

Chichester Diocesan Synod

12 November 2016



Aims

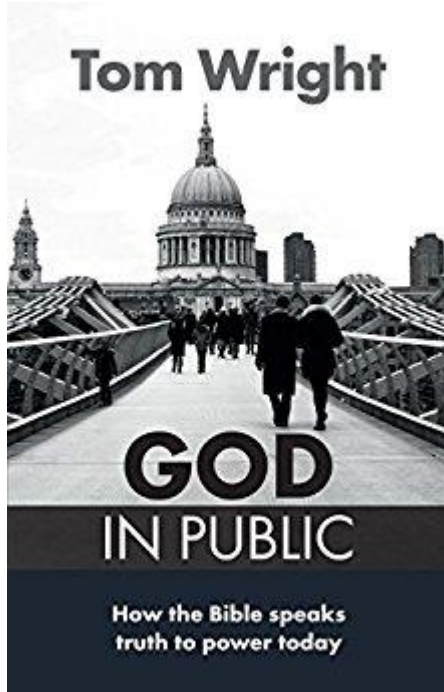
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Engagement

Launch Events

- ▶ ‘Soft launch’ Diocesan Synod, November 12th
- ▶ Parish Launch, Advent 2, December 4th, 2016

*Blessed Lord, who caused all holy scriptures
to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and forever hold fast
the hope of eternal life
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen*

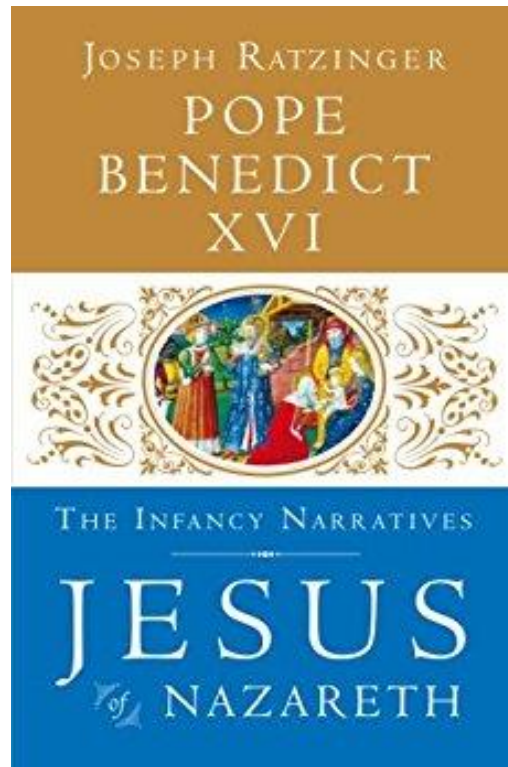
- ▶ Advent books



What has Christianity to do with power?
Why must the church remind those in authority of their responsibilities?
What can Christians do to act as the voice of the voiceless?
How can speaking of God in public help to create new structures of international justice and peace?

These are the central questions running through Tom Wright's latest book, in which he demonstrates the many ways in which faithful exegesis of scripture can throw fresh light – God's light – on the great philosophical and ethical problems of our day.

Publisher: SPCK (21 April 2016)
ISBN: 9780281074235



The momentous third and final volume in the Pope's international bestselling *Jesus of Nazareth* trilogy, detailing how the stories of Jesus' infancy and childhood are as relevant today as they were two thousand years ago.

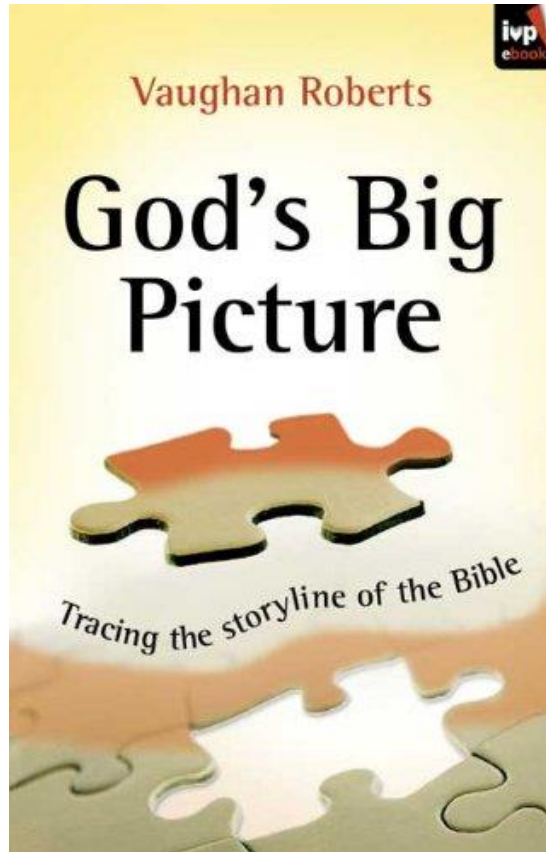
In 2007, Joseph Ratzinger published his first book as Pope Benedict XVI in order to 'make known the figure and message of Jesus'. Now the Pope focuses exclusively on the Gospel accounts of Jesus' life as a child. The root of these stories is the experience of hope found in the birth of Jesus and the affirmation of surrender and service embodied in his parents, Joseph and Mary. This is a story of longing and seeking, as demonstrated by the Magi searching for the redemption offered by the birth of a new king. It is a story of sacrifice and trusting completely in the wisdom of God as seen in the faith of Simeon, the just and the devout man of Jerusalem, when he is in the presence of the Christ child. Ultimately, Jesus' life and message is a story for today, one that speaks to the restlessness of the human heart searching for the sole truth which alone leads to profound joy and freedom.

This ostensibly simple message is also the most profound challenge to the individual human being at a time of unprecedented turbulence and change.

There is no greater vocation for a Pope than to preach the Gospel and this is what in this book Pope Benedict has done with conviction and urgency.

This new book is a masterpiece of its kind. –

Publisher: Burns and Oates
ISBN 9781408194546

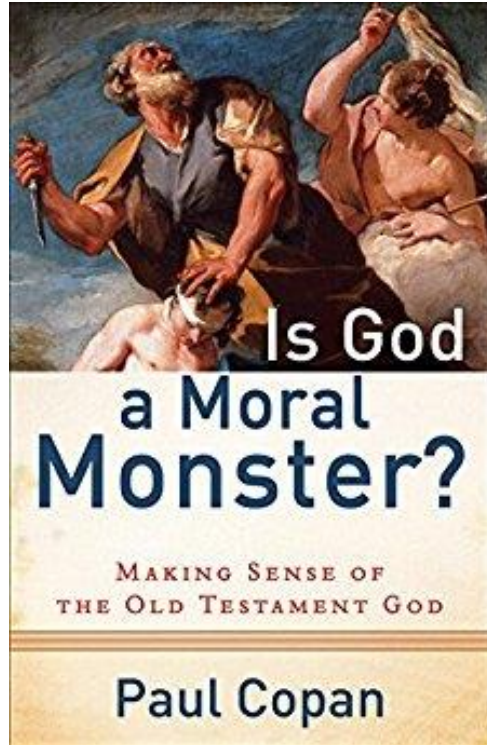


Sixty-six books written by forty people over nearly 2,000 years, in two languages and several different genres. A worldwide bestseller published in countless sizes and bindings, translations and languages. Sworn by in court, fought over by religious people, quoted in arguments.

The Bible is clearly no ordinary book.

How can you begin to read and understand it as a whole? In this excellent overview, Vaughan Roberts gives you the big picture--showing how the different parts of the Bible fit together under the theme of the kingdom of God. He provides both the encouragement and the tools to help you read the Bible with confidence and understanding. And he points you to the Bible's supreme subject, Jesus Christ, and the salvation God offers through him.

Publisher: Inter Varsity Press
ISBN-10: 0-8308-5364-2
ISBN-13: 978-0-8308-5364-9



Is the God of the Old Testament nothing but a bully, a murderer, and an oppressor?

Many today--even within the church--seem to think so. How are Christians to respond to such accusations? And how are we to reconcile the seemingly disconnected natures of God portrayed in the two testaments?

In this timely and readable book, apologist Paul Copan takes on some of the most vexing accusations of our time, including:

- God is arrogant and jealous
- God punishes people too harshly
- God is guilty of ethnic cleansing
- God oppresses women
- God endorses slavery
- Christianity causes violence

Copan not only answers the critics, he also shows how to read both the Old and New Testaments faithfully, seeing an unchanging, righteous, and loving God in both.

Publisher: Baker Publishing Group
ISBN: 9780801072758

Schools

- ▶ Schools' Art Competition
- ▶ Open the Book
- ▶ Understanding Christianity

Travelling Roadshows

- ▶ Exploring the Bible story - 12 presentations across the diocese
- ▶ Teaching days in the deaneries and at the Cathedral

Courses

- ▶ Lent Course, audio DVD and downloadable from the web:
Bible Overview, The Torah, The Prophets, Other Old Testament Writings, The Gospels and Acts, The New Testament Letters
- ▶ Further courses:
including The Bible Course: Get the Big Picture, Making Good Sense of the Bible, Lyfe

CME

- ▶ Archdeaconry Lectures for Clergy and Readers
 - The Bible and Science
 - The Bible and the Media
 - The Bible and Politics
 - Biblical Criticism in a Secular Culture
- ▶ Preaching the Word of God

Themed Events

- ▶ Parish themed events related to the Year of the Bible

Personal engagement

- ▶ Collaboration with Bible Reading Fellowship
- ▶ Resources for personal Bible reading and study