

Central Historical Question:

If religion gave man “a complete explanation of how the world came about and of how it works” were scientists committing a crime by arguing against it?

Nicolaus Copernicus, dedication to Pope Paul III in his book, *On the Revolution of the Heavenly Spheres 1543 (edited)*

1. Who wrote this book?
2. Who was this book dedicated to?
3. What is this book about (What is its main “theory”)?
4. Why would a scientist dedicate a book about heliocentrism to the Pope?
5. Were scientists committing a crime by arguing against geocentrism?
No ←-----→Yes
6. Why?

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Galileo Galilei, A Letter to Grand Duchess Christina of Tuscany, 1615 (edited)

1. Who wrote this letter?
2. Who was this book written to?
3. What does this letter focus on? (What is his main point?) Give me evidence:
4. Why does he think the Bible will be better understood by using science?
5. Were scientists committing a crime by arguing against geocentrism?
No ←-----→Yes
6. Why?

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Giovanni Ciampoli, letter to Galileo, 1615 (edited)

1. Who wrote this letter?
2. Who was this book written to?
3. What does this letter focus on? (What is his main point?) Give me evidence:
4. Why would a friend of Galileo essentially tell his to not write everything he knows?
5. Were scientists committing a crime by arguing against geocentrism?
No ←-----→Yes
6. Why?

