

SPIRITUAL THEOLOGY



A SYSTEMATIC
STUDY OF THE
CHRISTIAN LIFE

SIMON CHAN

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Spiritual Theology is a rare book, surveying the little-explored landscape where systematic theology and godly praxis meet, highlighting the connections between Christian doctrine and Christian living. It draws out the spiritual implications of particular aspects of systematic theology, allowing formulas to drop into the background and bringing the mystery of the faith to the fore. Spiritual Theology achieves all of this while remaining unabashedly evangelical and truly ecumenical. It is firmly grounded in the sources of the Protestant, Catholic and Orthodox traditions, well abreast of contemporary theological currents and crossculturally conversant from an Asian perspective.

Spiritual Theology Details

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From Reader Review Spiritual Theology for online ebook

Fasil Tafesse says

Spiritual renewal process is depending on what we read and what we listen throughout the day. If you want go far please Read the WORD of GOD!!!!!!this book of Spiritual theology can help us to develop our reading and meditation capacity of the NT books, rather than others.

I know some systematic and Practical theology books. But, like Rev. Chan's, Spiritual Theology is book is very rare book. Finally, I Thank God about the author of the book Simon Chan. Who is makes a clearly line between Systematic theology and Spiritual theology.

Flip says

Chan does a very good job putting in technical terms what "fluff" books have long attempted to do: describe the praxis of the Christian spiritual life.

Jared says

Simon Chan's "Spiritual Theology" is a tremendous introductory text to what, for me, is something a new field. My seminary training treated theology from an exclusively systematic perspective, largely developed to tracing historical development without offering any value judgments on the developments or noting any real "application" to personal spiritual life.

In that sense, reading Chan's book has been quite a refreshing experience...effectively the "turning inside out" of a topic that I've spent considerable time both studying and teaching. Most importantly, as I read Chan's work, I repeatedly found myself thinking: "Talking about [X theological topic] THIS way makes a whole lot more sense than the way I heard it talked about in seminary!"

I think Chan does a great job of striking the systematic/spiritual balance; this book is, as he explains, a SYSTEMATIC study of Christian spirituality. The importance of that progression becomes clearly obvious in the chapters on spiritual discernment and spiritual direction (at the end of the book).

It will take me a good while to absorb all that I've learned from Chan. But I feel like I've got a good foundation on which I can build, a good overview of the various related areas and key thinkers, and a good set of refined questions that I can take to other texts within the field. And, for me, that's what makes a good book.

Wayne Alder says

Simon Chan's Spiritual Theology is a theology of Christian spiritual practice for the intellectually inclined. If you want a deep, well researched, theoretical grounding for Christian spiritual practice start with this book. It answers the "what" and "why" questions, rather than the "how" questions of the Christian's spiritual life (ex:

"What are the practices, and why do we do them?" Rather than "How do we engage in those practices?"). Chan is a self-described evangelical, and a Singaporean. Working out his Christian walk mostly outside of western societies may have served him well, giving him a keen eye for lack of spiritual health. One of the delights for western evangelicals reading this book will be his stern and sobering assessment of much of evangelical spirituality. Faithful are the wounds of a friend, and I was happy to take that beating. Though one will only get these comments in passing as he does not intend to offer a culture critique. If the reader does not want at the moment a detailed and well-rounded theoretical understanding of Christian spiritual practices, but wants to get to the practices themselves (a very sensible desire), this book might be more useful as a reference tool. Having a detailed index, and being organized according to various spiritual practices, it serves that purpose very well.

Graham says

A helpful perspective integrating a variety of perspectives on the lived theology of different Christian traditions. Chan evaluates and provides much needed challenges to contemporary evangelical spirituality by drawing from Asian, Pentecostal, Catholic, and Orthodox spiritual practices. Some sections do drag a bit, and get off into tangential threads. But overall a worthwhile read.

Jasonlyescampbell says

This one is really good to, but also very difficult to read. It seems that it is so scholarly that and expansive (while remaining under 300 pages) that it can only be suggestive ... so far anyway. I am almost half-way into it, but am now taking a break to read the Liturgical Theology.

Brian Whited says

Chan presents a thorough and scholarly work on the topic of spiritual theology. He goes into great detail describing a multitude of Christian groups and various techniques they have employed to grow in their affections for God. There are many practical insights to devour and practice should the reader desire to do so.
