Religious Knowledge

See also books listed in the Apologetics section below.

Calvin, John, Institutes, 1, i-ii.
Clouser, Roy, Knowing With the Heart (Downers Grove: IVP, 1999). Clouser is doctrinally Reformed, Dooyeweerdian in background. Always stimulating.
Frame, Doctrine of the Knowledge of God (P&R, 1987).
Mavrodes, George, Belief in God (NY: Random House, 1970). A very important philosophical work.
Plantinga, Alvin, and Wolterstorff, Nicholas., ed., Faith and Rationality (Notre Dame, Univ. of Notre Dame Press, 1983) Plantinga is greatly respected even in secular philosophical circles. His work is original, much discussed, and not easily classified. Requires some philosophical background. See Frame’s review of this volume in an appendix to DKG. Plantinga is of Christian Reformed background and taught at Calvin College for some years. Now teaches at Notre Dame.
Van Tillian, but veers toward Clark at points.
--., Survey of Christian Epistemology (early work).
Wolterstorff, Nicholas, Reason Within the Bounds of Revelation (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1976). Also, see under Plantinga. Wolterstorff also taught at Calvin for many years. He recently moved on to Yale.

Apologetics (General works)
Carnell, Edward J., An Introduction to Christian Apologetics (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1948). See the chapter on Carnell in Frame’s CVT.
Clark, Gordon H., A Christian View of Men and Things (Eerdmans, 1952). Clark was Reformed in theology, and a kind of presuppositionalist, but opposed to some of Van Til’s ideas. This is an excellent work, showing that many human disciplines (history, politics, ethics, etc.) require Christianity.
--, Religion, Reason, and Revelation (P&R).
Clark, Kelly James, Return to Reason (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990). Follows Plantinga (see below).
Cowan, Steven, ed., Five Views On Apologetics (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000). Includes six contributions by Frame in support of presuppositionalism. Other authors: William Lane Craig (classical), Gary Habermas (evidential), Paul Feinberg (cumulative case), Kelly Clark (Plantingan Reformed Epistemology).
--, Reasonable Faith (Wheaton: Crossway, 1994).
--, Reasons of the Heart (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996). Edgar is a presuppositionalist, very knowledgeable about culture, adept at speaking to real people.
-- Apologetics to the Glory of God (P&R, 1994).
Geehan, E. R., ed., Jerusalem and Athens (Presbyterian and Reformed, 1971). A Festschrift: essays in honor of Van Til. Some are critical of him and advocate the "traditional method," among them the essays by Pinnock and Montgomery, which sum up well the standard criticisms. See also Van Til's "My Credo," which contains a four-page outline summary of his system.

-- Philosophy of Religion (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1974).


Hanna, Mark, Crucial Questions in Apologetics (Baker, 1981). Tries to establish a position called "veridicalism," between "presuppositionism" and "verificationism." His concept of presuppositionism is a straw man; his veridicalism is very close to Van Til, once you get past the rhetoric.


Kreeft, Peter, The Best Things in Life (Downers Grove, IVP, 1984).
-- Between Heaven and Hell (Downers Grove, IVP, 1982).
-- Socrates Meets Jesus (Downers Grove, IVP, 1987). Kreeft converted to Roman Catholicism from Reformed background. He is fond of C. S. Lewis and follows Lewis's basic apologetic. Excellent writer.
-- and Tacelli, Ronald, Handbook of Christian Apologetics (Downers Grove: IVP, 1994). A comprehensive overview of the field. For example, it contains twenty arguments for God's existence.
Lewis, C. S., Mere Christianity (Macmillan)
   --, Miracles. Lewis is one of the best
   apologetic writers of all time. We can learn much
   from his style. His content is uneven.

Lewis, Gordon, Testing Christianity’s Truth Claims. A survey
   of evangelical apologists, circa 1970. Gives three
   chapters to Carnell, one to Van Til.

Marston, George, The Voice of Authority (Vallecito: Ross
   House, 1978). This is the simplest of all the
   simplifications of Van Til.

Mayers, Ronald B., Both/And: A Balanced Apologetic (Chicago:
   Moody Press, 1984). Like Hanna, tries to find a
   middle ground that allows both presuppositions and
   evidences. I think Van Til already found it. But
   there are good things in the volume.

McDowell, Josh, Evidence That Demands a Verdict (San
   Bernardino: Here’s Life, 1979). McDowell has published
   a great many books of evidences. He doesn’t worry too
   much about apologetic method, just sets out the facts.
   Lots of quotations from others. The author is not a
   profound thinker, but these books are handy summaries
   of relevant data. He does sometimes amuse, as when
   talking about the “swooooooooon theory.”

McGrath, Alister, Intellectuals Don’t Need God and Other
   Modern Myths (Zondervan, 1993). McGrath has a great reputation as an
   evangelical Oxford scholar. His appendix on Van Til, however, is
   incompetent.

Miethe, T., and Flew, Antony, Did Jesus Rise From the Dead?
   Interesting dialogue between a traditional apologist
   and a strongly anti-Christian philosopher.
   His appendix on Van Til is not well-informed.

Montgomery, John W., ed., Evidence For Faith (Dallas: Word,
   --, Faith Founded on Fact.
   --, Where is History Going? Traditional. See also
   his essay in Jerusalem and Athens (under Geehan,
   above).

Moreland, J. P., Scaling the Secular City (Grand Rapids:
   Baker, 1987). Traditional, but creative.

Morris, Thomas, Making Sense of It All (Grand Rapids:
   Eerdmans, 1992). Applies the ideas of Pascal to
   the modern situation.

Murray, Michael J., ed., Reason For the Hope Within (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans,
   1999).

Nash, Ronald, Faith and Reason (Zondervan, 1988). Nash
   is influenced by Clark, but more eclectic. Writes
clearly.

--, Worldviews in Conflict (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992).
Notaro, Thom, Van Til and the Use of Evidence (Phillipsburg: Presbyterian and Reformed, 1980). Shows that Van Til did have a positive view of the use of evidence in apologetics.
Pinnock, Clark, Reason Enough (Downers Grove: IVP, 1980).
Ramm, Bernard, Varieties of Christian Apologetics, a historical survey.
Robbins, John, Cornelius Van Til: The Man and the Myth (Jefferson, MD: The Trinity Foundation, 1986). I mention this only to warn you about it. Robbins is a fanatical follower of Gordon Clark who has very little understanding of Van Til. This book, as a critique of Van Til, is simply incompetent.
Sire, James, Why Should Anyone Believe Anything at All? (Downers Grove: IVP, 1994). Good comparison of Christianity with alternative worldviews.
Van Til, Cornelius, Christian Apologetics (Phillipsburg: Presbyterian and Reformed, 1975). This was the basic syllabus for Van Til’s first-year apologetics course. In many ways it remains the best introduction to his thought.
-- The Defense of the Faith (P&R, 1955; second abridged edition, 1963). This is his first published exposition of his system.
-- Introduction to Systematic Theology (P&R, 1974). This, together with the above three, is of major importance to understanding Van Til’s approach.
-- Why I Believe in God (OPC, undated). Pamphlet.
Van Til's only writing with a non-Christian reader in mind. Quite fascinating.
-- The Works of Cornelius Van Til on CD-ROM. Available from P&R. Most all his writings, a complete bibliography, fifty one hours of audio sermons, lectures, discussions. A very helpful tool.

**The Existence of God**

See also the general apologetic works above.

Responses by Kreeft, Flew, Craig, Parsons, Willard.

**The New Atheism**


**Evidence For Christianity, Especially the Resurrection**

See also General Works on Apologetics, above.

Lapide, Pinchas, *The Resurrection of Jesus: a Jewish Perspective* (Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1983). Lapide is a Jewish rabbi, who concluded that Jesus was actually raised from the dead. Lapide, however, accepted Jesus only as a prophet, not as the Messiah or the Son of God.

**The Problem of Evil**

See also works listed under General Apologetics, above.

Adams, Jay, *The Grand Demonstration: A Biblical Study of the So-called Problem of Evil* (Santa Barbara: EastGate, 1991). I offered some criticisms of this in AGG, which Adams answered in an Appendix. Actually, I think this is one of the better books on the subject.
Adams, Marilyn McCord, and Adams, Robert M., ed., *The Problem of*
Gerstner, John, The Problem of Pleasure (P&R, 1983). Building on the Reformed doctrine of the Fall, Gerstner argues that the real problem is this: Why should God allow fallen sinners to have any pleasure at all?
Hick, John, Evil and the God of Love. Advocates Irenaean "soul-making" theodicy.

*Philosophy*: see course in History of Philosophy and Christian Thought

*Islam* (Thanks to Bill Davis, Steve Hays, and others)


Ghaffari, Ebrahim, Strategies for Sharing the Gospel with Muslim University Students in the U.S., Iranian Christians International, Inc., P.O. Box 25607, Colorado Springs, CO 80936.


Margoliouth, D.S. Mohammed and the Rise of Islam (C.P. Putnam’s Sons, 1931). This is my favor treatment of the subject. Margoliouth was a Messianic Jew—the son of a rabbi. He was a great linguist and philologist who taught Islamic studies at Oxford and really knew his way around the primary sources. He exposes Muhammad for the charlatan he was. Scholarly, but written with dry wit. Available in other editions.


Morey, Robert, The Islamic Invasion (Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 1992). Somewhat uneven, but the theology is Reformed, and his critique packs a punch. Lots of useful material here.


Watt, W. Montgomery. The Faith and Practice of Al-Ghazali. This is a memoir of Islam's greatest thinker. Al-Ghazali suffered a crisis of faith as a young man. Gives the reader a window into the mind of Muslim. Easy to read.

Wickwire, Daniel E., A Theological Source Book for Missionaries, Elizabeth, La Rovere, Goleta, California, Self-Published, 1985, pages 252.

www.answeringislam.org

Science

Behe, Michael L., Darwin's Black Box (1996). One of the latest rounds in the creation/evolution battle. Respected by secularists and Christians, Behe argues that organisms are too complex to have been evolved by chance. Since the parts of organisms are highly interdependent, they could not be formed by tiny changes in individual parts. No part will work unless the whole organism is present.


--, Science and the Bible (Grand Rapids:
Baker, 1971). 3.95. 121. h.


--, Defeating Darwinism (1997).

--, Reason in the Balance (Downers Grove: IVP, 1995).

Klotz, John W., Genes, Genesis and Evolution (St. Louis: Concordia, 1955). 575. H. Useful older work by a Lutheran.


Lester, Lane P., and Bohlin, Raymond G., The Natural Limits to Biological Change (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984). 207. P.

Maatman, Russell W., The Bible, Natural Science, and Evolution (Grand Rapids: Reformed Fellowship, 1970). 3.50. 165. P.


is the founder of the Institute for Creation Research. His books, and those
of others from the institute, are vigorously criticized by many scientists,
some Christians among them. There are other Christian approaches to
these issues. But the work of ICR cannot be neglected.

Newman, Robert C., and Eckelmann, Herman J., Genesis One and the Age of

345. h.

Numbers, Ronald L., "Sciences of Satanic Origin": Adventist Attitudes Toward
the Seventh-Day Adventist influence upon "Creation Science."

Polkinghorne, John, Reason and Reality: The Relationship Between Science and
-- Quarks, Chaos, and Christianity

Poythress, Vern, Science and Hermeneutics (Grand Rapids:

Ramm, Bernard, The Christian View of Science and Scripture
(Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1956). 368. 3.20. h. Useful methodological
points. Argues for "progressive creationism."

Ratzsch, Del, Philosophy of Science (Downers Grove: IVP,

30. P.

Ross, Hugh, Beyond the Cosmos (NavPress, 1999).
-- Creation and Time (NavPress, 1994).
-- The Fingerprint of God (Whitaker House, 2000).
-- The Genesis Question. Ross is an old earth creationist with a high view
of Scripture and an impressive knowledge of science. He claims that every
day there is a new discovery confirming the teaching of Scripture. Has
some interesting ideas about multidimensionality. See his periodical, Facts

Rushdoony, Rousas J., The Mythology of Science (Nutley:

Van Till, Howard, Young, Davis, Menninga, Clarence, Science Held
Verbrugge, Magnus, Alive (Vallecito: Ross House, 1984). 159. P. Dooyeweerd’s son-in-law, a urologist, attacks the notion that life could have come from nonlife.
--., Man’s Origin, Man’s Destiny (Wheaton: Harold Shaw, 1968). 5.95. 320. H.
--., Rocks, Relics, and Biblical Reliability (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1977). 141. P.

Culture, the Arts

Begbie, Jeremy, Voicing Creation’s Praise (interesting thoughts on Christianity and music).
Calvin, John, Institutes of the Christian Religion, various editions. 3.6-10.
Carter, Stephen L., The Culture of Disbelief (Basic Books, 1992?).
Cochrane, Charles N., Christianity and Classical Culture.
Dooyeweerd, Herman, Roots of Western Culture (Toronto: Wedge, 1979). 228.p.
Drew, Donald, Images of Man (Downers Grove: IVP, 1974). 2.95. 121. p. Film.
--, Unmasking the New Age (Downers Grove: IVP, 1986).
192. p.

Guinness, Os, Dining With the Devil (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1993).
113. p.
--., The Dust of Death (Downers Grove: IVP, 1973).
4.95, 419. p.
--., and Seel, John, ed., No God But God: Breaking
With the Idols of Our Age (Chicago: Moody Press,

Hart, Darryl G., "What Can Presbyterians Learn from Lutherans?" Logia 8.4
(Reformation, 1999), 3-8. Two kingdoms.

Hegeman, David Bruce, Plowing in Hope: Toward a Biblical Theology of Culture
(Moscow, ID: Canon Press, 1999).

Henry, Carl F. H., ed., Quest for Reality: Christianity and the

Horton, Michael, "Defining the Two Kingdoms: One of Luther's and Calvin's
--., Where in the World is the Church?


Jellema, Roderick, Peter De Vries: A Critical Essay (Grand

Jones, Douglas, and Wilson, Douglas, Angels in the Architecture: a Protestant
Vision for Middle Earth (Moscow, ID: Canon Press, 1998).

--., Spirit Wars (Escondido: Main Entry, 1997).

Kelley, Michael, "The Modernity Monster," negative review of books by David
Wells, Contra Mundum 15, 68-73.

Kennedy, D. James, and Newcombe, Jerry, What If Jesus Had Never Been
in which the gospel has affected culture.

Kuyper, Abraham, Lectures on Calvinism (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans,
1931). 3.00. 199. h.


4.25. 156.p.
--., Turn Back the Night (Westchester: Crossway,

--., Of Other Worlds: Essays and Stories (NY: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich,
1966).
--., They Asked For a Paper: Papers and Addresses (London: Geoffrey
--., The Weight of Glory and Other Addresses (NY: Macmillan, 1980).


Romanowski, William D., *Dancing in the Dark: Youth, Popular Culture, and the Christian Media*
--. *Eyes Wide Open: Looking for God in Popular Culture* (2001)
--. *Pop Culture Wars: Religion and the Role of Entertainment in American Life.*
--. *Risky Business: Rock in Film.*


   --, Theology of Culture.
Wells, David, God in the Wasteland (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994).
   --, No Place For Truth (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993).

Postmodernism

Edgar, William, "No News is Good News," WTJ (Fall, 1995), 359-82. Good intro. by knowledgeable Van Tillian.
Grenz, Stanley J., A Primer on Postmodernism (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996). Probably the best general introduction to the subject, but I would be more critical of the postmodern movement.
Lundin, Roger, The Culture of Interpretation (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993).
Lyotard, Jean-Francois, The Postmodern Condition (Minneapolis: Univ. of Minnesota Press, 1984).
McCallum, Dennis, ed., The Death of Truth (Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1996).
Postmodernism.
Middleton, J. Richard, and Walsh, Brian J., Truth is Stranger than it Used to Be (Downers Grove: IVP, 1995). Christians who are more friendly than most toward some postmodern ideas.
Taylor, Mark, Deconstructing Theology (NY: Crossroad, 1982).
Tilley, John, Postmodern Theologies (NY: Orbis, 1994).

Islam


Colin Chapman, "Cross and Crescent" (IVP)

“A Common Word Between Us and You”


Cragg, Kenneth, *Call of the Minaret*.


Elass, Mateen. *Understanding the Koran: A Quick Christian Guide to the Muslim Holy Book* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004). Mateen is a former EPC minister with a Syrian background. It covers not only the content of the Koran, but describes Muslim attitudes toward it and compares them with Christian views of the Bible.


Ghaffari, Ebrahim, Strategies for Sharing the Gospel with Muslim University Students in the U.S., Iranian Christians International, Inc., P.O. Box 25607, Colorado Springs, CO 80936.

Gibb, H. A. R., *Mohammedanism*


Guillaume, Alfred, *Islam*.


Lingel, Morton, Nikides, ed., *Chrislam: How Missionaries Are Promoting an Islamized Gospel*. This has been a resource for those who have been very concerned of late about contextualization methods being used in the Islamic world. The PCA has a study committee looking at this. I was on an EPC work group that gave a brief assessment of what is going on. Some of the concerns of the book may be exaggerated if my friends working in the Muslim world are correct. But the book does represent a perspective within the conservative Reformed community and it raises legitimate issues.

Margoliouth, D.S. *Mohammed and the Rise of Islam* (C.P. Putnam’s Sons, 1931). This is my favor treatment of the subject. Margoliouth was a Messianic Jew—the son of a rabbi. He was a great linguist and philologist who taught Islamic studies at Oxford and really knew his way around the primary sources. He “exposes Muhammad for the charlatan he was” as one reviewer put it. Scholarly, but written with dry wit. Available in other editions.


Morey, Robert. *The Islamic Invasion* (Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 1992). Although the quality of Morey’s arguments is somewhat uneven, there’s a lot of good material here, and the book has more apologetic punch than Nazir-Ali’s. Morey also has the most reliable theology of any of these writers. Popular reading level. Bibliography.

---, *Winning the War Against Radical Islam* (Christian Scholars Press, 2002).


Pearse, Meic, Why the Rest Hates the West. IVP, 2004


Shenk, David, in conversation with a Muslim, Badru Kateregga in "A Muslim and a Christian in Dialogue".


Siegel, Bill, The Control Factor


Swartley, Keith, ed. Encountering the World of Islam (Colo Springs: Biblica, 2005). Written along the lines of the Perspectives reader, this is considered the basic training book for the Frontiers mission organization.
