

A Review of The Discovery of Genesis by C.H. Kang and Ethel R. Nelson

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The subtitle of this book aptly and descriptively reads, "How the Truths of Genesis Were Found Hidden in the Chinese Language." That is really all and everything that this book is about. It's small, the entire book consisting of only 139 pages. However, the content is presented with little fluff, and goes straight into whatever the topic at hand is. Thus, there is quite a bit of information stored here.

Like any book, it has its good and bad points, but there is one glaring bad point which really irks me about it. Admittedly, the type of research they are doing and the kind of hypotheses they are presenting are utterly inductive in nature, and thus, it would be natural that the book itself would be formatted and reasoned from an inductive standpoint, but it would have been nice to see at least some stronger efforts put onto deduction.

This, unfortunately, is not the case. Being a short and to the point book, the authors rarely waste any time on such things, instead referring the reader to a fairly large bibliography on various subjects and providing adequate and substantial notes regarding the subject matters. Technically speaking, I really don't like the way the notes are laid out, as they are all in the back of the book, and never listed as a footnote, this really does not suit my style of reading, having to constantly shift back and forth from one page to another to find all the information to which they are referring, but it does help readers less concerned with details see more of the main text in a single page than would otherwise be possible had the typesetter chosen a footnote based format.

Nonetheless, the book does a very adequate and one might even dare to say superb job of presenting a very strong argument forth in the best inductive fashion. The main thesis is that the Chinese, being descendants of the same ancestors of the Hebrews, and simultaneously being the longest running continuous civilization on earth, should bear the original and most accurate genesis story in some form or another in its oldest and most ancient records. From this, and the fact that the Chinese language is one of the last pictographic languages in existence now, the authors present strong evidence to show that the Chinese did in fact believe the same history as is recorded in the Genesis account.

The book itself is very informative, even if it seems to be written more from an inspirational rather than scholarly approach. To their credit, they openly admit that the book was designed to reach the masses outside of scholars and native chinese calligraphers. To this end, I believe they have achieved their goal admirably. The book is full of interesting history, discoveries, and little thought of points on various levels of Chinese History and Language.

For anyone who is interested in strengthening the validity of Genesis account, or is hoping to find a way to "start talking" to some non-believers about the Creation Account, this is an excellent book. It's straightforward, simple, and not difficult at all to understand; and while much of the information could be seen as subjective, the book itself, as a whole presents extremely strong and focused evidence to help support any argument for the Genesis story and Creation.