

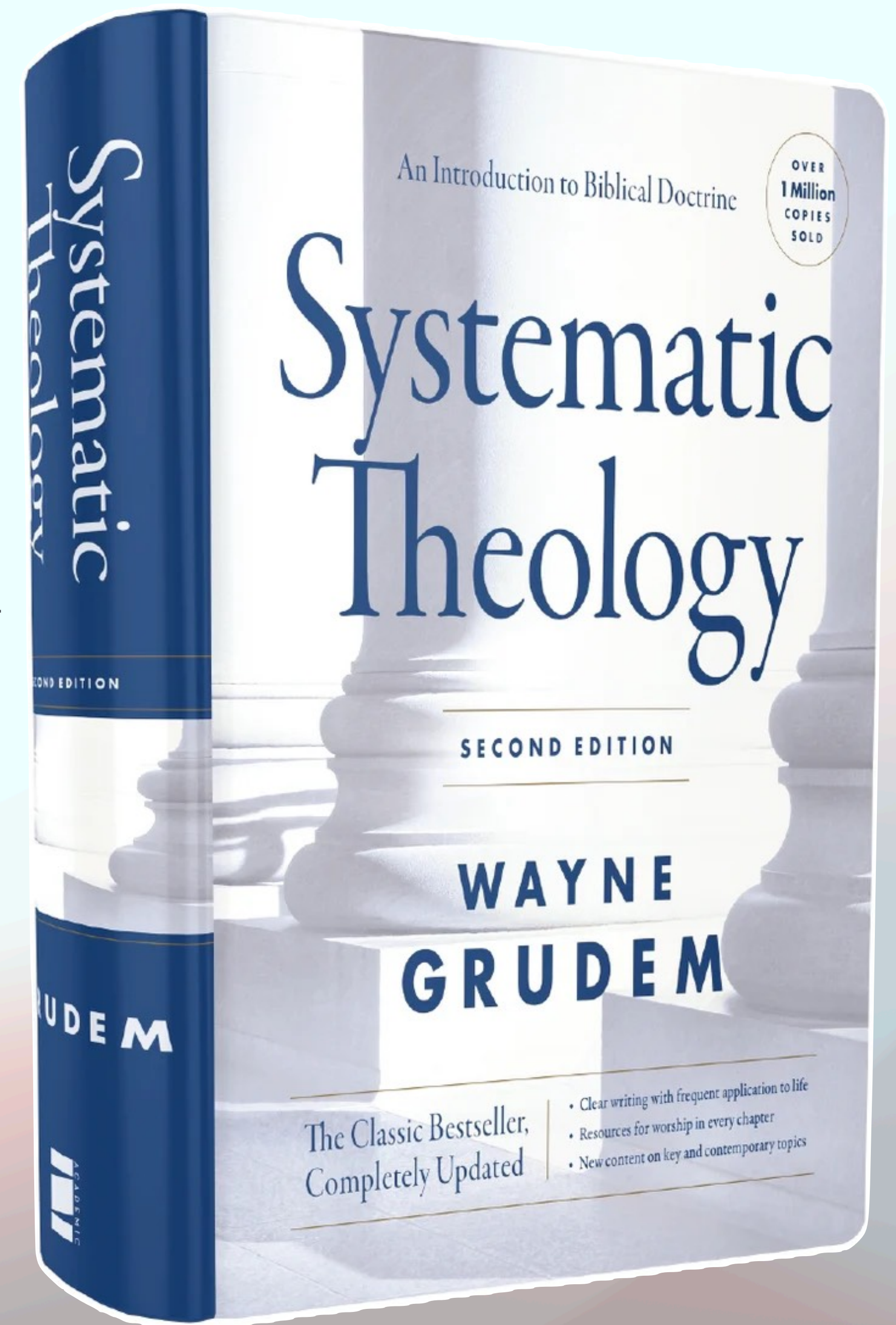
Alignments



Systematic Theology

Part one: The Word of God

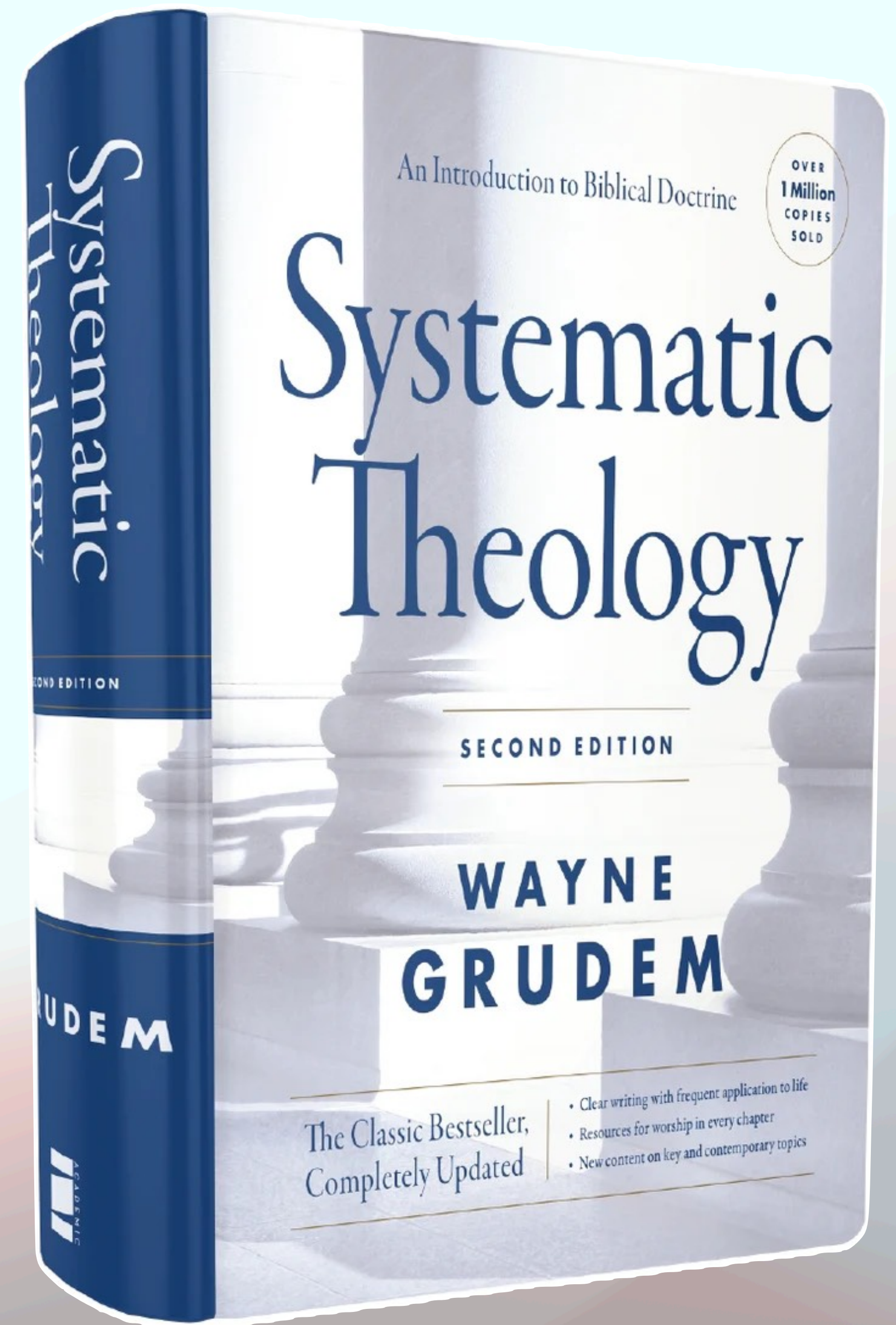
- ✓ • Chapter 1 Systematic Theology introduction
- ✓ • Chapter 2 The Word of God
- ✓ • Chapter 3 The Cannon of Scripture



Systematic Theology

Part one: The Word of God, The Four Characteristics of Scripture

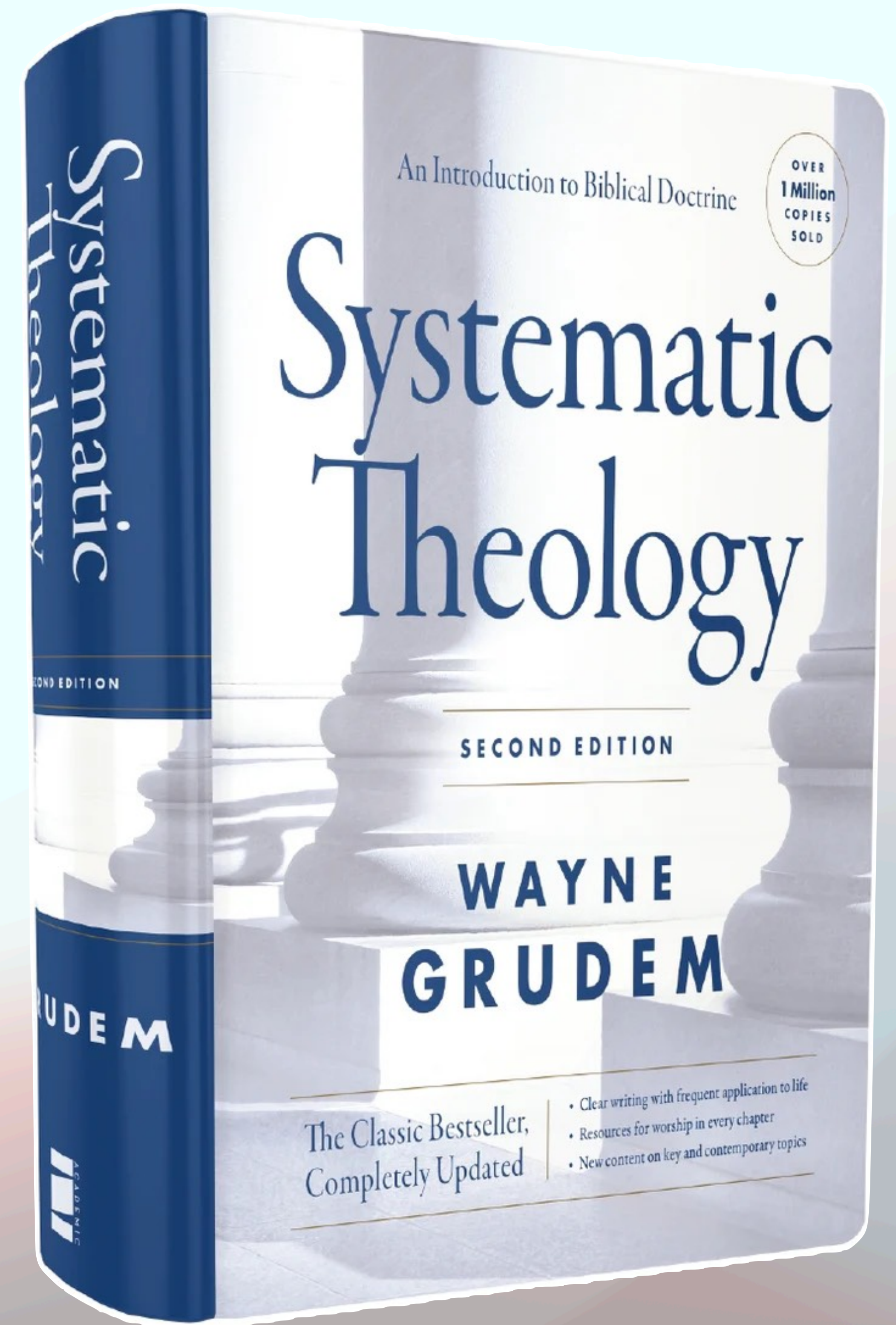
- Chapter 4 #1 Authority
- Chapter 5 Inerrancy of Scripture
- Chapter 6 #2 Clarity
- Chapter 7 #3 Necessity
- Chapter 8 #4 Sufficiency



Systematic Theology

Part two: The Doctrine of God

- ✓ • Chapter 9 The Existence of God
- ✓ • Chapter 10 The Knowability of God
- ✓ • Chapter 11 The Character of God:
“Incommunicable” Attributes



Systematic Theology

Part two: The Doctrine of God



- Chapter 9 The Existence of God



- Chapter 10 The Knowability of God



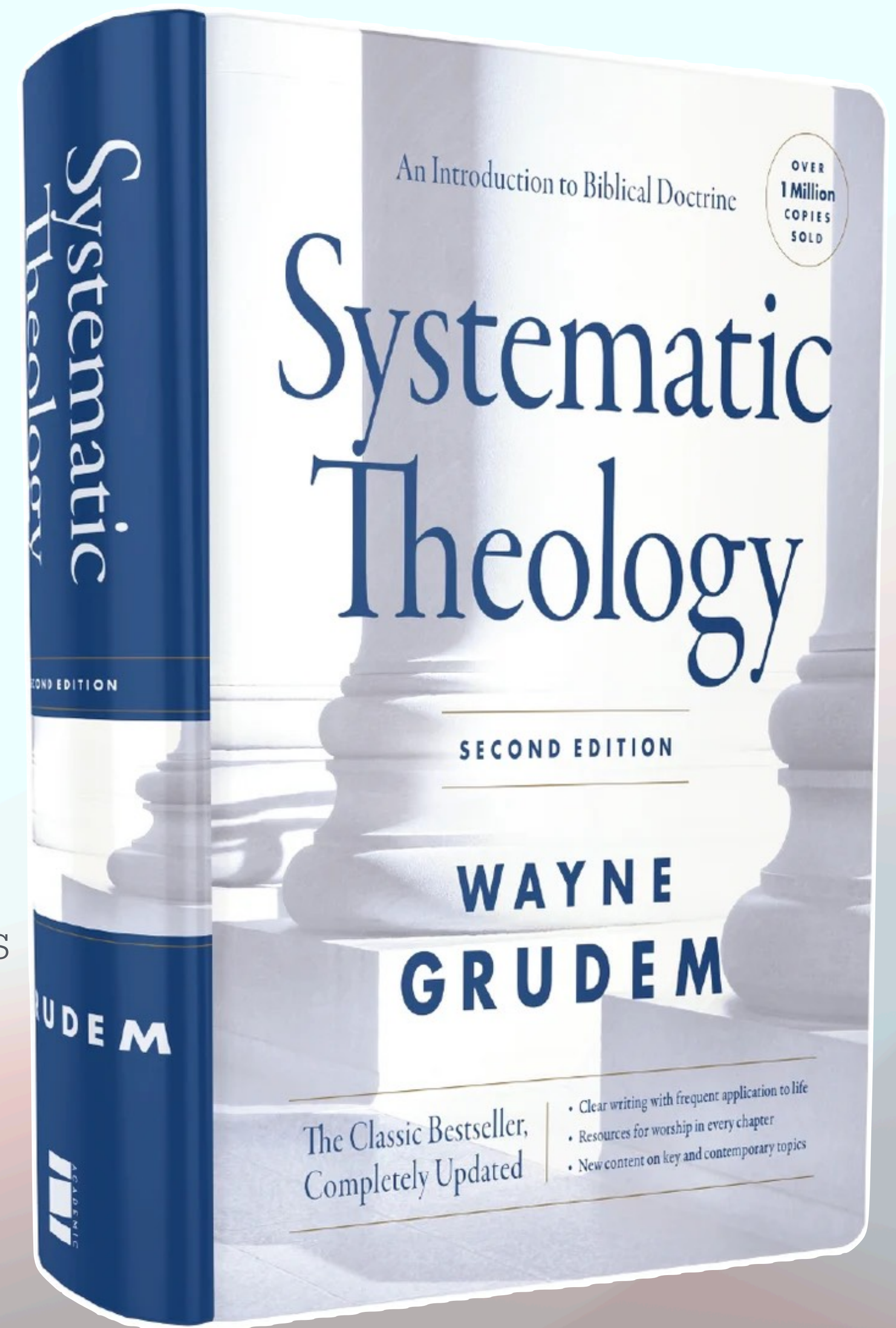
- Chapter 11 The Character of God: “Incommunicable” Attributes



- Chapter 12 The Character of God: “Communicable” Attributes (Part 1)

How is God like us in his being and in mental and moral attributes?

- Chapter 13 The Character of God: “Communicable” Attributes (Part 2)



Our goal is to look at the “entire and wholly integrated person of God” (p. 219).

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)
4. Wisdom
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy
13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

God's communicable attributes are to be imitated in our lives. (p. 220)

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality

Mental Attributes

2. Invisibility
3. Knowledge (or omniscience)
4. Wisdom
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy
13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

Jesus says, "God is spirit." John 4:24

God does not have size or dimension, He is infinitely large (p. 221)

God's being, His essential mode of existence, is different from everything that he has created. (p. 221).

God's spirituality means that God exists as a being that is not made of any matter, has no parts or dimensions, He is unable to be perceived by our bodily senses, and is more excellent than any other kind of existence. (p. 222).

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality

2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)

4. Wisdom

5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness

7. Love

8. Mercy, Grace, Patience

9. Holiness

10. Peace

11. Righteousness, Justice

12. Jealousy

13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will

15. Freedom

16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection

18. Blessedness

19. Beauty

20. Glory

John 6:46

Jesus says, "Not that anyone has seen the Father except he who is from God; he has seen the Father."

John 1:18 and 1 John 4:12

No one has ever seen God.

1 Timothy 1:17

To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

- 3. Knowledge (or omniscience)**
4. Wisdom
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy
13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

God knows Himself: The Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God (1 Cor. 2:10-11).

God knows all actual things: Your eyes saw my unformed body; in Your book were written every one of my ordained days, before any existed (Ps. 139:16).

God knows all possible things: 'For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so My ways are higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts' (Isa. 55:9).

God is always aware of everything: He always knows all things at once. All of these facts and all other things that he knows are always fully present in his consciousness. (p. 227).

Does God know future human
choices?

If God knows our future choices, how can they be free?

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)
4. **Wisdom**
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy
13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)
4. Wisdom
5. **Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)**

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice

Attributes of Purpose

12. Jealousy
13. Wrath
14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

God's truthfulness means that he is the true God, and all his knowledge and words are both true and the final standard of truth (p. 233).

The LORD is the true God; he is the living God and the everlasting King... The gods who did not make the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth and from under the heavens
(Jer. 10:10–11)

Jesus says to his Father, "And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent"
(John 17:3; cf. 1 John 5:20).

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)
4. Wisdom
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. **Goodness**
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy
13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

The goodness of God means that God is the final standard of good, and all that God is and does is worthy of approval (p. 236).

No one is good except God alone.
(Luke 18:19)

The Psalms frequently affirm that “the LORD is good” (Ps. 100:5) or exclaim, “Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good” (Pss. 106:1; 107:1, et al.).

David encourages us, “Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!”
(Ps. 34:8)

God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.
(Gen. 1:31)

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality

2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)

4. Wisdom

5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness

7. **Love**

8. Mercy, Grace, Patience

9. Holiness

10. Peace

11. Righteousness, Justice

12. Jealousy

13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will

15. Freedom

16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection

18. Blessedness

19. Beauty

20. Glory

God's love means that God eternally gives of himself to others. (p. 237).

God is love.
(1 John 4:8)

I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father.
(John 14:31)

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.
(1 John 4:10)

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)
4. Wisdom
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
- 8. Mercy, Grace, Patience**
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy
13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

God's mercy means God's goodness toward those in misery and distress.

God's grace means God's goodness toward those who deserve only punishment.

God's patience means God's goodness in withholding of punishment toward those who sin over a period of time (p. 239).

How can we apply God's attributes
of mercy, grace, and patience?

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality

2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)

4. Wisdom

5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness

7. Love

8. Mercy, Grace, Patience

9. Holiness

10. Peace

11. Righteousness, Justice

12. Jealousy

13. Wrath

14. Will

15. Freedom

Attributes of Purpose

16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

17. Perfection

Summary Attributes

18. Blessedness

19. Beauty

20. Glory

God's holiness means that he is separated from sin and devoted to seeking his own honor (p. 240).

The seraphim around God's throne cry, "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory" (Isa. 6:3). (p. 241).

God's holiness provides the pattern for his people to imitate. He commands them, "You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy" (Lev. 19:2) (p. 241).

Let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God. (2 Cor. 7:1)

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)
4. Wisdom
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
- 10. Peace (or Order)**
11. Righteousness, Justice

Attributes of Purpose

12. Jealousy
13. Wrath
14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

God's peace means that in God's being and in his actions he is separate from all confusion and disorder, yet he is continually active in innumerable well-ordered, fully controlled, simultaneous actions (p. 243).

God is not a God of confusion but of peace.
(1 Cor. 14:33)

In the Old Testament, the peace that God gives is described with the rich and full concept of the Hebrew term shalom, meaning "peace" with an overall sense of well-being in all situations and relationships (p. 242).

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)
4. Wisdom
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
- 11. Righteousness, Justice**

Attributes of Purpose

12. Jealousy
13. Wrath
14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

God's righteousness means that God always acts in accordance with what is right and is himself the final standard of what is right (p. 243).

All his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is he.

(Deut. 32:4)

As a result of God's righteousness (or justice), it is necessary that he treat people according to what they deserve. Thus it is necessary that God punish sin, for it does not deserve reward; it is wrong and deserves punishment (p. 243).

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)
4. Wisdom
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice

12. Jealousy

13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

Paul says to the Corinthians, "I feel a divine jealousy for you" (2 Cor. 11:2). Here the sense is "earnestly protective or watchful." It has the meaning of being deeply committed to seeking the honor or welfare of someone, whether oneself or someone else (p. 245).

He commands his people not to bow down to idols or serve them, saying, "for I the LORD your God am a jealous God" (Ex. 20:5). He desires that worship be given to himself and not to false gods (p. 245).

God's jealousy means that God continually seeks to protect his own honor (p. 245).

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)
4. Wisdom
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy

13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

God's wrath means that he intensely hates all sin (p. 245).

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men.

(Rom. 1:18)

Remember and do not forget how you provoked the LORD your God to wrath in the wilderness... Even at Horeb you provoked the LORD to wrath, and the LORD was so angry with you that he was ready to destroy you.

(Deut. 9:7-8)

God's being

1. Spirituality

2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)

4. Wisdom

5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness

7. Love

8. Mercy, Grace, Patience

9. Holiness

10. Peace

11. Righteousness, Justice

12. Jealousy

13. Wrath

How shall we live as imitators of God based on what we have learned?

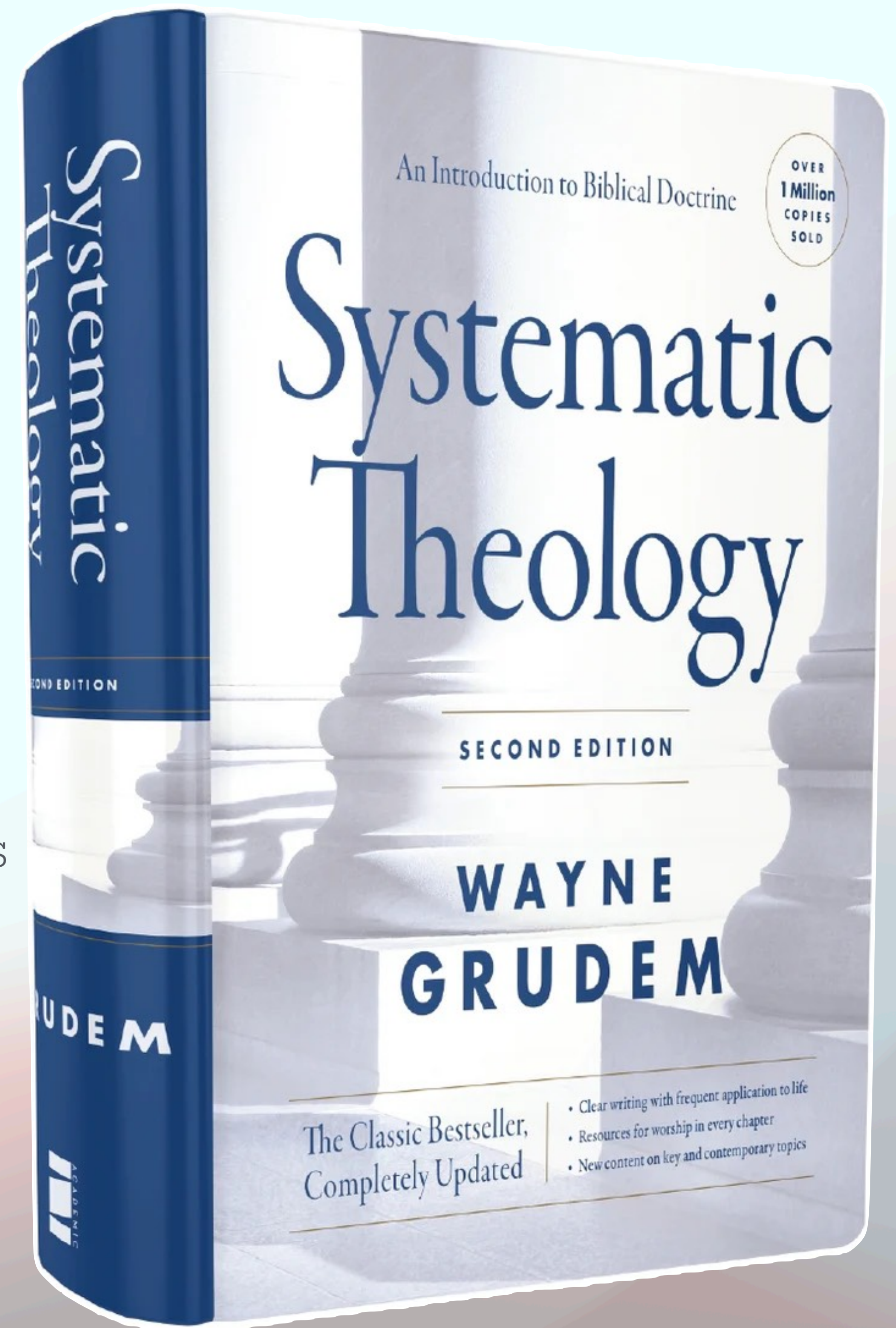
Personal takeaways?

Systematic Theology

Part two: The Doctrine of God

- ✓ Chapter 9 The Existence of God
- ✓ Chapter 10 The Knowability of God
- ✓ Chapter 11 The Character of God: “Incommunicable” Attributes
- ✓ Chapter 12 The Character of God: “Communicable” Attributes (Part 1)
- ✓ Chapter 13 The Character of God: “Communicable” Attributes (Part 2)

How is God like us in attributes of will and in attributes that summarize his excellence?



Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)
4. Wisdom
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy
13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

- 14. Will**
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)
17. Perfection

Summary Attributes

18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

God's will is that attribute of God whereby he approves and determines to bring about every action necessary for the existence and activity of himself and all creation (p. 252).

God's will in general

The final or most ultimate reason for everything that happens (p. 252).

Paul refers to God as the one "who works all things according to the counsel of his will" (Eph. 1:11) (p. 252).

For you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created (Rev. 4:11)

James encourages us to see all the events of our lives as subject to God's will. To those who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit," James says, "you do not know what tomorrow will bring... Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that' " (James 4:13-15) (p. 253).

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

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2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

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Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy
13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

- 14. Will**
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)
17. Perfection

Summary Attributes

18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

Distinctions in aspects of God's will

God's necessary will:

Includes everything that he must will according to his own nature (p. 254).

God's free will:

Includes all things that God decided to will but had no necessity to will according to his nature (p. 254).

God's secret and revealed wills:

The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.

(Deut. 29:29)

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

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Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy
13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will
- 15. Freedom**
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

God's freedom is that attribute of God whereby he does whatever he pleases (p. 257).

Nebuchadnezzar learns in his repentance that it is true to say of God, "he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, 'What have you done?'" (Dan. 4:35) (p. 258).

Because God is free, we should not try to seek any more ultimate answer for God's actions in creation than the fact that he willed to do something and that his will has perfect freedom (so long as the actions he takes are consistent with his own moral character) (p. 258).

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)
4. Wisdom
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy
13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will
15. Freedom

16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

God's omnipotence means that God is able to do all his holy will (p. 258).

The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle! (Ps. 24:8).

Nothing is too hard for you (Jer. 32:17).

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

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4. Wisdom
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

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7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy
13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

- 17. Perfection**
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
20. Glory

God's perfection means that God completely possesses all excellent qualities and lacks no part of any qualities that would be desirable for him (p. 260).

Jesus tells us, "You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matt. 5:48).

And David says of God, "His way is perfect" (Ps. 18:30).

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)
4. Wisdom
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy
13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)
17. Perfection

Summary Attributes

- 18. Blessedness**
19. Beauty
20. Glory

God's blessedness means that God delights fully in himself and in all that reflects his character (p. 260).

We imitate God's blessedness when we find delight and happiness in all that is pleasing to God, both those aspects of our own lives that are pleasing to God and the deeds of others (p. 261).

For from him and through him and to him are all things.
To him be glory forever (Rom. 11:36).

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

1. Spirituality
2. Invisibility

Mental Attributes

3. Knowledge (or omniscience)
4. Wisdom
5. Truthfulness (and Faithfulness)

Moral Attributes

6. Goodness
7. Love
8. Mercy, Grace, Patience
9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy
13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)
17. Perfection

Summary Attributes

18. Blessedness
- 19. Beauty**
20. Glory

The attribute of God whereby he is the sum of all desirable qualities (p. 261).

In Psalm 27:4: "One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple."

We reflect God's beauty in our own lives when we exhibit conduct that is pleasing to him. Thus Peter tells wives in the churches to which he writes that their "adorning" (that is, their source of beauty) should be "the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious" (1 Pet. 3:4) (p. 262).

We also delight in God's excellence as we see it manifested in the lives of our brothers and sisters in the Lord (p. 262).

Communicable Attributes of God

God's being

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Mental Attributes

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Moral Attributes

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9. Holiness
10. Peace
11. Righteousness, Justice
12. Jealousy
13. Wrath

Attributes of Purpose

14. Will
15. Freedom
16. Omnipotence (or power, and sovereignty)

Summary Attributes

17. Perfection
18. Blessedness
19. Beauty
- 20. Glory**

God's glory is the created brightness that surrounds God's revelation of himself (p. 263).

Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory! Ps. 24:10).

O LORD my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment (Ps. 104:1-2).

And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear (Luke 2:9).

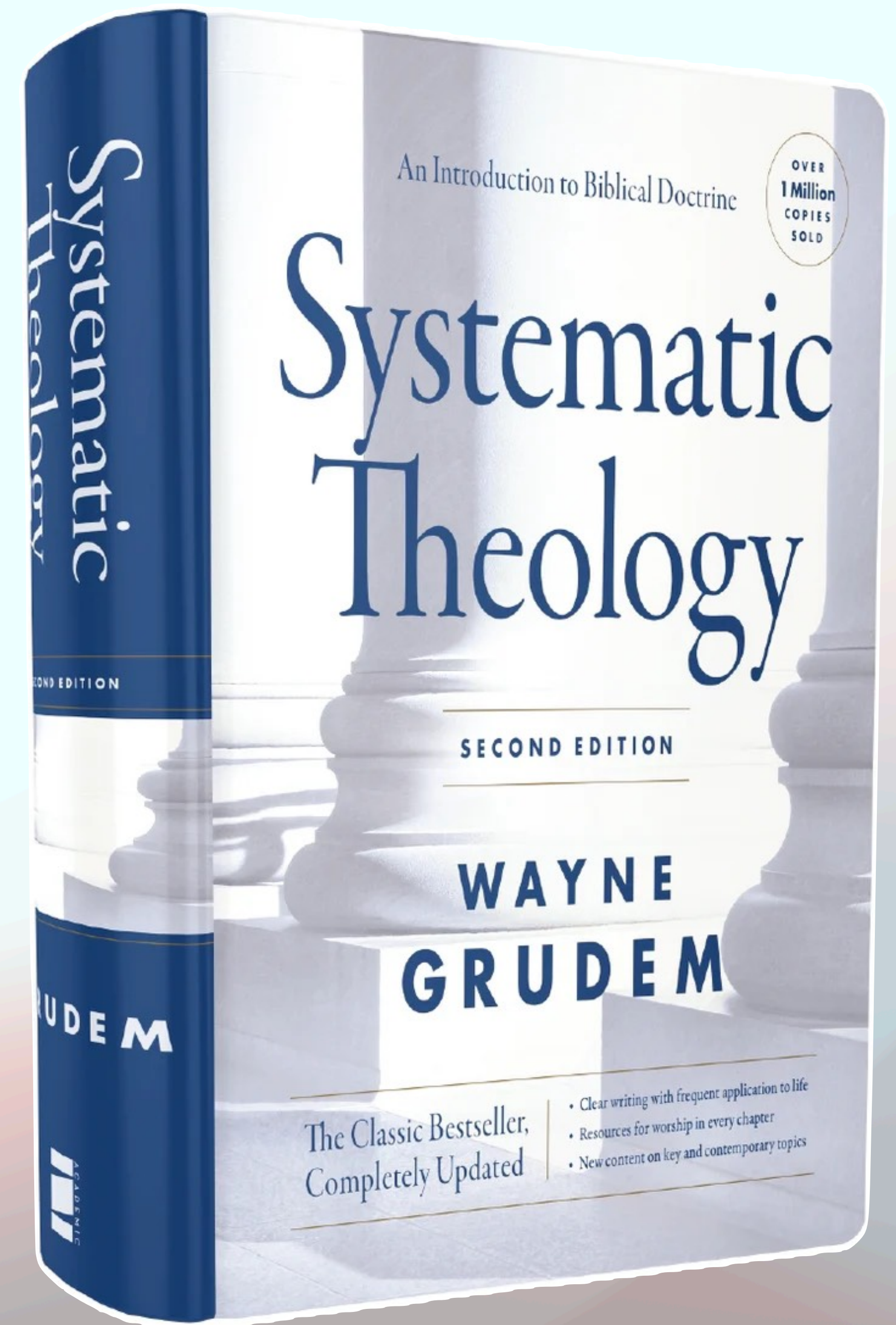
Though we do not now find ourselves surrounded by a visible light, there is often a brightness, a splendor, or a beauty about the manner of life of a person who deeply loves God, and it is often evident to those around such a person.
(pp. 263-264).

Are you such a person? Am I?

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Reading for next week
Chapter 14