

# adam harwood systematic theology

## Adam Harwood Systematic Theology: A Comprehensive Description

This ebook, "Adam Harwood Systematic Theology," offers a fresh and engaging exploration of Christian theology, organized systematically to provide a coherent and accessible understanding of the faith. It moves beyond simple doctrinal statements to delve into the interconnectedness of biblical themes, exploring their implications for personal life and the world. The significance lies in its accessibility for both seasoned theologians and those new to systematic study. It aims to foster a deeper appreciation for the richness and beauty of the Christian faith, encouraging critical thinking and fostering a more robust and informed faith. Its relevance extends to anyone seeking a clear and comprehensive understanding of Christian belief, whether for personal growth, pastoral ministry, academic study, or apologetic purposes. The book will provide a framework for understanding the core beliefs of Christianity, equipping readers to engage meaningfully with scripture, tradition, and contemporary culture.

Book Name: A Foundation for Faith: Adam Harwood's Systematic Theology

Contents Outline:

- I. Introduction: Defining Systematic Theology & Its Methodology
- II. God: The Nature and Attributes of God (Trinity, Being, Attributes)
- III. Creation: God's Creative Act, Humanity's Original State, Fall & Consequences
- IV. Christology: The Person and Work of Jesus Christ (Incarnation, Atonement, Resurrection)
- V. Pneumatology: The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit (Gifts, Roles, Influence)
- VI. Anthropology: Humanity's Nature, Fall, Redemption, and Destiny
- VII. Soteriology: Salvation: God's Plan, Human Response, Justification, Sanctification
- VIII. Ecclesiology: The Nature and Mission of the Church (Unity, Diversity, Authority)
- IX. Eschatology: The End Times: Heaven, Hell, Second Coming, New Creation
- X. Conclusion: Living Out a Systematic Faith in the 21st Century

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## A Foundation for Faith: Adam Harwood's Systematic Theology - A Deep Dive

This article provides a detailed exploration of the topics outlined in "A Foundation for Faith: Adam Harwood's Systematic Theology," expanding on each section to offer a comprehensive understanding.

# **I. Introduction: Defining Systematic Theology & Its Methodology**

What is Systematic Theology? Systematic theology is the discipline of organizing and relating Christian doctrines in a coherent and logical manner. It's not simply a compilation of biblical verses but rather a reasoned exposition of the biblical message, drawing connections between different parts of scripture and addressing potential conflicts. This requires careful hermeneutics (interpretation) and theological reflection. It aims to present a holistic view of God and his relationship with the world.

Methodology: Several approaches exist: biblical theology (focusing directly on scripture), historical theology (tracing the development of doctrine), and comparative theology (examining different theological perspectives). This work will prioritize a biblical approach, using careful exegesis (interpretation of scripture in its context) as the foundation, informed by historical and comparative perspectives where beneficial. The methodology will prioritize clarity, accessibility, and a commitment to biblical faithfulness.

## **II. God: The Nature and Attributes of God (Trinity, Being, Attributes)**

This chapter explores the very nature of God. The Trinity—the doctrine that God exists as three co-equal, co-eternal persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—is central. We'll examine biblical support for the Trinity and address common misunderstandings. God's being will be discussed, including his aseity (self-existence), eternity, immutability (unchanging nature), and omnipotence (all-powerful). His attributes such as omniscience (all-knowing), omnipresence (everywhere present), and omnibenevolence (all-good) will be explored, demonstrating their interconnectedness. This section will delve into the implications of God's attributes for how we understand his relationship with humanity and the world.

## **III. Creation: God's Creative Act, Humanity's Original State, Fall & Consequences**

This section explores the biblical account of creation. We'll examine the significance of creation ex nihilo (creation out of nothing), demonstrating God's sovereignty and power. We will explore humanity's original state as created in God's image, highlighting the implications of this for human dignity, purpose, and relationship with God. The fall of humanity—the disobedience of Adam and Eve—will be examined, exploring its impact on humanity's relationship with God, each other, and the created world. The consequences of the fall—sin, suffering, death, and brokenness—will be discussed within a theological framework.

## **IV. Christology: The Person and Work of Jesus Christ (Incarnation, Atonement, Resurrection)**

Christology is the study of Jesus Christ. The Incarnation—the belief that God became human in the person of Jesus—is a pivotal doctrine. We will explore the biblical evidence for Jesus' deity and humanity, addressing the "hypostatic union"—the unity of two natures (divine and human) in one person. The atonement—Jesus' sacrificial death for the forgiveness of sins—will be examined,

exploring various atonement theories and their strengths and weaknesses. The resurrection—Jesus' victory over death and the foundation of Christian hope—will be discussed in detail, exploring its significance for salvation and the Christian life.

## **V. Pneumatology: The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit (Gifts, Roles, Influence)**

Pneumatology deals with the Holy Spirit. This chapter explores the personhood of the Holy Spirit, demonstrating that the Spirit is fully God, equal with the Father and the Son. The gifts of the Spirit—spiritual abilities given to believers for service—will be examined, along with the roles the Spirit plays in salvation, sanctification, and the life of the Church. The influence of the Spirit in the world and in individual lives will be explored, highlighting the Spirit's ongoing work in empowering believers and transforming society.

## **VI. Anthropology: Humanity's Nature, Fall, Redemption, and Destiny**

Anthropology explores the nature of humanity. This chapter will revisit humanity's original state, focusing on the image of God and the implications for human dignity. The impact of the fall on humanity will be further analyzed, explaining how sin affects every aspect of human life. Redemption—God's plan to restore humanity to fellowship with himself—will be discussed, showing the role of Christ's atonement in overcoming the effects of sin. Humanity's destiny, both in this life and the life to come, will be explored, offering a hopeful perspective on the future.

## **VII. Soteriology: Salvation: God's Plan, Human Response, Justification, Sanctification**

Soteriology is the study of salvation. This chapter will delve into God's plan for salvation, explaining its initiative and grace. The role of human response in accepting salvation will be explored, addressing the concepts of faith, repentance, and conversion. Justification—God's declaration of a sinner as righteous through faith in Christ—will be examined, highlighting its importance for our relationship with God. Sanctification—the ongoing process of becoming more Christ-like—will be discussed, emphasizing its importance for Christian living.

## **VIII. Ecclesiology: The Nature and Mission of the Church (Unity, Diversity, Authority)**

Ecclesiology deals with the Church. This chapter explores the nature of the Church as the body of Christ, emphasizing its unity despite its diversity. The role of the Church in fulfilling Christ's mission—making disciples and transforming the world—will be explored. The concept of authority within the Church—its structure, governance, and leadership—will be addressed, emphasizing biblical principles and avoiding divisive approaches.

## **IX. Eschatology: The End Times: Heaven, Hell, Second Coming, New Creation**

Eschatology examines the end times. This chapter will explore biblical perspectives on the second coming of Christ, discussing different interpretations and their implications. The concepts of heaven and hell will be discussed, considering their nature and significance. The hope of the new creation—God's promise of a restored and perfected world—will be emphasized, providing a powerful vision of the future.

## **X. Conclusion: Living Out a Systematic Faith in the 21st Century**

This concluding chapter will reflect on the implications of systematic theology for living a faithful life in the modern world. It will address challenges and opportunities for Christians today, encouraging engagement with contemporary issues through the lens of a robust and coherent faith. It will stress the importance of applying theological understanding to practical life, shaping ethical decisions and promoting a life of worship and service.

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FAQs:

1. What makes this systematic theology different? It offers a fresh, accessible, and relevant approach, connecting theology to everyday life.
2. Who is the target audience? Anyone seeking a clear understanding of Christian beliefs, from beginners to seasoned theologians.
3. Is it suitable for academic study? Yes, it provides a solid foundation for further theological exploration.
4. What is the book's theological perspective? It adheres to orthodox Christian doctrine, grounded in scripture.
5. How does the book address contemporary issues? The conclusion section engages with modern challenges.
6. What is the book's style? Clear, concise, and engaging, avoiding overly technical language.
7. Does the book include Bible verses? Yes, it uses scripture extensively to support its arguments.
8. What is the practical application of this book? It equips readers to live a more informed and meaningful faith.
9. Are there any study aids included? Potentially, further resources and study guides could be offered separately.

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