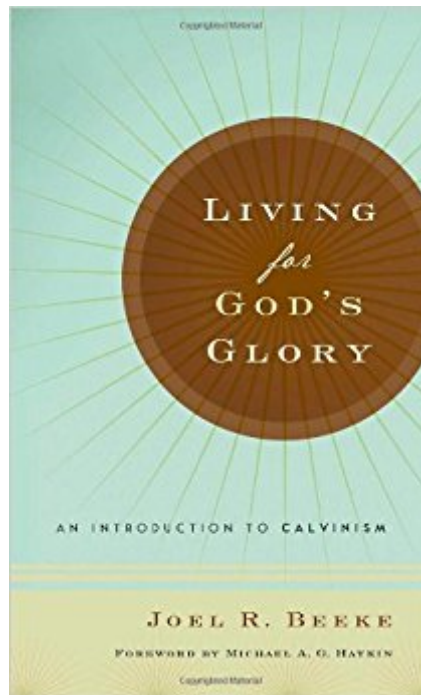




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# Living For God's Glory: An Introduction To Calvinism



## Synopsis

The theological system known as Calvinism is often caricatured or simply dismissed as a relic of the past. But as Dr. Joel R. Beeke shows us in this comprehensive treatment, Calvinism, also known as Reformed theology, is biblical, God-centered, heartfelt, winsome, and practical. As such, it is uniquely suited to help Christians fulfill the purpose for which they were created-to live to the glory of God. With the gifted help of eight contributors, Dr. Beeke traces the roots of Calvinism and sets forth its doctrinal distinctives, then explores how Calvinists live out their beliefs in every sphere of life, from their private devotions to their service in the church, from their marriages to their careers, from politics to ethics. Through the examples of John Calvin himself, the Puritans, and other Calvinists of the past, this God-exalting belief system emerges as a timeless guide for Christian living.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 396 pages

Publisher: Reformation Trust Publishing (September 12, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1567691056

ISBN-13: 978-1567691054

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 30 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #581,619 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #260 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Denominations & Sects > Protestantism > Calvinist](#) #29624 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living](#) #117122 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality](#)

## Customer Reviews

It was a joy to read this excellent and useful book. In this volume, Joel Beeke- one of our best ambassadors for warm, winsome, experiential, solid, orthodox, passionate, evangelistic Calvinism-introduces us to a healthy, well-rounded view of the Reformed tradition-Calvinism as it really is. It presents us with the basics of the history of Calvinism and confessionalism, as well as the mainstream Calvinistic teaching on salvation, piety, growth, the church, preaching, evangelism, marriage, family, work, politics, ethics, doxology (the idea of living all of life for God's honor-from which this book gets its title), and more. The total picture presented here will help strengthen in our time confessional, experiential Calvinism-the great, central, Reformed tradition flowing out of the

best of British (Puritan and Scottish) and Dutch (Further Reformation) Calvinism. --Dr. J. Ligon Duncan III: Senior Minister, First Presbyterian Church, Jackson, Mississippi 'Living for God's Glory' is a very helpful and insightful introduction to Reformed Christianity. It demonstrates that Calvinism is not narrowly doctrinal, but broad and profound, speaking to every aspect of Christian life. It will inform and inspire Christians in biblical faithfulness. --Dr. W. Robert Godfrey: President, Westminster Seminary California, Escondido, California Dr. Joel Beeke has once again performed a great service for the church of the Lord Jesus Christ. This book will profit every class of reader, from the new convert to the most mature believer. Dr. Beeke's style embodies the characteristics of experiential Calvinism on which he writes: every chapter is clear and addressed to the heart. I particularly found the chapter 'Applying the Word' to be a needed word for Calvinistic preachers in our day. Buy a copy for yourself and a number to give away. --Dr. Joseph A. Pipa Jr.: President, Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Greenville, South Carolina

Dr. Joel R. Beeke is president and professor of systematic theology and homiletics at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary, pastor of the Heritage Netherlands Reformed Congregation, editor of Banner of Sovereign Grace Truth, editorial director of Reformation Heritage Books, president of Inheritance Publishers, and vice president of the Dutch Reformed Translation Society, all in Grand Rapids, Mich. He has written, coauthored, or edited fifty books (most recently, *Heirs with Christ: The Puritans on Adoption*, *Meet the Puritans*, *Reformation Heroes*, *Walking as He Walked*, and *Striving Against Satan*) and contributed fifteen hundred articles to Reformed books, journals, periodicals, and encyclopedias. His Ph.D. is in Reformation and post-Reformation theology from Westminster Theological Seminary. He is frequently called on to lecture at seminaries and to speak at Reformed conferences around the world. He and his wife, Mary, have been blessed with three children: Calvin, Esther, and Lydia. --Dr. Nelson D. Kloosterman is married, father of five, and grandfather of eleven. Ordained to the gospel ministry in 1975, he has served as minister and professor for more than thirty years. He has taught courses on the graduate level internationally in the fields of Ethics, New Testament Studies, Preaching, and Church Polity. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree (1972, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan), and a Bachelor of Divinity degree (1975, Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, Michigan). In 1991 he obtained the Doctor of Theology (Th.D.) degree from the Theological University of the Reformed Churches (liberated) in Kampen, The Netherlands, with a dissertation in the field of Christian ethics. In January 2011, Dr. Kloosterman began serving as Ethics Consultant and Executive Director of Worldview Resources International, a service organization whose mission is to produce and provide resources designed to

assist in understanding and applying a Christian worldview to responsible living in a global culture.

Wow, this book has it all; History, Doctrine, encouragement, etc. Calvinism is so much broader than most people think. Beeke along with a great number of Reformed theologians and pastors, show the multifaceted aspects of Calvinism. Starting from the history of Calvinism, the book moves to Calvinist distinctions in a variety of subjects from Scripture to Church Government. When on the subject of Calvinism, many think predestination is the only subject most Calvinists are interested in. This book proves that kind of thinking is totally false. The authors show that Calvinism, not only consists in the five points, but also includes many subjects i.e. holiness, prayer, church government, scripture, worship, preaching, evangelism, marriage, family, work, Politics, ethics, and so much more. If you are a Calvinist or you are just interested in what Calvinism consists of, this is the book for you. Packed full of quotes from modern authors, past Reformers, and the Puritans; this book not only informs, it also sends you to a more in-depth study with each end note. At the end of each chapter there are discussion questions for personal or group review. I found myself writing down a list of books to search for with each chapter. This book is on my list to read again in the future. This is a great companion to another book by Beeke called "Meet the Puritans" I highly recommend it to all believers and non-believers alike. \*This book was provided free of charge by Reformed Trust in exchange for an honest review.

An excellent, very readable overview of what Calvinism teaches.

Great concise overview of reformed theology, which is a total worldview, as contrasted with an atomized theology like synergism.

This is a very well written introduction to Calvinism. Naturally, Beeke devotes a few chapters explaining the "5-points," but the majority of the book focuses on how Calvinism/Reformed Theology fuels every aspect of one's life, including work, education, politics, family, etc. At the end of the day, Calvinism is God-centric, and therefore always leads to doxology. Soli Deo Gloria! To God alone be glory!

Excellent book to show the true purpose we were created for

Joel Beeke, "Living for God's Glory: An Introduction to Calvinism." Personally, I think this is one of

the best books written in modern times as to the history of Calvinism, as well as a logical and clear explanation of Calvinism. I would highly recommend this book to anyone wanting an "honest" explanation without "charged" words and slanted hypotheticals, but instead provides the reader with an objective understanding of the many arguments and nuances centered around the controversies of Calvinism.

Dr. Beeke does an excellent job showing the historical- and more still the biblical- roots of Calvinistic theology, worship, and community. The chapters written by his contributors blend well into the general book, and the whole work presents a glorious picture of the Christian's life as lived for God's glory. I would use this book to teach basic Christian spirituality, as well as distinctive Calvinist dogma.

Excellent. Thorough; clearly written. The beauty of Calvinism shines through it. The descriptions of the Puritans' God-focused life in thought, word and deed were revealing and surprisingly sweet.

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