

## Media Alert

*Rachel Jordan is a marine biologist and spiritual guide. Using the ocean as a lens, she points us to the God revealed in biology. Her writing is as rich and colorful as the sea creatures she describes. Her love for the ocean is a clear reflection of God's.*

**John Van Sloten, theologian and author of *God Speaks Science***

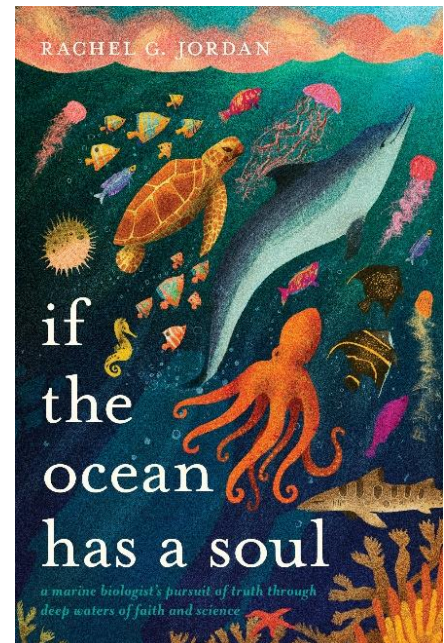
### ***If the Ocean Has a Soul*** ***A Marine Biologist's Pursuit of Truth through Deep Waters of Faith and Science***

**The ocean is filled with scientific discoveries—and God's presence.**

For marine biologist Rachel Jordan, both science and Scripture are means of knowing creation *and* Creator. In *If the Ocean Has a Soul*, Rachel considers the natural world through a spiritual lens, meshing marine biology with biblical truths in a keen and current take on faith and science. Through engaging storytelling, she asks and answers questions like

- How can we reconcile faith and science when the two seem opposed?
- What do suffering and death teach us about the character of God?
- How do we care for the environment when there seems to be little hope for repair?
- What does the ocean, specifically, reveal about God?

Recounting fascinating underwater phenomena alongside the sometimes humorous, sometimes tragic stories of animals she has known, Rachel reveals how the promise of restoration unfolds in both physical and spiritual ways. Her thoughtful scientific and theological insights will encourage you to know the Creator of the sea and everything in it.



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**Professional marine biologist and lay theologian Rachel G. Jordan is available to discuss the following topics:**

- The mesmerizing wonder of the ocean and how God's character is revealed through his creation
- The relationship between faith and science (and why it is not as contentious as some believe)
- The role that science can play in the Christian faith and the responsibility of Christians to engage in science
- Whimsical anecdotes from her real-life experiences that make science approachable through her storytelling style
- Connecting creation and Creator so readers can see the natural world through spiritual eyes
- Advice for how to get started and/or grow a career in marine biology, ecology, or conservation
- Stewardship of the ocean, including conservation and coral reefs (coral bleaching, disease, artificial nurseries, and restoration).

## **Additional Praise for *If the Ocean Has a Soul...***

*Readers will be fascinated by the enchanting descriptions of creation and motivated to keep seeking truth—and I trust they'll find assurance in the conclusions reached in If the Ocean Has a Soul.*

**Peter Reid, former principal of Torchbearer Bible School Bodenseehof and general director of Torchbearers International**

*Marine biologist and devoted Christian Rachel G. Jordan has crafted an exceptional book that seamlessly integrates her vibrant scientific expertise and her faith in a way that's both enlightening and deeply personal. . . . Ocean lovers, this is a must-read.*

**Marissa Myer, executive director of The Coral Nursery of Puerto Rico**

## **About the Author**



**Rachel G. Jordan** is a professional marine biologist and lay theologian. A self-professed Jesus-loving coral nerd, she was raised in Idaho and has since traveled the globe chasing her passion for faith and science. She has an MS in marine biology and ecology from James Cook University (Australia), a BS in ecology from Seattle Pacific University (USA), and a certification in biblical studies from Bodenseehof Bible School (Germany). In addition to working as a coral biologist for the US National Park Service, Rachel has worked in marine aquaculture research, organic chemistry laboratories, veterinary research facilities, the pet industry, and a museum. When not diving or writing, she can be found reading C. S. Lewis, growing wildflowers, and exploring creation with her husband. You can also find her on Instagram @shorelinesoul or at [rachelgjordan.com](http://rachelgjordan.com).

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## Interview Questions

1. Describe how you became interested in the ocean and how that led to you becoming a marine biologist.
2. What advice would you give to someone who effectively “grew up” in Christianity, then encountered science, and now feels pressured to choose between the two?
3. In the book you discuss the relationship between faith and science as almost symbiotic, because science can take faith deeper and faith answers questions that science cannot. How has science helped deepen your faith?
4. How can Christians best engage with controversial subjects?
5. How can creation teach us about the character of the Creator?
6. What advice do you offer those who want to experience God further through nature?
7. In the book you write, “Faith and science run into some of the same issues. Both are conducted by flawed human beings capable of making notoriously large mistakes.” Please explain.
8. What do we do when science and faith seem to be opposed to one another (such as in the case of creationism vs. Darwinism)?
9. How can we intentionally steward God’s creation?
10. In the book you write, “We should regard one another leniently and favorably, kindly offering a hand. Just because we have different perspectives doesn’t mean we can’t help each other.” In a time of strong divisiveness, how can we have more healthy disagreements?
11. What is your favorite marine life to study and why?
12. What are the biggest issues marine scientists face today?
13. What are the biggest issues affecting coral reefs? What practical steps can people take to care for coral reefs and the ocean? And how might this impact their faith?

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