

THE HUMILITY TO READ

I am one person in one place at one time. My experiences and perceptions are limited and colored by the environment in which I live. Therefore, it would be profoundly arrogant of me to think that I can *best* grow in the knowledge of God through Scripture by myself.

Certainly the Holy Spirit is graciously given to all God's children to enable us to comprehend and be conformed to the truths of the Bible. Nevertheless, one of the primary means of grace God uses in the process of our transformation is the universal-historical community of believers. Within that community, God graciously provides leaders of few and leaders of many to equip the saints for the work of ministry.

It is a humbling thing for me to read a book. Most books take at least several hours of combined time to process, and I have to forsake other distractions in order to focus and benefit from what I am reading. Most of all, I can't talk back. I am forced to just listen, patiently follow and receive, to think another man's thoughts after him.

One of the new desires placed into the heart of every believer is the desire to think God's thoughts after him. Let's pursue humility by receiving the thoughts of those who have led us and spoken the word of God to us in the most enduring of all earthly mediums: the book.

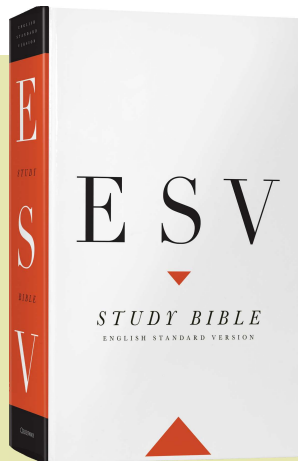
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"Man is never sufficiently touched and affected by the awareness of his lowly state until he has compared himself with God's majesty."

John Calvin



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INTRODUCTORY READING

Christianity is not about knowing a lot of things. It is about deeply knowing the one true God in order that your whole person may be conformed into His image.

- Basic Christianity | John Stott
- Bible Overview | Steve Levy
- Christian Beliefs | Wayne Grudem
- Christian Life | Sinclair Ferguson
- God's Big Picture | Vaughan Roberts
- Truth for All Time | John Calvin

INTERMEDIATE READING

Grow deeper in the knowledge of God by studying how the Gospel trains us in every area of life.

- Attributes of God | Arthur Pink
- Church History in Plain Language | Bruce Shelley
- Desiring God | John Piper
- Finally Alive | John Piper
- Holiness of God | R. C. Sproul
- In Christ Alone | Sinclair Ferguson
- Just Do Something | Kevin DeYoung
- Knowing God | J. I. Packer
- Knowing Scripture | R. C. Sproul
- Living the Cross Centered Life | C. J. Mahaney
- Prayer and the Knowledge of God | Goldsworthy
- Putting Amazing Back Into Grace | Michael Horton
- Redemption Accomplished & Applied | Murray
- Seeing with New Eyes | David Powlison
- Today's Gospel | Walter Chantry
- Whatever Happened to The Gospel...? | J. M. Boice
- When Grace Comes Home | Terry L. Johnson

We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ.

2 Corinthians 10:5

ADVANCED READING

Some things God has revealed about himself are difficult to understand. Careful study of these works will be greatly rewarding.

- Chosen for Life | Sam Storms
- Christless Christianity | Michael Horton
- Courage to Be Protestant | David Wells
- Difficult Doctrine of the Love of God | Carson
- Doctrine of the Knowledge of God | John Frame
- Systematic Theology | Wayne Grudem
- Westminster Confession & Heidelberg Catechism

CLASSICS

Following Christ's example, believers have always labored to bless the generations which would come after them. These are some of the finest fruits of that labor.

- Body of Divinity | Thomas Watson
- Bondage of the Will | Martin Luther
- Bruised Reed | Richard Sibbes
- Christian in Complete Armor | William Gurnall
- Confessions | St. Augustine
- Crook in the Lot | Thomas Boston
- Freedom of the Will | Jonathan Edwards
- Institutes of the Christian Religion | Calvin
- Mortification of Sin | John Owen
- Religious Affections | Jonathan Edwards

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Strengthen the young minds under your care early with gospel-centered resources.

- Big Truths for Little Kids | Susan & Richie Hunt
- Jesus Storybook Bible | Sally Lloyd-Jones
- Training Hearts, Teaching Minds | Starr Meade

But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.

1 Peter 3:15

EVANGELISM

Not a secondary matter, sharing the good news is a necessary part of believing the good news.

- Always Ready | Greg Bahnsen
- Evangelism & the Sovereignty of God | Packer
- Gospel and Personal Evangelism | Mark Dever
- Let the Nations Be Glad | John Piper
- Reason for God | Tim Keller
- Tell the Truth | Will Metzger

STUDY BIBLES

Like having a scholar read the Bible with you, study Bibles provide insightful notes and clarifying articles along the way.

- ESV Study Bible | Crossway
- NIV Spirit of the Reformation | Zondervan
- Reformation Study Bible (ESV) | P & R

REFERENCE WORKS

Easy to find answers to all your Bible-related questions. These reference tools put historical and literal-grammatical details at your fingertips and make topical studies a breeze.

- Commentary on the N.T. use of the O.T. | G. K. Beale & D. A. Carson
- Introduction to the Old Testament | Tremper Longman & Raymond Dillard
- Introduction to the New Testament | D. A. Carson & Douglas Moo
- New Dictionary of Biblical Theology | T. Desmond Alexander & Brian Rosner