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The Latest Addition to Crossway’s Theologians on the Christian Life Series Explores the Enduring Legacy of John Stott

WHEATON, Ill.—John Stott was one of the most influential evangelical figures of the twentieth century. Known as an international leader and statesman as well as an astute expositor and theologian, Stott was instrumental in helping shape evangelicalism’s contemporary understanding of Christianity.

In the latest installment in the Theologians on the Christian Life series, Stott on the Christian Life: Between Two Worlds (Crossway, June 2020), author Tim Chester explores Stott’s enduring influence on the church, evangelism, and missions today.

“The more I have explored his theology in its historical context, the more I have realized that it has been Stott, perhaps more than anyone else, who has influenced the evangelical world I inhabit,” writes Chester. “So it is not just that Stott reflects evangelicalism; evangelicalism reflects Stott. A contemporary evangelical understanding of the Christian life was not simply something Stott regurgitated; it was also something he significantly shaped. This is one of the reasons why he is such an important figure to consider. We are looking at ourselves in the mirror when we look at Stott; we are exploring our own story.”

In Stott on the Christian Life, Chester examines several themes Stott emphasized during his ministry, such as the development of the mind, expository preaching, balance in the Christian life, the centrality of the cross, and “double listening.” Using Scripture as his ultimate authority in life, Stott was known for standing firm at a time when the authority and sufficiency of Scripture and the centrality of penal substitution were under threat. In addition, he responded to the charismatic movement as it first emerged, he led the re-engagement with social issues while retaining the centrality of proclamation, and he championed the cause of world mission and majority world theologians. On many of these issues evangelicalism might well have drifted into extremes had Stott not maintained biblical balance with an irenic spirit.

Continued
Derek W. H. Thomas, senior minister at First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, South Carolina, says, “Fifty years ago, I became a Christian through reading John Stott’s *Basic Christianity*. Since then, Stott books and sermons have been my closest companions. If we could be allowed but one mentor to grow us into Christlikeness, John Stott would be at the top of my list. I am so very grateful to Tim Chester for summarizing Stott’s theological contributions in a manner that is exceptionally well done. Reading this book was a profoundly moving experience.”

Painting a full picture of the faithful preacher, John Stott, this book will encourage a new generation of evangelical Christians to benefit from his life and teaching.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

*Tim Chester* (PhD, University of Wales) is a faculty member of Crosslands and a pastor with Grace Church, Boroughbridge, North Yorkshire. He is an author or coauthor of over forty books, including *A Meal with Jesus; Reforming Joy*; and *Truth We Can Touch*.

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