



Reformed Dogmatics

Herman Bavinck

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In partnership with the Dutch Reformed Translation Society, Baker Academic is proud to offer in English for the very first time all four volumes of Herman Bavinck's complete "Reformed Dogmatics." This masterwork will appeal not only to scholars, students, pastors, and laity interested in Reformed theology but also to research and theological libraries.

Reformed Dogmatics Details

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Author : Herman Bavinck

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Polarbear says

I like the Practical Practical process that Bavinck proceeds with. These Books are very Meaty and possibly even approaching exhaustive.

I believe these are Essential Christian Reading and certainly a Historical Pillar to leaned upon heavily. Timeless truth and presented with great clarity.

G Walker says

Don't get me wrong... Finally getting this all translated into English is huge and important... and I would choose this set any day over Berkhof, Hodge or most others in the reformed tradition... I think Bavinck, Kuyper (Principles) and the Dutch tradition are vitally important in so many areas, this set (when I read it) felt like overkill and just wasn't in my gear box. Beyond that, I really do enjoy (Despite its weaknesses) Hendriksen's translation... Still, this set is very worthy of the space on one's bookshelf, the money that will be spent in procuring it and also the time (lots of time) that will be spent reading through and studying it. Good stuff overall.

Luke Thompson says

Absolutely incredible. Bavinck is so insightful. He has a way with words that is pure joy to read.

Mike Jorgensen says

There is no way this box could contain all my thoughts on these books. I will return to them for many years. This first reading was more of a skim for some sections while other sections are heavily annotated. 30 years from now I hope to have comments on every page of all the volumes.

Mike says

The Reformed Dogmatics is the Cadillac of Reformed Systematic Theologies. The prolegomena, doctrine of God, creation & new creation are some of the richest theological material you will find anywhere. The doctrines of sin, salvation, and the church are solid, but don't contribute much to the wealth of material in these loci in reformed theology.

Brent McCulley says

Reading Bavinck has opened up new doors, presented me with new opportunities. Certainly these come with theological growth--and indeed it took me more than eight months to go through all four volumes--but even still, Bavinck's scientific rigor combined with his love for the Reformed tradition, the church molded me in a way more than simply learning new propositions ever could. This Dutch Reformed theologian showed me what it means to do good theology: and this good theology does not have to mean wordy, verbose, or cumbersome. It certainly does not mean that it has to be new either. Theologians today are scrambling to come up with the next best "thing," or compose new systems, but Bavinck thinks that we have enough of these, and simply going back to the confessions, yet dealing with current philosophy, theology, and science, all the while never neglecting church history and the development of Dogmatics, makes for the brilliance of Herman's systematic mind.

What's more is that the Reformed Dogmatics are not only rigorous, scientific, and defensible, but Prof. Bavinck's writing is doxalogical through and through. That is simply to say that we should never be doing theology for theology's sake, but it should be done simply as a means, an essential and necessary one albeit, insofar as we ought, seek, and desire to worship the one true Triune God in all of His fullness.

Of the Volumes themselves, They were all unique in their own way. Still, Volume One certainly is a stand out, and still extremely relevant and defensible today. His prolegomena deals extensively with the history of philosophy, the history of the church and it's theology, and what was then current strains of liberal thought coming from both Roman Catholics and Lutherans. Topics such as the nature of revelation, how the subject relates to the object, and the nature of the external world and it's relation to God, and so on. The remaining of the volumes are certainly just as meaty, and Bavinck's knowledge of Church history as well as reformed thought it simply remarkable.

On the whole, Bavinck is still a force to be reckoned with, and the fact that his works are finally picking up steam in English speaking lands, thanks in large part to wonderful translations coming out from the Dutch Reformed Translation Society, I am confident that he will continue to remain relevant to the Church.

Sean Crowe says

Well, it took me two years to read these cover to cover. These volumes are not light or easy reading, in fact, at times they were dense and difficult to read. That said, it was a joy and a blessing to read these volumes. If you are looking for a reformed systematic/historical theology, you won't find any better.

Andre says

Herman Bavinck is one of my favorite theologians. He reminds one of Warfield for his encyclopedic knowledge of theology as a science, and for his precise and comprehensive statement of doctrine he is without peer. I particularly enjoy his skilled use and interaction with the discipline of historical theology in his exposition of doctrine. He is reverent in his handling of the scriptures, and leaves one with the impression that if he so desired he could have been a Biblical scholar of repute. If Warfield was a dogmatic theologian, and Shedd a speculative theologian, then Bavinck was truly the scientific theologian of the 19th century. Reformed theology in this country is richer because of the translation into the English language of this

magnum opus. Bavinck was not afraid to interact with the liberal theologians of his day thus refuting the charge that conservative theologians are closed minded and afraid to dialogue about the so called "issues".
