

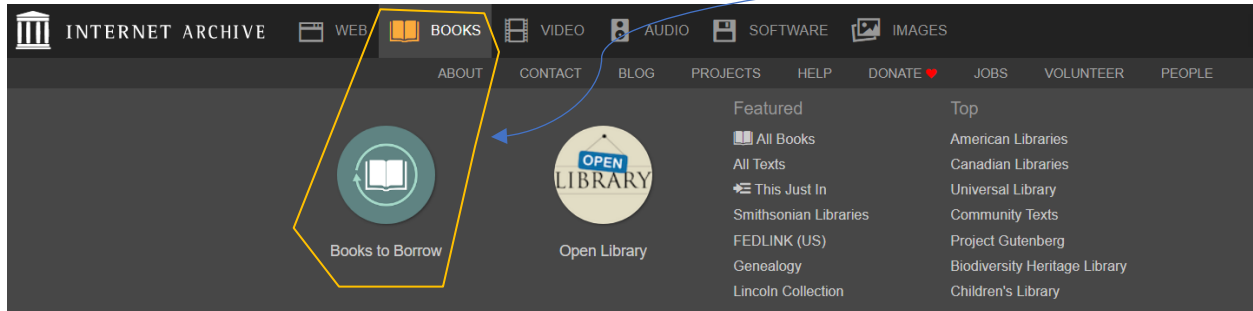
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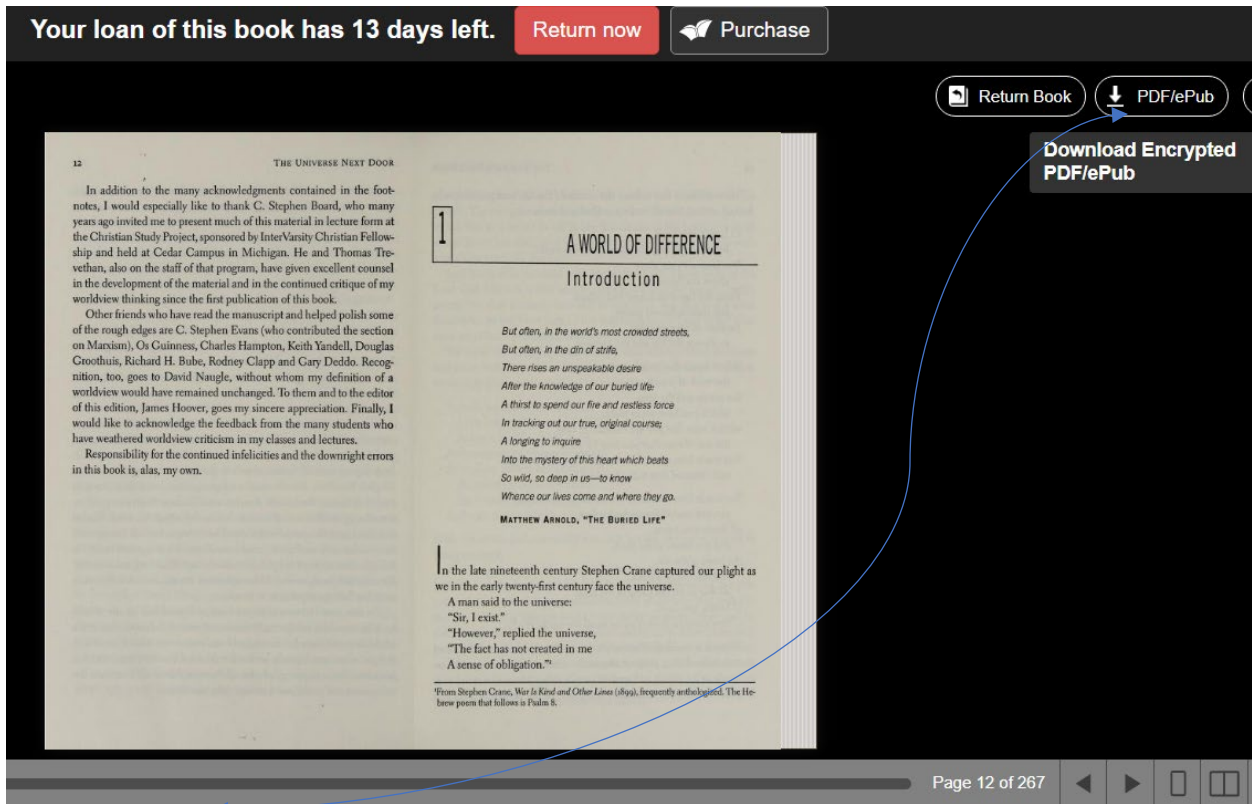
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Table of Contents

- The universe next door : a basic worldview catalog
- JAMES W. SIRE
- ◀ UNIVERSE NEVE DOOR
- A UNIVERSE CHARGED WITH THE GRANDEUR OF GOD
- THE CLOCKWORK UNIVERSE
- THE SILENCE OF FINITE SPACE
- ZERO POINT
- Existentialism
- How Far Beyond Nihilism?
- Basic Theistic Existentialism
- The Persistence of Existentialism
- JOURNEY IQ THE EAST
- A SEPARATE UNIVERSE
- THE VANISHED HORIZON
- THE EXAMINED LIFE
- n 5
- \*

Page-List

On one issue I remain constant: I am convinced that for any of us to be fully conscious intellectually we should not only be able to detect the worldviews of others but be aware of our own—why it is ours and why in light of so many options we think it is true. I can only hope that this book becomes a steppingstone for others toward their self-conscious development and justification of their own worldview.

In addition to the many acknowledgments contained in the footnotes, I would especially like to thank C. Stephen Board, who many years ago invited me to present much of this material in lecture form at the Christian Study Project, sponsored by InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and held at Cedar Campus in Michigan. He and Thomas Trevehan, also on the staff of that program, have given excellent counsel in the development of the material and in the continued critique of my worldview thinking since the first publication of this book.

Other friends who have read the manuscript and helped polish some of the rough edges are C. Stephen Evans (who contributed the section on Marxism), Os Guinness, Charles Hampton, Keith Yandell, Douglas Groothuis, Richard H. Bube, Rodney Clapp and Gary Deddo. Recognition, too, goes to David Naugle, without whom my definition of a worldview would have remained unchanged. To them and to the editor of this edition, James Hoover, goes my sincere appreciation. Finally, I would like to acknowledge the feedback from the many students who have weathered worldview criticism in my classes and lectures.

Responsibility for the continued infelicities and the downright errors in this book is, alas, my own.

## A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

### Introduction

1

But often, in the world's most crowded streets, But often, in the din of strife,  
There rises an unspeakable desire After the knowledge of our buried life:  
A thirst to spend our fire and restless force In tracking out our true, original course;  
A longing to inquire  
Into the mystery of this heart which beats So wild, so deep in us—to know Whence our lives come and where they go.

Matthew Arnold, "The Buried Life"

25 / 254

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