

## In Stone and Story

### Early Christianity in the Roman World

Bruce W. Longenecker

This beautifully designed, full-color textbook provides an engaging and informed introduction to the Roman background of the New Testament by immersing students in the life and culture of the thriving first-century city of Pompeii, which found itself right in the path of the spread of the early Christian movement. Bruce Longenecker, a leading scholar of the ancient world of the New Testament and author of the popular *The Lost Letters of Pergamum*, discusses first-century artifacts in relation to the life stories of people from the Roman world. *In Stone and Story* includes discussion questions for each chapter, maps, and 175 color photographs.

### ENDORSEMENT

“Longenecker has made an outstanding contribution to understanding the development of early Christianity in the Roman world. His thematic approach offers innovative opportunities for teaching and learning. I know of no other book like it, and I am eager to discuss its rich contents with students.” —Margaret Y. MacDonald, Saint Mary’s University

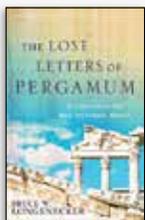
**Bruce W. Longenecker** (PhD, University of Durham) is professor of religion and W. W. Melton Chair of Religion at Baylor University. He previously taught at the University of St. Andrews, the University of Cambridge, and Durham University. He is the author or coauthor of numerous books, including *The Lost Letters of Pergamum*; *Thinking through Paul: A Survey of His Life, Letters, and Theology*; *The Cross before Constantine*; *Remember the Poor: Paul, Poverty, and the Greco-Roman World*; and *Philippians and Philemon* in the Paideia commentary series.

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### ALSO BY THE AUTHOR



**THE LOST LETTERS OF PERGAMUM**  
*A Story from the New Testament World, 2nd ed.*  
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Protocols of Popular Devotion	Death and Life
<p>1. Whereas most temples permitted ease of physical and visual access into the temple precincts, the Temple of Isis had only a single doorway entrance and high walls all around the temple precinct—both of these architectural features evidently enhancing the sense of privacy in relation to the activities of this mystery cult.</p> <p>2. Next to the temple's altar was a housing for a subterranean reservoir of water drawn (allegedly) from the holy Nile River. This was an important feature, since water rituals were a part of Isis celebrations, water being the source of life (as the Nile River rose to life in floodwaters every spring).</p> <p>3. In the back of the temple precinct was a large hall, used for banquets and initiation purposes.</p> <p>4. The temple included a small selection of apartment rooms and a kitchen, allowing the priests of Isis to live on-site (probably only when they were on duty).</p> <p>Drawing on what we know of Isis ceremonies elsewhere, we can expect that the Isis temple of Pompeii hosted two daily services. The morning service began just before sunrise, when worshippers would have gathered at the temple. While rattling their sistrams to add drama to the moment, Isis-devotees would have been shown an image of their deity. As the sun rose, they would have offered prayers of thanks for its rebirth. The afternoon service featured a celebration of water. A special ceremony recalling the restoration of Osiris's dismembered body by Isis's power was held in mid-November. This important ceremony might have been the main occasion for initiating new members into the cult.</p> <p>If Isis could facilitate a form of life after death, some people in the Roman world did not believe in such a thing. One graffito on a tomb near Rome gives good testimony to this common lack of belief in an afterlife: “I didn’t exist, I existed, I don’t exist, I don’t care” (CIL 5.2283, although the final phrase might be translated “I don’t have any more cares”). The same sentiment appears in a graffito in the interior of the House of the Centenary in Pompeii (9.8.3): “Once you are dead, you are nothing” (CIL 4.5279).</p>  <p>108</p> <p>(Unpublished manuscript—copyright protected Baker Publishing Group)</p>	<p><b>Isis-Devotion in Pompeii and Beyond</b></p> <p>In the first century BCE, political leaders in Rome were suspicious of the Isis cult, wondering whether it might introduce unstable elements into traditional forms of devotion. But suspicion increasingly gave way to embrace. (For instance, an Egyptian coin from the early 70s displays the emperor Nerosian on one side and the deity Isis on the other.) And within Pompeii itself, evidence for the popularity of Isis-devotion comes from various data.</p> <p>1. In the aftermath of the earthquake of 62, some private homes decorated their walls with celebrations of Isis-devotion. Nowhere is this clearer than in the House of the Golden Cupids (at 6.16.7/38), where a fresco shrine to Isis is incorporated at a key focal point in the central peristyle of the residence (see figure 9.3).</p> <p>2. From political campaign advertisements, we know that Isis-followers seem to have had a sense of corporate identity in Pompeii, with “the worshippers of Isis” calling on the townspeople to vote for particular politicians (CIL 4.787, 4.1011).</p> <p>3. As noted in earlier chapters, in the period between the earthquake of 62 and the eruption of 79, the traditional temples had not received much attention by way of repair and restoration; by contrast, the Temple of Isis was rebuilt and fully functioning, probably as much as a decade before the eruption and with the support of the civic authorities. (Note also that the Temple of Bacchus/Dionysus was fully functioning at the time of the eruption.)</p>  <p>Figure 9.2. Osiris on a throne, between two cobras, beside a scarab with a serpent. In the original fresco, Isis was to the left of Osiris and sitting on a superior throne (from the Temple of Isis, 8.7.26, MANU 997).</p> <p>These indicators testify that Isis-devotion had infiltrated deeply into the political and cultural arena of Pompeii.</p> <p>Four things about Pompeii's Temple of Isis are notable.</p>  <p>Figure 9.3. A damaged fresco of Isis and Osiris, each shaking a devotional sistrum rattle. (From 6.42, in situ)</p> <p>107</p> <p>(Unpublished manuscript—copyright protected Baker Publishing Group)</p>

## The State of New Testament Studies

*A Survey of Recent Research*

Scot McKnight and Nijay K. Gupta, editors

This book surveys the current landscape of New Testament studies, offering students a concise guide to contemporary discussions. Bringing together a diverse group of experts, it covers research on the most important issues in New Testament studies, including new discipline areas, making it an ideal supplemental textbook for a variety of courses on the New Testament.

### CONTRIBUTORS

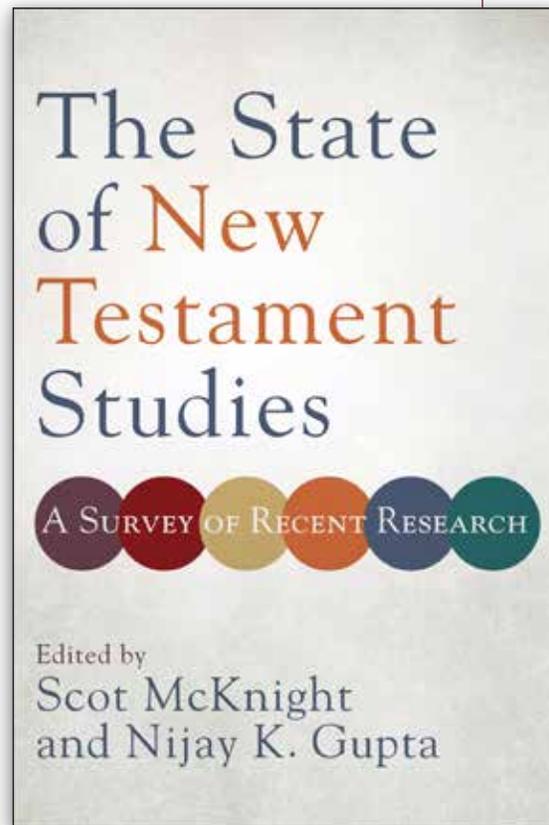
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### ENDORSEMENTS

“As the fleet of specialized disciplines within New Testament studies sails forward into waters unknown, we need to know where we’ve come from, where we’re heading, and what kind of boat we’re in. Thankfully, McKnight and Gupta have marshaled an impressive and diverse array of scholars who can give us an updated report from the crow’s nest.”—**Nicholas Perrin**, Trinity International University

“Rich in resources and thorough in content, *The State of New Testament Studies* offers a vital resource for the new millennium. From sage established scholars and rising stars of the next generation, readers learn the recent history of the field. These new vistas in methodology create fresh insights into and applications of the text. I will certainly put this into the hands of my students and keep it easily accessible for myself.”—**Amy Peeler**, Wheaton College

“What a remarkable achievement and welcome contribution! When I was finishing my PhD and applying for jobs, I devoured Osborne and McKnight’s *The Face of New Testament Studies* to make sure I would have a general, up-to-date understanding of the parts of the New Testament that my own narrow research had inevitably missed. With that book as the original inspiration, McKnight and Gupta have gathered a thoughtful range of scholars to provide a needed, current ‘state of the art’ discussion of the New Testament. This will be a valuable resource for years to come.”—**Jonathan T. Pennington**, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary



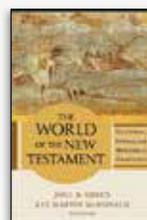
**Scot McKnight** (PhD, University of Nottingham) is Julius R. Mantey Professor of New Testament at Northern Seminary. He is a world-renowned scholar, writer, and speaker whose blog, *Jesus Creed*, is one of the most popular and influential evangelical blogs. McKnight is the author, coauthor, or editor of more than seventy-five books, including *It Takes a Church to Baptize*, *Adam and the Genome*, *Kingdom Conspiracy*, and *The King Jesus Gospel*. He is also a canon theologian for the Diocese of Churches for the Sake of Others.

**Nijay K. Gupta** (PhD, Durham University) is associate professor of New Testament at Portland Seminary. He founded the popular blog *Crux Sola* and is the author of numerous books, including *Worship That Makes Sense to Paul*, *A Beginner’s Guide to New Testament Studies* (forthcoming), and commentaries on Galatians, Philippians, Colossians, and 1 and 2 Thessalonians.

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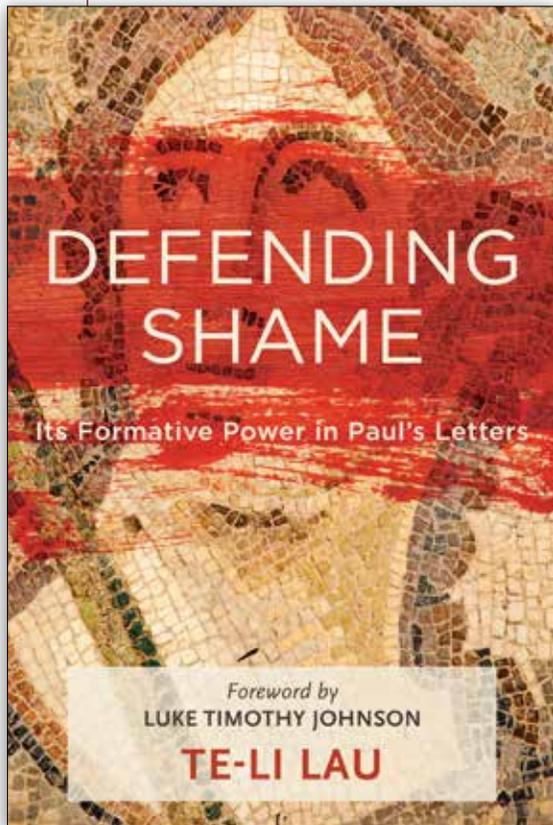
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## Defending Shame

*Its Formative Power in Paul's Letters*

Te-Li Lau

Foreword by Luke Timothy Johnson

Our culture often views shame and shaming in a negative light. However, Paul's use of shame, when properly understood and applied, has much to teach the contemporary church.

Filling a lacuna in Pauline scholarship, *Defending Shame* shows how Paul uses shame to admonish and to transform the minds of his readers into the mind of Christ. The author examines Paul's use of shame for moral formation within his Jewish and Greco-Roman context, compares and contrasts Paul's use of shame with other cultural voices, and offers a corrective understanding for today's church. The book explores how Paul's moral psychology of shame can guide believers to live lives that honor not only God but also their calling as children of God.

### FROM THE FOREWORD

"Readers will find here that a thoroughly contemporary and contentious issue is thrown into new light by the careful consideration of ancient wisdom, and in that light will find themselves appreciating a dimension of life that up to now they have little appreciated, or even deprecated. The question pursued through all these ancient sources is the meaning and the function of shame.

As Professor Lau notes, the contemporary world is one that is particularly in need of help when it comes to the topic of shame. His description of our present discourse as 'fractured' is apt. In a time and place dominated by mass and social media, we show ourselves to be at once most sensitive to being shamed and most willing to shame others. But what is most obviously lacking in our confused feelings and actions is an understanding of shame as a positive factor in building character, a positive element in pedagogy rather than a negative weapon for mutual destruction. And it is precisely this dimension that Professor Lau excavates and elevates from his knowledge of Greco-Roman, biblical, and Chinese discourse."—**Luke Timothy Johnson**

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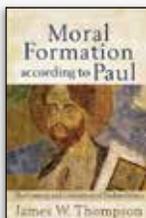
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**Te-Li Lau** (PhD, Emory University) is associate professor of New Testament at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, where he has taught for over ten years. He is also the author of *The Politics of Peace: Ephesians, Dio Chrysostom, and the Confucian Four Books*.

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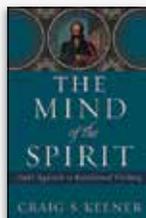
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## Living in Union with Christ

*Paul's Gospel and Christian Moral Identity*

**Grant Macaskill**

Leading New Testament theologian Grant Macaskill introduces Paul's understanding of the Christian life, which is grounded in the apostle's theology of union with Christ. The author shows that the exegetical foundations for a Christian moral theology emerge from the idea of union with Christ. Macaskill covers various aspects of Christian moral theology, exploring key implications for the Christian life of the New Testament idea of participatory union as they unfold in Paul's Letters.

### EXCERPT

This book is an exercise in the practical theological interpretation of Paul's Epistles. It involves careful exegesis of a number of passages in critical dialogue with the work of other biblical scholars, but its purpose is not simply to gain a better understanding of Paul's thought in its historical context, which is how biblical scholars often conceive of their task. Rather, it is ultimately oriented toward asking a practical theological question: As Christians who are committed to seeing Scripture as normative for our thought and practice, how then must we think and act today?

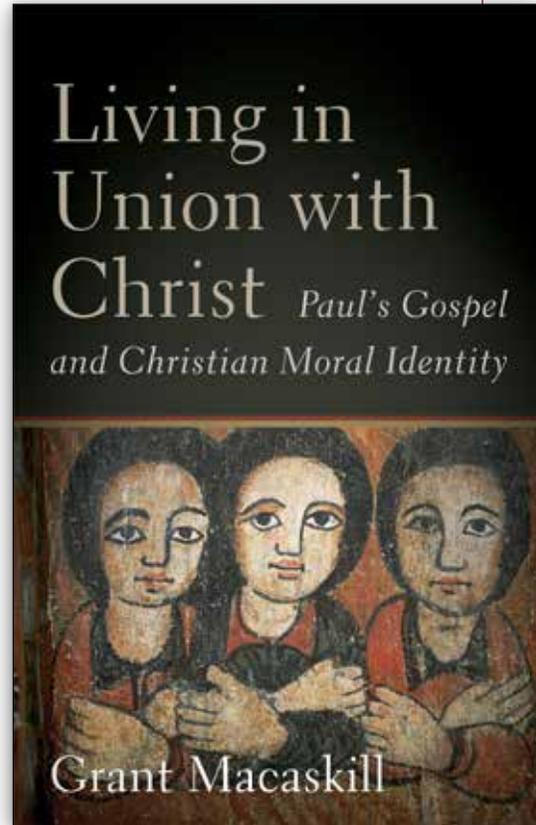
### ENDORSEMENTS

"This is a stimulating exploration of the significance of Paul's theology of union with Christ for Christian formation and faithful discipleship. Drawing deeply on his own Reformed tradition, Macaskill proves himself to be both an ardent churchman and a master of practical theological interpretation of Paul's Letters."—**Joel B. Green**, Fuller Theological Seminary

"Here is true practical theological interpretation, sourced by careful exegesis, nourished by prayerful theological wisdom, and issuing in a truly fresh and invigorating account of life in union with Christ. This book is a wellspring of pastoral insight for all who are thirsty for Paul's gospel. Drink deeply from this well!"—**Susan Eastman**, Duke Divinity School

"Participation in Christ is at the heart of Paul's theology, but it is difficult to understand and easy to neglect in practice. Macaskill challenges us to take it fully seriously in our Christian lives as well as in our theology, making his case with exegetical care and spiritual wisdom."—**Richard Bauckham**, University of St. Andrews (emeritus)

"Macaskill gives a lucid and insightful account of key texts in the apostle Paul's dynamic theology of union with Christ by the Spirit. Macaskill combines the sharp expertise of a New Testament scholar with a warm pastoral heart in this incisive work, setting forth a theological and practical portrait of Paul's vision of the Christian life and correcting common misconstruals that dampen the extraordinary power of Paul's teaching. I warmly commend *Living in Union with Christ* to pastors, students, and others who seek to recover Paul's life-changing message of union with Christ in the church today."—**J. Todd Billings**, Western Theological Seminary

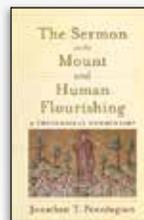


**Grant Macaskill** (PhD, University of St. Andrews) is Kirby Laing Chair of New Testament Exegesis at the University of Aberdeen. He previously served as senior lecturer in New Testament at the University of St. Andrews. Macaskill is the author of several books, including *Union with Christ in the New Testament* and *The New Testament and Intellectual Humility*.

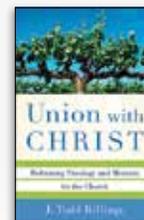
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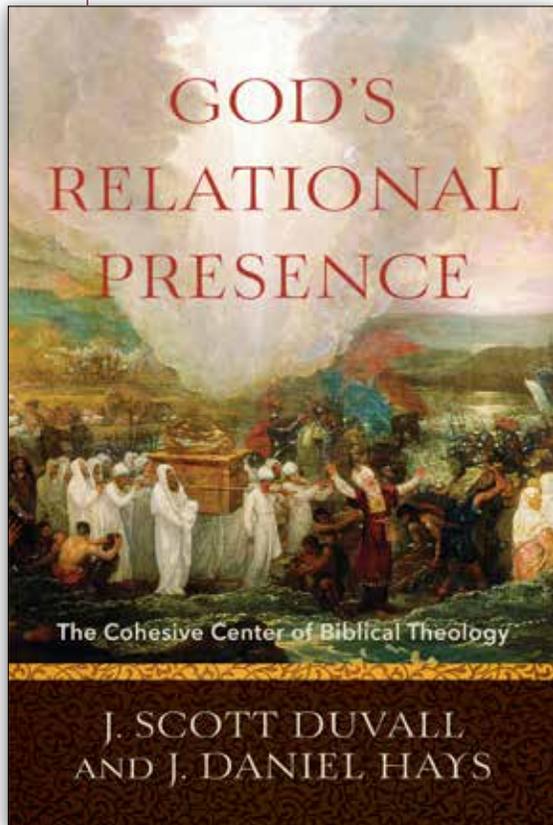
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### ENDORSEMENTS

"Think of being able to walk through the web of themes that make up the whole Bible and have them make sense as a coherent whole. *God's Relational Presence* is a great step in that direction. It introduces you to all the sections of Scripture and to the synthetic discussions of what links them all together. I enthusiastically recommend this book."  
—Darrell L. Bock, Dallas Theological Seminary

"Scott Duvall and Daniel Hays are two of my favorite biblical scholars. I am constantly blessed by their works, and now I can add *God's Relational Presence* to that number. This is a compressive biblical theology that covers the entire canon of Scripture. They make a compelling argument that the relational presence of God is the 'cohesive center' that ties all the major biblical-theological themes together in the great redemptive story. This resource will well serve faithful teachers of the Word of God. It is a volume I will seek out again and again."  
—Daniel L. Akin, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

"From creation to new creation, God's relational presence stands as a cohesive center for the whole Bible. With care and clarity, Duvall and Hays trace this through the canon, demonstrating both its prevalence and its relevance for understanding how the Bible fits together. This will be essential reading for all courses on biblical theology."  
—David G. Firth, Trinity College Bristol and University of the Free State

"Duvall and Hays make a clear and convincing case that the relational presence of God is indeed the central theme of biblical theology. The book is full of those 'Well of course!' and 'Why didn't I think of that?' moments. With such a simple yet profound thesis, so well written and comprehensively executed, this volume is destined to become a classic."  
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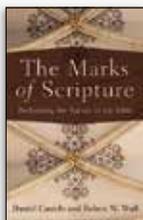
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**J. Scott Duvall** (PhD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary) is professor of New Testament and J. C. and Mae Fuller Chair of Biblical Studies at Ouachita Baptist University. He is the author or coauthor of many articles and books.

**J. Daniel Hays** (PhD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary) is dean of the School of Christian Studies and professor of biblical studies at Ouachita Baptist University. He is the author or coauthor of numerous articles and books. A former missionary to Ethiopia, Hays has also done mission work in Niger, Jordan, Myanmar, and Indonesia.

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Thomas R. Schreiner

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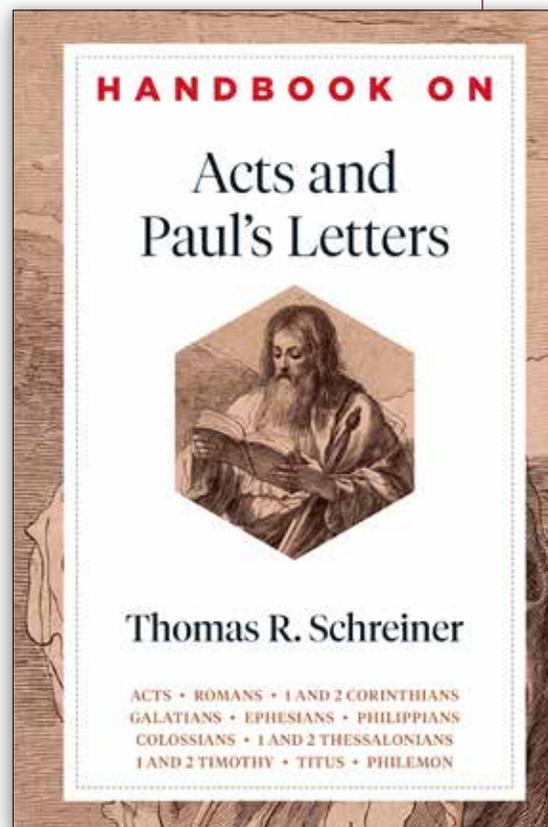
This is the first volume in the Handbooks on the New Testament series, which is modeled after Baker Academic's popular Old Testament handbook series. Series volumes are neither introductions nor commentaries, as they focus primarily on the content of the books studied without getting bogged down in historical-critical questions or detailed verse-by-verse exegesis. The series will contain three volumes that span the entirety of the New Testament, with future volumes covering the Gospels and Hebrews through Revelation. Written with classroom utility and pastoral application in mind, these books will appeal to students, pastors, and laypeople alike.

### ENDORSEMENTS

"This new textbook is highly informative, consistently comprehensive, and eminently accessible. With his customary acumen as a scholar and his pastoral sensitivity as a teacher, Schreiner introduces his readers into the complex realities of the first-century world, the missionary work of the earliest missionaries, and the theological emphases of Luke and Paul, two of the most prolific theologians of the early church, without losing sight of the foundational convictions that the early followers of Jesus lived and died for."—**Eckhard J. Schnabel**, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

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"Schreiner has been a leading NT scholar for decades. This accessible, clear, and user-friendly resource brings together years of Schreiner's careful scholarship, pastoral reflection, and churchmanship into one concise volume. Professors looking for an introductory handbook on Acts and Paul's Letters for either the undergraduate or seminary level should look no further than the latest gift to come from Schreiner's pen."—**Jarvis J. Williams**, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary



**Thomas R. Schreiner** (PhD, Fuller Theological Seminary) is James Buchanan Harrison Professor of New Testament Interpretation and professor of biblical theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He has taught at SBTS for more than twenty years. Schreiner is the author or editor of numerous books, including *Romans* in the BECNT series, *The King in His Beauty*, *New Testament Theology*, *Magnifying God in Christ*, *Interpreting the Pauline Epistles*, and *Paul, Apostle of God's Glory in Christ*.

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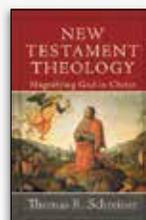
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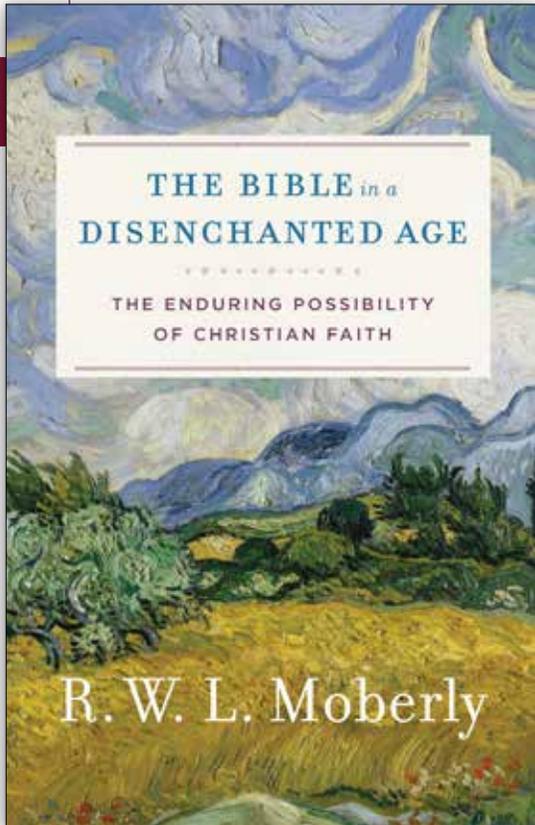
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“In conversation with Augustine, Lesslie Newbigin, Charles Taylor, and many others, Moberly engages in a fresh sort of apologetic—one that is less apologetic than straightforward as it weighs how ancient texts are read and how modern readers can investigate the Bible and find something worthwhile.”—**Christian Century**

“A welcome read for all kinds of readers who are curious about how to advocate for the centrality and distinctiveness of the Christian Bible in an age disenchanted with the possibility of human receptivity to divine revelation in word or world.”—**Rachel Toombs**, *Anglican Theological Review*

“Moberly not only provides a diagnosis of modern skeptics’ disenchantment with the Bible but also offers a much-needed remedy in the form of theologically justified readings of biblical texts. Highly recommended.”—**Bo H. Lim**, Seattle Pacific University

**R. W. L. Moberly** (PhD, University of Cambridge) is professor of theology and biblical interpretation at Durham University, where he has taught for more than thirty years. He is the author of eight books, including *Old Testament Theology*, *The Theology of the Book of Genesis*, and *Prophecy and Discernment*. He is also an ordained priest in the Church of England.

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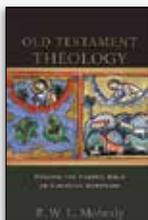
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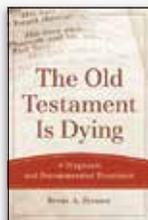
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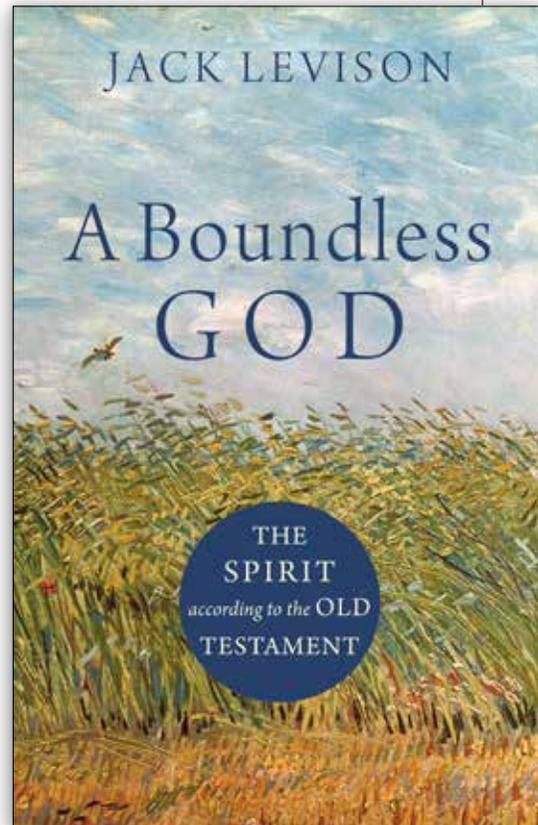
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In an ironic and unfortunate state of affairs, there is actually a disconcerting disparity between the prominence of the word *rūah* in the Old Testament and the near absence of the Old Testament in studies of the Spirit. The effect is a truncated study of the Spirit. . . . To understand the Spirit through the Jewish Scriptures is to garner altogether new insight that is otherwise inaccessible to us. The results are enlivening. . . . The results may even be alarming for their unfamiliarity and freshness. But one thing is sure: by the time we arrive at the last page of this book, our grasp of the Spirit—whether invigorating or disquieting or both—will certainly be *biblical*.

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- 3. Spirit Resting Upon
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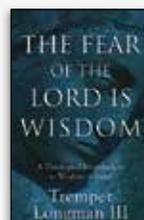


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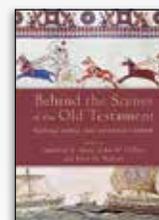
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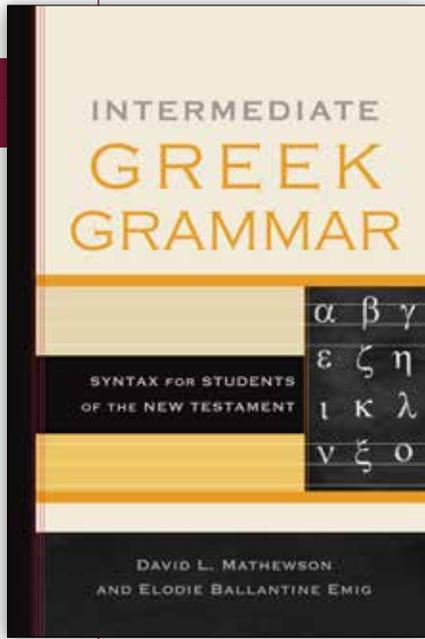


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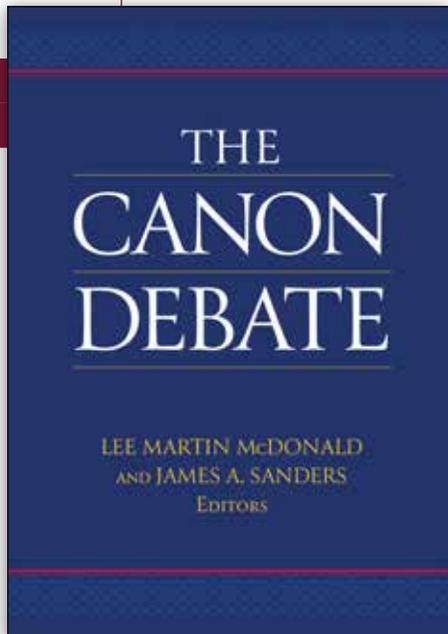
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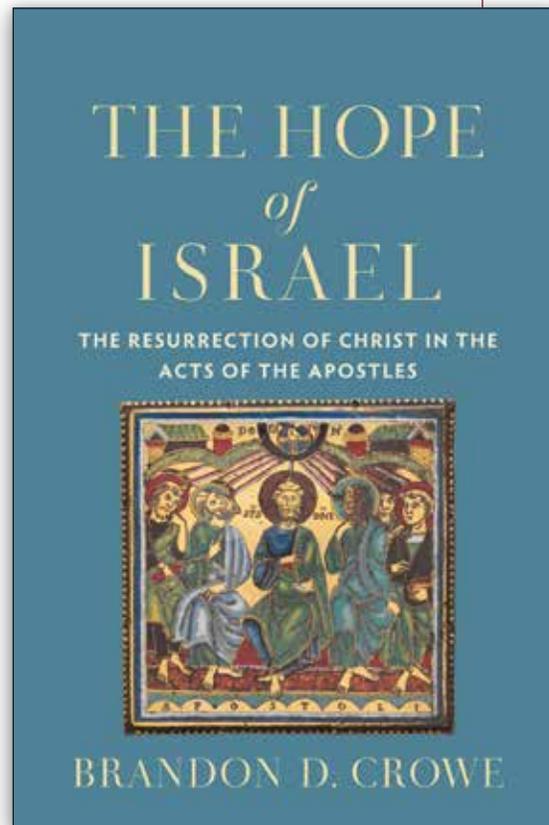
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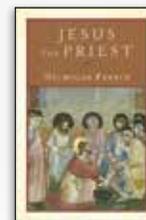
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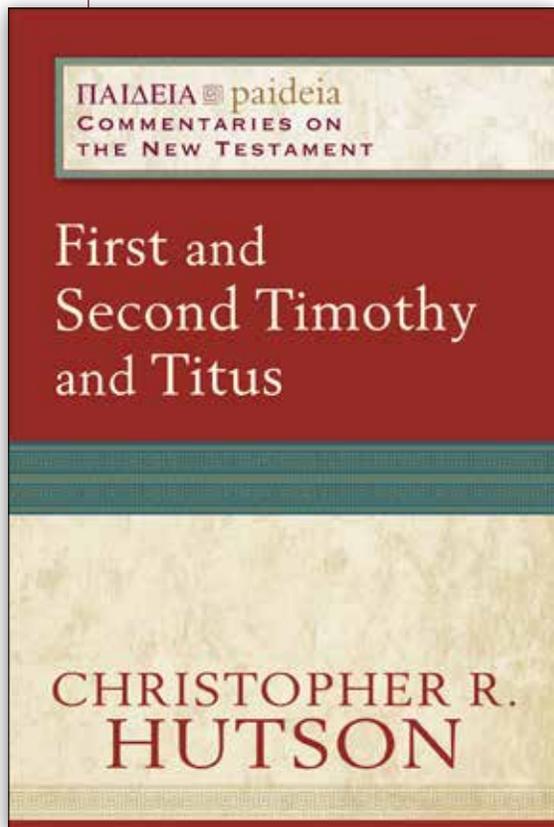
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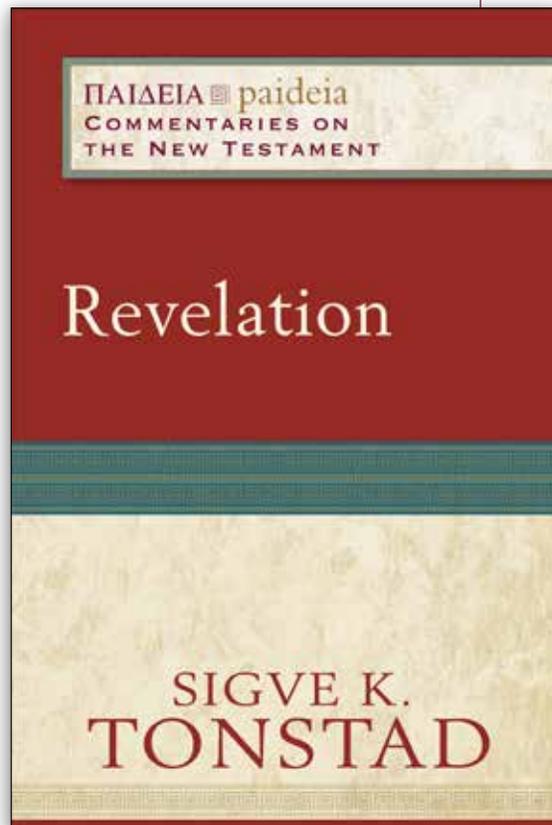
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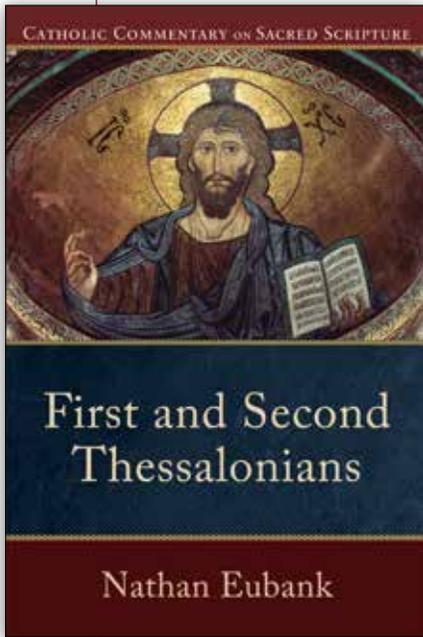
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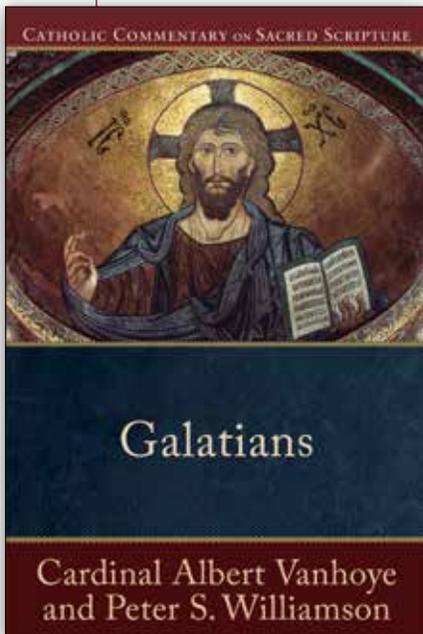
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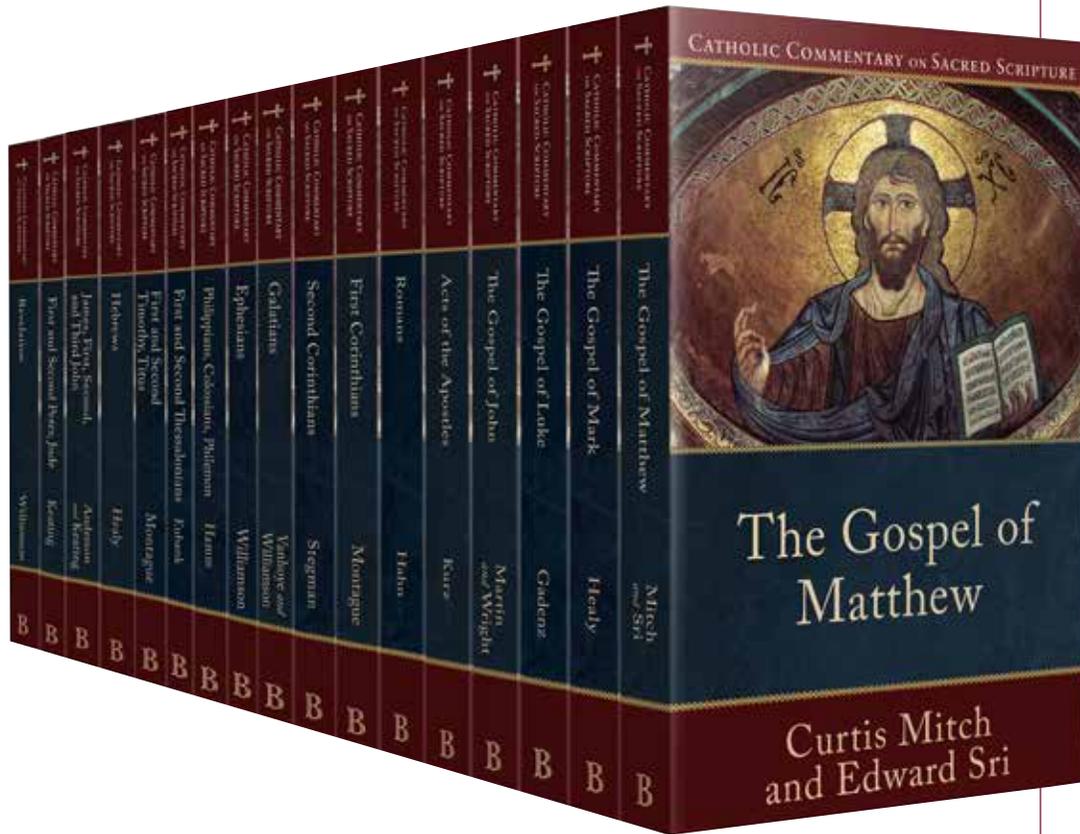
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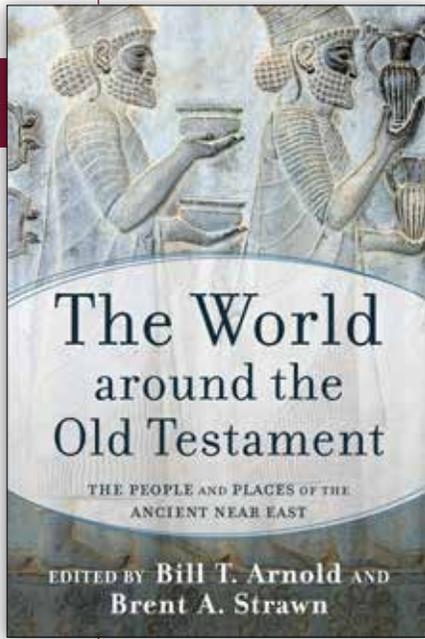
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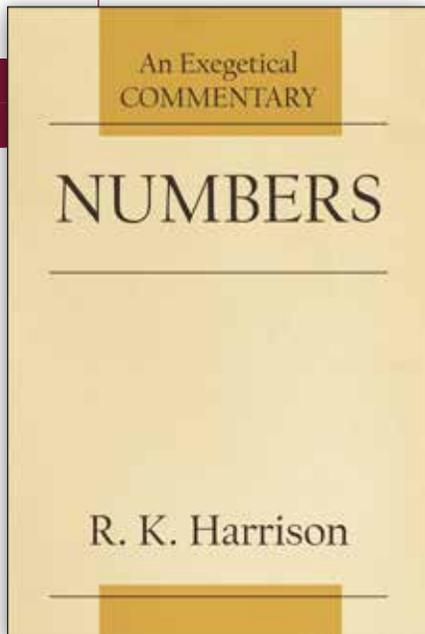
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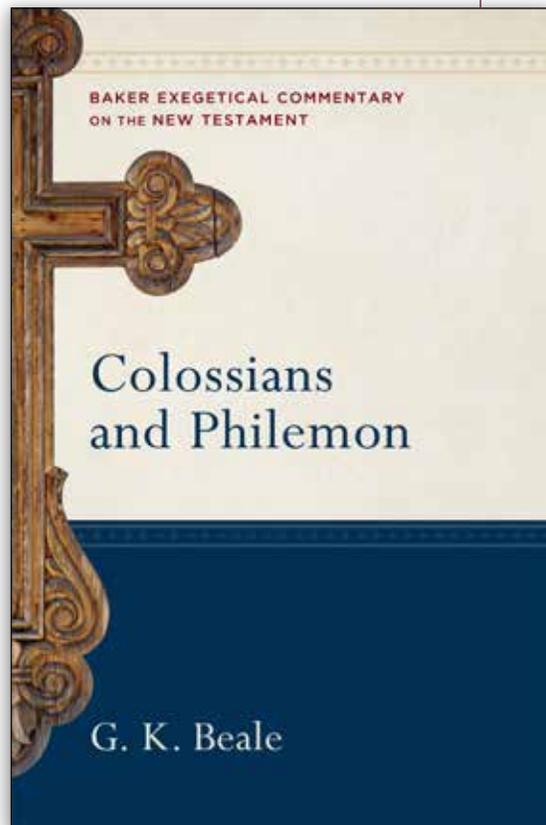
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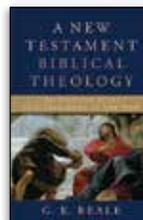


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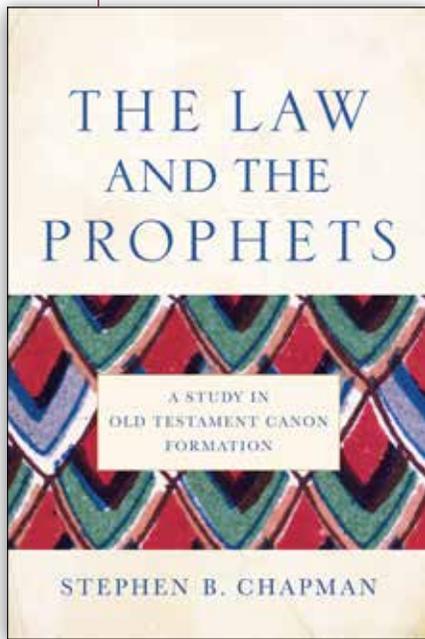
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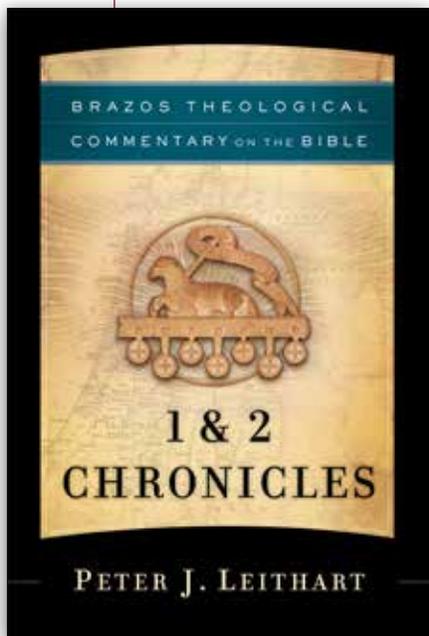
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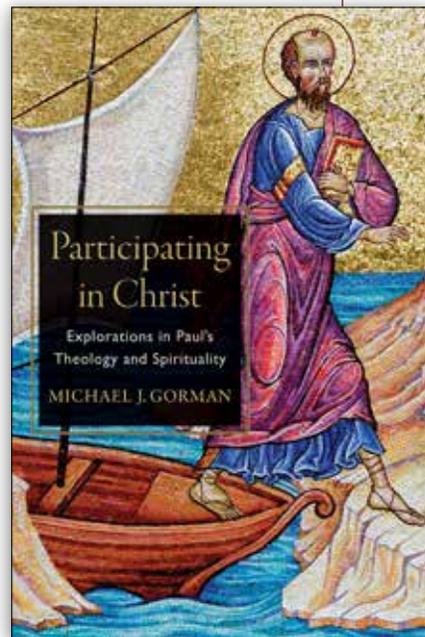
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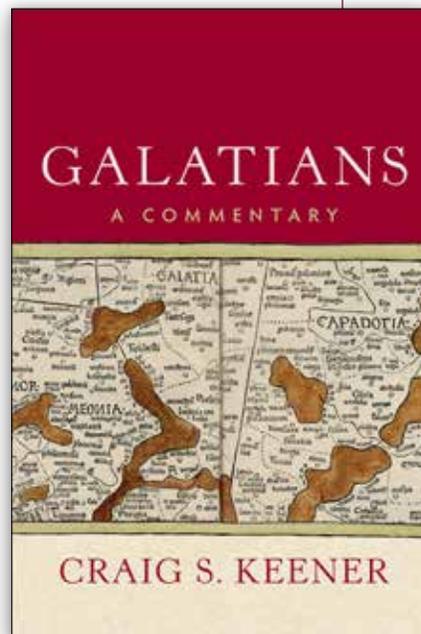
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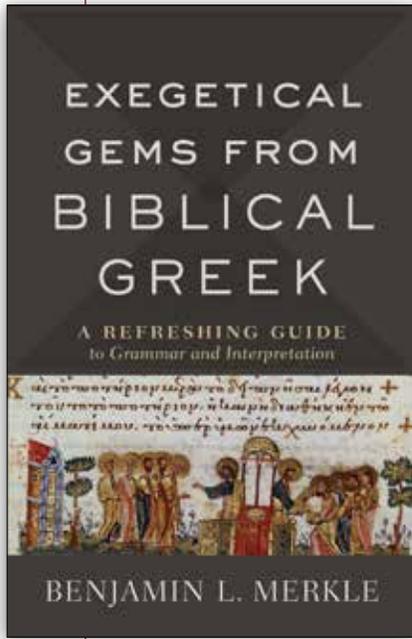
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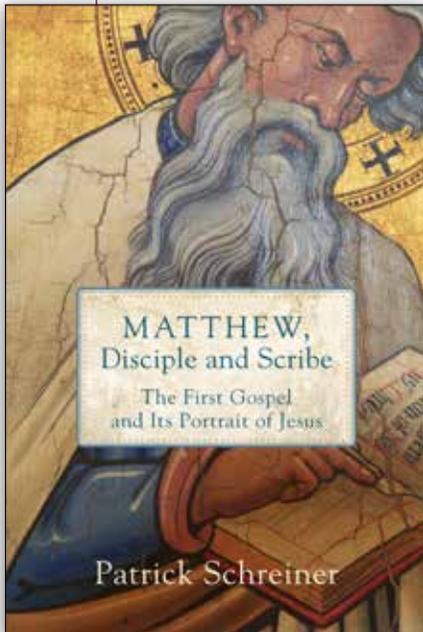
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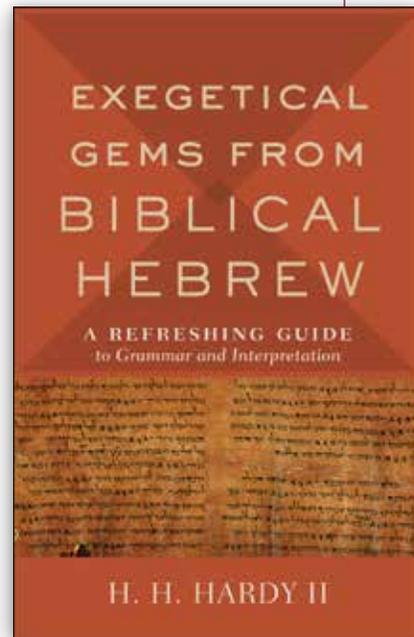
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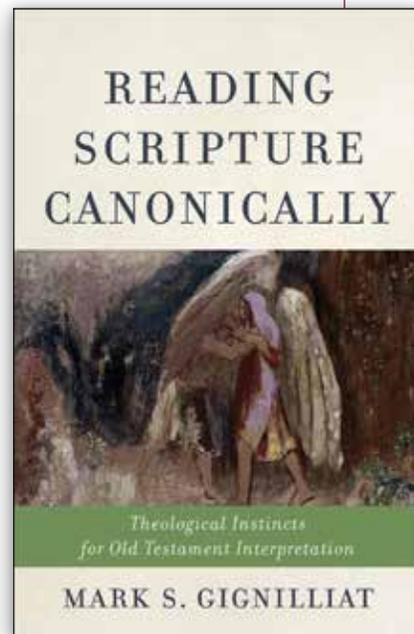
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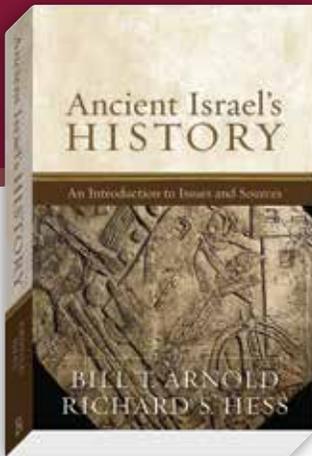
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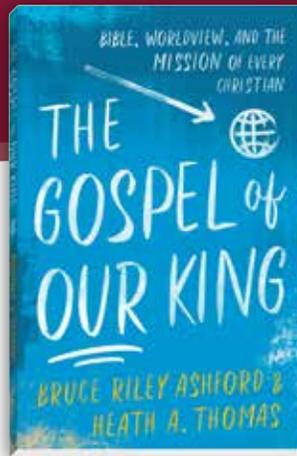
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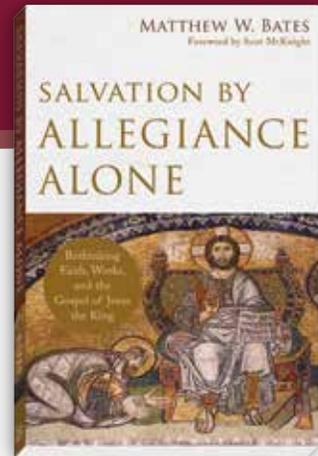


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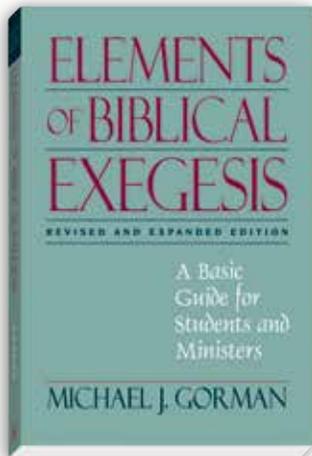
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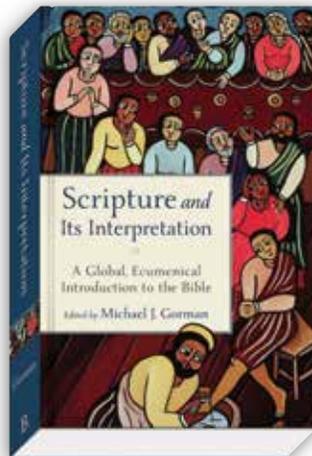
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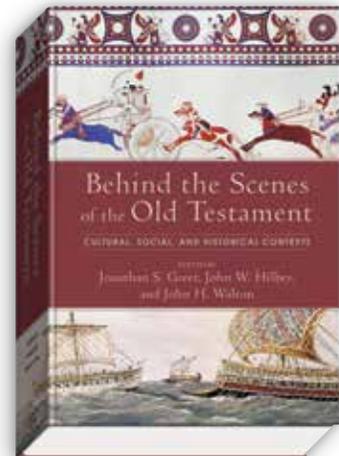


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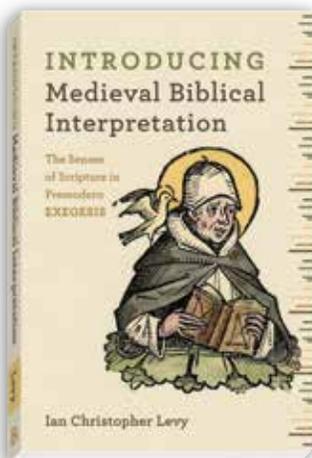


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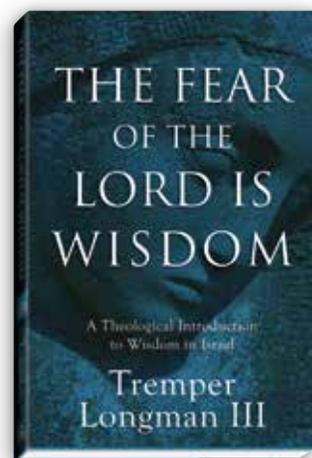


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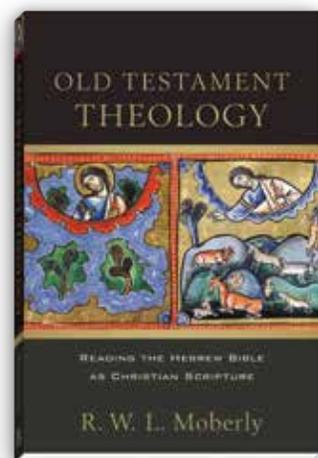
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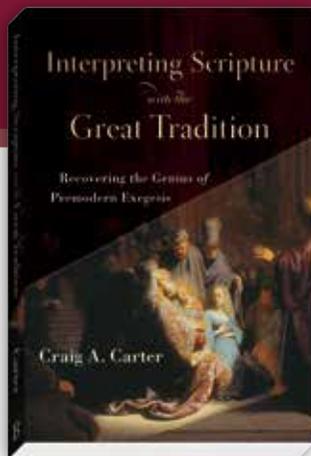


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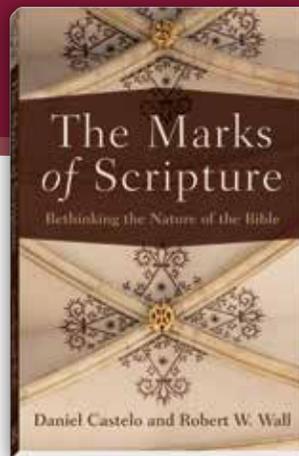
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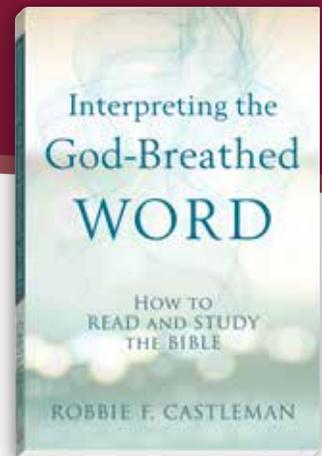
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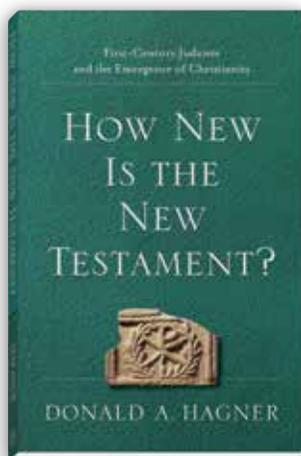
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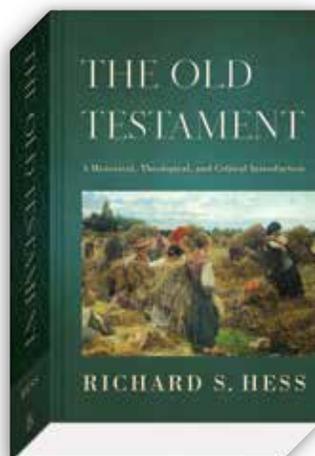
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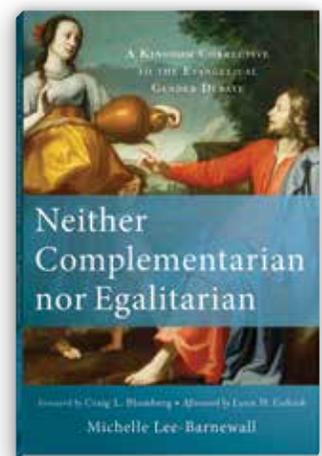
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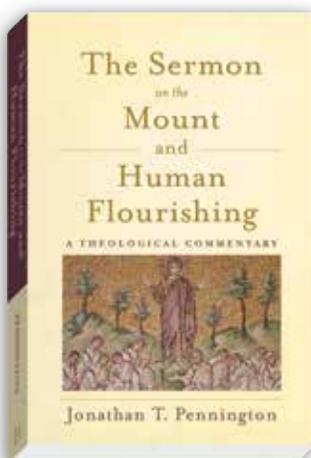
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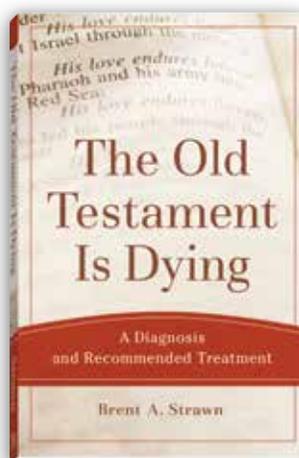
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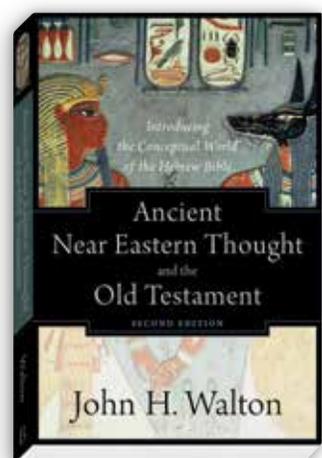
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