



Basic Theology: A Popular Systematic Guide to Understanding Biblical Truth

Charles C. Ryrie

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Everyone is a theologian of sorts. Theology simply means thinking about God and expressing those thoughts in some way. But sloppy theology is a problem.

As Christians, our thoughts about God need to coincide with what He has said about Himself in the Bible. With his clear understanding of the Scriptures and accessible writing style, Charles Ryrie has written *Basic Theology* for every student of God's Word, from the lay reader to the seminary student.

Within these pages, you'll find:

A systematic overview of the Bible's major doctrines, including God, the Bible, the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, the church, Satan, sin, salvation, man, angels, demons, events to come, and more

A glossary of theological terms

A list of key Scripture passages for the study of theology

Featuring charts, definitions, and Scripture and subject indices, *Basic Theology* will give you a clear and comprehensive picture of Ryrie's approach to systematic theology. Its 94 chapters are arranged in outline style for easy reference. Considerable emphasis is given to explaining the dispensational view of the end times.

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From Reader Review Basic Theology: A Popular Systematic Guide to Understanding Biblical Truth for online ebook

Greg Dill says

I am very humbled and yet glad that I have taken the time to read this wonderful book written by Dr. Ryrie. Although I did not agree with every point he made in this book, I found it to be completely referenced with Scripture rather than just pure conjecture like many Dispensationalists have a tendency to do in relation to some items of theology, namely eschatology. I have learned a great deal from this book, many things that I did not know. I particularly liked how Dr. Ryrie systematically laid out everything in great detail. In fact, there was hardly any material covered in this book that I had further questions on. I did however have one particular question relating to baptism that Dr. Ryrie discussed. Thanks be to God I was able to contact Dr. Ryrie directly (via Facebook) and was given a reasonable response to my question. The one thing that this book did for me was to help open my eyes to the deeper mysteries of God... His awesome wonders and workings, and His perfect order of things. I particularly enjoyed the sections of this book in its description of angels, demons, and the spiritual world. I also enjoyed his systematic review of all views concerning the timing of the Rapture and the events surrounding the end times.

This book has actually deepened my faith a bit. It has shown me how such a mighty, powerful, and sovereign God can truly care about each of us on an individual level in an intimate way. It amazes me how a God can become a man on earth just so He can die on a cross for us. God cannot die, but a man can. And that is precisely what was done in the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. God is indeed a God of love.

Crossroads Ecc says

An excerpt of Chip Ingram's thoughts: Lays out the great doctrines of scripture in their most simple form.

Brian says

excellent version of what the title says

Dr Author Wright, PhD, MinD, ThD, DD says

Basic Theology by Charles C. Ryrie is a very impressive and compelling study on the basic doctrines of Theology. Mr. Ryrie, a highly acclaimed theologian, presented these basic doctrines in a bold and methodical approach. With his unique ability to unravel complicated biblical teaching, he presents all of the basic doctrines in an uncomplicated manner. Written in a mostly non-technical, conversational style, his approach toward all of the basic doctrines of theology; namely, God, Christ, Holy Spirit, Church, Salvation, etc., appeared thoroughly researched and easy to understand. This book is an excellent study for pastors and for those who want to know more on the basic doctrines of Theology. This book is also a tremendous help and source of material for the Sunday school teacher. It is also suitable for use as a textbook in Bible Colleges and Institutes. This book is a good read!

Read1000books says

Covering all the basic doctrines of the Bible (God, The Bible, angels, Satan, demons, man, sin, Jesus Christ, salvation, the Holy Spirit, the church, and prophecy), this is a fine course of study for the layman, a great help and source of material for the Sunday school teacher, and should be a standard text in every Bible college in America. Written in a mostly non-technical, conversational style, Professor Ryrie makes you feel like you are right there in the classroom with him. Even if you have been reading the Bible for years as I have, the systematic presentation found in Ryrie's book will teach you a lot. I even got the answer to a Biblical question that has puzzled me for decades. At 624 pages, this is perhaps not a book you will sit down and read straight through. But if you divide it into 52 parts and read just 6 pages on Saturday and 6 pages on Sunday (or whichever two days makes up your weekend), you can go through the whole book in a year. You will find it well worth your time. Obviously, highly recommended.

Jamal Kim says

this is a very difficult book to comprehend especially for newbie christians. its a strong textual foundations of how the bible should be interpreted and possibly applied. if you want a challenging text, this is the one :)

Anna Mari says

From my Basic Theology Class in college. Still my go-to when I have questions. I have loaned it out more times than I can count as well.

Why I like it: It give different biblical views on the same subject. And it makes me think and explore the Bible further to find out why i believe what i believe. Sometimes it's nice to have the challenge.

Philip says

No book outside the Bible itself has done more to shape my thinking than that of Ryrie's Basic Theology. When I was 15, I completed my first journey through this text and left with an indelible impression of the depth and breadth of the teachings of Scripture. Ryrie's simple and witty presentation allows the reader to become immersed in the text and to follow his train of thought well. The arguments are well articulated and the theology is decidedly conservative. Ryrie's style in this volume is complexity addressed with brevity. In other words, though the topics are complex and deep, Ryrie adequately covers them all in a fashion that avoids unnecessary banter yet leaves the reader awkwardly satisfied. I say awkwardly satisfied because, though your questions are essentially answered, yet you desire a fuller knowledge of the subject at hand. In this sense, Ryrie has achieved what is the model for professors, pastors, and preachers have desired through the centuries: to teach truth so that the audience not only learns it, but then desires more. For these qualities and more, I would recommend this work as one of the essential texts for every Christian to read.

VocalBility - the Voice of one crying in the Bewilderness (tm) says

A VERY good book covering the very basic and core components for most theological studies. Whole this author is pretty conservative, I think he was still fair and well balanced in his arguments and presentation.

Eli says

A fine introduction to theology. Not exhaustive, but can be used as a starting place and a springboard for further study.

Nathan Parker says

An excellent overview of Systematic Theology. Concise and digestible, yet solid and Biblical. It makes for an ideal primary textbook at entry level Systematic Theology classes as the material is easy to find and easy to test/quiz students on. It will probably be one of the primary textbooks I use in my entry level Systematic Theology classes.

Clark Goble says

Charles Ryrie has become one my favorite theologians to read due to his unique ability to present complicated, theological concepts in an accessible and Biblical manner. Ryrie writes from a dispensational vantage point in an incredibly balanced manner and should be required reading for those who enjoy poking fun at the expense of dispensational writers like Tim LeHaye and Jerry Jenkins. For that matter, he should be required reading for Tim LeHaye and Jerry Jenkins!

In Basic Theology: A Systematic Guide to Understanding Biblical Truth, Ryrie explores each branch of theology in a manner that's consistent with a high view of Scripture. When reading this book, I was left with the impression that Ryrie is far more concerned with loyalty to the Word than in defending his own pet presuppositions.

While any book on systematic theology is going to be huge, this book weighs in at just 600+ pages which is a tribute to Ryrie's ability to get to the point on all matters of importance.

This book is a great reference text and should be placed within easy reach on the desk of all pastors, teachers, and theologians.

Charles Riccardi says

The wisdom of this man is awesome. God has truly revealed many things to me through the reading of this book. I would definitely say an easy to understand theology book.

G Walker says

This was the first "formal" text that I read on theology. I have read it through at least 2 times over the course of Bible School and Seminary. At the time, I found it basic and boring. Since then, I have come to appreciate aspects of Ryrie that are absent in a lot of others in his tradition. That said, there are some substantive deficiencies in his theology and this text. It is very basic, dispensational, Amyraldian and baptistic. He's a mixed bag between rightly humble at some points and too dogmatic (to the point of silliness) in other areas... He's a first generation heir of fundamentalism that bridged the gap for contemporary (yet classical) dispensationalists (from Chafer to Couch). On some levels, I really respect the guy - at other levels though, I have a very hard time taking him seriously. All that said, I would never discredit what he has to say. First, despite his weaknesses in theology and theological method, he is a man who has implanted God's word deeply into his mind and his heart. Second, despite his accessible communication style, he has done his homework... And that is kind of the part that maybe bothers me the most - he still draws goofy conclusions. Third, regardless of what people say, he has had a lot of sway on contemporary (American) theology. Most mainstream evangelicals, most premillennialist, most non-calvinistic or moderately calvinistic baptists, most readers of the Left Behind Series ARE the theological step children of Ryrie (in one way or another) whether they like it or not! And for these reasons and many others, he is worth at least referencing from time to time.

Caroline Miller says

Read this during school. Simple, but basic and practical and sound theology.
