



God's Crime Scene: A Cold-Case Detective Examines the Evidence for a Divinely Created Universe

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There are four ways to die, and only one of them requires an intruder. Suicides, accidental, and natural deaths can occur without any evidence from outside the room. But murders typically involve suspects external to the crime scene. If there's evidence of an outside intruder, homicide detectives have to prepare for a chase. Intruders turn death scenes into crime scenes.

Join J. Warner Wallace, former atheist, seasoned cold-case detective, and popular national speaker as he tackles his most important case ... with you on the jury!

With the expertise of a cold-case detective, J. Warner examines eight critical pieces of evidence in the "crime scene" of the universe to determine if they point to a Divine Intruder. If you have ever wondered if something (or someone) outside the natural realm created the universe and everything in it, this is the case for you.

J. Warner Wallace is a cold-case homicide detective, popular national speaker, and author of *Cold-Case Christianity*. He's been featured repeatedly on Dateline, FOX News, and Court TV. He's part of a three generation law enforcement family. J. Warner and his wife have four children and live in southern California.

God's Crime Scene: A Cold-Case Detective Examines the Evidence for a Divinely Created Universe Details

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From Reader Review God's Crime Scene: A Cold-Case Detective Examines the Evidence for a Divinely Created Universe for online ebook

Gina Burgess says

This book won't hit the shelves until August 2015, but I read an ARC, and am quite impressed. The perspective is unique, from the point of view of a homicide detective. Looking for all kinds of clues relating to why God is, and why only God could create the universe. If you have ANYone in your family that is agnostic or atheistic, if you have anyone that believes science is above all and end all, then you must get them to read this book.

Wallace presents a wall of evidence that cannot be denied. Step by step, or maybe I should say, brick by brick he builds a solid case for the Intelligent designed, and God-created universe. Everything leads to Christ. You can't go wrong with this book.

Luke Nix says

Excellent book! Check out the full chapter by chapter summary review Faithful Thinkers:
<http://lukenixblog.blogspot.com/2015/...>

Alan Fuller says

Who better to look at evidence than former atheist, and famed cold case detective, J. Warner Wallace. He points out that the interpretation of evidence can be inaccurate because it begins with an incorrect foundational idea. Life appears to be fine-tuned for life. The most reasonable cause is that God did it.

"If the fine-tuning we observe in the universe is not the result of chance, necessity, observational phenomena, or multiverse theories, what is left to consider?" Wallace, J. Warner. God's Crime Scene: A Cold-Case Detective Examines the Evidence for a Divinely Created Universe (p. 65). David C. Cook. Kindle Edition.

Wallace points out that the secret of life lies, not in its chemical basis, but in the logical and informational rules it exploits. The odds for the complex relationships between specific proteins and other important elements in cells are about 10 to the 40,000th power to 1.

The investigator looks at the foundational, regional, and local conditions of the universe. He also examines the origin of life, biology, consciousness, free will, law and order, and the existence of evil.

"When multiple divergent lines of evidence all point to the same conclusion, you can trust you're making a proper inference." Wallace, J. Warner. God's Crime Scene: A Cold-Case Detective Examines the Evidence for a Divinely Created Universe (p. 37). David C. Cook. Kindle Edition.

Joan says

Wallace uses his experience as a homicide investigator to explain the kind of evidence and how conclusions are drawn from it. He tells some of his police investigation stories and uses them as spring boards to writing about evidence for an outside agent in the origin of the universe. This is a very clear and well presented book. He has an extensive section near the end for those who want to go deeper into the issues he covers. I recommend this book to anyone interested in origins.

You can read my complete review here <http://bit.ly/1DjqSSp>.

I received a complimentary egalley of this book from the publisher for the purpose of an independent and honest review.

Debbie says

"God's Crime Scene" is an apologetic book that looks at evidence about the origins of the universe from the point of view of a cold case detective. Does the universe (including the earth, humans, and even their minds) show evidence of outside tampering or can the evidence be explained in purely naturalistic terms?

The author looked at many "lines of evidence" (cosmology, biology, etc.) as he examined the case. I felt he did an excellent job of distilling the arguments down to explanations that non-scientists can understand. He quoted people from all sides of the debate, and he presented a wide range of possible explanations in the process of finding which one best fit the evidence.

He used examples of various cases he's worked on to show how a detective examines evidence to determine if it's from an outside source and who is responsible. He then applied these methods to the evidence found in the universe. This helped to illustrate his points so I could more easily understand his reasoning.

He only examined whether there was a Divine Intruder or not and, if so, what the evidence can tell us about this intruder. He did not attempt to argue who the Divine Intruder might be. He has another book that examines the Christian Bible to see if it's trustworthy evidence, and it's a good companion book with this one. I wouldn't hesitate to give this book to anyone who is uncertain if there is a god or not. It's also a good resource for people who like to debate this sort of thing with atheists and agnostics. This book will especially appeal to those who are interested in detective work.

I received this ebook as a review copy from the publisher through netGalley.

Michele Morin says

Presenting the Evidence

Judge: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, we have before us on the witness stand of this court a seasoned, cold-case detective, J. Warner Wallace. He will testify to the veracity of his claims, set forth in God's Crime Scene, that there is, indeed, a Divine Creator. Since the only charge against you, Mr. Wallace, is faulty and illogical thinking, there are no lawyers present, and I will proceed with the questioning myself. Now, having

sworn to tell the truth, surely you must confess that this outdated notion of a Creator is something you grew up with, a childhood myth that you cling to for sentimental reasons.

J. Warner Wallace (JWW): Actually, that couldn't be more incorrect. As an atheist, I was very comfortable as the captain of my own ship. My life was fulfilling and rewarding. I had been a police officer for nearly ten years and was used to being in charge in difficult situations. I didn't like intrusions, and there was no room for God in my life. I am not a theist today because I was raised by believers — I wasn't. I am not a believer because I was hoping for heaven or afraid of hell — I had no sense of value for either. I am not a theist because I was trying to fill a "void" or satisfy a "need" — I felt none. I believe God exists because the evidence leaves me no reasonable alternative.

Judge: Strong words indeed. Your book is set up around the notion that there is evidence for God's involvement in creation. For those on the jury who need a refresher, give us a quick summary of your main argument.

JWW: I'd be happy to. There are four possible explanations at any death scene. Did the deceased die naturally? Did he suffer some kind of accident? Did he commit suicide? Was he murdered? One simple strategy, therefore, is to ask a foundational question: "Can I account for all the evidence in this room by staying in the room?" Thinking of the universe as a "room," I didn't believe there was any evidence pointing to anyone outside. But I hadn't looked at the evidence carefully. My investigation of the natural universe required me to look at the characteristics of the "room" and determine if they could be explained fully by what already existed within the "four walls." The book is my attempt to help you look at the nature of the universe — my effort to share a personal investigation of God's existence.

Judge: OK, that's enough. I'm not ready to throw hundreds of years of science out the window based on your research and your "room" theory.

JWW: That's the problem, Judge. Attempts to stay "inside the room" of the universe to explain its beginning are inadequate because they either lack evidential support or must redefine critical aspects of the evidence to make their case. Here's an example: The foundational laws of physics, the regional properties of our solar system, and the locational conditions of our planet resulted in our existence. But did this have to be the case? The conditions had to be just so for the outcome to be life. The "just-so" appearance of "fine-tuning" in our universe is rather uncontroversial among scientists and cosmologists. Even Paul Davies (who is agnostic when it comes to the notion of a Divine Designer) readily stipulated, "Everyone agrees that the universe looks as if it was designed for life."

Judge: I call that a lucky break for your side. You know as well as I do that you Christians can't explain all the evil in the world — all the bad things that happen to innocent people. If God made this world, what do you have to say about tsunamis and earthquakes and senseless killings?

JWW: Whatever explanation we consider, it must account for the existence of moral evil (like the evil caused by humans), natural evil (like the hardship we see resulting from earthquakes and tsunamis), and pain and suffering (like the anguish experienced by disease). I believe that evil can be reconciled if we have an accurate view of the universe from God's perspective. For example, if we have been fashioned by a Divine Creator who offers us life beyond the limits of our short, material existence, this would surely change the way we look at pain and suffering on this side of the grave, wouldn't it? If the Divine Creator of the universe respects freedom as much as we do, we should expect a beautiful universe where love and reason are possible, even though hate and irrationality must also be tolerated and allowed. Freedom in all its beauty, does not come without associated dangers. We typically view evil as the antithesis of love. But our definition

of love has been deeply compromised. There are times when the deepest, truest expression of love is some form of discipline or correction. Character is developed more through adversity than advantage. Sometimes our suffering is simply the result of bad choices on our part, but even with these explanations in mind, there are times when suffering seems entirely inexplicable. I guess you could say that we're all still in the evidence gathering phase on this aspect of my case.

Judge: You've made some good points, but it's the jury you have to convince. Do you have any closing remarks?

JWW: For some who read my book, the evidence couldn't be clearer. For others, the case for a Divine Intruder is still lacking. Who, after all, wants to be intruded upon? If you feel this way, you might want to rethink any resistance you still have to the evidence for such an intruder in our universe. Is your resistance a matter of evidential insufficiency or simply a matter of intruder discomfort?

Notes from the Court Clerk: All of the author's responses in this drama were taken directly from his book, *God's Crime Scene*, with the exception of transitional phrases inserted to facilitate a conversational style. These have been recorded in italics. Each chapter of the book has an additional section of supplementary material for those who are interested in further information along a more academic line of thinking. The author also provides access to a panel of expert witnesses through a bibliography that includes testimonies from "inside the room" as well as "outside the room." Well-researched and presented in an accessible and logical manner, *God's Crime Scene* is an excellent addition to a homeschool curriculum and a stimulating read that lifts a heated and emotional topic above the rant and rhetoric and calls God Himself to take the witness stand.

This book was provided by David C. Cook in exchange for my review. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255 : "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising."

Brian Chilton says

J. Warner Wallace offers a compelling approach for the existence of God. Wallace, a former Los Angeles cold-case detective who has never lost a case, uses his evidentiary expertise to provide a cumulative case for the existence of a personal, eternal, divine being being the cause of the universe as he demonstrates the best evidence is found "outside the room," that is, beyond the scope of the universe. Wallace tackles the cosmological, biological, teleological, consciousness, free will, and moral arguments for God, and also the inculpatory evidence for God despite the problem of evil. This is a must-have book!

Katie George says

My first non-coerced theological novel, GOD'S CRIME SCENE is a blessing for all those who are seeking God—even if they do not realize they are searching for Him.

Man, Wallace is intelligent. Not only is he humanly intelligent, but is smart enough to agree that God holds

he answers, not humanity.

I encourage all people to read this book, as it makes the case for God's existence not just in a Christian sphere, but in all theistic belief systems.

Jason Mccool says

Excellent book. More detailed review to follow.

Jonathan Roberts says

Four and a half stars. A very well done book. While I lean (currently) toward a presuppositionalist view of apologetics I was pleasantly surprised by this book. Especially love the drawings by the author. These drawings are worth the price of the book themselves. Highly recommend now I will have to go read his first book.

Faith says

We have a universe of stunning complexity. We have a planet Earth uniquely fit for life. Life is dependent on the extensive information found in DNA. DNA tells the story of the past, shapes the present and points to the future. Human beings experience consciousness, and individual humans eventually wonder: What force is responsible for all of this? Where did it all come from?

Think of it as a crime scene, urges J. Warner Wallace. There's a pivotal question in a crime scene investigation: Was this situation caused by something inside this room, or did something outside of this room intrude and act? Are all the answers right here, hidden in plain sight, or are we processing a trail of evidence that will identify an external suspect?

He applies this logic to the chosen case, leading us to ask: Is the force behind the 'crime scene' of our universe natural, unguided processes, or was there an involvement from outside the 'room' of time/space/matter? And what would the nature of such an involvement be?"

Chapter by chapter we look for the evidence of "an inside job" or "outside intrusion" in all of those areas: the origin of the universe, Earth's ability to support us, the genetic code that powers life, and the experience of consciousness and its attendant questions of free will and morality. As in any carefully crafted case, expert witnesses testify, represented here by quotes and excerpts of their work. These witnesses include cosmologists, physicists, evolutionary biologists, philosophers, theologians, and ethicists.

"God's Crime Scene" is packed with information without being overwhelming. A whole library of books couldn't exhaust all of these issues, yet this single volume is a great orientation. Many charts and graphics help us grasp the arguments and a running "Suspect Profile" at the end of each chapter shows the evidence building up. Yes, J. Warner Wallace wants you to learn, but he also wants you to enjoy the process.

In the introduction he quotes a former field training officer who loved to get involved in a good pursuit. The FTO would look over to the rookie in the passenger seat and say "Saddle up, partner!" He passes the same advice along to us- Saddle up! Following this evidence is a wild ride.

I'm happy to add this book to my shelf next to his first book, "Cold Case Christianity: A Homicide Detective Investigates the Claims of the Gospels." Two or more re-reads would be required to get a handle on the material here, so I'm far from done with "God's Crime Scene."

If you want a thoughtful treatment of the "Was-God-Involved" question from an author who is utterly respectful of others viewpoints, look no further.

I have to thank David C Cook publishers for sharing a review copy with me in exchange for an honest opinion.

Lisa Ewing says

Would give 5 stars for such an in depth investigation, but just giving 3 stars for the fact that some stuff made my head spin due to soooo much detail. Very impressive read other than that. Can't say I completely understood 100% of it though. Haha

Adam Lewis says

Embarrassingly inept. Embarrassing to investigation as a profession.

I am a former Military Police Investigator. MPI fills the same role in the military police world as detectives do in the civilian realm. As such, and as someone interested in this subject, I had to get this book. But wow. Wow is it bad. Amateur hour throughout. Any prosecutor worth his salt would laugh Wallace and his "case" out of the room.

Wallace's theme is "in the room" vs. "out of the room" explanations. His example is a death scene—a victim with a gunshot wound under the chin. There are some apparent evidences pointing to suicide but others pointing to homicide. Wallace uses this as a framing device to drive the book: in his view, naturalists are the ones saying it's suicide while supernaturalist theists are the ones saying it's homicide. The naturalists are using "in the universe/in the room" explanations while the theists are using "outside the universe/ out of the room" explanations.

It's a contrivance and inapt analogy. All of the evidences that Wallace brings to bear to support his "out of the room" explanations are the same tired old creationist and "intelligent design" canards: "vestigial organs are not really vestigial," or "OOOOOOOOOOOhhhhhh! Look at the flagellum! It must be designed!" Has no one ever explained to him that an organ can still have function and be vestigial? Ostrich wings are probably the best example. They still function in the sense that they help the ostrich balance and move but they no longer function as wings and as such are vestigial. Has no one ever explained to him that structures like the flagellum can have other functions prior to the current one? Elementary points like this apparently escape Wallace. Either that or he purposely ignores them in order to accomplish his apologetic mission. In

any case, he comes across as a severely ignorant amateur.

Then there is the fine-tuning of Earth for life argument and it's the same misunderstanding that misinforms that entire field of thought. Fine-tunists are like those that look at a tree in the forest and say, "Wow! The chance that this exact tree, of this exact age, with this exact branch pattern, in this exact place is so improbable!" The actual question to ask is: "What are the chances of a fairly unique tree being in a forest?" Pretty good, actually. In a universe with billions of galaxies with billions of stars each the chances of NOT getting a planet that suits life is rather the larger improbability.

When Wallace gets done with his "intelligent design" and "fine-tuning" bunkum, he moves on to the "you can't have 'objective' morals without God" shtick. There is actually a graphic in the book: Mother Teresa = Hitler with the caption "Neither holds a superior position if there is no transcendent standard by which we can measure either of them" (p. 167). Transcendentalists of the moral kind apparently don't understand that morality is contextualized. Saying that morality has no standard without the "transcendent" is like saying language is meaningless without a Merriam-Webster's dictionary carved in stone on the moon by which all words are judged. Even without that hypothetical "transcendent" dictionary we can, and do, make meaningful judgments about language. The same goes for morality. Wallace's argument is silly and only mounted by those looking to prop up their holy book as a source of morality "because it's transcendent."

There are other arguments in the book but I won't mention them. They're the same old nonsense rehashed just with his inapt investigation theme applied. If you have read much at all on this topic, you've seen everything here before. I suppose someone might find value in this book if they are looking for a primer on bad theist arguments as they seem to be mostly all here. Other than that, this book is simply a marketing gimmick: "Gee willikers Johnny! A detective investigated and found God! I can feel that my belief is intellectually supported now!"

Joyce Oliver stahle says

Very well written. I liked the fact he wrote it as a detective. Mr. Wallace laid out all the evidence for and against a divinely created universe.

I already knew and believed God created our universe but it was great to read all the evidence.

Danny McSpadden says

One of the best

I have ever read at clarifying the discussion. By the end of it I realised just how disjointed and ridiculous the arguments for inside the room really are.
