



The overview and synopsis of each chapter is provided on pages 2 - 6.

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### Provided below are:

- An Overview of the Book
- The Contents (Outline)
- An Abridged Introduction
- A synopsis of each chapter

## Overview

This book is a non-fiction theological discourse that uses a combination of introspection, apologetics, admonition, encouragement and entreaty. It is essentially an anthology that deals with basic theological, doctrinal and other matters pertaining to the Christian faith. The main theses and key arguments are: Creation exists for God's purposes. Glorifying God cannot be properly done without a correct understanding and application of the truth. True spiritual liberation comes from an obedient response to the transcendent supremacy and will of God.

The discussions include a focus on God's supremacy, sovereignty and His absolute attributes. The purpose for creation, the fall of man, present realities and human rebellion are examined along with human culpability, God's grace, believers' testimony, and hope in Christ. The temporal and eternal aspects of our salvation in Christ are explained. The related doctrinal topics of election, predestination, human freewill are also discussed. A repeating refrain through out the book is the need for appropriate human response. This is presented as involving genuine repentance, communion with God through prayer, faith in Christ, and obedience to him.

## ABRIDGED INTRODUCTION

Dare to think beyond the ordinary and live above mere existence!

A concurrent abandonment of the truth and the embracing of worldly deception plague all of humanity. Irrespective of the form taken by these vicious antitheses to truth, there are dire consequences. It is therefore not narrow-minded or romantic to suggest that seeking the truth is the safest resolve for humanity; it is prudent. But what is the truth and where can it be found?

Beginning with a discussion about God, this book provides some nuggets of truth and marks an exploratory trail through the Bible. This book is for the serious prospector and the nuggets of truth that it presents are only primers for a deeper exploration. The reader is invited to diligently seek and share the treasures in God’s word - the “...*Scriptures which are able to give wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus*” ☞ **II Timothy 3:15**. God commands us to remind one another about what He has taught us ☞ **Colossians 3:16**. Therefore, guided by the Holy Spirit, we must obey.

Some topics covered in this book include: the attributes of God, election, predestination, freewill, rebellion, culpability, God’s grace, salvation, obedience, testimony and hope. The discussion of these topics is intended to awaken readers to some of the treasures of Biblical truth that stands against the present allure of foolishness.

The reader is invited to explore the truth through some metaphorical pictures that are presented in this book. Although these can only be very faint images, they are worth looking at: “*For now we know only in part and can see only dimly what will be revealed...*” ☞ **I Corinthians 13:9-12**.

## SYNOPSIS OF THE CHAPTERS

### SECTION 1 - GOD’S SUPREMACY

#### CHAPTER ONE ***GOD ALMIGHTY***

Appropriate response to God is impossible without a proper knowledge of God. This chapter sets the foundational argument for the appropriate response to God. It discusses the consequences of an inaccurate or superficial knowledge of God. The “Eternal Antithesis” is discussed in light of God’s existence. Evil, sin and other ungodly realities are examined along with God’s transcendence, power and supremacy over all realities. God’s control of all things is considered with a look at the origin and existence of evil, the sin-nature of created beings, the fall of Adam and human culpability. The present and future realities of God’s goodness and mercy in spite of the antithetical realities are explored.

#### CHAPTER TWO ***GOD’S ABSOLUTENESS***

Ultimate and absolute superiority, supremacy, infallibility and authority are presented as resting with God. Absolute truth and God’s absolute immutability are considered. Some human misconceptions surrounding this truth are also reviewed. Several questions about whether humans can cause God to react or change His mind are addressed in relation to His absolute immutability. Linked to this are discussions on the questions of God and our prayers, God’s grief over humanity, and salvation through Christ on the basis of His absolute sinless nature. In keeping with the overall theme of this book, this chapter continues the argument about the need to appropriately respond to God.

#### CHAPTER THREE ***GOD’S ABSOLUTENESS & IMPLICATIONS***

This chapter begins to identify some specifics relating to the appropriate human response to God. It shows how under the light of God’s absoluteness many apparent paradoxes and seeming contradictions simply disappear. It encourages readers to know that God ultimately forgives the errors of all who repent. At the same time it warns against any conscious or subconscious rebellion against God. The absoluteness of God is linked to absolute truth and several misconceptions about “truth” are discussed. The relationship between “truth” and “believing” is examined. There is also a discussion of the source of absolute goodness and the “good” that people do. The chapter concludes with an entreaty to readers. All are invited to pay appropriate tribute to God’s absoluteness.

#### CHAPTER FOUR ***GOD’S SOVEREIGNTY***

Along with the specifics relating to our appropriate response to God, this chapter introduces the reasons for trusting God. It focuses on God’s absolute sovereignty. The extent to which God exercises His sovereignty and the credits due to Him are carefully considered. God’s impartiality is discussed in light of His sovereign will. Contentions against God’s sovereignty are examined. Specific areas of confusion about God’s absolute sovereignty are outlined along with identified consequences. There is also a discussion of some common misconceptions about God’s sovereignty. The importance of a correct understanding and appropriate response to God’s sovereignty is stressed.

### SECTION 2 - GOD & HUMANS

#### CHAPTER FIVE ***PURPOSE AND PROSPECTS FOR CREATION & HUMANITY***

What we understand about our relationship to God governs how we live. What we perceive as our ultimate purpose is also reflected in our attitudes and behavior. In response to some common questions, this chapter explains the purpose of creation. It addresses why people have to go through this life. There is a close look at the grand testimony of creation and the part of humans in it. Specifics of human roles in the grand worship of

God are examined. The processes of sanctification and purification are discussed with a look at their similarities and differences. The truth concerning the future prospects for mankind concludes this chapter.

## CHAPTER SIX ***CULPABILITY & GRACE***

A review of mankind's future prospects continues into this chapter with a concentrated look at human culpability. This chapter examines the relationships between: justification & punishment; choice & consequences; guilt & innocence; sin & detriments; temporal and eternal consequences as well as the relationship between culpability and grace. God's merciful providence and heavenly rewards are reviewed to unveil the proper motivation for godly living.

## CHAPTER SEVEN ***INESCAPABLE REALITIES***

The importance of godly living is stressed as present realities and experiences are reviewed. Present human experiences are likened to what happens around a mountain. The top, slopes valleys, caves and crevices are visited for a close look at the inescapable realities. Futile mountain climbing is discussed along with a look at the only source of help and hope. The realities and experiences around this figurative mountain are compared and contrasted against those of heaven and hell. Human desires, rebellion and walk are examined as well as the associated temporal consequences. There is a look at the raging spiritual warfare with a proper perspective on God's power. Other topics covered include the various camps of error, the mountainside mingling and the believer's present assurance in Christ.

## CHAPTER EIGHT ***EVIDENCE OF ENTRAPMENT***

This chapter begins with a look at temporary obsessions. Various entangling webs are discussed. Readers are cautioned to stand against: counterfeit knowledge, vanity circus, false faith and pseudo-godliness. The insidious plague of another gospel is exposed. Attention is drawn to the true gospel and the purpose of calvary.

### SECTION 3 – SALVATION

## CHAPTER NINE ***FREEWILL***

The discussion in this chapter begins with the definition of "Freewill". An explanation of its purpose and scope is provided. The differences between absolute freewill and a guided will are explained. Misunderstandings about how much freedom of choice people actually have are discussed. Limitations on the human will and the necessity for it to be guided are presented as the evidence of God's love and effectual grace. The link between human freewill and salvation is discussed along with the dispelling of several faulty conclusions. The real biblical reasons why Christians need to bear witness or seek to be holy are provided. The absolute perfection of God is examined in connection with eternal salvation. There is a look at true salvation and godliness. A restful understanding is presented about God's absolute guarantees, infinite grace and unconditional love. The question of human freewill as it relates to the progression of history is also examined. The chapter concludes with what must be understood about the process of coming to faith as well as the believer's responsibility towards the unsaved.

## CHAPTER TEN ***SALVATION REALITIES***

It is the premise in this chapter that a proper expression of the Christian faith requires a good understanding about eternal salvation. Some crucial facts are reviewed with a discussion on how salvation is accomplished. The extent of human responsibility in salvation is explained in support of how believers ought to respond and relate to God. The chapter proceeds to expose some areas of deception. Five distinct aspects of salvation are examined in correcting the usual misconceptions. A focus on believers' rights is followed by a review of Biblical injunctions concerning judging other people. Readers are reminded to guard against the usual presumptions about other people's ultimate destiny.

### SECTION 4 - RESPONSE & FAITH

## CHAPTER ELEVEN *PRODIGALS’ FLIGHT TO GOD*

In this chapter, each letter in the word “PRODIGALS” is tied to a specific consideration relating to a prodigal’s return to God. The considerations include the necessary confession, resolve, admonition, encouragement and focus. A resounding plea is offered along with a reflection on God’s provisions. The chapter draws readers into anticipating the joyful embrace of the Father that awaits all returning prodigals.

## CHAPTER TWELVE *PRAYER*

With the importance of prayer in view, this chapter discusses the necessity, efficacy and blessings of prayer. Common misunderstandings about prayer are addressed. There is a caution against approaching prayer as a means for humans to manipulate God. The right attitude and practice in prayer are stressed. Attention is given to God’s sovereignty, infinite wisdom, knowledge, unconditional love, active grace, unlimited providence and absolute guarantees. Biblical asking and the meaning of “effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man” are examined. Intercessory prayers are discussed along with the intercession of the Triune God. Praying in the name of Christ and in total submission to God’s will is explained. A brief Bible study is used to illustrate how praying and clinging to God are synonymous. The chapter concludes with a charge for all times. It is essentially the echoing of the Biblical charge.

## CHAPTER THIRTEEN *VICTORY*

This chapter details the evidence of Christ’s victory for and in the lives of believers. The evidence includes: true faith, conflict of two natures, word of God, full joy, universal testimony and an ongoing roots transfer. It emphasizes the appropriate response of every true believer to Christ in obedience.

## THE CONCLUDING PLEA

Come to God! This is a plea that is never out of season. It has everyone in view. This plea is extended to those who are just sensing the Holy Spirit’s conviction and prodding as well as to those who are already enjoying the peace of knowing that they are saved in Christ. Even those who do not see any evidence of rebellion in their lives are invited to a mind-renewal. It is always a worthy aspiration for a believer to seek God irrespective of where one is in his or her walk. This plea touches on some disruptive tendencies and what should be understood and done about them. The reader is encouraged, challenged and charged. This is a call to the proper acknowledgment and appropriate response to God. It is essentially a call for every child of God to come and share in the bountiful spiritual blessings of the Father.

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## AUTHOR’S PROFILE

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