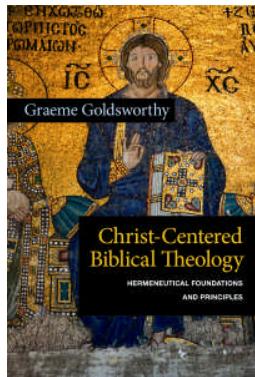


BOOK EXCERPT



*Christ-Centered
Biblical Theology:
Hermeneutical
Foundations and
Principles*

Available May 2012
\$20, 240 pages, paper,
978-0-8308-3969-8

Graeme Goldsworthy was formerly lecturer in Old Testament, biblical theology and hermeneutics at Moore Theological College in Sydney, where he still teaches part time. His other books include *Gospel-Centered Hermeneutics, According to Plan, Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture, Prayer & the Knowledge of God*, and three books on biblical studies collected as *The Goldsworthy Trilogy*.

On the importance of Biblical Theology

Over the last fifty years of research, writing and biblical engagement, Graeme Goldsworthy has established himself as a key scholar in the field of biblical theology. In his latest text, *Christ-Centered Biblical Theology*, Goldsworthy defends and refines his rationale for this way of studying the Bible, providing a fresh look at Donald Robinson's approach to biblical theology, engaging with other evangelical approaches to clearly define what it means to have a "Christ-centered" biblical theology, and describing what it means to do biblical theology and what the future holds for this approach. The excerpts below explain why this book is so crucial to the study of theology, and showcase Goldsworthy's practical and approachable writing style on a very complex subject.

Why is this book important for scholars?

"My purpose in writing this account is to try to establish a valid rationale for [my] approach to biblical theology. . . . I am far from convinced that biblical theology is a lame duck. Rather I believe that it is at the heart of evangelical hermeneutics and is absolutely indispensable in expository preaching. I also believe that it is the heartbeat of effective pastoral ministry."

What should evangelicals learn from biblical theology?

"Among evangelicals there is a certain ambivalence regarding the propriety and usefulness of biblical theology. . . . Among evangelical Christians the lack of a coherent biblical theology is usually by default. Many have learned one particular way of dealing with the Bible and have not been exposed to a comprehensive biblical theology as an alternative. Some acknowledge that the Bible is a unity and that the heart of it is the gospel of Christ. But they have never been shown, or have tried to work out for themselves, the way the various parts of the Bible fit together."

What makes biblical theology approachable?

"The immediate appeal of biblical theology to preachers, teachers and ordinary Christians is that it provides a 'big picture' that makes sense out of the bewildering bulk and variety of the biblical literature. It seeks to view the whole scene of God's revelation from the heights—to mount up with eagles' wings and allow God to show us his one mighty plan from creation to new creation."