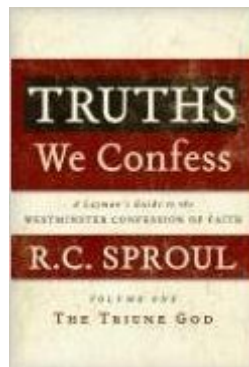


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# Truths We Confess: A Layman's Guide To The Westminster Confession Of Faith: Volume 1: The Triune God



## Synopsis

In his three-volume exposition of the Westminster Confession of Faith, R.C. Sproul writes both with insight into current issues and clarity for lay readers. The resulting commentary will long serve the church as an invaluable aid for digesting and teaching the eternal truths of Scripture. Volume 1: The Triune God covers chapters 1-8 of the confession, explaining what we need to understand about Holy Scripture, God and the Trinity, his decrees, creation, providence, the fall into sin, God's covenant, and Christ the Mediator. Every discussion is geared toward bringing us to a deeper knowledge of and greater love for the doctrines of grace set forth in God's Word.

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## Customer Reviews

This is a scary-great read. It's one grand step toward a greater understanding, transported with great diligence by those that went before us ... and with the expert help of R.C. For those unfamiliar, the Westminster Confession is an in your face, no holds barred, biblically based assault on sissy-nice interpretation and politically correct church direction. Sproul builds a modern reflection of the Confession and brings the magnificence of the original to life. You will either thoroughly enjoy this book ... or you will just say "NO" ... based on your church-ed preconceptions. I do not think there will be much middle ground among readers. Sproul's answer to the question of "For whom was the Bible written?" may do the trick. This is a seriously important primer on reformed theology brought to modern seekers through Sproul's genius. Luther would be proud ... "I do not pray for the world, but for those whom You have given me, for they are Yours." John 17:9

This series provides a comprehensive, cogent, and accessible unpacking of the confession, its Biblical grounding, and its implications for those who believe it. Highly recommended for any who would seek to understand the confession and/or reformed theology, especially those who are exploring God's call to church leadership in a denomination (like mine) that requires leaders to assent to the confession. As in his other books, Sproul does a great job of communicating theological truth clearly, with compassion for man and love of God, and without pretense. I appreciate that God has used him to help me more clearly know and understand what I believe.

The Triune God, the first volume out of R.C. Sproul's three volume layman's guide to the Westminster Confession of Faith. The confession was written by English Puritans. Pastors, leaders of churches and their Christian community who refused to conform to the British government and the Church of England. It is a statement or confession of Faith in contrast to the Anglican Faith, Roman Catholicism, and Arminianism. It is a statement of an alternative systematic theology. The several of the authors had gone to prison and/or been kicked out of their community for preaching these truths. The Triune God is based on the first three chapters of the confession. This volume includes a chapter on the Trinity: The Father, The Son, and The Holy Ghost; the content is certainly not limited to that subject. The eighth chapter, 50 pages, is about Christ the Mediator which certainly could be part of an explanation of the nature of the Triune God. That chapter is about Jesus intercedes for the believer in Heaven. The other six chapters is more of a stretch. The first chapter is about composition of the bible, and how God authored scripture. The third chapter is about God's Eternal decree. This chapter separates the difference in meaning between the terms predestinate, preordained, foreknowledge, and election. God's nature and relationship to time is explained. How it concerns Salvation is emphasized. The fourth chapter is about God's creation of the universe out of nothing and in a supernatural nature that cannot be explained through science. The fifth chapter is about providence; how God preordains all that has happened and what will come to past. God's continue activity in the Created world, in historic events, and individual lives. The sixth chapter is about Adam's original nature, Adam's fall, man's sin nature, and God's righteous prerogative to punish each individual for his rebellion against God's will. The seventh chapter is about God's covenant with man: how God chooses to reconcile the sinner back to God based on the creator's prerogatives. How God chooses to count certain retentive sinners righteous based on the obedience of The Son. R.C. Sproul explains the brief statements of the confession in his usual thorough concrete way in which he elaborates on scripture and the theories of philosophers. The

other two volumes deal with the individual who accepts Jesus as Savior. The remaining volume with the body of Christ the Church. I have not as yet read either of those two volumes. The Westminster has both a shorter and longer catechism that goes along with the Confession that is why I tag it as so. Even though the author restricts himself to the Confession.

If you are looking for a definitive word on forming your own personal theology this book is perfect. It helps simplify concepts by helping you navigate the old english of the Westminster Confession of Faith. This is the first book of the three and I definitely want to read the other two. Great stuff.

This book is very approachable for the laymen. A group of guys who know nothing about the WCF have gotten together to study the WCF with this book. Sproul has worked hard to bring out some of the truths carefully detailed in the WCF. It does lack if you're looking for more of an academic approach to the WCF. It doesn't provide a history of the council for example. Another point that has been discouraging for the laymen is that it is a 3 volume set. But obviously anyone who is familiar with Sproul knows that he writes at a level for everyone to understand.

Very worthwhile resource for any "Reformed Theological Library". RC is without a doubt a gift for this post modern world!

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