

The Mercy of Hell, the Surprise of  
Judgment, the Hope of Holy War

# The Skeletons in God's Closet

JOSHUA RYAN BUTLER

FOREWORD BY RICK MCKINLEY

# Skeleton In Gods Closet

**Paul L Maier, Ph.D.**



## **Skeleton In Gods Closet:**

*The Skeletons in God's Closet* Joshua Ryan Butler, 2023-08-22 How can a loving God send people to hell Isn't it arrogant to believe Jesus is the only way to God What is up with holy war in the Old Testament Many of us fear God has some skeletons in the closet Hell judgment and holy war are hot topics for the Christian faith that have a way of igniting fierce debate far and wide These hard questions leave many wondering whether God is really good and can truly be trusted The *Skeletons in God's Closet* confronts our popular caricatures of these difficult topics with the beauty and power of the real thing Josh Butler reveals that these subjects are consistent with rather than contradictory to the goodness of God He explores Scripture to reveal the plotlines that make sense of these tough topics in light of God's goodness From fresh angles Josh deals powerfully with such difficult passages as The Lake of Fire Lazarus and the Rich Man The Slaughter of Canaanites in the Old Testament Ultimately The *Skeletons in God's Closet* uses our toughest questions to provoke paradigm shifts in how we understand our faith as a whole It pulls the skeletons out of God's closet to reveal they were never really skeletons at all

**A SKELETON IN GODS CLOSET** , *A Skeleton in God's Closet* Paul L. Maier, 2007-09 When an ancient skeleton is discovered in Israel will it shed new light on the life of Jesus or plunge the world into chaos Dr Jonathan Weber Harvard professor and biblical scholar is looking forward to his sabbatical year on an archaeological dig in Israel But a spectacular find that seems to be an archaeologist's dream come true becomes a nightmare that many fear will be the death rattle of Christianity Carefully researched and compellingly written *A Skeleton in God's Closet* explores the tension between faith and doubt when science and religion collide In the end it's a thought provoking page turner driven by one man's determination to find the truth no matter what the cost *Skeleton in God's Closet* Paul L. Maier, Ph.D., 1995-01-01 **A Skeleton in God's Closet** Paul L. Maier, 2012-04-30 When an ancient skeleton is discovered in Israel will it shed new light on the life of Jesus or plunge the world into chaos Dr Jonathan Weber Harvard professor and biblical scholar is looking forward to his sabbatical year on an archaeological dig in Israel But a spectacular find that seems to be an archaeologist's dream come true becomes a nightmare that many fear will be the death rattle of Christianity Carefully researched and compellingly written *A Skeleton in God's Closet* explores the tension between faith and doubt when science and religion collide In the end it's a thought provoking page turner driven by one man's determination to find the truth no matter the cost *Skeleton in Gods Closet* Paul L. Maier, 1994-08-23 **A Skeleton in God's Closet** Woody Keim, Craig Tolson, Andrew Horton, 199? *A Skeleton in God's Closet* Paul L. Maier, 1995-12-19 From the author of *Pontius Pilate* comes a fascinating novel of archaeological adventure The evidence seems incontestable bones unearthed in an Israeli tomb are those of Jesus of Nazareth But which is the hoax the archaeological find or the Resurrection itself *More Than a Skeleton* Paul L. Maier, 2012-04-30 Jonathan Weber was at the helm of an action packed archaeological dig in *A Skeleton in God's Closet* Now Dr Weber plays an integral part in the investigation of what is either a convincing dangerous hoax or the return of Christ *Secret Scrolls* Robert M.

Price,2010-12-27 *Secret Scrolls* is the very first examination of some forty novels in which someone discovers a new gospel. Sometimes it turns out to be a hoax, will it be debunked before it can work its mischief? If it proves genuine, will it be brought to light? Or will corrupt church officials manage to prevent it? The book evaluates what each author has to say about historical Jesus scholarship or New Testament research in general. Sometimes the authors have done their homework; other times they haven't bothered, and they wind up dishing up crazy rewrites of history and outlandish theories. These novels deal with abiding issues of faith even without some new discovery. As soon as one engages in biblical apologetics, one has stepped onto the marshy ground of probabilistic arguments, an entirely different epistemology that automatically replaces simple faith. And so one comes to hold one's religious convictions more tentatively, having become genuinely vulnerable to new evidence. One may not remain a believer for long. On the other hand, one invites fanaticism if one's faith is dangerously predicated on the assurance that no new discovery will send one back to the drawing board. *Secret Scrolls* assesses what each author imagines it would take to derail and debunk Christianity. How mighty a blow must be dealt before the religion would fall? Dan Brown's notion that a married Jesus would debunk the Nicene Creed is laughable. As Wilbert Francis Howard once argued in his brief and fascinating history of New Testament research, there is a genuine romance of New Testament scholarship, and many of us are delighted to have the adventure continue in the speculative imaginations of capable novelists. These books can both entertain and educate, and so will *Secret Scrolls*.

**The Constantine Codex** Paul Maier,2011-05-23 Harvard Professor Jonathan Weber is finally enjoying a season of peace when a shocking discovery thrusts him into the national spotlight once again. While touring monasteries in Greece, Jon and his wife Shannon, a seasoned archaeologist, uncover an ancient biblical manuscript containing the lost ending of Mark and an additional book of the Bible. If proven authentic, the codex could forever change the way the world views the holy Word of God. As Jon and Shannon work to validate their find, it soon becomes clear that there are powerful forces who don't want the codex to go public. When it's stolen en route to America, Jon and Shannon are swept into a deadly race to find the manuscript and confirm its authenticity before it's lost forever. *Theology in Search of Foundations* Randal Rauser,2009-08-20 In the history of Western thought, Christian theology was once considered to be the Queen of Sciences. Today it has been marginalised by a prevailing scepticism. Randal Rauser confronts the problem of developing a public voice for the theologian as engaged in true theological science while not compromising the commitment to the Christian community of faith. This book posits a viable account of theological rationality, justification, and knowledge that avoids the twin pitfalls of modern rationalism and postmodern irrationalism. Theology is freshly understood as a rigorous and rational truth-seeking discipline that seeks theoretical understanding of divine reality. Throughout the modern era, the predominant epistemological position has been classical foundationalism, a position now widely rejected by philosophers and theologians alike. Philosophers recognize that it fails to achieve a plausible account of rationality, justification, or knowledge, while theologians recognize the extent to which classical foundationalist strictures have distorted Christian doctrine. In its

place many philosophers and theologians alike have adopted a nonfoundationalist epistemology which is in turn often associated with a problematic alethic and metaphysical antirealism Engaging with the ideas of key thinkers from Descartes Locke and Kant to Bruce Marshall and Alvin Plantinga Rauser provides an accessible and provocative survey of the theological terrain of the modern and postmodern era arguing in favour of a return to a moderate foundationalism

Introduction to Theology Chris Bouter, MA, BAH,2019-05-31 In this book an attempt is made to defend monotheism particularly the Christian form of it over against the other isms such as deism atheism pantheism and polytheism In doing so the author explains that the truth is a paradox of different aspects which we tend to feel as a tension from which we want to break free And this sets the stage for all kinds of untruth They form even double and triple breaks away from the truth as the golden mean the biblical happy medium without a compromise let it be noted on the right or on the left Secondly several sections are devoted to the role of revelation It is argued that revelation and creation go hand in hand And in this also theology plays a role

*A Biblical Case for an Old Earth* David Snoke,2006-08-01 The present creation evolution debate is often cast as a choice between two positions naturalistic evolution over millions of years or miraculous creation six thousand years ago When simplified this choice is often presented as one between science and the Bible a choice that leaves much ground between the two views yet to be discussed *A Biblical Case for an Old Earth* seeks to address the gap between theistic evolutionism and young earth creationism by finally paying due attention to the biblical aspect of the debate Both a scientist and a preacher David Snoke presents a theological study of several themes in the evolution discussion including the balance theme of Scripture and the day age interpretation Complete with an appendix that gives a literal translation of Genesis 1 11 this intriguing study will interest both scientists and lay Christians who want to dig into the faith science intersection

**Opening Hearts by Opening Minds** Connie Wineland,2007-06-01 This book is for Christian readers of fiction who might experience difficulty trying to make an informed choice beyond what is being published by evangelical presses Marketed to a specific target audience evangelical fiction oftentimes leaves a reader with a strong emotional response but lacks the literary depth or the breadth of subject that could inspire life changing spiritual growth With this premise at the heart of her book Connie Wineland includes her own story of conversion to Christianity by way of reading fiction During her late twenties and early thirties particularly while in graduate school Wineland became immersed in literary and rhetorical studies while also practicing an Eastern form of religion as well as Native American spirituality However despite all her training in literary theory her readings in Romantic Victorian modern and postmodern literature which she explains as well as her personal interest in mythology and world religions kept her questioning the existence of God and the possible nature of God Then as a relatively new convert to Christianity she faced several challenges at a small Christian college where she taught literature and writing courses Eventually wanting to reach beyond the academic community Wineland began a local Christian readers group which she ran for four years She includes in this book resources and materials such as sample syllabi

and study guide questions useful Web addresses and plenty of how to information for starting and running your own book club Also included is an extensive list of annotated titles of recommended reading to get anyone started **An Asian American Ancient Historian and Biblical Scholar** Edwin M. Yamauchi, 2024-06-13 An Asian American Ancient Historian and Biblical Scholar is not simply a memoir of Edwin M Yamauchi It is an expansive multi generational story of a Japanese American family Issei Nisei Sansei that began with immigrants from Okinawa who used a narrow window of time 1900 1915 to emigrate to Hawaii to work on the sugar plantations there After the suicide of his father when he was three Edwin was raised by his mother who knew little English by working as a maid for twelve years Deprived of other distractions Edwin turned to the reading of books From a nominal Buddhist and then a nominal Episcopalian background Edwin was converted to Christ at the age of fifteen and determined to become a missionary Lacking in funds he worked his way through college With an aptitude for languages he earned his PhD under Cyrus Gordon After a short stint at Rutgers University in New Jersey he enjoyed a long career 1969 2005 at Miami University in Ohio His memoir includes descriptions of the schools societies scholars and travels of his life as well as his witness to Christ and his role in the establishment of a campus church

Parenting: Don't Try This at Home Phil Callaway, 2006-01-01 In this sparkling collection of parenting affirming stories author and award winning columnist Phil Callaway captures the amusing and bemusing experiences that tug at the heartstrings of anyone who s experienced the rollercoaster ride called family **The Light of Discovery** John D. Wineland, 2007-01-01 The Light of Discovery is a Festschrift honoring Dr Edwin Yamauchi and it focuses on the Mediterranean world The collection is ambitious in terms of time from ancient Egypt to Late Antiquity and wide ranging in topic from astrology and Gnosticism to the Van Kampen Collection of manuscripts in Orlando You're Not As Crazy As I Think Randal Rauser, 2012-01-06 Randal Rauser helps us learn how to truly dialog with those who have very differing opinions from us those we so often marginalize **The Flames of Rome** Paul L. Maier, 2014-03-18 A madman who murders his way into power lusts for ever greater glory and domination A capital city awash with corruption sensuality and political intrigue is at the flash point And caught between the crushing currents of history are a new but growing religious group known as the followers of The Way br Award winning historian and best selling author Paul L Maier has created a compelling style of documentary fiction using only known historical events and persons to bring to life first century Rome in all its excess treachery and insanity This is the Rome that the apostle Paul visits where he s placed on trial and which is forever changed by his testimony and witness Maier takes readers into the courtroom of imperial justice and into the homes of the people struggling with the new faith they ve encountered to answers questions such as How did Christianity first reach Rome Why did Paul have to wait two years for trial and was he condemned or set free Why does the New Testament account in Acts end so abruptly Who set fire to Rome and why did Nero persecute Christians so horribly Following the the family of Flavius Sabinus mayor of Rome under Nero Maier captures all the drama and tension of the political conflicts that precede and

follow the Great Fire of Rome and the epic political and religious clashes of the world's capital This is the sensational story of pagans at their worst and Christians at their best Readers won't want to put it down

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