

**“Twelve Christian Theology Books that Every Church Library Should Have”**

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While the Bible is undoubtedly the most important “book” within any Christian’s library, we can also learn from the reflections of those who have walked before us in the faith. With that in mind, this list, while by no means exhaustive, gathers together works from some of the church’s greatest theologians. These works come from a variety of traditions (Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Protestant), different geographical locations, and various historical contexts (often during periods of great theological controversy). We may not agree with everything that these theologians had to say, but we can learn from them as we seek to know and love God.

1. Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*
2. Athanasius, *On the Incarnation of the Word*
3. The Cappadocian Fathers (Basil of Caesarea, Gregory of Nyssa, Gregory of Nazianzus), *Christology of the Later Fathers* (Library of Christian Classics)
4. Augustine, *Confessions*
5. Anselm, *Cur Deus Homo*
6. Thomas Aquinas, *Nature and Grace* (selections from the *Summa Theologiae*; Library of Christian Classics)
7. Julian of Norwich, *Revelations of Divine Love* (also called *Showings*)
8. Martin Luther, *Three Treatises*
9. John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*
10. Jonathan Edwards, *The Excellency of Christ*
11. Karl Barth, *Dogmatics in Outline*
12. C.S. Lewis, *The Abolition of Man*