PRESS RELEASE

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CROSSWAY RELEASES THE SECOND VOLUME IN REFORMED SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

WHEATON, Ill.—The aim of systematic theology is to engage not only the head, but also the heart and hands. Only recently has the church compartmentalized these aspects of life—separating the academic discipline of theology from the spiritual disciplines of faith and obedience. In the second of four volumes, Reformed Systematic Theology: Volume 2: Man and Christ (Crossway, November 2020), Joel R. Beeke and Paul M. Smalley seek to bring rigorous biblical, historical, and theological scholarship together with spiritual disciplines and practices.

“We believe that the experiential application of doctrine is paramount for doing good systematic theology. Systematic theology should minister to the whole person,” write Beeke and Smalley. “We hope that this work will help prepare God’s servants to nurture spiritual knowledge and saving faith in God’s people according to the riches of Christ. We aim not only to educate you as the reader, but also to edify you and to equip you to tell others the wonders of our God.”

Following Volume 1, which focused on the themes of revelation and God, Reformed Systematic Theology: Volume 2 explores the doctrine of humanity (anthropology) and the doctrine of Christ (Christology). Forthcoming volumes will examine the Holy Spirit (pneumatology), salvation (soteriology), the church (ecclesiology), and the last things (eschatology).

Each volume in Reformed Systematic Theology covers its respective doctrines exegetically and biblically but also historically and practically. “Good systematic theology must draw from all these different fields of study: exegesis, biblical theology, history, and philosophy,” write Beeke and Smalley. “Systematic theology also serves multiple purposes: building up the church in its worldview, defending the faith, promoting the truth, opposing error, establishing a system of morality and ethics, and guiding pastors in their work.”

Two sets of discussion questions follow each chapter—a basic set of questions and another aimed for more advanced theology students—as well as a psalm or hymn to sing as a worshipful response to each chapter’s content.

Sinclair B. Ferguson, Chancellor’s Professor of Systematic Theology at Reformed Theological Seminary, writes, “While today it may seem that ‘of the making of systematic theologies there is no end,’ Reformed Systematic Theology makes a distinctive, deeply engaging, and welcome contribution and deserves a place of honor. Many will be grateful to Beeke and Smalley for giving this immensely valuable gift to the twenty-first-century church.”
ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Joel R. Beeke (PhD, Westminster Theological Seminary) has written or coauthored one hundred books and edited many more. He is president and professor of systematic theology and homiletics at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary, a pastor of the Heritage Reformed Congregation in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the editor of Banner of Sovereign Grace Truth, the editorial director of Reformation Heritage Books, the president of Inheritance Publishers, and vice president of the Dutch Reformed Translation Society.

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