



# Books in Review

## THE COMPLETE BOOK OF BIBLE ANSWERS

by Ron Rhodes

Harvest House Publishers, 395 pages, \$11.99

Apparently, someone has locked apologist Ron Rhodes in a room with a computer. He is writing and he can't stop! In the past couple years, the Southern California researcher and writer has virtually become a "Book of the Month Club." But his high volume of output has not affected the quality. His writings are some of the best in their field and are much needed by a Church that continues to lose its desire and ability to discern.

One of his latest offerings is *The Complete Book of Bible Answers*. From the authority of God's Word to the nature of God (and Jesus Christ) to man's sinfulness, salvation and future existence, Rhodes tackles some of what can be difficult objections posed by unbelievers and cultists. He even surveys areas of theological disagreement between believers of different denominations, such as baptism and observance of the Lord's Supper.

The book also contains critiques of New Age, Word Faith, hyper-Charismatic (such as "holy laughter") and other cultic teachings and practices. A subject index enables quick location of topics.

The book's style is in a question-and-answer format. And while Rhodes' responses are not protracted, they are deliberate, to the point and insightful. While the book's title "The Complete Book..." might be a bit of an oversell, it remains a welcome addition to the Christian's arsenal of defense for the faith.

—MKG

## 735 BAFFLING BIBLE QUESTIONS ANSWERED

by Larry Richards

Fleming H. Revell, 390 pages, \$12.99

Witnessing to skeptics and cynics of the Bible can be one of the most formidable ordeals a Christian can face.

Thanks to Larry Richards' *735 Baffling Bible Questions Answered* the experience can now be far less intimidating.

The volume proceeds through Scripture, book by book, exploring its many difficult passages and purported discrepancies — excerpts that have become suitable grist for the critic's mill. Richards responds to various objections and suspected textual problems in every book of the Bible (except Nehemiah). A brief survey of each Bible book's author, theme and issues acts as introductory commentary for each chapter.

Prophecy, archaeology, Old Testament customs and practices, New Testament principles, and a whole lot more fill this book. The questions you know to ask are there — and some you've probably never even thought to ask. For example, on page 228, Richards considers the question of how many young children were actually killed in Bethlehem by Herod's soldiers during the slaughter of the innocents.

The paperback volume is a reissue of a work published five years ago under the title, *Bible Difficulties Solved*. Fleming H. Revell should be commended for returning this excellent resource to the availability of Christians.

—MKG

## DEFENDING THE FAITH

by Richard Abanes

Baker Book House, 240 pages, \$14.99

Defined as "a beginner's guide to cults and new religions," Rich Abanes' recent publication is that and a whole lot more. His defense of and reasons for the Christian faith are not beneficial just to the novice cult-watcher. They're a great refresher course for even the well-versed apologist.

In the book's four parts (12 chapters), Abanes surveys the major doctrines of Christianity and therein infuses his study of the heretical pronouncements of cults, new religions and aberrational teachers. He exposes the counterfeit with the genuine. All the major tenets of the Christian faith are covered, including the inspiration and reliability of Scripture, the triune nature of God, the uniqueness of Christ, His vicarious atonement and bodily resurrection, man's destiny, and endtime speculation.

(continues on page 23)

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