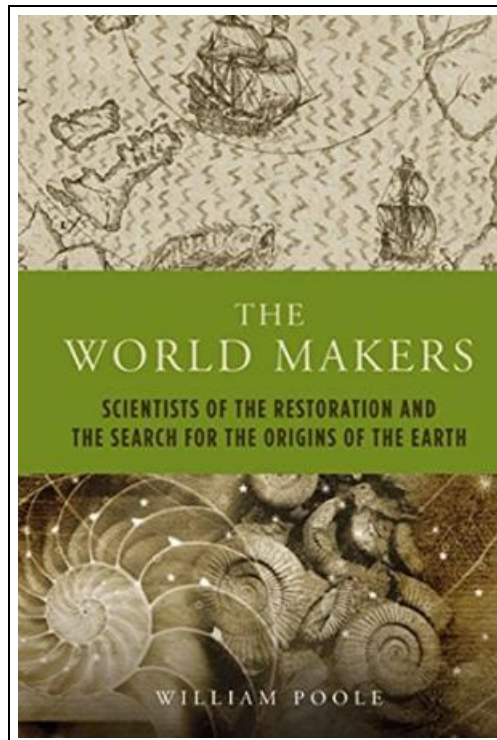


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Peter Lang. 1 No Jacket(s), 2010. soft. Book Condition: New. When educated men in the 17th century thought about the world as it was and the earth on which they stood, they found the common answers to their questions rooted in the Bible. Most people assumed that the teachings of theology and of natural philosophy (what we would later term "science") were in harmony, but there were radical new answers to such questions of origin too. Exploring the intellectual history of the early modern period, William Poole tells how those within the emerging discipline of experimental philosophy reacted to the opening chapters of Genesis to interpret the physical origin, the present status, and the final destination of the earth. The Royal Society of London, created in 1660 "for the improving of natural knowledge," was where these bold new answers to old questions were formulated, discussed, contested, and modified by men like Isaac Newton, Robert Hooke, Edmond Halley, and Thomas Burnet."Though modestly presented as an introduction to debates over cosmogonies, this brief volume brilliantly captures a crucial moment in the history of modern science as well as erudition. With seeming ease and a keen eye for the telling detail, Poole navigates the intricacies of several disciplines that helped mold these debates from Scripture and mythology to philosophy and natural history. His lucid explication of the momentous clash of old and new ideas over the formation, the age, and habitation of the Earth will appeal to both specialists and lay readers."Mordechai Feingold 234.

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