

# NONE OTHER



DISCOVERING THE GOD OF THE BIBLE

**JOHN  
MACARTHUR**

## Endorsements

“Dr. John MacArthur has been faithfully explaining and proclaiming God’s Word for years. With this book, *None Other*, he expounds the character of God with clarity, passion, warmth, and urgency. In a time of theological confusion, Dr. MacArthur upholds Scripture and speaks clearly to the church and to the world about who our Lord is. I am grateful to Dr. MacArthur for his service, and I commend this book whole-heartedly. It is a gift to the people of God.”

—DR. R.C. SPROUL  
Founder, Ligonier Ministries  
Sanford, Fla.

“For over four decades, John MacArthur has faithfully expounded God’s Word and has taught a generation of Christians to value sound doctrine and fidelity to the Word of God. At the heart of that teaching and preaching ministry has been a robust commitment to the Bible’s teaching on the character of God. This brief biblical and theological exploration of God’s attributes is rich both in theology and devotion. This book is a welcome resource for any Christian who seeks to know and to love our triune, sovereign God as He has revealed himself in Scripture.”

—DR. R. ALBERT MOHLER JR.  
President, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary  
Louisville, Ky.

“Rich fare indeed, and most welcome from one of today’s most beloved and trusted expositors, addressing our greatest need—knowing God. With the skill of a master theologian and the heart of a tender shepherd, Dr. John MacArthur provides the richest of material that will edify, nourish, and grow all who read it. A book to read and re-read, and to give to others with assured confidence that this will do them much good.”

—DR. DEREK W.H. THOMAS  
Senior minister, First Presbyterian Church  
Columbia, S.C.

“In this work, the reader is loving, patiently, and unapologetically confronted with the God of the Bible. Dr. MacArthur makes no attempt to reconcile the testimony of God’s Word with the contrary opinions of fallen man. He simply points us to the Scriptures and expounds them without additions or subtractions. In a day of confusion, the reader will find in these pages a trustworthy treatise regarding some of the most important, yet misunderstood, aspects of God’s nature. Do not be misled by the brevity of this work. It is chock-full of theological truth set forth with clarity and simplicity. For the new believer, it is a valuable introduction to the God of Scripture. For the seasoned pastor, it is a reminder to hold fast to the biblical view of God and to proclaim Him to the people.”

—REV. PAUL WASHER  
Director, HeartCry Missionary Society  
Radford, Va.

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LIGONIER MINISTRIES

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# THE GOD OF THE BIBLE IS GRACIOUS

**K**nowing *about* God is not the same as knowing God. Almost anyone can tell you something about the Lord—the facts about Him are not a secret. He is merciful and kind. He loves sinners in spite of their sin. He’s the Creator and sustainer of the universe, and He is the rightful “Judge of all” (Heb. 12:23). But those facts represent only a few facets of who God truly is. And for those who do not know and love Him, they offer little more than a veiled glimpse of His nature.

In these pages, we want to get beyond the mere facts of who God is and develop an understanding of His character. We want to know His heart and His will and delve deeply into His complicated relationship with humanity. In simple terms, we don’t merely want to know about God, we want to know *Him*.

When it comes to knowing the nature of God, one of the best places to start—and certainly one of the most important truths about His character and how He relates to us—is His

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grace. It is fundamental to the nature of God to be gracious. He must manifest that grace, and He will be exalted for it forever.

While the grace of God is most clearly and fully manifest in the sacrifice of His Son and His redemption of sinners, its expression is not isolated to the person and work of Christ. God's grace is older than history, reaching back before the creation of time itself. It is not merely poured out in the moment of salvation; it is evident throughout His eternal plan of redemption. After all, He chose those whom He would save before the foundation of the world (Eph. 1:4).

Theologians refer to this precious truth as the doctrine of election, and it has been a major point of debate and division in the church. The truth about election is essential to understanding who God is, His plan of redemption, and His design for the church. But some who profess love for God and belief in the Bible nevertheless resent and even despise this doctrine. Many people seem to think John Calvin invented the doctrine of election, even though it is clearly a prominent doctrine in Scripture. I once heard a well-known preacher say he believes Calvinism is the single greatest danger to the church today. He went on to make it clear that what actually made him leery was the doctrine of election.

But rejecting this doctrine has major negative implications, especially with regard to the practical aspects of evangelism and Christian ministry. Christians who don't believe God sovereignly draws His elect to Christ are forced by their theological perspective to take a very pragmatic approach to evangelism.

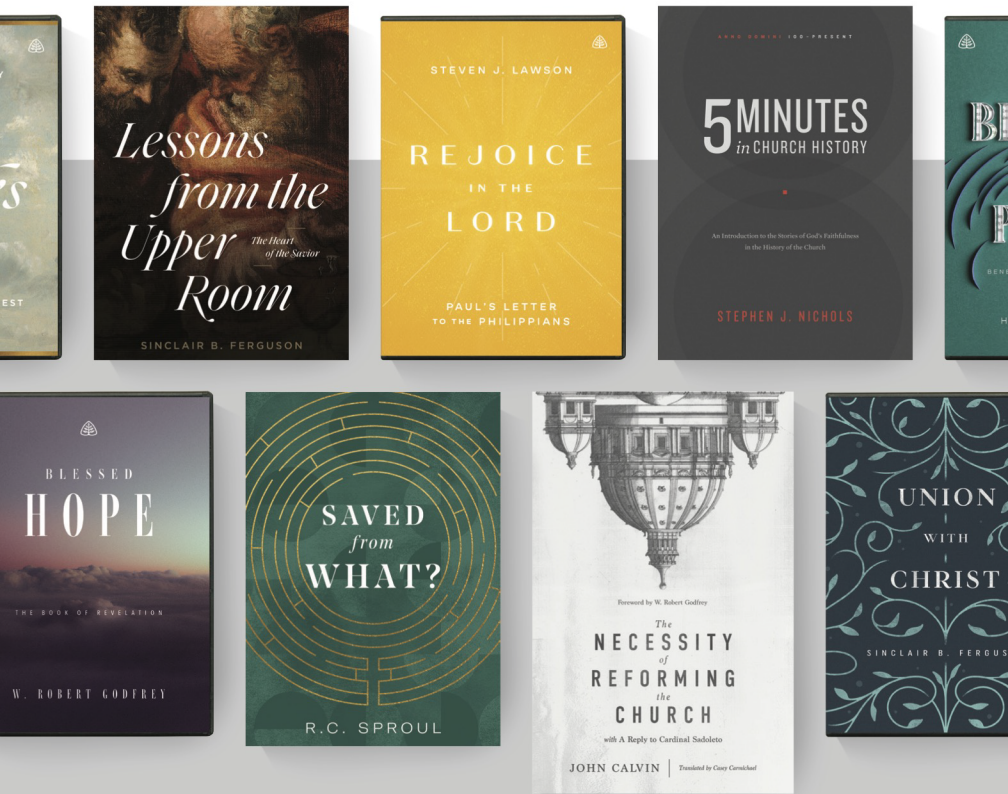
They become more concerned with what “works” than with what’s true, because their doctrine leads them to believe everything hinges on their own skill, cleverness, or persuasive abilities. What an enormous burden and responsibility they have taken on themselves!

However, the doctrine of election should not extinguish the church’s evangelistic efforts. If anything, it ought to spur us on. While the Lord knows whom He chose in eternity past, we do not have insight into His electing work (cf. Deut. 29:29). Instead, we must fervently pursue every sinner while there is still time to repent. We need to proclaim the blessed truth of Isaiah 59:1–2 faithfully to every ear that will hear: “Behold, the Lord’s hand is not so short that it cannot save; nor is His ear so dull that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.” That’s the responsibility of faith—that as long as we draw breath, we are duty bound to preach the good news of Jesus Christ as winsomely and persuasively as possible, so that others may be led to a saving knowledge of Him. “Knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others” (2 Cor. 5:11).

Moreover, we need to hold the doctrine of election with great humility. Our salvation is not a credit to us but an unearned gift from a gracious God. And He has left us in this world for the time being to extend that gift to others through the proclamation of His Word.

Understanding God’s sovereign grace is at the heart of what the church is and how it functions. A right view of God’s grace

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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