HEARING THE MESSAGE OF ECCLESIASTES DUESTIONING FAITH IN A BAFFLING WORLD



Ezra and Nehemiah David J. Shepherd a Christopher J. H. Wr

# Books by **CHRISTOPHER** J. H. WRIGHT

Story or God Bible Commentary

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HEARING THE

SUSTAINING FAITH IN TODAY'S WORLD

MESSAGE

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Unlocking

# How to Preach & Teach the Old Testament for All Its Worth

2017



Christopher J. H. Wright Author of The Mission of God's People



# How to Preach and Teach the Old Testament for All Its Worth

9780310524649 | 2016 | Paperback | 288 pages Published by Zondervan Academic (USA)

9781783689347 | 2015 | Paperback | 276 pages Published by Langham Publishing as *Sweeter than Honey* (UK & International)

Many preachers ignore preaching from the Old Testament because they feel it is outdated in light of the New Testament and difficult to expound. On the other hand, some preachers will preach from the Old Testament frequently but fail to handle it correctly, turning it into moralistic rules or symbolic lessons for our spiritual life. In this book Chris Wright proclaims that preachers must not ignore the Old Testament. It is the Word of God! The Old Testament lays the foundation for our faith and it was the Bible that Jesus read and used.

# The Old Testament in Seven Sentences

#### A Small Introduction to a Vast Topic

9780830852253 | 2019 | Paperback | 184 pages Published by IVP Academic

It's easy to see the Old Testament as confusing, out of date, or irrelevant. Using seven key sentences drawn straight from the Old Testament, Chris Wright fits the pieces together, shows us the coherent whole, and points us toward Jesus. This short survey shows God's faithfulness and love for his people and illuminates how the Old Testament Scriptures prepared for the identity and mission of Jesus.



# The Mission of God's People

A Biblical Theology of the Church's Mission

9780310291121 | 2010| Paperback | 304 pages Published by Zondervan Academic

In this book Chris Wright shows how God's bigpicture plan directs the purpose of God's people, the church. Wright emphasizes what the Old Testament teaches Christians about being the people of God. He addresses questions of both ecclesiology and missiology with topics like "called to care for creation," "called to bless the nations," "sending and being sent," and "rejecting false gods." The Mission of God's People promises to enliven and refocus the study, teaching, and ministry of those truly committed to joining God's work in the world.



#### **The Mission of God**

#### Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative

9780830852130 | 2018 | Paperback | 582 pages Published by IVP Academic (USA)

9781844741526 | 2006 | Hardback | 584 pages Published by IVP (UK)

In this comprehensive and accessible study, Chris Wright begins with the Old Testament understanding of who God is, what he has called his people to be and to do, and where the nations belong within God's mission. These themes are followed into the New Testament. Throughout, Wright emphasizes that biblically-defined mission is intrinsically holistic. God's mission is to redeem his whole creation from all that sin and evil have inflicted upon it, and the mission of God's people must reflect the breadth of God's righteous and saving love for all he has made.

# The Great Story and the Great Commission



PARTICIPATING in the BIBLICAL DRAMA of MISSION

CHRISTOPHER J. H. WRIGHT

CHRISTIAN

MISSION

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J. H. WRI

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# The Great Story and the Great Commission

Participating in the Biblical Drama of Mission

9781540966162 | 2023 | Paperback | 176 pages Published by Baker Academic

Here Chris Wright encourages us to explore the Bible's grand narrative and to bring the whole counsel of God in Scripture to our understanding of who we are and what we must do as God's people. By explaining the so-called "five marks of mission", he helps us understand mission in its broadest sense, including our creational responsibilities. Wright's goal is to get us excited about the dramatic vista of the whole Bible and to help us understand the breadth and depth of missional engagement that we are called to live out.

#### Christian Mission in the Modern World

with John Stott

9780830844395 | 2015 | Paperback | 240 pages Published by InterVarsity Press (USA)

9781783593934 | 2016 | Paperback | 240 pages Published by IVP (UK)

Chris Wright provides an updated version of the five original chapters of John Stott's classic 1975 book, on mission, evangelism, dialogue, salvation and conversion, with reflections of his own in the light of missiological trends in the decades since the first edition.



#### Four Views on the Church's Mission

with Jonathan Leeman, John R. Franke, and Peter J. Leithart Counterpoints: Bible and Theology Series

9780310522744 | 2017 | Paperback | 208 pages Published by Zondervan Academic

What is the Church's mission? What does it mean to participate in God's mission personally? How do "mission" and culture interact and conflict? This book articulates various evangelical views regarding the church's mission and provides a healthy, vigorous, and gracious debate on this controversial topic.



### **The Shortfall**

Owning the Challenge of Ministry Funding with James Cousins and John Stott

9781839730955 | 2021 | Hardback | 94 pages Published by Langham Publishing (UK)

Chris Wright challenges Christians to recognize that the problem of insufficient funding does not belong to those experiencing the shortfall but to those entrusted by God with the means to alleviate it. Combining John Stott's *The Grace of Giving* and Chris Wright's *The Gift of Accountability*, two classics on generosity and financial integrity, along with a brand new reflection, this book encourages readers to think critically about the problem itself. This makes a powerful treatise on Christian generosity, stewardship, and financial responsibility, questioning and transforming long-held beliefs around Christian giving



#### Knowing God Through the Old Testament

Three Volumes in One

9780830852437 | 2019 | Hardback | 588 pages Published by IVP Academic (USA)

9781783688968 | 2017 | Paperback | 556 pages Published by Langham Publishing as *Knowing God – The Trilogy* (UK & International)

This combined three-volume work will strengthen and deepen readers' personal relationships with the triune God by enabling them to know him through deep immersion and engagement with his Word, especially in the less familiar voices of the Old Testament. This is a voyage of biblical discovery, crossing many horizons and exploring especially the sources of our knowledge of God the Holy Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



#### Knowing God the Father Through the Old Testament

9780830825929 | 2007 | Paperback | 234 pages Published by IVP Academic



## Knowing Jesus Through the Old Testament

9780830823598 | 2014 | Paperback | 288 pages Published by IVP Academic (USA)

9781907713996 | 2014 | Paperback | 256 pages Published by Langham Publishing (UK)



#### Knowing the Holy Spirit Through the Old Testament

9780830825912 | 2006 | Paperback | 160 pages Published by IVP Academic (USA)





# Old Testament Ethics for the People of God

9781844744398 | 2010 | Paperback | 528 pages Published by IVP (UK)

9780830839612 | 2011 | Paperback | 520 pages Published by InterVarsity Press (USA)

Many Christians ignore the Old Testament, or reject it as out-dated and even morally objectionable. Chris Wright helps readers to understand the ethical teaching of the Old Testament in its own ancient background and within the theological framework of Israel's faith, which was the faith of Jesus and the Apostles. Wright then goes on to provide easy-to-read guidance on how these God-breathed scriptures can be "useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness", as the apostle Paul highlights in the New Testament.

# The God I Don't Understand

Reflections on Tough Questions of Faith

9780310530701 | 2016 | Hardback | 588 pages Published by Zondervan (USA)

There are many things we don't understand about God, and many problems in life that challenge our faith. But faith does not depend on having all the right answers immediately to hand. It is a relationship with the God we know and love and trust - even if his ways go beyond our understanding. At the same time, where there are perspectives and teachings in the Bible that we can and should understand, Chris Wright helpfully explains those, while calling us humbly to trust where we cannot always understand. Topics include: evil and suffering, violence in the Old Testament, the atonement of the cross, and the end of the world.



UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE COMMENTARY SERIES

Deuteronomy

Christopher J. H. Wright

#### Exodus

The Story of God Bible Commentary Series

9780310490692 | 2021 | Hardback | 672 pages Published by Zondervan Academic

A new commentary for today's world, *The Story of God Bible Commentary* explains and illuminates each passage of Scripture in light of the Bible's grand story which, for Chris Wright, constitutes the record of the mission of God.

The first commentary series to do so, *The Story of God Bible Commentary* offers a clear and compelling exposition of biblical texts, guiding everyday readers in how to creatively and faithfully live out the Bible in their own contexts.

#### Deuteronomy

Understanding the Bible Commentary Series

9780801048142 | 2012 | Paperback | 364 pages Published by BakerBooks

In this volume Chris Wright removes the barriers between the ancient and modern worlds, helping the power and meaning of the biblical texts to become transparent to contemporary readers. The book of Deuteronomy is key to understanding the theology of the Old Testament as a whole and was profoundly significant for Jesus and Paul. Chris Wright helps the reader to particularly focus on the implications for a faithful life and to be a witness in our own day.



# Hearing the Message of Daniel

Sustaining Faith in Today's World

9780310284642 | 2017 | Paperback | 256 pages Published by Zondervan Academic

In many corners of the world the climate of hostility hangs over any overt Christian faith commitment. The book of Daniel shows how people who worship the one, true, living God can live, work, and survive in the midst of a nation, a culture, and a government that are hostile and sometimes life-threatening.

In this ongoing series of *Hearing the Message*, Chris Wright offers accessible exposition based on his own Bible teaching delivered in churches and conferences around the world.



HEARING THE MESSAGE OF ECCLESIASTES

#### Hearing the Message of Ecclesiastes Questioning Faith in a Baffling World

9780310147466 | 2023 | Paperback Published by Zondervan Academic

There is no easy answer to the meaning of life--even when you believe in God.

Chris Wright invites you to join Qoheleth on a journey through wisdom literature from centuries ago, because the message of Ecclesiastes can be strangely reassuring as we put our faith to the test in today's post-modern era.

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Due to be published June 2023



THE THE HERE: BLD TESTANDAT COMMENTANT Ezra and Nehemiah David J. Shepherd and Christopher J. H. Wright



# **Ezra and Nehemiah**

The Two Horizons Old Testament Commentary Series with David J. Shepherd

9780802864321 | 2018 | Paperback | 253 pages Published by Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

Two features especially distinguish the Two Horizons Old Testament Commentary series: theological exegesis and theological reflection. Both of these features are fully realized in this THOTC volume on Ezra and Nehemiah

Shepherd and Wright highlight key ways in which these Old Testament texts continue to speak to us today. They closely examine what Ezra and Nehemiah tell us about God and the people of Israel, reflect practically on leadership, and engage critically with those portions of the text that present special problems for contemporary readers.

# Life through God's Word

An Introduction to Psalm 119

9781783688906 | 2020 | Paperback | 140 pages Published by Langham Publishing

In this in-depth study of the longest chapter in Scripture, Chris Wright reminds us that it is first and foremost a prayer overflowing from a deeply intimate relationship with God. It is an unfolding conversation between the psalmist's rawest emotions and God's word, his source of comfort, delight, guidance, grace and lifegiving encouragement.

Rather than approaching the text linearly, Wright explores five recurring themes within the psalm, drawing forth deeply personal and powerful applications. Ideal for preachers wrestling with how to preach Psalm 119 in its entirety, as well as for personal and small group study.



#### The Message of Jeremiah

The Bible Speaks Today Series

9780830824397 | 2014 | Paperback | 448 pages Published by InterVarsity Press (USA)

9781783590322 | 2014 | Paperback | 448 pages Published by IVP (UK)

If you preach or teach from Scripture, this volume from the Bible Speaks Today series will help you apply the timeless biblical message to the everyday experiences of your listeners. And if you study the Bible on your own, this volume will be a helpful resource focusing on the significance of God's Word for your own life and work.



#### The Message of Ezekiel

The Bible Speaks Today Series

9780830824250 | 2001 | Paperback | 368 pages Published by InterVarsity Press (USA)

9780851115481 | 2001 | Paperback | 256 pages Published by IVP (UK)



#### The Message of Lamentations

The Bible Speaks Today Series

9780830824410 | 2015 | Paperback | 176 pages Published by InterVarsity Press (USA)

9781783592753 | 2015 | Paperback | 176 pages Published by IVP (UK)



Numbers 30-Day Devotional

9781783597208 | 2015 | Paperback | 112 pages Published by IVP (UK)



#### **To the Cross** Proclaiming the Gospel from the Upper Room to Calvary

9780830844999 | 2017 | Paperback | 142 pages Published by IVP Academic (USA)

9781783681426 | 2017 | Paperback | 110 pages Published by Langham Publishing as *Let the Gospels Preach the Gospels* (UK)

Chris Wright skilfully guides us on Jesus' journey from the Last Supper to the cross. Through the lens of the Old Testament, Wright navigates the events of the Gospels. Jesus' death on the cross offers us the forgiveness that Jesus prayed for, and through his resurrection we can know redemption. This book is based on five sermons on the cross, preached over several years during Easter at All Souls Church, London.

# Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit

Growing in Christlikeness

9780830844982 | 2017 | Paperback | 168 pages Published by IVP Academic (USA)

9781783681426 | 2016 | Paperback | 144 pages Published by Langham Publishing as *Becoming Like Jesus* (UK)

Chris Wright invites us to live a life in step with the Spirit by cultivating the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

These nine chapters, each addressing a different fruit, each conclude with questions for contemplation or discussion.





# 'Here Are Your Gods!'

Faithful Discipleship in Idolatrous Times

9781789742312 | 2020 | Paperback | 176 pages Published by IVP (UK)

9780830853359 | 2020 | Paperback | 176 pages Published by IVP Academic (USA)

Chris Wright unpacks the Biblical theme of idolatry and connects it to discipleship in today's world. As Christians, we desperately need to name and expose the false gods and idols that we are tempted to bow down to. The Bible challenges the idols of political power and nationalism. The Biblical story is filled with hope that the kingdom of God will ultimately triumph over all human empires. How then should we live as followers of Jesus, the Messiah, Saviour, Lord and King?



# Salvation Belongs to Our God

Celebrating the Bible's Central Story

9781907713071 | 2013 | Paperback | 178 pages Published by Langham Publishing (International)

9780830833061 | 2008 | Paperback | 208 pages Published by InterVarsity Press (USA)

9781844745142 | 2011 | Paperback | 208 pages Published by IVP (UK)

Every phrase in Revelation 7:10 resonates with significant themes in the Old and New Testaments. Chris Wright views the story of God's salvation through the lens of this verse to show the great breadth of God's saving work: the character and purposes of God, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the redemption of all creation, the joy of Christian experience, and the responsibility of Christian mission. This clear, deep and warm-hearted exposition enriches our grasp of the Bible's multifaceted teaching about salvation.



# **Rejoice!**

Advent in all the Scriptures with John Stott

9781783599363 | 2019 | Paperback | 128 pages Published by IVP (UK)

25 Bible meditations based on Scripture verses and teaching from John Stott, with commentary and prayers from Chris Wright. Accessible and bitesized, fresh and exciting, each meditation deepens our appreciation of the timeless spiritual truths of Advent and Christmas.



# **The Radical Reconciler**

Lent in All the Scriptures with John Stott

9781783599448 | 2019 | Paperback | 176 pages Published by IVP (UK)

Focus on the amazing story of Jesus' crucifixion and the gospel in days and weeks leading up to Easter and think yet again how the cross transforms our lives today. With Bible verses, prayers and 40 meditations by Chris Wright and treasured, timeless insight from John Stott, prepare to be inspired as you contemplate the deep, life-transforming truths of the gospel.

# About Christopher J. H. Wright

Rev. Dr. Christopher J. H. Wright was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland in 1947, the son of missionary parents, and nurtured as an Irish Presbyterian. After university in Cambridge, he started his career as a schoolteacher in Grosvenor High School, Belfast. Then, after completing a doctorate in Old Testament economic ethics in Cambridge, he was ordained in the Anglican Church of England in 1977 and served as an assistant pastor in the Parish Church of St. Peter & St. Paul, Tonbridge, Kent.



In 1983 he and his family went to India and he taught at the Union Biblical Seminary (UBS), Pune for five years as a mission partner with Crosslinks (formerly BCMS). While at UBS he taught a variety of Old Testament courses at BD and MTh levels. In 1988 he returned to the UK as Academic Dean at All Nations Christian College (an international training centre for cross-cultural mission). He was then appointed Principal there in 1993.

In 2001 Chris was appointed International Director of the Langham Partnership International. Langham Partnership, a group of ministries originally founded by John Stott, is committed to the strengthening of the church in the Majority World through fostering leadership development, biblical preaching, literature and doctoral scholarships. Chris is still with Langham Partnership and currently serves as their Global Ambassador and Ministry Director (www.langham.org).

In the year before and after the third Lausanne gathering, held in Cape Town in 2010, Chris was appointed the chair of the Lausanne Theology Working Group.

The Cape Town Commitment was released in 2011 and can be read at https://lausanne.org/content/ctc/ctcommitment

Chris and his wife, Liz, who have four adult children and eleven grandchildren, belong to All Souls Church, Langham Place, London, where Chris enjoys preaching from time to time as a member of the Staff team.

# **Featured Publishers**



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