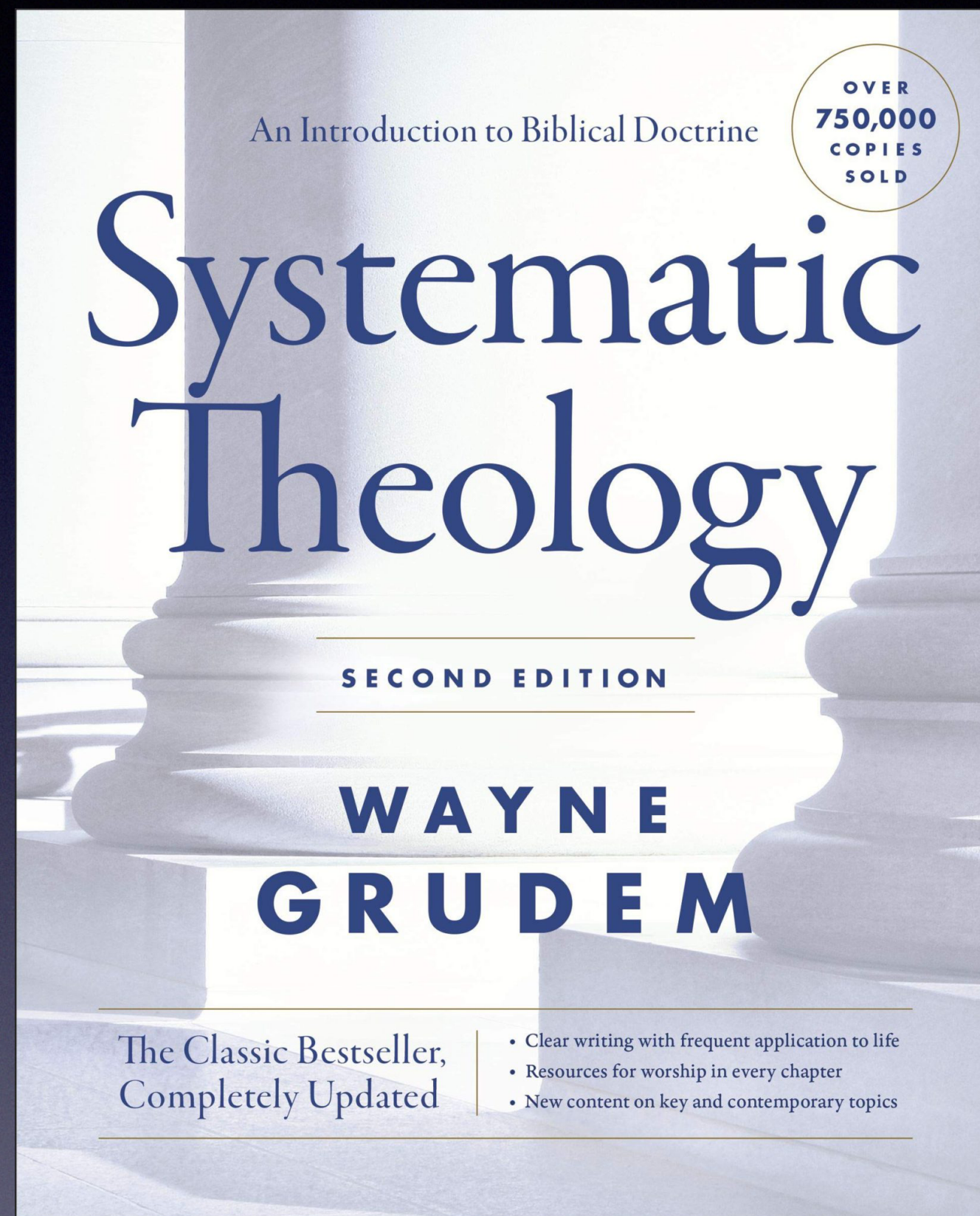




# Systematic Theology II

(Jesus & Salvation)

Today: Calling, Regeneration, Conversion



# Differences Between the General/Gospel Call & the Special/Effective Call

- The general call is human action. Effective calling is God's action working through the general call; secretly and mysteriously, but powerfully.
- The general call goes to all people, but the effective call of God goes to particular people whereby He awakens them to salvation.
- The general call is external and it does not penetrate to the deepest recesses of a person's heart and soul, but the effective call is internal and brings about an internal change in people.
- The general call is often rejected, but the effective call of God is always effective and powerful.



# The Process of Salvation: **Calling — The General Call**

Isaiah 45:22 ESV

“Turn to me and be saved,  
all the ends of the earth!  
For I am God, and there is no other.



# The Process of Salvation: **Calling** — **The General Call**

Isaiah 55:1a ESV

“Come, everyone who thirsts,  
come to the waters. . .



# The Process of Salvation: **Calling — The General Call**

Matthew 11:28 ESV

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.



# The Process of Salvation: **Calling — The General Call**

John 7:37 ESV

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink.”



# The Process of Salvation: **Calling — The General Call**

Revelation 22:17 ESV

The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.



# The Process of Salvation: **Calling — The Effective Call**

## Definition:

Effective calling is an act of God the Father, speaking through the human proclamation of the gospel, in which He summons people to Himself in such a way that they respond in saving faith.

(Grudem, *Systematic Theology*)



# The Process of Salvation: **Calling — The Effectual Call**

Romans 8:30 ESV

And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.



# The Process of Salvation: **Calling — The Effectual Call**

1 Corinthians 1:9 ESV

God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.



## The Process of Salvation: **Calling — The Effectual Call**

1 Corinthians 1:23—24 ESV

23 but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles,

24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.



## The Process of Salvation: **Calling — The Effectual Call**

Romans 9:22—24 ESV

22 What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction,

23 in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory—

24 even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles?



## The Process of Salvation: **Regeneration (New Life)**

Definition:

Regeneration is a secret act of God in which He imparts new spiritual life to us.

(Grudem, *Systematic Theology*)



## The Process of Salvation: **Regeneration (New Life)**

2 Corinthians 4:4 ESV

In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.



## The Process of Salvation: **Regeneration (New Life)**

Acts 26:16—18 ESV

16 But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you,

17 delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you

18 to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'



## The Process of Salvation: **Regeneration (New Life)**

John 1:12—13 ESV

12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,

13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.



# The Process of Salvation: **Regeneration (New Life)**

John 3:3 ESV

Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”



## The Process of Salvation: **Regeneration (New Life)**

Titus 3:5 ESV

he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,



# The Process of Salvation: **Regeneration (New Life)**

1 John 2:29 ESV

If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.



## The Process of Salvation: **Regeneration (New Life)**

1 John 3:9 ESV

No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God.



## The Process of Salvation: **Regeneration (New Life)**

1 John 5:1 ESV

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him.



## The Process of Salvation: **Conversion (New Direction)**

Definition:

Conversion is our willing response to the gospel call, in which we sincerely repent of sins and place our trust (faith) in Christ for salvation.

(Grudem, *Systematic Theology*)



## The Process of Salvation: **Conversion (New Direction)**

2 Timothy 1:12—13 ESV

12 which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me.

13 Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.



## The Process of Salvation: **Conversion (New Direction)**

1 Thessalonians 4:13—14 ESV

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.

14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.



## The Process of Salvation: **Conversion (New Direction)**

### 2 Corinthians 7:9—11 ESV

9 As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us.

10 For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.

11 For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter.







