



The Heroic Boldness of

Martin Luther

STEVEN J. LAWSON



A Long Line of Godly Men Profile

ENDORSEMENTS

“In *The Heroic Boldness of Martin Luther*, I found a Luther of whom little is told: a Luther who loved an inerrant Scripture, a Luther who preached a glorious gospel, a Luther who was passionate for God’s glory and God’s people, a Luther who was willing to suffer for the cause. I am convinced that Steve Lawson has come closer to capturing the heart of Luther’s passions and desires as a gospel minister than anyone else. Here I found encouragement for my heart as I carry out my weekly ministry: read this and find encouragement for yours.”

—DR. SEAN MICHAEL LUCAS
Senior minister, Independent Presbyterian Church
Memphis, Tenn.

“With the quincentenary of the Reformation just around the corner, the publication of Steven Lawson’s *The Heroic Boldness of Martin Luther* could not be more timely. Indeed, with the modern church very much in need of the very kind of preaching Dr. Lawson portrays here, this book’s message is perhaps more vital than at almost any time since the days of Luther. Highly recommended.”

—DR. GEORGE GRANT
Pastor, Parish Presbyterian Church
Franklin, Tenn.

“Here is a profile of Luther the preacher in all his red-blooded roughness and desperate, dogged faithfulness. Steven Lawson has captured the spirit of this volcanic Reformer superbly, and the result is deeply stirring. This is a most welcome book for today, when the church is in such desperate need of reformation. May it help to rouse a generation of Luthers.”

—DR. MICHAEL REEVES

President and professor of theology, Union School of Theology
Bridgend, Wales

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Martin
Luther

The Long Line of Godly Men Profiles

Series editor, Steven J. Lawson

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A **Long Line of Godly Men** Profile

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This book is dedicated
to a lifelong, faithful friend,

Ty Miller

whose firm commitment to Jesus Christ
and extraordinary leadership skills
have helped launch OnePassion Ministries,
a work devoted to the advancement of the truth
of the Word of God around the world.

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Followers Worthy to be Followed

Down through the centuries, God has raised up a long line of godly men, those whom He has mightily used at critical junctures of church history. These valiant individuals have come from all walks of life—from the ivy-covered halls of elite schools to the dusty back rooms of tradesmen’s shops. They have arisen from all points of this world—from highly visible venues in densely populated cities to obscure hamlets in remote places. Yet despite these differences, these pivotal figures, trophies of God’s grace, have had much in common.

Certainly each man possessed stalwart faith in God and the Lord Jesus Christ, but more can be said. Each of them held deep convictions as to the God-exalting truths known as the doctrines of grace. Though they differed in secondary matters of theology, they stood shoulder to shoulder in championing

the doctrines that magnify the sovereign grace of God in His saving purposes in the world. To a man, they upheld the essential truth that “salvation is of the Lord” (Ps. 3:8; Jonah 2:9).

How did these truths affect their lives? Far from paralyzing them, the doctrines of grace enflamed their hearts with reverential awe for God and humbled their souls before His throne. Moreover, the truths of sovereign grace emboldened these men to further the cause of Christ on the earth. This fact should not surprise us, as history reveals that those who embrace these truths are granted extraordinary confidence in their God. With an enlarged vision of Him, they step forward and accomplish the work of many men, leaving a godly influence on generations to come. They arise with wings like eagles and soar over their times in history. Experientially, the doctrines of grace renew their spirits and empower them to serve God in their divinely appointed hours.

The Long Line of Godly Men Profiles aim to highlight key figures from this procession of sovereign-grace men. It is the purpose of this series to explore how these figures used their God-given gifts and abilities to further the kingdom of heaven. Because they were stalwart followers of Christ, their examples are worthy of emulation today.

The famed German Reformer Martin Luther is the focus of this volume. In a day when the church greatly needed to hear the truth, Luther’s voice thundered with holy boldness throughout Europe. Amid the doctrinal declines of that hour, Luther spoke courageously, asserting an unwavering allegiance

to Scripture alone. This Reformer was filled with audacious bravery as he confronted the church in Rome with its departure from the true saving gospel. His singular commitment to biblical truth became the driving force behind the Reformation. As the Lord empowered Luther, his pulpit became one of the most clarion sounding boards for His Word this world has ever witnessed. For these reasons, Luther remains eminently worthy to be profiled in this series.

May the Lord use this book to greatly embolden you so that, like Luther, you will leave an indelible mark on this world for God. Through this profile, may you be strengthened to walk in a manner worthy of your calling. May you be full of Scripture, and thereby emboldened in your ministry for Him.

Soli Deo gloria!

—*Steven J. Lawson*
Series editor

We want to see men and women around the world connect the deep truths of the Christian faith to everyday life.



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