WORLD MAGAZINE NAMES CAMERON COLE’S THEREFORE I HAVE HOPE ACCESSIBLE THEOLOGY BOOK OF THE YEAR

WHEATON, Ill.—Crossway is pleased to announce that Cameron Cole’s book *Therefore I Have Hope: 12 Truths that Comfort, Sustain, and Redeem in Tragedy* (Crossway, July 2018) has won the 2018 WORLD Magazine Accessible Theology Book of the Year.

“Many Christian authors have produced tear-jerking books centered on a child’s death or a friend’s demise. It is good and right to cry about death stalking those we love—Jesus wept and thus gave all of us permission to weep—but manipulating emotion to gain more clicks or sell more books seems not only unseemly but sub-Christian,” writes Marvin Olasky, World Magazine editor in chief. “That backstory is why Cameron Cole’s cry from the heart and mind is our Accessible Theology Book of the Year. *Therefore I Have Hope* can benefit both sufferers and their friends who want to help. Not settling for bathos, Cole steps through the Bible honestly in pursuit of—as the subtitle says—12 Truths That Comfort, Sustain, and Redeem in Tragedy.”

WORLD Magazine honors five nonfiction books, twenty-five short-list honorees, and four theological honorable mentions each year. Awards are given in the following categories:

- Science
- Understanding America
- Understanding the World
- History
- Accessible Theology

*Therefore I Have Hope* was written after the sudden death of Cole’s three-year-old son, when he and his wife found themselves clinging to Christ through twelve key theological truths—truths that became their lifeline in the midst of unthinkable grief. Weaving together their own story of tragic loss and abiding faith, Cole explores these twelve life-giving truths to offer hope and comfort to those in the midst of tragedy.

“Partnering with Cameron for this book has been a unique privilege and a holy responsibility,” says Dave DeWit, Crossway’s vice president of book publishing. “His poignant storytelling ability and his exposition of scripture against the backdrop of the terrible grief and pain of loss serves readers well as he pictures the brilliance and power of the gospel in the midst of tragedy. Cameron epitomizes 2 Corinthians 1:3-4.”

Available in both hardcover and ebook formats, *Therefore I Have Hope* has received commendations from Jen Pollock Michel (author of *Teach Us to Want* and *Keeping Place*), Scotty Ward Smith (pastor emeritus of Christ Community Church), Jay and Katherine Wolf (founders of HOPE HEALS), and many others.
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Cameron Cole (MA, Wake Forest University) serves as director of children, youth, and family at the Cathedral Church of the Advent in Birmingham, Alabama, and is the chairman of Rooted, a ministry dedicated to fostering gospel-centered student ministry. He is the coeditor of Gospel-Centered Youth Ministry.

Founded in 1938, Crossway is a not-for-profit global Christian publishing ministry that publishes gospel-centered, Bible-centered content, to honor our Savior and serve his Church. Crossway seeks to help people understand the all-encompassing implications of the gospel and the truth of God’s Word—for all of life, for all eternity, and for the glory of God alone. Crossway is the global publisher of the ESV® (English Standard Version®) Bible, more than 1,000 Christian books, and an extensive list of gospel literature. For additional information visit crossway.org.

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WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT THEREFORE I HAVE HOPE

“Cameron Cole candidly offers practical and biblical advice for those who mourn in Therefore I Have Hope. An easy-to-read work without heavy theological language, this book can be understood and immediately applied to make a difference in a mourner’s life. Cole openly shares lessons he's learning following the tragic loss of his son and does not shy away from gradually and carefully pulling back the curtain on very real and present pain. The principles he shares apply to those who suffer various losses—the loss of a job, a parent, a child, one’s identity, one’s confidence, or one’s friends.”

—Robert Smith Jr., Charles T. Carter Baptist Chair of Divinity, Beeson Divinity School, Samford University

“With both sensitivity and skill, Cameron Cole proves in this book that the central truths of the Bible actually matter for those of us who have ever encountered the often unspeakable tragedies of life. While our words to ourselves and to those who encounter suffering and loss sometimes fall flat, Cole reminds us that the profound realities found in the person and work of Jesus Christ and his resurrection can lift us to new heights of faith, hope, and love. Every Christian needs to read this book to discover anew that God is both great and good—no matter what may befall us.”

—Julius J. Kim, Dean of Students and Professor of Practical Theology, Westminster Seminary California

“Suffering and grief accumulate. No wonder we live in a time when many have lost the landmarks of faith, hope, and love due to overwhelming heartache. Cameron Cole’s book Therefore I Have Hope does not shirk from confronting tragedy. His own story of loss is almost unbearable. Almost. But this book does not leave us drowning in the inevitable question of, “Where is God?” or suffocating in trivial answers. Cole deftly intersects God’s own stories with ours to light the lamps of faith, hope, and love.”

—Sharon Hersh, Adjunct Professor of Counseling, Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando; author, Begin Again, Believe Again

“Having lost my father when I was eighteen and my brother several years later to suicide, I’ve walked the lonely road of grief. I only wish I’d had a resource like Cameron Cole’s book, which is hopeful without being trite and biblical without being preachy. This book will be of such immense encouragement and help, not just because it’s hopeful but because it’s human. I marvel that Cole bears such compelling witness to God’s grace in the midst of his Worst, and I can’t wait to put this book into the hands of people who, like Job, wonder if God has disappeared.”

—Jen Pollock Michel, author, Teach Us to Want and Keeping Place

“Therefore I Have Hope chronicles Cameron Cole’s journey into one of the hardest stories a parent will ever experience, the death of a child. But, thankfully, it’s a journey that didn’t get sabotaged by graceless cynicism or religious cliché. The gospel of God’s grace is more beautiful and believable to me having read Cameron’s book. I cannot wait to share this story, these painful tears, and this profound joy.”

—Scotty Ward Smith, Pastor Emeritus, Christ Community Church, Franklin, Tennessee; Teacher in Residence, West End Community Church, Nashville, Tennessee
“The problem of suffering is a plaything for philosophers but a reality for humans. Here, in the raw pain of grief, Cameron Cole shows God’s way of enabling Christians to face the reality of suffering. Cameron shows how the great truths of God’s Word prepare, enable, and equip us to live by hope in the midst of tragedy. A good book to read before our Worst confronts us.”

—Phillip D. Jensen, Former Dean of Sydney, St. Andrew’s Cathedral

“In a world on the precipice of despair, we need a clear theology of suffering so we might truly live out a transformational theology of hope. Stories like Cole’s embody the type of flourishing available on the other side of our very worst fears, and this book offers practical ways to find a hope that does not put us to shame no matter what storms may come.”

—Jay and Katherine Wolf, Founders, HOPE HEALS; authors, Hope Heals: A True Story of Overwhelming Loss and an Overcoming Love