

Who is Robert Jenson?

An American Lutheran theologian of international ecumenical stature, Robert W. Jenson has devoted nearly fifty years as a professional theologian to delineating a consistently evangelical doctrine of God. In doing so, his theological program provides one of contemporary theology's most sophisticated, comprehensive and creative responses to many of the questions that [Karl] Barth poses for a trinitarian dogmatics. Unfortunately, Jenson's theology is only beginning to receive the critical attention it deserves. As David Bentley Hart observes, Jenson's "thought is too little taught and too little studied; too few dissertations engage his ideas; not nearly enough attention is paid to his contributions to modern dogmatics; and too little pride is taken in the dignity his work lends to American theology" ("The Lively God of Robert Jenson," *First Things* 156 [October 2005]).

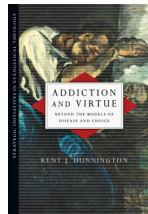
The God of the Gospel: Robert Jenson's Trinitarian Theology
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This is a lamentable situation, not only because a theologian of Jenson's stature remains so largely neglected, but also because of the nature of his proposal. The present study hopes to remedy this situation, at least in part, by rendering a critical exposition of his account of "God according to the gospel" (this phrase is the subtitle of Jenson's first full monograph devoted to the doctrine of the Trinity, *The Triune Identity: God According to the Gospel* [Philadelphia: Fortress, 1982]). The intention is not merely descriptive, however. Engaging Jenson's doctrine of God provides both stimulus and occasion for outlining my own constructive response to the topic under consideration, the relationship between God's triune being and his triune self-determination to be our God through the gospel.

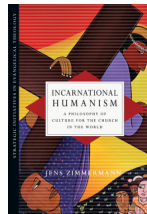
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— Adapted from chapter one, "The Question Stated"

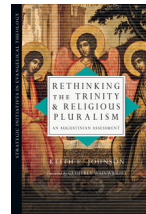
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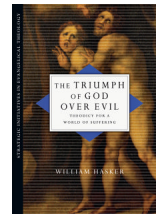
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