

# Challenges to Church Traditions

**“Experience supplies painful proof that traditions once called into being are first called useful, then they become necessary. At last they are too often made idols, and all must bow down to them or be punished.”**

**—J. C. RYLE, NINETEENTH-CENTURY ENGLISH WRITER AND MINISTER**

**“All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as self-evident.”**

**—ARTHUR SCHOPENHAUER, NINETEENTH-CENTURY GERMAN PHILOSOPHER**

The following information is supplied with a desire for you to be fully informed about views that – while they may be outside our normal Christian system, culture and traditions – are well researched, documented, informed and reasoned.

They were developed by people who had an honest desire to seek and learn the truth; who kept an open mind, and were unafraid to ask questions and follow the leads to answers regardless of where it led them.

If these views are accurate and truthful, then it behooves us to determine what impact it will have on our Christian understandings, walk and relationships with God and others.

It is up to each one of us to determine for ourselves what is truth and whether we will ignore or accept it and apply it in our lives.

How we deal with what we discover to be truth with not only impact our lives, but our family and succeeding generations, our church, community, our nation and the world.

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[Pagan Christianity](#)

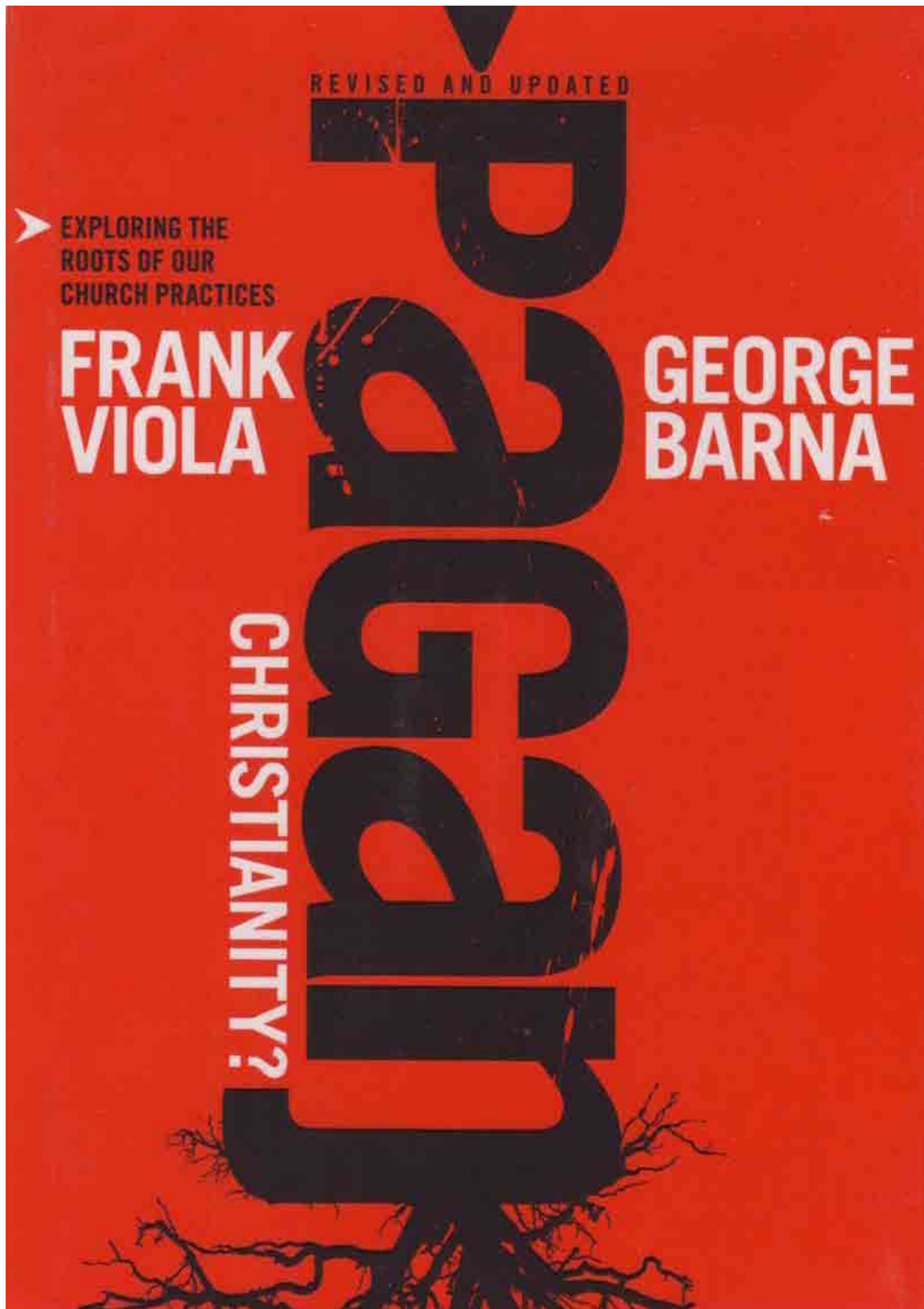
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(Note: This is a work in process, more topics and supporting resources will be added)

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## Pagan Christianity by Frank Viola and George Barna



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Pagan Christianity by Frank Viola and George Barna (Tyndale) is pioneering book that paved the way for the present Insurgence in Christianity today.

For more, go to <http://PaganChristianity.org> - note that "Pagan Christianity" is not a stand alone book. It's only part one of a fuller argument.

The constructive sequels are "**Reimagining Church**," "**From Eternity to Here**," and "**Finding Organic Church**" by Frank Viola.

(FYI: For typo corrections, [go back to the first page](#) of PaganChristianity.org and scroll to the bottom.)

## Resources:

RADICAL CHURCH: Part 1 – Jim Wallace Interviews Frank Viola on “Pagan Christianity”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EQooCPdLI0w>

In this interview, veteran Christian apologist Jim (J. Warner) Wallace interviews Frank Viola on radical ecclesiology. It was recorded in 2008.

RADICAL CHURCH: Part 2 – Jim Wallace Interviews Frank Viola on “Reimagining Church”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HO460Wo0sZk>

Drew Marshall Interviews Frank Viola on PAGAN CHRISTIANITY

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f5sBrb3Ty4A>

AudioBook:

Pagan Christianity | Frank Viola & George Barna –

Chp 1 – Have We Really Been Doing It By The Book?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GU0PcLT26Sc>

Chp 8 – Say NO to Tithing

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nyT\\_BJU1zyY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nyT_BJU1zyY)

Chp 10 – Christian Education: Swelling the Cranium

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVi-UVbt2bY>

Note: You can borrow audiobooks (plus videos, music, ebooks, etc.) for free via <https://hoopladigital.com> and your local county and/or town library (you must have a valid library card from a participating library).

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## Rethinking Church - Frank Viola (Controversial)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLBK9sJXxow>

In "Rethinking Church," Frank Viola causes a ruckus. This is a message he delivered over 10 years ago right after he wrote PAGAN CHRISTIANITY (co-authored with George Barna). At one point in the message, Frank sheds fresh light on Paul's letters to the church, as well as those written by the other apostles. This message is a call to rethink church in light of the New Testament. But it's only an introduction. For details and documentation on the various points made in the message, see <http://PaganChristianity.org>.

In 2008, Viola wrote, "We need to rethink our entire concept of church and discover it afresh through the lens of Jesus and the apostles." REIMAGINING CHURCH (David C. Cook, 2008), p. 273.

See also Frank's new article "Rethinking Church - Addressing a Danger" at <https://gospelofthekingdom.com/restoration/>

See also...

<https://organicchurch.com>

<https://rethinkingchurch.net>

## Reimagining Church | Frank Viola

Imagining the Church as an Organism

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zeul87hD8GE>

## The Gospel of the Kingdom | Frank Viola

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OcV8p0SZXGU>

## It's Time to Rethink Church: Part 1 - Frank Viola

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xDpQzzHQs1E>

## It's Time to Rethink Church: Part 2 - Frank Viola

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7EuF\\_IDc5k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7EuF_IDc5k)

The entire conference message "The Tabernacle of David" by Frank Viola, which is a powerful talk on rethinking church.

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More Resources:

Beyond Evangelical: The Blog of Frank Viola

<https://frankviola.org/>

About Frank and Blog: <https://frankviola.org/about/>

Podcast: <http://frankviola.info/podcast>

Insurgence: <http://Insurgence.org>

Kingdom Website: <http://GospeloftheKingdom.com>

God's Favorite Place On Earth

<http://frankviola.org/GodsFavoritePlace.pdf> [PDF]

A Jesus Manifesto

<https://frankviola.org/2009/06/22/a-jesus-manifesto-by-leonard-sweet-and-frank-viola/>

Frank Viola's Youtube Channel: The Deeper Journey

<https://www.youtube.com/user/VideosFuture>

The following is Frank Viola's 3-part response to Ben Witherington's Critique of Frank's book, Reimagining Church... (28 pages)

[http://frankviola.org/FV\\_BW.pdf](http://frankviola.org/FV_BW.pdf) [PDF]

Rethinking Frank Viola – Critique of Frank Viola by Keith Malcomson (28 pages)

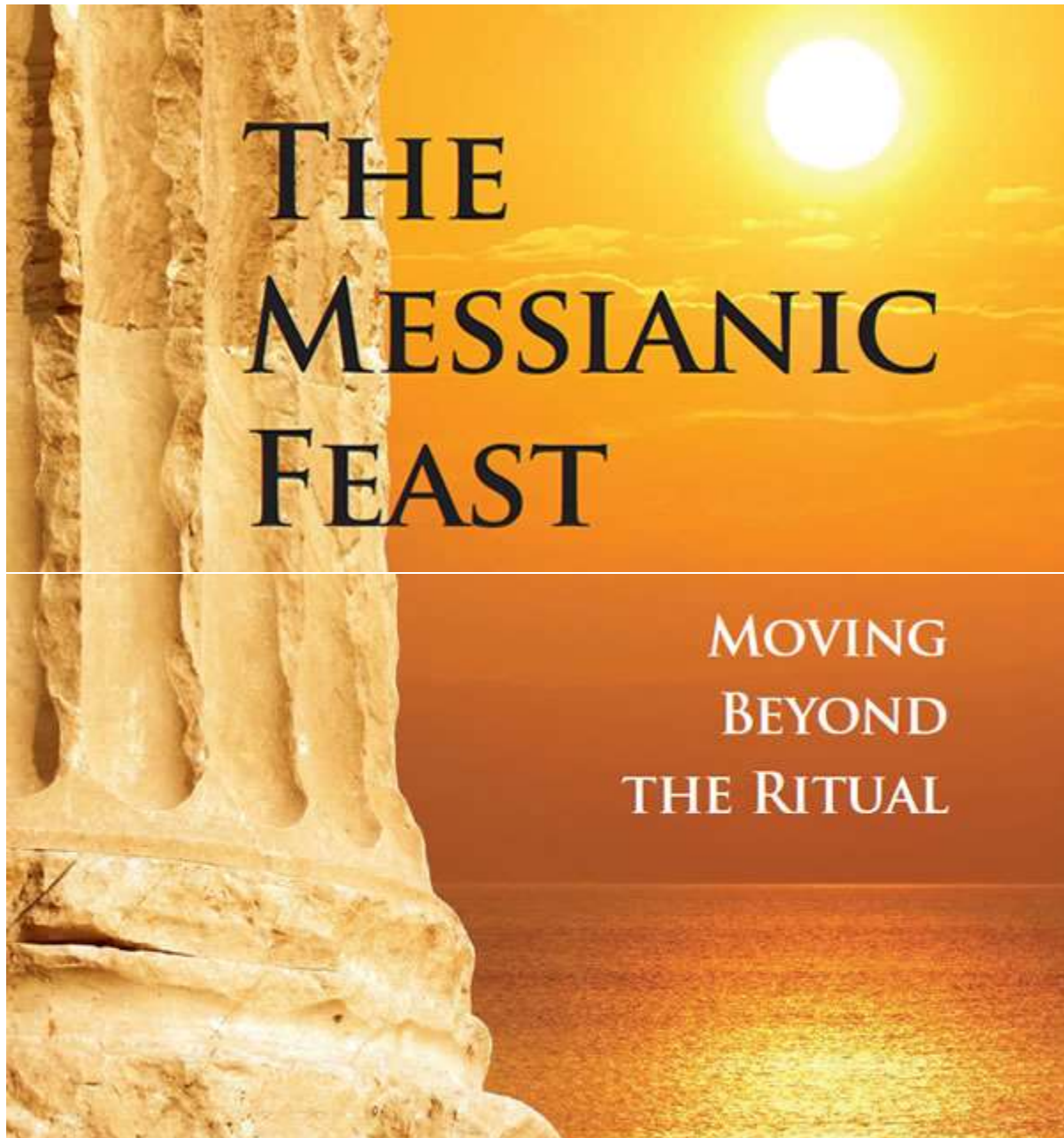
[http://revfrankhughesjr.org/images/rethinking\\_frank\\_viola.pdf](http://revfrankhughesjr.org/images/rethinking_frank_viola.pdf) [PDF]

What God Has To Say About Church Leadership by Joseph Herrin (20 pages)

[https://www.heart4god.ws/index\\_html\\_files/What%20God%20has%20to%20say%20about%20Church%20Leadership.pdf](https://www.heart4god.ws/index_html_files/What%20God%20has%20to%20say%20about%20Church%20Leadership.pdf) [PDF]

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## The Messianic Feast by T. Alex Tennent



<https://themessianicfeast.com/>

<https://themessianicfeast.com/sample-chapters/>

(All the main chapters of the book are available online for free reading and download, except for misc. appendices, index, glossary and bibliography)

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# THE MESSIANIC FEAST

## MOVING BEYOND THE RITUAL

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**Should some of the religious teachings, rituals, and doctrines practiced and enforced in the Church today be considered invalid because of a Jewish disconnect that originally occurred in Rome?**

In *The Messianic Feast*, author T. Alex Tennent presents an insightful and in-depth look into a long-held controversy, and how the misinterpretation of several key scriptures has played a substantial role in the religious rituals and practices of the Church today. This important book directs our attention to issues intrinsic to our understanding of the Messiah's teachings:

### Synopsis

By opening the door to understanding certain scriptures from within first-century Jewish idioms, this book reveals major new truths as the author (T. Alex Tennent) explains what those scriptures really mean, as well as those previously—and erroneously—believed to teach a ritual of Communion.

He explains the Jewish disconnect that took place in Rome and documents this disconnect using history that has previously been misunderstood.

In proving that the Last Supper was not the Passover, he does what has not been done before—showing what those particular scriptures truly mean in the original Greek, and specifically those that seem to portray that the Last Supper was the Passover. This opens the door to what the Messiah really meant in his Last Supper parables—that, considering the Jewish idioms, Jesus was not teaching a ritual but rather the true spiritual communion, a spiritual feast with God and one another.

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## Resources:

Alex Tennent, testimony and book talk.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jPbrFJWiU30>

T Alex Tennent IPPY award interview

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GDIW2Sg8pVw>

<https://vimeo.com/101899628>

"Is the Position of Pastor Biblical?", by Alex Tennent

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=26jf7v8ck38>

A Review of Alex Tennent's attack on the Resurrection Sabbath

[http://www.torahtimes.org/writings/tennent\\_review/article.html](http://www.torahtimes.org/writings/tennent_review/article.html)

Additional topic (not related to above):

The Messiah's Baptism

<https://themessiahsbaptism.com/>

Free chapters available with simple registration or click on this link...

<https://themessiahsbaptism.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/The-Messiahs-Baptism-Sample-Chapters.zip> [Zip]

The Messiah's Baptism book presentation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QmeOYLVrl64>

Alex's Youtube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCggn7xdHgasG3qoalHQ4iSg>

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Additional Views:

(Jn. 13:1) Does John contradict the Synoptics regarding the Passover meal?

<http://www.evidenceunseen.com/bible-difficulties-2/nt-difficulties/john-acts/jn-131-does-john-contradict-the-synoptics-regarding-the-passover-meal/>

Last Week of Jesus Life (timelines)

[http://www.biblestudymanuals.net/last\\_week\\_of\\_Jesus\\_life4.htm](http://www.biblestudymanuals.net/last_week_of_Jesus_life4.htm)

<http://www.muqaddas.info/d4web4sm/dippings/passionp.htm>

<http://www.tedmontgomery.com/bblovrw/goodthursday/>

<https://kettlemorainebiblechurch.weebly.com/charts.html>

<http://bibletime.com/passion/chart>

THE REAL 3 DAYS & 3 NIGHTS

<http://www.thesimpletruth.net/booklet/3d3n.html>

Relationship between Passover and Jesus' crucifixion (Crucifixion Chart)

<http://www.thesimpletruth.net/booklet/passover.html>

“Christ Our Passover”

<http://www.separationtruth.com/resources/Christ+Our+Passover+new.pdf>

Note: There are strong advocates for Last Supper being on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. Some believe it's also the Passover Meal, while others do not.

See the “Jesus’ Last/Final Week Timelines” in the Appendix of the “**Complete Sayings of Jesus – NKJV**” for more details and alternative views

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## Miscellaneous

Sean McDowell re New Dead Sea Scrolls:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dTNUUd9TDbo>

(04/02/2021)

Traditional Teaching/Pastor Resources:

Pastor Robert Morris

<https://pastorrobort.com/>

Life with Jack Hibbs (YouTube videos)

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzvq\\_2THJhueXOP8JdAO2-A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzvq_2THJhueXOP8JdAO2-A)

<https://calvarycch.org/>

<https://twitter.com/RealJackHibbs>

<https://jackhibbs.com/>

<https://live.calvarycch.tv/>

Hibbs Sermon: [For Such Time As This](#)

Hibbs Special from Washington, DC: [God in America](#) (@ 26:30)

Eric Metasax @Hibbs' Church: [What Would Bonhoeffer Do?](#)



Eric Metasax (witty talk show host providing in-depth interviews from a Patriot/Christian perspective)

<https://metaxastalk.com/>

(also a #1 best-selling author including bios of Martin Luther, Dietrich Bonhoeffer)

<https://socratesinthecity.com/>

(unique interviews with deep-thinkers of our day)

<https://gab.com/ericmetasax>

<https://twitter.com/ericmetasax>

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## Dr. Constable's Expository (Bible Study) Notes

<https://planobiblechapel.org/constable-notes/>

Providing commentary on all 66 books of the Bible, containing over 12,000 pages of material in PDF format.

## Overview Bible

<https://overviewbible.com/books-of-the-bible/>

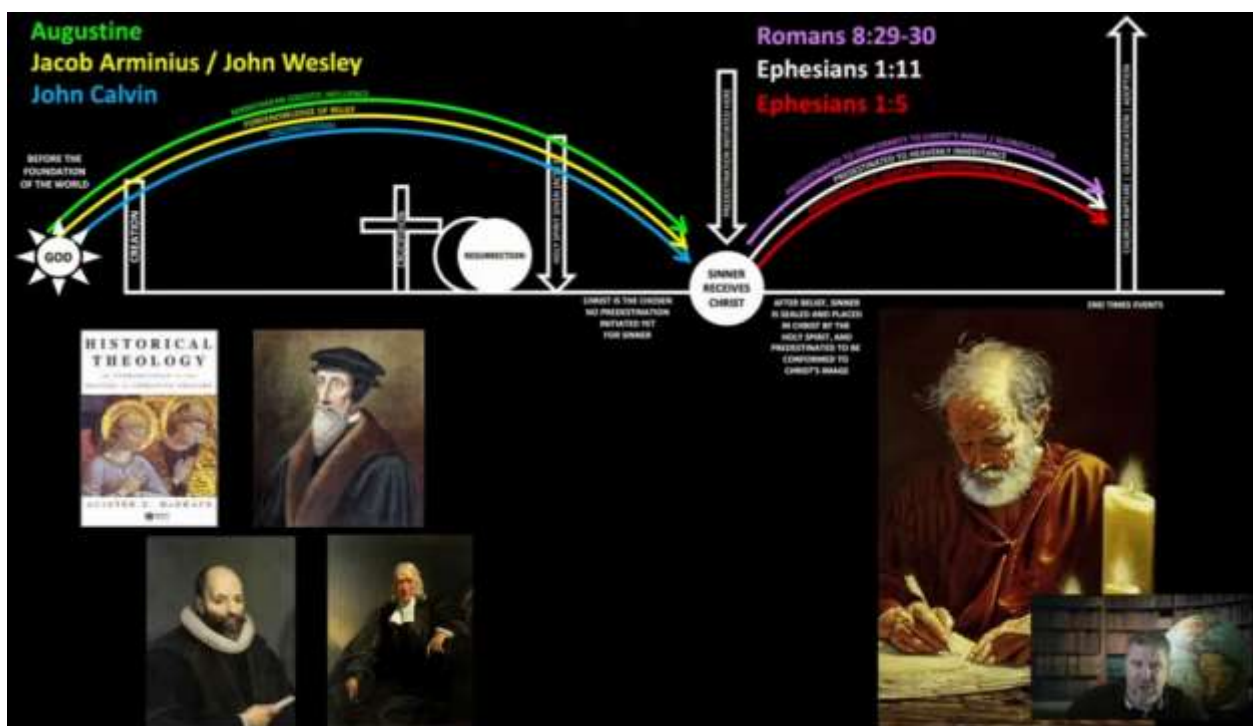
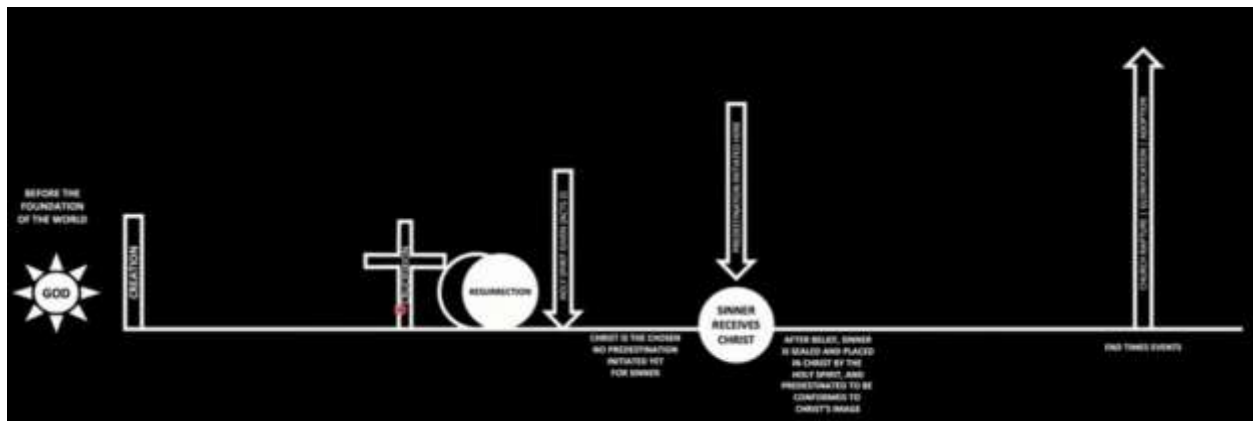
A one-sentence overview of every book of the Bible. They're listed in the order they show up in the Protestant Bible. If you want more, there are links to quick, 3-minute guides to every book of the Bible, too.

## Regarding Man-Made Doctrines...

PREDESTINATION Revisited | Q&A (2023)

[Recommended]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JcMg9l8TnGc>



The above video supersedes the following video....

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# Predestination: It's Nothing Like You Were Told (2017)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7jTf58y5ZKg> [Video]

The concept of "predestination" is one of the most misunderstood subjects in scripture. It is famously associated with Calvinism, but even non-Calvinists are largely tainted with Calvinist premises of this concept. The goal of this video is to quickly and easily equip the viewer to break away from the false premises and presuppositions and deal clearly and plainly with exactly what scripture says about the matter. After viewing this video, any honest Bible believer will be able to confidently employ scripture to explain this topic soundly, while avoiding doctrinal error.

[http://www.beyondthefundamentals.com/download/predestination\\_presentation.pdf](http://www.beyondthefundamentals.com/download/predestination_presentation.pdf) [PDF]

[NOTE: I have copies of these files -LY]

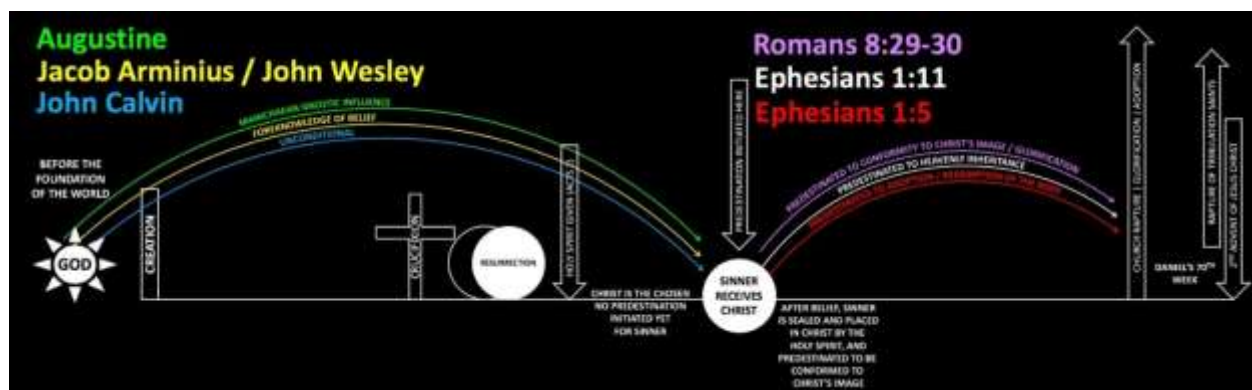
[http://www.beyondthefundamentals.com/download/predestination\\_presentation\\_pwd.pptx](http://www.beyondthefundamentals.com/download/predestination_presentation_pwd.pptx) [PPT]

(Note: Password Protected)

[See Legacy Documents: <https://www.beyondthefundamentals.com/legacy-documents.html>]

## SCRIPTURAL OCCURRENCES

<b>Ephesians 1:5 (KJV)</b> 5 Having <b>predestinated</b> us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,	<b>Romans 8:29 (KJV)</b> 29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did <b>predestinate</b> to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.
<b>Ephesians 1:11 (KJV)</b> 11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being <b>predestinated</b> according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:	<b>Romans 8:30 (KJV)</b> 30 Moreover whom he did <b>predestinate</b> , them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.



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