



STATEMENT DN044

BOOK REVIEW
Confronting the New Age
by Douglas R. Groothuis
(InterVarsity Press, 1988)

Looking for a book with a strong *practical* emphasis to help you respond to the NAM? Groothuis's *Confronting the New Age* offers much useful information and advice on both witnessing to New Agers and resisting their social incursions. In the process it offers a Christian apologetic to many New Age claims and suggests principles of discernment for Christians encountering possible New Age influences.

Not only does Groothuis equip Christians to respond to the NAM, he also strives to insure that their response is *balanced*. Chapter 3, "Converting a Culture," lists three scriptural themes for a Christian's interaction with culture ("separation," "transformation," and "conservation") and six "pitfalls" (from the "quarantine mentality" to the "ostrich mentality") which result when these themes are not held in proper balance. As the author demonstrates, a major problem with the church's response to the NAM so far has been falling into one or the other of these pitfalls.

Whereas many sequels merely rehash the thesis of the first book, *Confronting* is a much needed complement to *Unmasking*. Together the two books firmly establish Groothuis as one of our leading authorities on NAM.

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