

Reformation
& Revival



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Every gospel imperative is full of the divine power of grace to effect what it demands. If it counted on even the least power in the sinner it would never secure the least effect.

R. C. H. Lenski

If there is to be in our celestial garment but one stitch of our own making we are all of us lost.

C. H. Spurgeon

Great God of wonders! All thy ways
Are matchless, Godlike, and divine;
But the fair glories of thy grace,

Samuel Davies

The religion of the Bible is a religion of grace or it is nothing.

James Moffatt

As grace is first from God, so it is continually from Him, as much as light is all day long from the sun, as well at first dawn or at sun-rising.

Jonathan Edwards

An Annotated Bibliography

Augustine. *On the Predestination of the Saints*. In *Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers*, ed. Philip Schaff, First Series, Vol. 5. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1956 ed. The classic historic treatment of biblical predestination and the sovereignty of God's grace written by the best-known theologian of the early centuries of the church. A must for serious academic study of grace.

Barth, Karl. *Church Dogmatics*, Vols. I/1; IV/2. The century's best-known theologian wrote profoundly of the grace of God, but leaves the impression that God's grace ultimately includes all the race. Not recommended for most lay readers, but important for historical-theological study.

*Boice, James Montgomery. *Amazing Grace* (Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House, 1993). Sermons from one of our finest expository preachers today. Highly recommended for the average reader who wishes to "get going" with the theme of grace. Deals with all the important sub-themes related to God's grace.

Bridges, Jerry. *Transforming Grace: Living Confidently in God's Unfailing Love* (Colorado Springs: Nav Press, 1991). A popular book by a well-known contemporary author. The stress is upon our constant and daily need of grace, not just at conversion.

*Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. Ed. John T. McNeill. Trans. Ford Lewis Battles. 2 vols. (Philadelphia: Westminster, 1960). Positively the most important theological treatment of grace to come out of the Protestant Reformation and one of the ten most important books in my own library! Though often seen as intimidating to lay readers these volumes can be read with profit by all who will persevere prayerfully. People who respond to the term "Calvinism" pro or con should read Calvin. They will be

surprised. These volumes are one the church's historic "gold mines," both theologically and devotionally.

Chafer, Lewis Sperry. *Grace: The Glorious Theme* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1922). Written to popularly counteract attempts to remove the *distinguishing* feature of the Christian religion—grace. At times brilliant but neither consistently profound nor balanced because of theological presuppositions which color the author's direction at certain points.

Charnock, Stephen. *The Doctrine of Regeneration* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House (1840), reprint 1975). By the author of the famous *Existence and Attributes of God*, an old book reflecting the Puritan approach to regeneration and conversion. Valuable.

Dabney, Robert L. *Lectures in Systematic Theology* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan (1878), reprint 1972). A great Presbyterian theologian of the "old South." Get this book and read it, especially his treatment of saving grace and common grace, a subject many do not treat well at all.

Dagg, John L. *Manual of Theology* (Harrisonburg, Virginia: Gano Books (1857), reprint 1982). One of the best Southern Baptist theologians of the last century and a writer with clear, simple insights into the subject of God's grace. Highly recommended for study.

Elwell, Walter A. (Ed.) *Evangelical Dictionary of Theology* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1984). A resource highly recommended for those who are building a solid and basic library.

Erickson, Millard J. *Christian Theology* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1985). Dr. Erickson has placed us in his debt

with one of the best theologies done in recent years. Used as a text in many schools, readers should read this work for insight into theology which reflects not only earlier centuries but our own in particular. Even when I disagree with Erickson I am helped by his way of making me think more biblically and theologically.

Hodge, Archibald A. *Evangelical Theology* (Edinburgh: Banner of Truth (1890), reprint 1976). One of the very best small treatments of theology, and especially of grace. Highly recommended for the reader who is beginning to study theology seriously. Quite easy to read and at times devotional in its outlook.

Hodge, Charles. *Systematic Theology*, 3 vols (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans (1871), reprint 1940). A standard Reformed dogmatic of the old Princetonian model. Should be used only after one has wrestled with smaller books.

*Hoekema, Anthony A. *Saved By Grace* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989). A very important modern treatment which takes seriously the biblical teaching that salvation and the Christian life are all by free and sovereign grace. His treatment of the *ordo salutis* (order of salvation) question is very helpful.

Hoeksema, Herman. *Reformed Dogmatics* (Grand Rapids: The Reformed Free Publishing Association). Hoeksema's views helped bring about a significant division in the Dutch Reformed school of theologians in the United States. An important work, but one which does not treat common grace properly.

*Horton, Michael Scott. *Putting Amazing Back Into Grace* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1994). An introduction to Reformed theology which is the very best we have of this

type of book. Highly recommended, even to serious academics, as a model of how to popularly write for the church in our time. Includes a wonderful bibliography which will guide readers in a solid way.

Kuyper, Abraham. *Calvinism* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1931). A very important little book which contains the famous lectures of Kuyper which have helped many understand the "world-life" view of Calvinism. Highly recommended. Kuyper is a major figure in the last one hundred years and should be read by many.

*Luther, Martin. *Lectures on Romans*. Vol. 15 of The Library of Christian Classics. Trans. and ed. Wilhelm Pauck (Philadelphia: Westminster, 1961). One cannot seriously consider grace without consulting Luther and seeking to follow his masterful grasp of Paul. This writing lit the spark of the greatest recovery period since Pentecost! Put aside the light books and read Luther.

*Machen, J. Gresham. *What is Faith?* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1946). The famous founder of Westminster Theological Seminary should be read, and especially this helpful and readable book. Highly recommended to all readers.

Moody, Dale. *The Word of Truth* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1981). The late professor of systematic theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, has given us a massive work, but one which is not to be trusted in terms of its orthodoxy at some points.

Morris, Leon. *The Apostolic Preaching of the Cross* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1956). This little "classic" has had a major effect upon thought in the past three decades. It should continue to have an effect upon serious students.

*Murray, John. *Redemption—Accomplished and Applied* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1955). One of very best little books on grace and salvation I have ever read. Originally written for lay readers in a Presbyterian magazine, which will surprise first-time readers. Recommended without reservation for all.

*Oden, Thomas C. *The Transforming Power of Grace* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993). A Methodist theologian who has turned away from liberalism and is highly refreshing to read. Writes from a non-Reformed perspective but understands and appreciates the historical debates regarding grace. Serious readers should wrestle with this book, even though they will variously disagree with the author.

*Packer, James I. *God's Words* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1981). Includes very useful chapters on grace, faith, justification, regeneration, election, etc. Highly recommended.

Pieper, Francis. *Christian Dogmatics*. 3 vols. (St. Louis: Concordia, 1950-53). A significant Lutheran theology which should be used by those seriously interested in the theological school of the great Reformer.

Pink, Arthur W. *The Doctrine of Salvation* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1975). Pink is at times exciting and at times frustrating, especially when he uses Scripture to build a case with little or no evident reason. His popular works have helped many, but he should not be read without critical discernment at certain points, especially in his rigidity regarding *ordo salutis* and related matters.

Pinnock, Clark H. (ed.). *The Grace of God, The Will of Man* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1989). Essays by evangelicals who argue what they call the "case for Arminianism." Those

seriously interested in the theology of the Reformation need to read this as an attempt at defense of non-Reformed thought. As with any collection the essays are a mixture, both in style and content.

Pinnock, Clark H. (Ed.) *Grace Unlimited* (Minneapolis: Bethany Fellowship, 1975). An earlier collection of non-Reformed arguments against the soteriological views of Calvinism by Arminian theologians who believe, as the title suggests, that Calvinists *limit* grace in some way.

*Ridderbos, Herman. *Paul: An Outline of His Theology*. Trans. John R. De Witt (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1975). A most important book. The finest modern treatment of Pauline theology and thought we have. His treatment of law, gospel and covenant should be read carefully with appreciation. Here is biblical theology at its very best!

Shank, Robert, *Life in the Son* (Springfield, Missouri: Westcott, 1960). I read this book in the 1960s and it temporarily influenced me away from historic Reformed theology. Its anti-Reformed views can be answered both exegetically and theologically.

*Spurgeon, Charles H. *All of Grace* (Chicago: Moody Press, n.d.). The best *simple* treatment of grace available. Give it away as a tool for witness!

*Stott, John R. W. *The Cross of Christ* (Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1986). A positively wonderful and very important treatment. The reader will probably disagree but will not be unmoved as he ponders the grace of Calvary.

*Stott, John R. W. *Men Made New* (Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1966). I wish I had read this little gem

before I got totally confused about Romans 5-8 and my own failures to understand Paul and grace. Highly recommended for all readers!

Warfield, Benjamin B. *Perfectionism*. Ed. Samuel Craig. (Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1958). This book is important reading, and all the more as "perfectionistic" movements have grown tenfold since Warfield's day. Don't let Warfield's nay-sayers put you off from this work, as he was perhaps the greatest American theologian of our century.

*Warfield, Benjamin B. *The Plan of Salvation* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans). A little gem that all can read with profit. It surveys the various historic schools of thought regarding God's grace and how it *operates* in saving men.

****Highly Recommended***

Editor