

# REASONS

Reasons to Believe Newsletter | July/August 2021

## WE HEARD YOU. NOW HEAR THIS!

by Brett Tarbell



Kenneth Samples recently received this comment from Dylan on Facebook:

Love your books, just need more time to read all of them. You gotta consider doing some audiobooks for those of us who have kids!

Dylan isn't the first to ask for RTB audiobooks. Many of you have asked, and **we heard you**. This month we're releasing **our first audiobook title in years**—Hugh's classic *The Creator and the Cosmos*, through our partnership with ONE Audiobooks.

Here are just a few reasons we're excited for the launch of this audiobook:

**ACCESSIBILITY** The audiobook format will make RTB books more easily accessible for people who are visually impaired, physically disabled, or otherwise prevented from reading print or e-books.

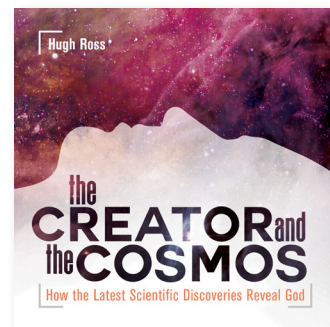
**AVAILABILITY** Making RTB titles available on audiobook platforms will help us reach new audiences, people who primarily or exclusively "read" audiobooks.

**FLEXIBILITY** For those who love RTB books but have little time for reading (like our friend Dylan), RTB audiobooks will offer opportunities for on-demand learning—while driving, doing laundry, walking the dog, or watching the kids.

Your financial support makes resources like this possible, providing reasons to believe that sound science and reason affirm the truth of Scripture and the gospel of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your support, and for faithfully nudging us in this direction.

## RESOURCE

You can receive a redemption code for the audiobook version of *The Creator and the Cosmos* as our thank-you for your gift of any amount between now and September 30.



To make your gift and request this resource, please visit [reasons.org/audiobook](https://reasons.org/audiobook).

# TRANSLATION EFFORTS SET TO EXPAND

by Stacy Nagai



Today, STEM (science, technology, engineering, math, and medicine) development is advancing worldwide, but who is reaching out with the Good News to the global STEM community—and those influenced by it? As requests for relevant content continue to pour in, Reasons to Believe is poised and positioned to respond through a significant expansion of translation efforts.

“Providentially, God is bringing us Scholar Community members and friends from other nations, many of whom are bilingual or even trilingual,” says Kathy Ross, who currently spearheads the new translation task force. “For the first time in the history of RTB, we have the talent available to undertake major translation projects.”



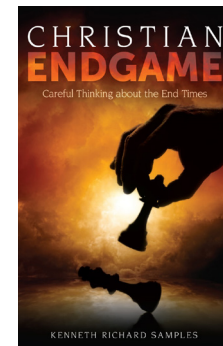
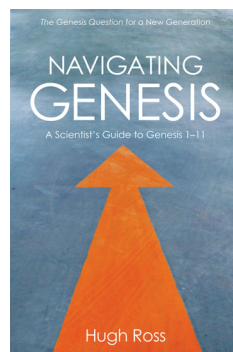
Decades ago, NavPress licensed multiple foreign-language translations of *The Creator and the Cosmos* (an early edition). When Hugh traveled to Russia in 1994, a few thousand Russian copies were made available to his audiences, but access to information about its distribution has remained elusive—until recently. Last month, during a digital outreach in Ukraine

and Russia, Hugh learned that tattered copies “are still being passed around today!”

Sometimes overseas audiences respond with stunned silence to Hugh’s story about the role of science in his journey to faith in Christ. They’re hearing a message contrary to everything they have been told and are shocked to hear that science research *affirms*, rather than negates, the truth of the Bible.

Thanks to strategic partnerships, RTB now has both requests for and opportunities to translate books, videos, and course materials. One of these new relationships brings with it the prospect of reaching a potential viewing audience of more than 300 million Farsi speakers across North America, Europe, and the Middle East. More than 30 hours’ worth of RTB content has been translated for broadcast already, and the translation of six books, as well as seminary courses, is about to get underway.

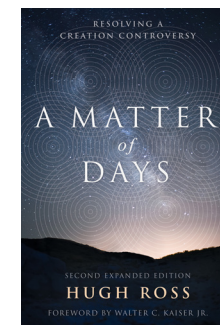
Meanwhile, RTB’s first fellow, Dr. Cynthia Cheung, is working diligently to translate *Navigating Genesis* into Mandarin. Her depth and breadth of scientific expertise and ministry experience have been crucial in communicating concepts for which no direct equivalent wording exists. After Dr. Cheung completes the book, she hopes to prepare the rest of the *Navigating Genesis* package—leader’s guide,



study guide, and small group video series—in Mandarin. During the COVID lockdown, two of RTB’s Spanish-speaking friends translated and began distributing Kenneth Samples’s *Christian Endgame* and Hugh’s *Genesis One*. They were well received, and we anticipate translation of Hugh’s *A Matter of Days* to begin soon.

As God provides, we’ll make every effort to fulfill standing requests for RTB materials in Arabic, Armenian, Hindi, Russian, and Swedish, among others. Your support has been—and remains—a crucial key to this expanding global outreach. Someday, we may even be able to offer portions of RTB’s website in languages other than English.

If you would like to help support our continuous translation efforts, please visit [support.reasons.org](https://support.reasons.org) and type “translation” in the comment box. Thank you for expanding RTB’s reach!



## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Our fiscal year has come to a close. We’re awaiting final numbers, but it appears you helped us reach our goal! Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support. You’re making it possible to keep several vital projects on the forefront of our ministry.

As seen in this newsletter, several translation projects are in the works. We’re eager for God to continue guiding us in providing resources for outreach all over the world. An RTB app is in development to help provide on-the-spot answers to people’s burning questions. The RTB Scholar Community is expanding even beyond what you saw in our last issue. Praise God that more and more scholars are finding a place where they can learn how to integrate their studies with the truth of a Creator and Savior. Here’s what biochemistry and molecular biology student Elliana H. has to say about our new associate scholar track:

I just got accepted as an associate scholar in the RTB Scholar Community. I attended my first scholar Zoom seminar yesterday and loved it! I’m so thankful and excited for the opportunity to be part of the community and learn from those more experienced in the science-faith community.

You make these eternally impactful projects possible. We’re grateful for your partnership and faithfulness. Because of you, many people are continuing to find RTB and discover that science and faith are allies. May God bless you with fresh vitality during this summer season!

# DID GOD CREATE US OR DID WE EVOLVE FROM A COMMON ANCESTOR WITH THE APES?



I believe God directly intervened to create the first humans.

Specifically, I hold the position that all humanity descended

from a single male (Adam) and a single female (Eve) whom God specially created. The writer of Genesis 1 and 2 uses Hebrew verbs (*bara, asa, yatsar*) for the origin of Adam and Eve, words that colorfully portray that God directly and miraculously intervened to bring about the origin of Adam and Eve. Genesis 3:20 states that Eve would become the mother of us all. Acts 17:26 declares that from one man, God made every nation of people.

Humans are truly exceptional. We alone among Earth's physical creatures are spiritual beings. We alone invent and use symbols for complex communication. We alone have the dexterity and hand-eye coordination to manufacture complex tools. We alone exhibit ongoing technological advance. We alone ponder the mysteries of the universe and what exists beyond the universe. My colleague Fazale Rana has documented many more evidences for human exceptionalism in articles posted at [reasons.org](https://reasons.org).

I also believe that God directly intervened to create the great apes and all the bipedal primate species that preceded humans, each for a specific purpose. For more thoughts on why God would create a specific sequence of bipedal primate species before creating human beings, see [Navigating Genesis](#), pages 75–77, as well as sections of [Who Was Adam?](#) What's fascinating is that, the more we learn about human origins, the more we see that humans are a unique creation.

—Hugh Ross

## HAVE A QUESTION?

Visit our new website  
at [reasons.org](https://reasons.org)



Connect with us on social media @RTB\_Official



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