

Otherwise, Christians will be on a path of blissful ignorance, ignoring the trends and challenges around them, and failing to cast a Christ-centered eye over them. Ramm is to be congratulated for showing the relevance of theology and that some theologians are open to ongoing debate over science and its implications.

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## 1973

**CARL E. ARMERDING, "Biblical Perspectives on the Ecology Crisis," *JASA* 25, no. 1 (1973): 4–9.**

I first ran into the journal in a college library. I have long been something of a library hound, enjoying a fine collection and walking the shelves to see what might look interesting. I was a transfer to a Christian college from two secular colleges, and had not even heard of any such thing as "Christian scholarship" or "faith and learning," being a recent convert to Christianity from a background in math and physical sciences. The *JASA/PSCF* ("the journal" herein) was displayed in the new issues rack near the entrance. Imagine how wonderful it was for a young Christian with my background to run into an entire *journal*, a whole *association*, devoted to this new idea that robust Christian faith and serious, academic and scientific research and inquiry can and should belong together! While I could not afford to go to any conferences, I did read each new issue with great interest, and perused the back issues in the serials collection. The library had the entire print set, I was happy to discover.

I used the journal as a kind of introduction to the field of science and Christian theology. Often I would find an author introduced, or a footnote to a standard work, in its pages. That would send me to the card catalog (!) (soon to be the computer terminal), to seek other works by the same author. Sometimes I would find the book itself in the good old Southern California College library (now Vanguard University). The librarians were friendly and helpful, offering to order books from other libraries if they did not have it. Looking back, I am sure they found it odd to find a student who would come across a journal, and start to read it right away. I did that a lot with the journal, new issues and old volumes alike.

It was in the pages of the journal that I was introduced to important topics. Serious and learned debate about origins and evolution was there, to be sure, but also discussion about a range of scientific issues I simply had never thought of from a faith perspective. Looking back at those issues in the 1970s and 1980s, I see some old friends and much respected scholars and authors I first discovered there. Bernard Ramm, Ron Numbers, Richard Bube, Al Plantinga, J. W. Haas, George Murphy, and Mary Stewart Van Leeuwen were scholars I would learn from for a long time, in articles and in important books. New areas of science and theology were also found in its pages, or at least, new to me! Grounded in the physical sciences, I first learned about the Bible and our ecological crisis in an article from 1973 by Carl Armerding (a fine OT scholar as I later discovered). Then of course I had to go back and read the articles he was responding to (by Kenneth Hare and Richard Wright).

In the journal I also discovered that the social sciences, too, can and should be integrated or in dialogue with Christian theology and sacred scripture. In short, reading the pages of the journal was an access point for theology and the sciences. Thinking back to those days, I am grateful to God, and to these early Christian authors, scholars, editors and others, who created in the journal a forum for scholarly, thoughtful, engaging, and respectful dialogue in an area of research and learning I would spend many decades enjoying. Thank you!

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## 1979

**DAVIS A. YOUNG, "Flood Geology Is Uniformitarian!" *JASA* 31, no. 3 (1979): 146–52.**

A coworker at the major oil company where I worked handed me a dog-eared and underlined copy of an article from the *Journal of the American Scientific Affiliation*. It was not my introduction to the author, Davis Young, whose book *Creation and the Flood* (Baker, 1977), I had recently read. But "Flood Geology Is Uniformitarian!" was my introduction to the ASA and its journal. Now, uniformitarianism presumes that Earth history can be interpreted from the study of rocks having formed by presently