



## The Problem with Evangelical Theology: Testing the Exegetical Foundations of Calvinism, Dispensationalism, and Wesleyanism

By Ben Witherington III

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There is no doubting the legacy of the Protestant Reformers and their successors. Luther, Calvin, and Wesley not only spawned specific denominational traditions, but their writings have been instrumental in forging a broadly embraced evangelical theology as well. In this volume, Ben Witherington wrestles with some of the big ideas of these major traditional theological systems (sin, God's sovereignty, prophecy, grace, and the Holy Spirit), asking tough questions about their biblical foundations. Witherington argues that evangelicalism sometimes wrongly assumes a biblical warrant for some of its more popular beliefs and, further, he pushes the reader to engage the larger story and plot of the Bible to understand these central elements of belief.

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### **Editorial Review**

#### Review

Evangelicals of all stripes need to take account of Witherington's contentions here--to make us exegetically honest and theologically responsible. He takes on the three streams of evangelicalism: Reformed, Wesleyan, and Dispensationalist views to examine their exegetical foundations and theological structures. The result is critique, but also a call for biblical orthodoxy and proclamation of biblical truth in postmodern society. His perspectives should gain a wide hearing. --Donald K. McKim, Editor, Encyclopedia of the Reformed Faith

Recommended. Upper-level undergraduates and above. --CHOICE

Ben Witherington reminds us that being Reformed is a continual process. He calls Evangelical Christians to a fresh look at their claim to take Scripture seriously. Few scholars are better placed to do so. Witherington is authoritative and writes here with his usual compelling style. --Trevor Hart, Principal of St Mary's College and Head of the School of Divinity, University of St Andrews

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#### About the Author

Ben Witherington, III (Ph.D. Durham) is Professor of New Testament at Asbury Theological Seminary. He is the author of more than twenty books including, most recently, *The Gospel Code* (2004) and *The Brother of Jesus* (2003).

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