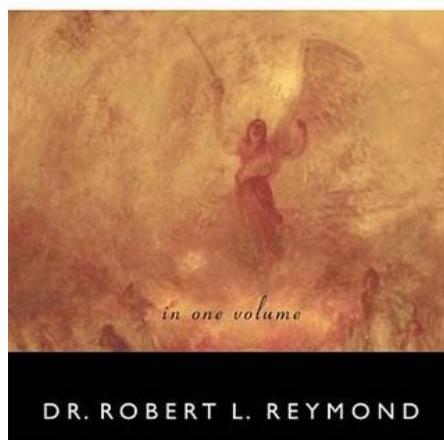


SECOND EDITION — REVISED AND UPDATED

A NEW SYSTEMATIC  
THEOLOGY OF THE  
CHRISTIAN FAITH



## A New Systematic Theology of the Christian Faith

*Robert L. Reymond*

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# **A New Systematic Theology of the Christian Faith**

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## **A New Systematic Theology of the Christian Faith** Robert L. Reymond

A contemporary, foundational statement of classic reformed faith, now revised and updated. Comprehensive, coherent, contextual, and conversational Scripture-saturated, with more exegesis and more Scripture quotations than other one-volume theologies Upholds classic Calvinist positions on baptism, the Trinity, church government, and much more Interacts with contemporary issues and the work of other theologians Reveals the author's warmth and sensitivity born of more than 25 years as a professor at leading Reformed seminaries Numerous appendices covering special topics; abundant resources for further study through footnotes, and a selective bibliography A textbook for theology students, a life-long reference for libraries, ministers, teachers, and professional theologians

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## **From Reader Review A New Systematic Theology of the Christian Faith for online ebook**

### **Scott Cox says**

I was initially trained on Louis Berkhof's "Systematic Theology," a standard reformed work. However this work by Dr. Robert Reymond is excellent, and is quickly becoming one of my favorite Systematic Theology references. I very much appreciated his clarity on the Ordo Salutis, especially the section entitled "The Completed Order of Application" (p.711).

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### **Shep says**

A disappointing systematics text. For a full critique, read Robert Letham's review in Westminster Theological Journal. He concludes: "This work is biblicistic and sectarian in its thrust. Despite its helpful features, as a new systematic theology it has serious and crippling inadequacies."

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### **John Rabe says**

This is my favorite systematic theology. Dr. Reymond (my former teacher) has put together a thoroughly Reformed systematic that relies on the best Reformed scholarship while interacting with important modern movements (like dispensationalism, open theism, etc.).

Highly recommended.

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### **Stephen Welch says**

This is an excellent Systematic Theology written by my former Seminary Professor. I worked through the entirety of this great work when I sat under Dr. Reymond's teaching. It is the best modern systematic theology out there. It is easy to read, but it is not a light weight. It takes a very pastoral approach to issues and is one I still use often and refer to in my ministry. I highly recommend it.

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### **Daniel Thomas says**

I'm working through Reymond's section on eschatology now, but what I've read up to this point has been very good for a single volume systematic. As another commenter mentioned, Reymond approaches systematics from a pastoral perspective focused on trying to exegete Scripture rather than wandering off into baseless abstraction. Being a confessional Presbyterian, uses the Westminster Standards as a guide; he also interacts quite a bit with John Murray, Benjamin B. Warfield, J. Oliver Buswell, and others in the Reformed and Presbyterian tradition. Overall, I think this systematic lives up to Bavinck's understanding of the theologian's task: to think God's thoughts after Him, and to trace their unity.

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### **Lance Conley says**

His eschatology is alright... that's about it to me. Note: I'm not Reformed (was at one time). I just read this to see if it would change my mind and read it just because. I'm still unconvinced of the Reformed theology and Arminian as well and favor an Eastern Orthodox approach. For Reformed, I guess it is done well. doesn't work for me though. I can't personally recommend it. I'll probably do a small critique later on about this one as I was scribbling notes all throughout this clunker. May Dr. Reymond rest in peace.

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### **David Kemp says**

121207: Finished. I still can't embrace "Limited atonement", but I doubt I will ever study a serious doctrinal issue without consulting Dr. Reymond. An excellent book.

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### **Allen Haynie says**

People all over the internet hail this book as the best Systematic ever written. But, all I can say is - what a mess. The flow of this systematic was just horrible. I have never worked harder in my life to want to like a book and understand a book than I have this one. It was just a struggle from beginning to end to follow his discussion. The endless quotes of other writers is not what I want to read. Is it necessary to quote BB Warfield on his comments on John Calvin? The author seems to argue with other's positions (Pinnock for example) more than just explaining the doctrine. If I wanted to know what Pinnock has to say on any given subject I would have bought his book. It seems to me it would have been a better Systematic if Reymond would have presented his own views rather than presenting everyone else's and spend the whole book refuting their arguments. I would not recommend this book because there are many many better Systematics available.

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### **G Walker says**

Good solid work. A much needed update to mainstream reformed systematics. Compared to Berkhof, this is a breath of fresh air. While Reymond's exegesis falls prey to his tradition's myopic, pre-determined "meanings", at least he is engaging the actual text(s) of Scripture, which is more than I can say for most. That said, in other places he relies too heavily on the Westminster standards as "proofs". In the end too Clarkian for me, but I still think that this is a noble and noteworthy text. I wish though that he noted where he made changes/revisions from the first edition. For a contemporary systematic theology, this is probably one of the more "sane" when compared to the likes of Grudem or Horton. While this is a significant work, I still believe that Reymond's Jesus: Divine Messiah is his most important work.

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### **Paul says**

Very good contemporary systematic theology. Reymond is Reformed in his theology. He is supralapsarian. He is too Clarkian for my taste (and his critiques of Van Til are poorly done). He is a paedocommunionist (which is problematic, on many fronts). He gives *excellent* presentations of all the issues a systematic theology textbook should. So despite any problems I have with the book (and it's just one a few minor issues), this one deserves to be on everyone's shelf.

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### **Susanna Grant says**

magnificent and edifying---sad when it came to an end

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### **Alex Houston says**

I bought this book three years ago. I was looking for a systematic theology and monergism books recommended this one, and trusting them and being pretty new to the Reformed faith I bought this one. This was before I knew who Bavink, Berkhoff, or Hodge were, but I really do like Dr. Reymond's systematic and learned much from it. Obviously in addition to the Biblical text, he quotes extensively from the Westminster Standards and other solid reformed sources and this work is layed out in an easy to follow format. It's a helpful resource to go back to and very thorough.

My only real issue is Dr. Reymond's exegesis of Romans 7, where he thinks Paul is talking about unbelievers not believers, which would be a minority position, not his alone, but a minority. However to Dr. Reymond's credit, he includes that as an appendix in the back, not in the main body of his systematic, so it's not a show stopper.

If you were shopping around for a systematic this one volume work would be worth considering.

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### **Simon says**

This is the first systematic theology that I've read cover to cover. Grudem might have been a better place to have started as his systematic theology seems easier to read. While not agreeing with some secondary issues, I found this book very helpful overall. Reymond writes from a reformed perspective so there are lots of quotations from the Westminster Confession and theologians in the reformed line. He interacts with some non-reformed theologians, although he can come across as being a bit dismissive of their arguments in places. Overall, a very helpful systematic theology.

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### **Jonathan B says**

A great contemporary Reformed systematic theology.

The book's strengths:

Comparing this work with Berkhof's, I would say that Reymond's ST is stronger than Berkhof in his interaction with contemporary issues and in that he engages in more exegesis, which I think gives him a stronger polemic than Berkhof.

The book's weaknesses:

As I recall (I'm writing this review after almost a year of having read it), his discussion isn't as broad as Berkhof's is. For instance, Berkhof has a discussion devoted to angels (their creation, fall, etc) in his section on "The Works of God." Reymond, however, has no similar discussion in his section on "God's Work of Creation."

Another weakness in this book is it's Clarkianism. Reymond is a follower of the Christian philosopher Gordon H. Clark and it shows, especially in his discussion of the traditional proofs and paradox in Christian theology.

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### **Stuart Laughlin says**

Used the section on the attributes of God for an Adult Sunday School class on the topic Jan 30, 2011. Reymond dissects Westminster Shorter Catechism question 4: "What is God?" and does a very fine job of it. Especially appreciated (and echoed) his perspective on the usefulness (or rather the lack thereof) of grouping the attributes of God into natural / moral, incommunicable / communicable, etc. Hope to get back to a more thorough reading of this book.

Borrowed from Grace Church Library (which bought on my recommendation). ;)

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