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A Defense Of Calvinism



Synopsis

"The old truth that Calvin preached, that Augustine preached, that Paul preached, is the truth that I must preach to-day, or else be false to my conscience and my God. I cannot shape the truth; I know of no such thing as paring off the rough edges of a doctrine. John Knox's gospel is my gospel. That which thundered through Scotland must thunder through England again." - C. H. Spurgeon

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Customer Reviews

I have come to love Spurgeon and all that he penned or spoke. Though this would more rightly be called a pamphlet than a book it was nonetheless a worthy read. As I explore the roots of my faith I clearly see God's hand in the raising of men dedicated to the truth and empowered as only He can empower. After Luther and Calvin there is no one better to make the case for Calvinism than Spurgeon. For anyone curious about the doctrines that are part and parcel Calvinism this little pamphlet will do the job. It is further perfected by the loving hand Spurgeon applied to the writing. His reverence and love of holy scripture resonates with every word. Spurgeon had a knack for

brevity and so it is with A Defence of Calvinism. Not a word to spare and nary one wasted. A Defence of Calvinism leaves the Arminians and the semi-Pelagians no place to hide. Spurgeon makes his case and does so from scripture (is there any other way?). Still believe that man has a hand in his salvation? Bet you won't after you read A Defence of Calvinism. As sad as it is to say I have begun to wonder if Spurgeon wasn't the last of the theological titans the world will be blessed with. If there is a near second it would have to be R.C.Sproul in my humble opinion. This "five point" Calvinist highly recommends A Defence of Calvinism.

First I must say that I am an avid fan of Spurgeon, having read "Lectures to my Students" and "Morning and Evening" many time through. As a 4 point Calvinist myself I snatched this booklet up due to its reasonable price and relevant subject matter from one of my favorite preachers. Know that this is indeed a "booklet". I read the whole thing in around an hour or so. Also, it is not technically an independent book but a collection of writings from Spurgeon's autobiography, so the "defense" is more of Spurgeon's reflections on his love for the doctrines of grace. So think of it more of a testimony than an attempt to change minds or defend a system. That being said this is a fine booklet and a great resource for those who are curious about Calvinism or Spurgeon himself. Spurgeon is well known for his honest simplicity and he brings that blessing to this difficult subject matter in an excellent way. Definitely recommended!

A thorough and masterful defense of Calvinism--which means, of course, it is actually a defense of God's right to be God--sovereign, immutable, gracious, and righteous. In a marvelous economy of words, Spurgeon demonstrates what true Biblical Calvinism really is (in opposition to the warped caricatures of its slanderers), and how genuinely Scriptural it really is. One can never (or should never) come away from the study of this subject without a greater appreciation of the majesty and glory of almighty God, and the consequent humility and unworthiness of human beings, and therefore the absolute magnificence of His gracious Gospel. Spurgeon keeps everything in the proper perspective and balance--this little booklet is highly recommended, and though it will whet your appetite for much more extensive reading on the subject, it will also be a wonderful little reminder of the basics of this doctrine, to which you will resort again and again, like spending occasional time with a dear old friend.

Spurgeon gives an excellent defense of Calvinism. It is justification by faith, without works. It is God's sovereign grace that preordained the salvation of the elect in Christ Jesus. It is "the immutability of

my Father's affection". "Ah! sir, the Lord must have loved me before I was born, or else He would not have seen anything in me to love afterwards." This God inspired belief is truly the best preservative from other lying doctrines you may

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It's Charles H. Spurgeon, what more needs to be said. If you have not read his work, start here and read every book you can from the Spurgeon collection. These books are the work of Spurgeon and his team of prayer warriors who studied and prayed for Spurgeon through his years as a pastor and preacher in England. Every Christian needs to learn from Spurgeon & his team.

As one who is currently undecided but passionately studying the Calvinism/Arminianism debate, I found this to be very insightful. What I liked the most is the sincerity of this defense. Most books nowadays are bogged down with footnotes, dry rhetoric, and sometimes leaves the reader satisfied mentally but not emotionally. Indeed, I believe we need books like those, but I think we're losing the splendid combination of Theology, colorful prose and passionate convictions. Spurgeon's writing is much like a devotional piece. It's deep theologically, AND it pulls the reader into who the author is and where he is coming from. Although the brevity of this book leaves me with many questions, I found this to be one of the more enjoyable books to read on this subject. I recommend!

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