782 4222

### Families Matter

Retreat for couples and families

**When:** 9-11 November 2012

**Where:** YFC-Cyara

**Speakers:** Dr Arnold & Joy Mol

**Contact:** admin@yfc-cyara.com

**More:** www.gracemedia.co.za †

# Blessing Bags 2012

R45



18 months – 2  
years

R45



3 - 5 years

R45



6 - 8 years

R45



9 - 12 years

R45



Teens

R55



**ALL GIFT SETS COME IN A BRIGHTLY  
COLOURED FABRIC GIFT BAG.**

**NB: Contents may differ slightly from those shown due to availability with suppliers at time of ordering**

**NB: To ensure availability of stock, please place orders by no later than Friday 5 October 2012**

## PRODUCT REVIEWS *WHO MADE GOD?*

by Edgar Andrews

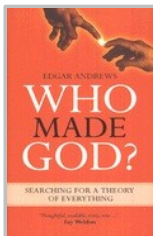
One area of life that is constantly causing strife within Christianity is in the area of science. Scientists such as Stephen Hawking and Richard Dawkins and others, seem to be committed to defy Creation as proclaimed in the Bible and replace it with Darwinian evolution. It has even crept into the church where some theologians try to marry creation and evolution together or explain creation in terms of God using the natural laws of science to create.

Edgar Andrews' book *Who Made God?* is a response to these teachings that are referred to in academia as the New Atheists. His approach is not the typical point-by-point refuting of their teachings, but rather is an insightful look at science as a whole and through that, proves the existence of God.

*Who Made God?* is not a technical book that can only be understood by the highly educated, but is written in a readable manner and is filled with subtle British humour.

Covering many scientific topics, Andrews shows how the claims of the New Atheists fall short of the evidence, that they are based on bad science and bad logic. Andrews brings the reader to a conclusion that there is a pre-existent creator who is living and active in the world today. Finally, he turns your eyes to the Creator Himself to see Him for who He really is.

*Who Made God?* is a powerful, well-written book that will appeal to the scientist, the theologian, the student and the lay person.



## *APOLOGETICS TO THE GLORY OF GOD*

by John Frame

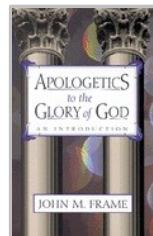
The Bible tells us in 1 Peter 3: 15 to always be prepared to give an answer for what we believe, however, a subject that many people seem to be afraid to deal with, whether it be due to lack of knowledge, or because they do not like to "argue" issues of faith with others, is apologetics.

So how does one prepare oneself to give an answer? A good place to start is John Frame's book, *Apologetics to the Glory of God*. Through the book, Frame guides you to learn the particulars of apologetic arguments from other apologists, and describes the principles that guide your discussions with non-believing sceptics.

Frame's approach to apologetics is a little different to the common trend today. Many apologists today seek to find common ground between the believer and the non-believer, and work from there to convince the sceptic about the existence of God, Jesus and salvation. Though there is nothing wrong with this approach, Frame's approach works the opposite way around. He begins with God and bases his argumentation on the Bible.

Frame uses this approach to prove Christianity to be true, defends its truths, and attacks the irrationality of other belief systems. Frame does not present many actual arguments, but rather provides the framework for all arguments to be structured on. He also ends the book showing the framework in action.

For anyone interested in apologetics, this is the first book you should read, and belongs on every apologetics bookshelf.



## *FAITH'S REASONS FOR BELIEVING*

by Robert Reymond

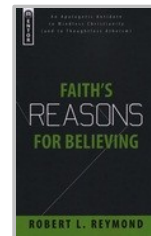
Although the church is under attack by the New Atheists, there is a trend in the church of people not knowing why they believe what they do. A trend the Reymond calls in *Faith's Reasons for Believing* as "mindless Christianity."

Originally a lecture for a seminary course on apologetics, this is a book that is written at the academic level. As with Frame's book, *Apologetics to the Glory of God*, Reymond starts with the Bible and God, and looks at the reasons for what we believe.

As Reymond himself insists that your faith either begins with the conviction that the Bible is God's Word and your faith, knowledge and reasoning is built on that foundation, or it is build on another foundation that will ultimately crumble.

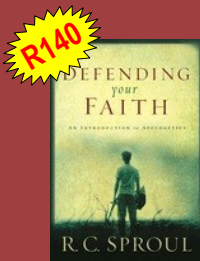
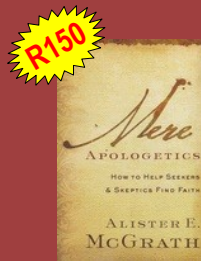
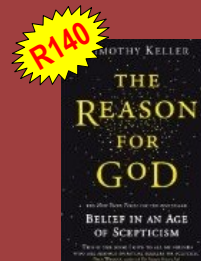
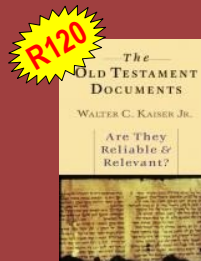
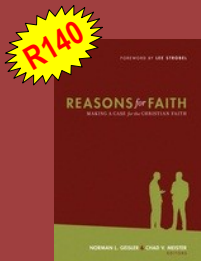
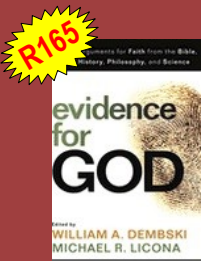
In the book, Reymond defines Christian apologetics, looks at its four basic systems, gives us five strong reasons for Christians to involve themselves in theology, argues some of the central claims of Christianity, critiques some of the approaches of modern apologists, and some of the more traditional "proofs" of God's existence.

Though technical and intimidating, Reymond's book has many useful and insightful things to say about the biblical foundations for, and biblical examples of, apologetics, and is a suitable introduction for lay readers who may not be familiar with some of the issues of Christian apologetics. It would also be of much benefit to educated Christians, theologians, pastors, and evangelists alike.



Purchase these and other great apologetics titles on our website at

[www.GraceMedia.co.za](http://www.GraceMedia.co.za)



## HYMN STORIES

### Blessed Assurance

by Fanny Crosby

It is estimated that Fanny Crosby wrote more than 8,000 gospel song texts in her lifetime. Her hymns have been and are still being sung more frequently than those of any other gospel hymn writer. Her many favourites have been an important part of evangelical worship for the past century.

It is truly amazing that anyone, and especially a blind person, could write on this variety of spiritual truths and experiences with such proliferation. For a considerable period during her life, while under contract to a music publisher, she wrote three new hymns each week. She used over 200 pen names besides her own. Many of her original texts are still being uncovered and no doubt will be published in the near future. Often the themes for her hymns were suggested by visiting ministers wishing to have a new song on a particular subject. At other times musician friends would first compose the music and then ask Fanny Crosby for the words.

Such was the case for this hymn, *Blessed Assurance*. The music for the hymn was composed by Mrs Joseph Knapp, an amateur musician, wife of the founder of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, and a close personal friend of Fanny Crosby. One day, Mrs Knapp played this melody for the blind poetess and asked, "What does this tune say?" Fanny responded immediately, "Why, that says, 'Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine.'"

Mrs Knapp published more than 500 gospel songs herself, including the popular classic, *Open the Gates of the Temple*.

Fanny Crosby died at the age of ninety-five. Only eternity will disclose the host of individuals who have been won to a saving faith in Jesus Christ or those whose lives have been spiritually enriched through the texts of her many hymns.

Engraved on her tombstone at Bridgeport, Connecticut, are these significant words taken from our Lord's remarks to Mary, the sister of Lazarus, after she had anointed Him with costly perfume:

*She hath done what she could.*

Taken from *101 Hymn Stories* by Kenneth W. Osbeck. †

## BIBLE BASICS

### Matthew *The Book of the Servant King*

Matthew's Gospel, the first book of the New Testament, firmly rooted in the teachings of the Old Testament, forms an ideal bridge between the two testaments.

**Intended Audience:** Matthew wrote his Gospel with a Jewish audience in mind. This is seen through the 53 quotes and 76 allusions from the Old Testament. It also explains to the reader that Jesus came as a servant king, rather than a conquering king as was expected by the Jews at the time.

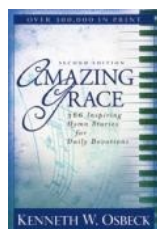
**Author and Date:** The author is not clearly identified in this Gospel, but it has always traditionally been known as the Gospel according to Matthew, one of the disciples.

It was written sometime in the first century shortly after the death of Jesus.

**Structure:** The Gospel of Matthew clearly demonstrates Jesus as the fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecies concerning the Messiah. It also presents the themes of the Kingdom of Heaven, ethics/morality as presented in the Old Testament, servanthood and the end times.

The Birth of the King (ch. 1-2)  
Baptism & Temptation (ch. 3-4)  
Sermon on the Mount (ch. 5-7)  
Jesus' Authority Seen (ch. 8-11)  
Growing Opposition (ch. 12-15)  
Kingdom's Present Focus (ch. 16-17)  
Kingdom Greatness (ch. 18-20)  
Confrontation (ch. 21-23)  
The Future Kingdom (ch. 24-25)  
The King Crucified (ch. 26-27)  
Resurrection (ch. 28)

**Value for Today:** Though we are not Jewish, nor may we not have any Jewish heritage, the Gospel of Matthew has much value for today. Despite the obvious, it tells us of the life of Jesus as a man, it also gives us advice for life (through the Sermon on the Mount), encouragement for life today (through His miracles and demonstrations of the Kingdom), and hope for the future (knowing that He will come again, fulfilling His prophecies like He did for the Jews of the Old Testament). †



**Amazing  
Grace**  
by Kenneth W.  
Osbeck

**R180**

## BUY BULK & SAVE

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[www.gracemedia.co.za](http://www.gracemedia.co.za)  
Available from September 2012



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For Everyone**

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**Save R75**

**NIV Bibles**

**R1000  
for 24  
(24 per box)**

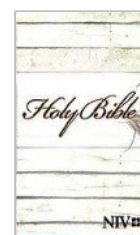
**Save R200**



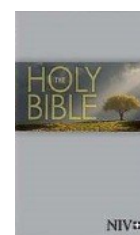
Forest Design



Pier Design



Wood Design



Tree Design

## COMING SOON

**October Baby DVD**

*October Baby* tells the story of Hannah, a beautiful 19-year-old college freshman. In spite of her energetic personality, Hannah has always felt like an outsider. Something is missing. She has always carried a deep-seated sense that she has no right to exist.

Then she discovers she was adopted. Shocked Hannah's world is rocked even more when she learns why she was never told before - because she was the survivor of a failed abortion. Desperate for answers, she embarks on a road trip with some friends (including her oldest and closest friend Jason) to find her biological mother. In the process she unexpectedly discovers hope, love and forgiveness.

This uplifting and beautiful film may change the way you look at the world, your loved ones...and life.

Due for release in September.

**R140**

ORDER ONLINE AT  
[www.gracemedia.co.za](http://www.gracemedia.co.za)



## COLOUR US IN

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:16-17



## BIBLE TRIVIA CHALLENGE

Quotations taken from the NIV.

1. What verse in Hosea contrasts mercy and sacrifice?
2. What book tells of the "song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb"?
3. Finish the Beatitude, "Blessed are the poor in spirit..." (Matthew 5)
4. What prophet commanded, "Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit"? (Ezekiel 18)
5. To what Bible heroine did King Ahaserus promise half of his kingdom if she asked? (Esther 5)
6. Finish the command from Deuteronomy, "Love the LORD your God with all your heart"?
7. Who sang "He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty"? (Luke 1)

8. Who said, "There is no one righteous, not even one"? (Rom. 3)

9. Who was commanded to fight when he heard the "sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees" (2 Samuel 5)

10. Who said to the sea, "This far you may come and no farther"? (Job 38)

11. Of whom did the children of Belial say, "How can this fellow save us"? (1 Samuel 10)

12. Who asked the question, "Is your child all right"? (2 Kings 4)

13. Who said, "He who has ears, let him hear"?

14. Who said, "Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand"? (1 Chron. 29)

15. Who prayed, "May your enemies be scattered; may your foes flee before you"? (Numbers 10)

Answers in next edition. †

## WHO AM I?

**Directions:** See if you can figure out who the following Bible characters are from the riddles.

☪

I married a woman from a foreign nation,  
Which turned out to be unwise,  
For they took me captive at night,  
To do the work of a mule.  
But God's will was done in the end,  
As I brought the house down on them.  
Who am I?

☪

The state of our people was at stake,  
So I broke the law of the king,  
Did what my uncle suggested,  
And arranged dinner with the king.  
Who am I?

☪

When my world came crashing down,  
My friends pitied me and tried to help,  
But their words were empty and vain,  
As I ended up arguing with God instead.  
Who am I?

Answers in next edition. †

Last Edition's Answers  
Bible Trivia Challenge: 1. Esther 2. Moses 3. "I am the Light of the world" (John 9:5) 4. The Shunammite 5. Paul 6. Job 7. Stephen before the Sanhedrin 8. God and money/mammon 9. Revelation (21:6) 10. Cain 11. Paul 12. Peter and Andrew 13. Ezekiel 14. Joshua  
Who Am I?: Michal, Darius, Lot's Wife.

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