

## Systematic Theology God As Trinity

The Triune God, together with the forthcoming second volume, *The Works of God*, develops a compendious statement of Christian theology in the tradition of a medieval summa, or of such modern works as those of Schleiermacher and Barth. Theology, as it is understood here, is the Christian church's continuing discourse concerning her specific communal purpose; it is the hermeneutic and critical reflection internal to the church's task of speaking the gospel, to the world as message and to God in petition and praise. This volume and its successor are thus dedicated to the service of the one church of the creeds; it is for no particular denomination or confession. The interlocutors of this work's analyses and proposals are drawn from wherever in the ecumenical tradition a question may lead: to theologians and traditions ancient, medieval, or modern; Eastern or Western; Catholic or Protestant.

*New Studies in Dogmatics* seeks to retrieve the riches of Christian doctrine for the sake of contemporary theological renewal. Following in the tradition of G. C. Berkouwer's *Studies in Dogmatics*, this series will provide thoughtful, concise, and readable treatments of major theological topics, expressing the biblical, creedal, and confessional shape of Christian doctrine for a contemporary evangelical audience. The editors and contributors share a common conviction that the way forward in constructive systematic theology lies in building upon the foundations laid in the church's historic understanding of the Word of God as professed in its creeds, councils, and confessions, and by its most trusted teachers.

The last few decades have witnessed a renaissance of Trinitarian theology. Theologians have worked to recover this doctrine for a proper understanding of the God and for the life of the church. At the same time, analytic philosophers of religion have become keenly interested in the Trinity, engaging in vigorous debates related to it. To this point, however, the work of the two groups has taken place in almost complete isolation from one another. Which Trinity? Whose Monotheism? Seeks to bridge that divide. / Thomas H. McCall compares the work of significant philosophers of religion Richard Swinburne, Brian Leftow, and others with that of influential theologians such as Jürgen Moltmann, Robert Jenson, and John Zizioulas. He then evaluates several important proposals and offers suggestion for the future of Trinitarian theology. / There are many books on the doctrine of the Trinity, but no other book brings the concerns of analytic philosophers of religion into direct conversation with those of mainstream theologians. This new edition of *Systematic Theology* by Wayne Grudem may be the most important resource you can own for helping you understand Scripture and grow as a Christian. The most widely used resource of the last 25 years in its area, *Systematic Theology* by Wayne Grudem has been thoroughly revised and expanded (all 57 chapters) for the first time while retaining the features that have made it the standard in its field: clear explanations, an emphasis on each doctrine's scriptural basis, and practical applications to daily life. Praise for the second edition: "After a quarter century of remarkable usefulness globally . . . it remains remarkable. I thank God for this precious gift to Christ's people worldwide." - John Piper "Stands out for its clarity and accessibility." - Thomas R. Schreiner "One of those rare works that can challenge the scholar and instruct the beginner . . . It is

simply indispensable." - Jack Deere With nearly 200 pages of new content and revisions that took several years, this new edition now includes the following distinctive features, making it even better: Updated, fuller analysis of several recent controversies within evangelicalism, including the eternal relationship between the Father and the Son in the Trinity, the question of God's atemporal eternity, the role of women in the church, "seeker-sensitive" churches, miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit, and contemporary worship music. New, thoughtful critiques of open theism, the "new perspective on Paul," Molinism (or "middle knowledge"), "Free Grace" theology, and the preterist view of Christ's second coming Completely revised, stronger chapter on the clarity of Scripture Completely revised, stronger chapter on creation and evolution, including a longer critique of theistic evolution and an extensive discussion on the age of the earth New discussion of how biblical inerrancy applies to some specific "problem verses" in the Gospels Additional material respectfully explaining evangelical Protestant differences with Roman Catholicism (with extensive interaction with the Catechism of the Roman Catholic Church), Protestant liberalism, and Mormonism Completely updated bibliographies All Scripture quotations updated from RSV to ESV An explanation of why monogenes in John 3:16 and elsewhere should be translated as "only begotten" rather than merely "only" (this is a change from the first edition) A contemporary worship song added at the end of each chapter (while retaining the traditional hymns as well) New discussion on the impassibility of God An extensive discussion on the eternal submission of the Son to the Father, taking into account controversies in recent years Updated section on contemporary worship music A discussion of recent criticisms of the penal substitutionary view of the atonement Numerous other updates and corrections that have been prompted by letters and emails from people around the world and by interaction with the students Wayne has taught over the last 26 years both at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and at Phoenix Seminary Part of the brilliance of Systematic Theology over the years has been its simplicity and ease of use. Each chapter follows the same structure. First, there is discussion of the doctrine being considered, such as justification or the Trinity or the deity of Christ. An explanation of that doctrine's biblical support and possible objections follow. Personal application and key terms to know for personal growth are then provided. Chapters also include a Scripture memory passage, references to other literature on the topic, and suggested hymns and worship songs. If you are someone who thinks theology is hard to understand or boring, then this new edition of Systematic Theology will likely change your mind.

Trinitarian Soundings in Systematic Theology is a multi-authored exploration of systematic theology from a Trinitarian perspective. Its aim is to show how the doctrine of the Trinity sheds light on other key doctrines—from prolegomena to eschatology and theological ethics. To borrow a phrase from Robert Jenson, the doctrine of the Trinity 'is not a separate puzzle to be solved but the framework within which all theology's puzzles are to be solved'. Given the scarcity of systematic theologies done 'trinitarianly', this collective project suggests a path to follow in the formulation of each particular doctrine represented in the volume. Trinitarian Soundings promises to become an important work given its unique presentation of major themes of systematic theology in their classical order, yet from a Trinitarian point of view. Its contributors include veteran theologians as well as younger scholars who are energetically employing this Trinitarian focus. The contributors represent various theological traditions and geographical

locations, which surely bring richness to the theological inquiry. Dedicated to the memory of a pioneer in the resurgence of Trinitarian theology, the late Prof. Colin Gunton, this collection represents a distinctive treatment of systematics, intent on showing the vitality of approaching all aspects of the faith from a self-consciously Trinitarian perspective.

*God, Sexuality and the Self* is a new venture in systematic theology. Sarah Coakley invites the reader to re-conceive the relation of sexual desire and the desire for God and - through the lens of prayer practice - to chart the intrinsic connection of this relation to a theology of the Trinity. The goal is to integrate the demanding ascetical undertaking of prayer with the recovery of lost and neglected materials from the tradition and thus to reanimate doctrinal reflection both imaginatively and spiritually. What emerges is a vision of human longing for the triune God which is both edgy and compelling: Coakley's *théologie totale* questions standard shibboleths on 'sexuality' and 'gender' and thereby suggests a way beyond current destructive impasses in the churches. The book is clearly and accessibly written and will be of great interest to all scholars and students of theology.

In Pannenberg's seminal work, the Christian doctrine of God is discussed using exegetical analysis across a number of disciplines. Truth, the nature of revelation, the language used to discuss God, the trinity, and theology in the public sphere are topics for debate.

Unique for its breadth in studying theologians not only from Europe and North America but also from Latin America, Asia, and Africa, this landmark volume introduces the doctrine of the Trinity, examining the work and thought of contemporary theologians throughout the world. Veli-Matti Karkkainen provides an overview of the biblical roots of the doctrine, discussing both the idea of plurality in God in the Old Testament and the rise of Trinitarian understandings in the New Testament. He details the historical growth of Trinitarian traditions and delves into specific theologies, both Western and non-Western. Also including both an introductory consideration of the doctrine's significance and a concluding assessment and agenda for future thought, Karkkainen's *The Trinity* is the broadest and most comprehensive contemporary study on the Trinity available.

In this brief and winsome book, Michael Reeves presents an introduction to the Christian faith that is rooted in the triune God. He takes cues from preachers and teachers down through the ages, setting key doctrines of creation, the person and work of Christ, and life in the Spirit into a simple framework of the Christian life.

The second volume of Robert M. Doran's magisterial *The Trinity in History* continues his exploration of the Trinitarian theology of Bernard Lonergan, focusing now on the notions of relations and persons and connecting the systematic proposals with the so-called "Third Quest for the Historical Jesus." Doran not only interprets Lonergan's major work in Trinitarian theology and Christology but also suggests at least a twofold advance: a new version of the psychological analogy for understanding Trinitarian doctrine and a new starting point for the whole of systematic theology. He links these theological concerns with René Girard's mimetic theory, proposes a theory of history based in Lonergan's scale of values, and creates a link between exegetical and historical scholarship and systematic theology.

There are few beliefs more essential to Christianity than that of the Trinity. Millard Erickson seeks to provide a lucid and judicious answer to the question: Is Jesus eternally subordinate to the Father, or is Jesus equal with the Father? In addition to providing rigorous theological analysis of that question, Erickson exposes flaws in familial implications derived from the Trinity. This increasingly debated topic has finally

received a thorough, careful, and objective treatment.

What if the Trinity we've been taught is not the Trinity of the Bible? In this groundbreaking book, Matthew Barrett reveals a shocking discovery: we have manipulated the Trinity, recreating the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in our own image. With clarity and creativity, Barrett mines the Scriptures as well as the creeds and confessions of the faith to help you rediscover the beauty, simplicity, and majesty of our Triune God. You will be surprised to learn that what you believe about the Trinity has untold consequences for salvation and the Christian life. To truly know God, you must meet the One who is simply Trinity.

The doctrine of the Trinity is taught and believed by all evangelicals, but rarely is it fully understood or celebrated. In *The Deep Things of God*, systematic theologian Fred Sanders shows why we ought to embrace the doctrine of the Trinity wholeheartedly as a central concern of evangelical theology. Sanders demonstrates, engagingly and accessibly, that the doctrine of the Trinity is grounded in the gospel itself. In this book, readers will understand that a robust doctrine of the Trinity has massive implications for their lives, restoring depth to prayer, worship, Bible study, missions, tradition, and understanding of Christianity's fundamental doctrines. This new edition includes a study guide with discussion questions, action points, recommended reading, and more.

Augustus Hopkins Strong (1836 - 1921) was a Baptist minister and theologian who lived in the United States during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. His most influential book, *Systematic Theology*, proved to be a mainstay of Reformed Baptist theological education for several generations. In this book: *Systematic Theology (Volume 1 of 3)* *Systematic Theology (Volume 2 of 3)* *Systematic Theology (Volume 3 of 3)* *Practical Theology for the Church Today* The Trinity is one of the most essential doctrines of the Christian faith, as it reveals a magnificent truth about God--that he is one God eternally existing as three distinct persons. While Christians often struggle to find the right words to describe the union of Father, Son, and Spirit, the Bible gives clarity concerning the triune God's activity in nature (creation), grace (redemption), and glory (reward). In the second installment of the *Short Studies in Systematic Theology* series, theologian Scott Swain examines the Trinity, presenting its biblical foundations, systematic-theological structure, and practical relevance for the church today. Scott R. Swain provides what might be the definitive critical reading of Robert Jenson's trinitarian theology from an evangelical perspective. Setting Jenson within the larger story of the twentieth century trinitarian revival, Swain proposes constructive pathways back to a classical understanding of the Trinity.

The Trinity is one of the most essential doctrines of the Christian faith. The eternal God existing as three distinct persons—Father, Son, and Spirit—can be difficult to comprehend. While Christians often struggle to find the right words to describe this union, the Bible gives clarity concerning the triune God's being and activity in nature (creation), grace (redemption), and glory (reward). In this concise volume, theologian Scott Swain examines the doctrine of the Trinity, presenting its biblical foundations, systematic-theological structure, and practical relevance for the church today. In the fullness of time, God sent his Son into the world to accomplish salvation from sin: "It is a light thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give you for a light to the Gentiles, that you may be my salvation unto the end of the earth" (Isa. 49:6). This took place when God the Son became flesh (this act is the incarnation) and entered the world as Jesus of Nazareth: "you shall call his name Jesus, for he it is

that shall save his people from their sins" (Matt. 1:21). God himself became the Savior he had promised mankind. Jesus was born of a virgin and lived a perfect life that matched the prophecies foretold by God's prophets. Jesus laid down his life to atone for sin. Though he was totally innocent of sin, he took the punishment of sin on himself, so that his people would never endure it. While sinful men betrayed, abused, falsely tried, and executed Jesus by crucifixion, God inflicted the punishment of his people's sins on him. On the cross, the innocent and perfect Christ became sin for us, suffered the unimaginable punishment of holy justice, and died in the place of his people. This is divine love. Therefore, only Christ can save sinners: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Robert Letham's award winning *The Holy Trinity* receives a well-considered update in a revised and expanded new edition. Letham examines the doctrine of the Trinity's biblical foundations and traces its historical development before engaging critical issues. This new edition addresses developments in Augustine studies, teaching on the Trinity and election in Barth studies, East-West relations, and evangelical disputes on the relation of the Son to the Father.

Peters examines the works of Karl Barth, Karl Rahner, Eberhard Jungel, Jurgen Moltmann, Catherine Mowry LaCugna, and other theologians, as he highlights talk about the becoming of God by process theologians, sexism in trinitarian language by feminists, and divine and human community by liberation theologians.

Analyzes the major phases of Karl Barth's Christological exegesis of Judaism. Contends that despite his lifelong opposition to antisemitism and racism (as a leader of the anti-Nazi Confessing Church and a strong supporter of the State of Israel), Barth represents the broadest tradition of Christian Protestant dogmatic anti-Judaism, preserving and elaborating the controversial theology that has been standard in Christian apologetics since ancient times. Argues that a positive Christian theology of Judaism must begin by acknowledging the irreconcilable differences between the two religions, pleading for a theological recognition of an independent Judaism.

The doctrine of the Trinity was settled in the fourth century, and maintained, with only very minor disagreement or development, by all strands of the church--Western and Eastern, Protestant and Catholic--until the modern period. In the twentieth century, there arose a sense that the doctrine had been neglected and stood in need of recovery. In *The Quest for the Trinity*, Holmes takes us on a remarkable journey through 2,000 years of the Christian doctrine of God. We witness the church's discovery of the Trinity from the biblical testimony, its crucial patristic developments, and medieval and Reformation continuity. We are also confronted with the questioning of traditional dogma during the Enlightenment, and asked to consider anew the character of the modern Trinitarian revival. Holmes's controversial conclusion is that the explosion of theological work in recent decades claiming to recapture the heart of Christian theology in fact deeply

misunderstands and misappropriates the traditional doctrine of the Trinity. Yet his aim is constructive: to grasp the wisdom of the past and, ultimately, to bring a clearer understanding of the meaning of the present.

Lesslie Newbigin was arguably the greatest missionary thinker of the twentieth century. After a successful missionary career in south India, Newbigin pioneered missionary engagement with the secular West and resurgent Islam. He also led the way in arguing that the Church's mission can only be understood in light of the doctrine of the Trinity. Over fifty years ago, Newbigin called for the further development of missionary thinking grounded in the Triune being of God. This work is in response to that call. Adam Dodds provides the first in-depth study of Newbigin's trinitarian theology of mission. Dodds constructs a systematic account of the central features of the mission of the Triune God: the Triune being of God, the mission of the Son, the mission of the Holy Spirit, and the mission of the church. This book contributes to our understanding of the work of Lesslie Newbigin, offers a systematic theological account of the mission of the Triune God, and contributes to the retrieval of Christian mission from the theological margins back to a place of central importance to Christian theology.

This comprehensive systematic theology by respected theologian Robert Letham covers the whole field of Reformed Christian doctrine from biblical, historical, and theological angles. Letham begins with God's ultimate self-revelation as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in indivisible union, continuing on with the works of God in creation, providence, and grace. He draws deeply from Scripture and important voices from the church to provide a clear and concise articulation of the Reformed faith. He also addresses current issues such as feminism, charismatic gifts, sexual ethics, environmentalism, other religions, the nature of truth, and civil liberties. Each chapter is followed by discussion questions, with a glossary of terms included at the end. This work grounds theological understanding and practice in the life and ministry of the church, accessible to pastors, students, scholars, and anyone who desires to understand, believe, and live scriptural doctrine more fully.

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in the Bible (and in Christian experience) are all vital to the reality of salvation. But since the word "Trinity" does not appear in the Bible, many people wonder whether the doctrine is anything more than an intellectual puzzle created by theologians. This book leads readers step-by-step to a robust understanding of God as a Trinity.

"My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" How should a Christian interpret this passage? What implications does the cross have for the trinitarian theology? Did the Father kill the Son? Theologian Thomas McCall presents a trinitarian reading of Christ's darkest moment--the moment of his prayer to his heavenly Father from the cross. McCall revisits the biblical texts and surveys the various interpretations of Jesus' cry, ranging from early church theologians to the Reformation to contemporary theologians. Along the way, he explains the terms of the scholarly debate and clearly marks out what he believes to be the historically orthodox point

of view. By approaching the Son's cry to the Father as an event in the life of the Triune God, Forsaken seeks to recover the true poignancy of the orthodox perspective on the cross.

In this concise, one-volume systematic theology, celebrated scholar Anthony Thiselton comprehensively covers the spectrum of Christian doctrine with an eye to practical application for Christian discipleship. Written with students and busy ministers in mind, this book is readable and accessible, comprising fifteen chapters of relatively equal length, with each chapter containing five evenly balanced subsections for teaching and learning convenience. Rather than setting out an abstract system, Thiselton explores theology as a living, organic whole. The book thus includes biblical foundations, historical thought, contemporary writers, and practical implications. Expertly incorporating biblical exegesis, philosophy, conceptual grammar, and hermeneutics, this work is the most succinct multidisciplinary systematic theology available.

God the Holy Trinity brings together leading scholars from diverse theological perspectives to reflect on various theological and practical aspects of the core Christian doctrine of the Trinity. Throughout, the essays highlight the trinitarian shape of spiritual formation. Contributors include: Alister McGrath Ellen T. Charry Avery Cardinal Dulles, S.J. Frederica Mathewes-Green J. I. Packer James Earl Massey Gerald L. Bray Cornelius Plantinga Jr. Timothy George "Though the doctrine of the Trinity is basic for all Christian life and reflection, it often remains shrouded in the theologians' obfuscating mystery. This book, by contrast, with its stellar line-up of contributors, shows why the Trinity is so important for all communities of whatever denomination, documents powerfully the practicality of the doctrine, and does so with crystal clarity. It is an ideal volume for students, church classes, laypeople, and ministers--indeed for anyone who desires deeper understanding of the heart of the Christian faith." --Mark A. Noll, McAnaney Professor of History, University of Notre Dame "The Christian name of God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This admirable book helps explain why the renewal of trinitarian theology is critically important for all of us." --Richard John Neuhaus, author of *American Babylon: Notes of a Christian Exile* "This book brings into the twenty-first century some of the fruits of the remarkable ecumenical rediscovery of the Trinity in the second half of the twentieth. Grounded in Scripture and illustrated from the early, the medieval, and the post-Reformation church, trinitarian doctrine here both illuminates several confessional traditions in Christianity and also offers resources for facing various contemporary issues. Yet warnings are rightly raised against too facile an application of the recently fashionable 'social' construction of the triunity of God. All in all, a stimulating collection of essays for both positive and critical purposes." --Geoffrey Wainwright, Cushman Professor of Christian Theology, Duke University

Participating in God claims that a doctrine of the Trinity cannot be developed in isolation from pastoral experience. It is not sufficient to view the persons of the Trinity as offering a mere example for human relationships; actual participation in this triune communication shapes both our knowledge of God and the pastoral practices that flow from it. Paul S. Fiddes develops a radical understanding of the "persons" in God as nothing other than relations, or as movements of divine relationship into which we are drawn. This important new book engages in conversation with recent thought about the Trinity in Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox theology. But it does so always through theological reflection on pastoral concerns. Fiddes brings the doctrine of the

Trinity into dialogue with key issues, including the relation of the individual to community, the nature of power and authority, the effect of intercessory prayer, the problems of suffering, the power of forgiveness, the threat of death, the use of spiritual gifts, and the living of a sacramental life. Participating in God is essential reading for all those interested in Christian doctrine and pastoral care.

Katherine Sonderegger follows her monumental volume on the doctrine of God with this second entry of her Systematic Theology, which explores the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. Locating her analysis first in the Hebrew Scriptures, Sonderegger examines the thrice-holy God that is proclaimed to Isaiah in the sanctuary and manifested in the sacrifice of the temple. The book of Leviticus, read in conversation with Exodus, unfolds the doctrine of the Trinity under the character of holiness. In the One God, Trinity speaks of the life, movement, and self-offering of God, who is the eternal procession of goodness and light. In Israel's sacrificial covenant, the Triune God is perfect self-offering: the eternal descent of the Father of Lights is the offering who is Son, eternally received and hallowed in the one who is Spirit. Anchoring the theology of the Trinity in Israel's Scriptures in this way elevates the processions over the persons, exploring the mystery of the Divine Life as holy, rational, and good. The Divine Persons, named in the New Testament, cannot be defined but may be glimpsed in the notion of perfection, a complete and perfect infinite set. In all these ways, the Holy Trinity may be praised as the deep reality of the life of God.

Is the Trinity biblical? Is it necessary to affirm God as three persons in one being? Despite a renewed interest in the Trinity in recent years, many Christians, including most evangelicals, either relegate the Son of God to creaturely status or repudiate the personhood of the Holy Spirit. In addition, numerous scholars affirm that the doctrine of the Trinity is not clearly revealed in Scripture. Is the Trinity merely a philosophical construction, or is it essential to orthodox Christianity? Drawing on hermeneutics and biblical and historical theology, Malcolm Yarnell crafts a careful and clear response to these issues through exegesis of pivotal texts from both testaments. He meticulously examines the foundational Hebrew confession known as the Shema, Matthew's great commission, the divine relations in the Gospel of John, Paul's Corinthian benediction, the opening hymn of Ephesians, and the throne room vision of the Apocalypse. Also considered are the relationships of language to revelation and history to metaphysics, along with recent appeals to recover patristic exegesis and the Christian imagination. He also challenges the reader to discern the implications of the Trinity for personal salvation as well as corporate worship.

Traces the common theme of God's love through the Bible categorically -- from God's love for himself and his creation to the cross as the ultimate expression of God's love.

Tanner offers not a repetition of doctrines but a creative synthesis of key Christian principles - especially the transcendence and gift-giving of God - and contemporary experience. What emerges is a profound yet precise vision of creation, God's life, and our participation in it. While consonant with traditional teachings, Tanner's dynamic speculative theology is universal in its range, mystical in its outlines, and deeply ethical in its relations with all God's gifted creatures. Jesus, Humanity, and the Trinity not only takes stock of Christian belief in a time of tumultuous intellectual and cultural

change. It also finds in that ferment a life-giving meaning and mission for Christian life.

In this two volume collection of essays, which forms a companion to *The Domain of the Word*, John Webster brings together studies of a range of topics in dogmatic and moral theology. This first volume, *God and the Works of God*, treats the themes of God's inner being and God's outer acts. After an overall account of the relation between God in himself and the economy of God's external works, there are studies of the divine aseity and of the theology of the eternal Son. These are followed by a set of essays on creation out of nothing; the relation between God and God's creatures; the nature of providence; the relation of soteriology and the doctrine of God; and the place of teaching about justification in Christian theology. Each of the essays explores the relation of theology proper to economy, and together they pose an understanding of Christian doctrine in which all theological teaching flows from the doctrine of the immanent Trinity. This volume begins with an extended discussion of Jenson's methodology, and addresses questions on the nature of the Christian God, including the classic christological and trinitarian questions.

Two seductive strangers. One scandalous night. A trinity of temptation. It was only supposed to be a single encounter. A night stripped of sexual inhibition. We were never supposed to become romantically involved. But they were alluring and irresistible. They were also the enemy. Their company wants to take the one thing that means anything to me. Now, I'm navigating a dicey path. Loving two men who can destroy me in a multitude of ways. They can shatter my heart, wreck my dreams, but worst of all, demolish the only place I've ever called home.

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