

*Theologygrams: Theology
Explained in Diagrams*

Available November 14, 2017

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978-0-8308-5202-4

Rich Wyld is the author behind the popular popular *Theologygrams* blog. Here he has collected a selection of diagrams – in full color – that will appeal to the theologian and the non-specialist reader alike. Clever, cheeky, and genuinely instructive, this little book will be appreciated by anyone who doesn't take too seriously our human efforts to explain the things of faith.

Moving from the Old Testament to the New, covering historical figures and modern-day questions about the Bible, *Theologygrams* provides an amusing, intelligent, and visual way of thinking about theology.

What is a theologygram?

Psalm 1 suggests that it is wise to meditate on the law of the Lord but foolish to sit in the seat of mockery. This book comes dangerously close to doing both, so a little introduction might be handy. On the one hand, these diagrams offer a visual way of thinking about theology. They move from Old Testament to the New, through some historical figures and up to modern day questions about the Bible, ethics and so on. On the other hand, this is quite a silly book about some quite serious stuff, but the intention is never to mock or belittle God, theology, the Bible or the Church.

As this collection is random at best, where a Bible verse is given I'd encourage the reader to look up the passage in question; each diagram is only a commentary, and so the passage will have more to say than can be captured in one image. Indeed, I hope that for the whole book, some of these diagrams will inspire (or irritate?) you to look further into some subject or other that grabs you.

At best, the sillier side of the book might help us not to take too seriously our human efforts to explain things. The importance of this has something to do with human nature, but as I haven't worked out how to put that into a diagram I won't say any more about it here. At the very least, I hope this book is mildly diverting. Beyond that, I hope it might spark fresh questions and thoughts. Beyond THAT, I hope it will be a bestseller. But I'll settle for mildly diverting.

– Taken from the introduction

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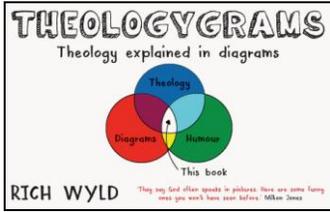


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An Amusing Look at Theology

"They say God often speaks in pictures. Here are some funny ones you won't have seen before."

—Milton Jones

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Rich Wyld is a priest in the Church of England and lives in Dorset with his wife and two comedy dogs. He has a PhD from Durham University and is fascinated by the study of biblical interpretation. He is a keen walker and guitarist, and hopes someday to be an internationally acclaimed rock star. See more at theologygrams.wordpress.com or follow Rich on Twitter: @everybodyisi.

PSALM 150

I've sometimes noticed debate between people who like modern worship songs in Church, and people who like more traditional hymns. Sometimes, there is a temptation to knock modern songs for their lack of sophistication in the lyric department. As I fall into this temptation, it helps me to recall this psalm which is, in the end, refreshingly to the point.

I actually play the banjo, just in case you were offended.

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ECCLESIASTES PIE CHART, PART I

Ecclesiastes is by any reckoning a fairly gloomy phase in the wisdom tradition, though it can actually be a source of comfort for people who can relate to the Teacher (the author of the book, sometimes called Qoholeth). Other wisdom texts include Proverbs, Wisdom, Sirach and James. This diagram visualises the basic thrust of Ecclesiastes 1.14. And most of the rest of the book.

