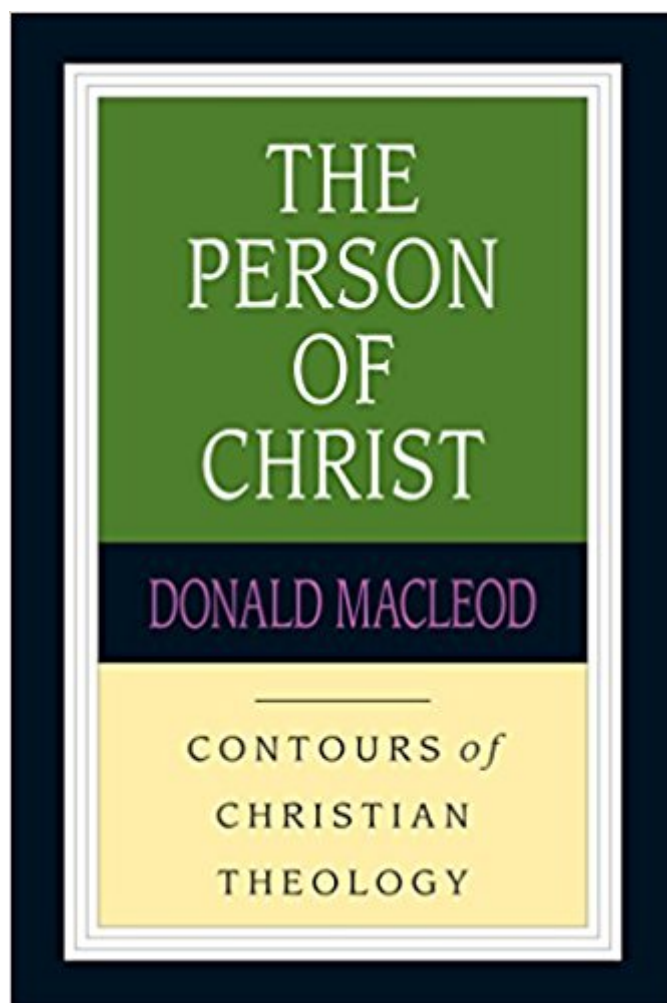


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The Person Of Christ (Contours Of Christian Theology)



Synopsis

Throughout the history of the church the doctrine of the person of Christ has been a centerpiece of theological reflection. In *The Person of Christ* Donald Macleod rearticulates this multifaceted doctrine. He begins with the New Testament and recent attempts to understand its Christology. Macleod then turns his attention to Christ in the history of Christian theology, examining the principal issues extending from Arianism in the fourth century to kenotic Christology in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries to the current debate over the uniqueness of Christ. *The Person of Christ* is a valuable point of entrance and a biblical assessment of the full panorama of issues that have shaped orthodox confessions of Christ through the centuries. The pathway of Christian revelation and tradition is clearly charted, with hazards new and old carefully marked.

Book Information

Series: *Contours of Christian Theology*

Paperback: 303 pages

Publisher: IVP Academic; unknown edition (December 6, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9780830815371

ISBN-13: 978-0830815371

ASIN: 0830815376

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 17 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #261,885 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #229 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Theology > Systematic](#) #536 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Theology > Christology](#) #6029 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Theology](#)

Customer Reviews

"This series has been around for over a decade now and has established itself as providing learned yet accessible treatments of key topics in systematic theology. The authors are not only fine theological thinkers, they are also passionate churchmen with a love for God's people and a desire to see the church grow in her knowledge of grace. Each volume blends exegesis, theological synthesis and judicious dialogue with the history of theology to provide an excellent treatment of the chosen topic. Highly recommended for thoughtful Christians who want to deepen their knowledge of

Christian theology." (Carl R. Trueman, Paul Woolley Professor of Church History, Westminster Theological Seminary)"Read everything in the IVP Contours of Theology series. Pure gold." (Kevin DeYoung, senior pastor at University Reformed Church in East Lansing, Michigan)

Donald Macleod (MA, University of Glasgow; DD, Westminster Theological Seminary), now retired, served as professor and chair of systematic theology at the Free Church of Scotland College in Edinburgh and also as the school's principal. He pastored Kilmallie Free Church for six years and also served at Patrick Highland Free Church, a bi-lingual congregation in Glasgow, Scotland. He is well known as a previous editor of The Monthly Record of the Free Church and as a columnist in the West Highland Free Press and The Observer newspaper.

Donald Macleod offers a faithful presentation of orthodox Christology. It was hard for me to rate this at three stars because the subject matter is so important and central. Macleod is also very effective, scholarly, and faithful in biblical, orthodox Christology, but I had some pain points that made this book not very enjoyable for me.¹ It is very scholarly. Macleod is obviously brilliant. He's a retired Systematic Theology professor and principal, where he taught for over three decades. But he often uses infrequently used terms, and doesn't define them. He clearly has an apologetic emphasis, particularly against liberalism. This is very helpful and necessary. But his style here is a bit inaccessible, even to seminarians.² The material, though related, occasionally seems disjointed. Each chapter appears to stand-alone, almost as if these were originally given as lectures. This makes it a little hard on occasion to link a few of the chapters with a preceding or following chapter.³ Peccability vs. Impeccability: Macleod assumes impeccability, but gives precious little space defending this view. I was truly looking forward to a robust defense, but was disappointed with only one page or so of implications for (rather than a reasonable explanation of) the impeccability view. All in all, this is a very good book on Christ steeped in Scripture and historic Christian orthodoxy. Macleod engages scholars fairly and carefully, not holding back from exposing their logical inconsistencies. He aptly upholds Chalcedonian Christology in all its fullness, responding to criticisms from liberal scholars. It may be a tough read, especially for this seminarian, but I would certainly read it again. I recommend it to all.

Macleod is one of the clearest, most thorough, and provocative (in the good sense of the word) theologians today. He interacts with theologians, ancient and modern, and lays out the biblical case for what the Holy Scriptures teach about the person of Jesus Christ. Whether you disagree or agree,

you will not regret a penny you spent in buying this book. For that matter, buy everything Macleod has written.

Scholarly, moving, and passionate about the truth, nothing isn't gone into with real depth, perspective, and clarity. I relish this book

After more than a decade Macleod's *The Person of Christ* remains the best introduction to Christology. Macleod surveys Ancient and Modern reflections on these important doctrines, while offering insightful interaction and synthesis. This text remains useful in the seminary classroom and in the Church.

like

A wide ranging, sometimes meandering, yet stunningly comprehensive introduction to the Christian doctrine of the Incarnation. This volume requires some patience as MacLeod articulates the doctrine through polemics with critics and revisionists. While this style is very informative and educational, it does have the trap of getting bogged down in details and sometimes misses the forest for the trees (this is especially true of the chapter on pre-existence). While some of the language isn't as precise as I would like it to be, I found much of his discussion to be helpful and invigorating. After finishing this book, the dedicated reader will only want to dig deeper into this glorious subject; and that should be no small compliment to the author, because studying the Incarnation can be daunting and sometimes discouraging to study.

Excellent book.

This book is very good for my spiritual life.

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