



Volume 58 | Issue 2

Article 103

2015

Allen and Lemke's "Whosoever Will: A Biblical-Theological Critique of Five-Point Calvinism" (Book Review)

Gary Fitsimmons
Bryan College

The Christian Librarian is the official publication of the Association of Christian Librarians (ACL). To learn more about ACL and its products and services please visit [//www.acl.org/](http://www.acl.org/)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/tcl>

Recommended Citation

Fitsimmons, Gary (2015) "Allen and Lemke's "Whosoever Will: A Biblical-Theological Critique of Five-Point Calvinism" (Book Review)," *The Christian Librarian*: Vol. 58: Iss. 2, Article 103.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.55221/2572-7478.1338>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ George Fox University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Christian Librarian by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ George Fox University. For more information, please contact arolfe@georgefox.edu.

the verses they have chosen for the translators to discuss. Each verse is quoted in all four Bible versions so the reader can see the differences for each of the verses. Using only certain verses has good and bad points. The good is that all the translators are discussing the same verses so the reader has a baseline to work with. The bad is that there is a lot repetition. Due to the passion of these translators and that they are given no parameters other than to talk about the chosen verses (this means they can talk about what they feel are the weaknesses of the other three versions and those who do the translating), the reader does get a good idea of how these translations are formed.

The title may make it seem it is a book for the general public. This book is much more scholarly and dry than is usually accepted by the general public. This book is not as much for one looking for the perfect translation but more for those interested in the inner workings of creating a translation. An interesting addition is that this book uses QR codes, so that a person can go online to see and hear a lecture by that particular translator on what they just read. If a person does not have the QR application on their mobile device, they can go to Liberty University to see the different presentations at a symposium in their entirety. For those who have visual processing disorders, this feature is a godsend.

**Whosoever Will: A Biblical-Theological Critique of
Five-Point Calvinism,**

edited by David L. Allen and Steve W. Lemke. Nashville: B&H Publishing Group,
2010. 306 pp. \$24.99. ISBN 9780805464160

Reviewed by Gary Fittsimmons, Director of Library Services, Bryan College, Dayton, TN

This volume is a collection of essays from presenters at the John 3:16 Conference held November 6-7, 2008, by Jerry Vines Ministries at the First Baptist Church in Woodstock, Georgia, and cosponsored by New Orleans Baptist, Southwestern Baptist, Midwestern Baptist, Liberty Baptist, and Luther Rice Theological Seminaries. Editors David L. Allen (Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary) and Steve W. Lemke (New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary) begin with an introduction detailing the resurgence of interest in Calvinism among Baptists, delving into the history of the influence of Calvinist theology in the Baptist tradition and stating the purpose of the book to continue the dialog between Calvinistic and non-Calvinistic Baptists from a non-Calvinistic perspective while maintaining a unified spirit. Next, Jerry Vines offers a "Sermon on John 3:16" followed by five essays, each taking on one of the five points of Calvinism. The remaining five essays deal with other issues related to Calvinist theology. The book is an important presentation of the non-

Calvinist view of soteriology embraced by the majority of Southern Baptists and Evangelicals. Equally or perhaps even more importantly, essays detail the implications of the doctrines discussed for the church at large and the world as a whole. The book is recommended as food for thought to all who wish to be challenged to think deeply about what they believe on the foundational issues of salvation.

Worship Together in Your Church as in Heaven,

by Josh Davis and Nikki Lerner. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2015. 202 pp.

\$22.99. ISBN 9781426788062

*Reviewed by Lindsay Van Sicklen, Retired Periodicals Librarian,
Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, AR*

Worship Together in Your Church as in Heaven is authored by Josh Davis and Nikki Lerner. Josh is the founder of Proskuneo Ministries (www.proskuneo.org) in Clarkston, Georgia, which promotes unity in the Body of Christ through multilingual and multicultural worship gatherings, worship resources and worship training for leaders. Nikki serves as the worship ministry director at Bridgeway Community Church, a large multicultural congregation near Baltimore, Maryland. Both Davis and Lerner coach, speak and teach worldwide.

Before the topic of leading a multicultural worship service is broached, the authors lay a firm foundation of developing relationships leading to a diverse worshipping community. Topics addressed are: Why God desires the nations worship together, the importance of immersing in other cultures, and the attitude of the worship leader being other-focused (pastor, staff and congregation). As exciting as being a multicultural worship leader can be, they are trail blazers and hence challenges abound.

Only after covering preparatory issues do the authors delve into the practicalities of multicultural worship. Topics in this section include: who/what do you have, worship is more than music, the power of language, introducing multiple languages and models of multicultural worship.

I highly recommend this title for use in developing a multicultural mindset in one's congregation and for specifics for someone leading a worship team. The reflection sections throughout make it a great choice for a textbook and/or tool for pastoral staff, worship teams, etc. Several institutions in both the United States and United Kingdom have adopted it for their curriculums. The readability will further stimulate and stir the hearts of interested laypersons.