



THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD
INTRODUCTION

commonground
church

GROUNDING 1

Overview of the written version of Michael Eaton's 'The Whole Counsel of God'
by Terran Williams

If you could listen to only one Bible teacher in the world, let it be Michael Eaton. Many enthusiastically affirm that he is one of the world's best Bible teachers. Judging by his impact upon my life and ministry, and his impact on our church, I certainly agree. Hundreds of thousands of hours studying God's word, and decades of preaching and church leadership experience in a diversity of cultures, as well as the writing of numerous books (including commentary on all 66 books of the Bible) have shaped him into the remarkable gift he now is.

And if you could listen to (or read) only one set of his recorded teachings, let it be 'The Whole Counsel of God'. In 2008 Eaton did 25 powerful talks in this series in Johannesburg at Cornerstone Church. What a stunning summary and 'taster' of his life's work this teaching is!

If there is any 'if only' in my Christian life it is this: 'if only' I had listened to and taken in this set of teachings earlier in my faith and ministry! I have wasted many years by having a defective (and sometimes damaging) doctrine in many areas of my faith and my ministry.

What a joy it has been writing his teaching down (as well as finding and including all the biblical references). My hope is that my written version of his teaching, supplementary to the sound recording of his teaching, will serve as a resource for all Christians and Christian leaders in the decades to come.

So comprehensive and essential is this set of teachings that the leadership team of our church have made it our basic theological course (we have called it 'Grounded'). All the supplementary resources to this course can be found on www.commongroundchurch.co.za (click on 'free resources' and then 'grounded course').

We've excluded his first four talks since they serve as an extended introduction. We felt it best to dive right into the body of his teachings. That is why we start with talk 5.

CONTENT OUTLINES OF TALKS 5-25 OF EATON'S **'THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD'**

CONTENTS OF 'THE TEACHING ABOUT GOD'

Part 1: Talk 5 (length: 52:16)

- A. The existence of God
- B. The know-ability of God

Part 2: Talk 6 (length: 53:03)

- C. The three-ness of God (the doctrine of the Trinity)
- D. The name and the names of the LORD

Part 3: Talk 7 (length: 57:46)

- E. The pictures or metaphors of God
- F. God's character – 12 descriptions

Part 4: first half of Talk 8 (length: 29:45)

- F cont'd. God's character, 17 more descriptions

CONTENTS OF 'THE TEACHING ABOUT CREATION'

Part 1: second half of Talk 8 (length: 26:47)

- Creation: a neglected doctrine
- The fact of creation

Part 2: Talk 9 (length 56:48)

- B. The fact of creation, cont'd
- Creation ordinances

Part 3: Talk 10 (length 67:13)

- Creation ordinances, cont'd
- The character of creation
- The significance of creation

CONTENTS OF 'THE TEACHING ABOUT HUMANITY'

Part 1: Talk 11 (length: 54:54)

Intro

We are made in the image of God (14:00)

Part 2: Talk 12 (length 51:12)

Aspects of man: body, soul, flesh, mind

Part 3: Talk 13 (length 54:45)

The fall of humankind: a verse-by-verse study of Romans 5:12-21

Part 4: Talk 14 (length 53:45)

The redemption of humankind: a verse-by-verse study of Romans 6:1-14

Part 5: Talk 15 (length 56:26)

The place of the law of Moses in the life of a Christian: including a verse-by-verse study of Romans 7

CONTENTS OF 'THE TEACHING ABOUT JESUS CHRIST'

Part 1: Talk 16 (length: 60:00)

Intro

The centrality of Christ

His life on earth according to the gospels

Part 2: Talk 17 (length: 59:47)

C. His life on earth according to the gospels, cont'd

D. Jesus claims about himself

Part 3: Talk 18 (length: 64:30)

A recap of the way the disciples experienced Jesus

Jesus' pre-existence

Jesus' virgin birth

H. Articulating Jesus' nature

Part 4: Talk 19 (length: 54:57)

The suffering and sympathy of Jesus

The centrality of the cross of Christ in the Old and New Testaments

Part 5: Talk 20 (length: 55:02)

Seven aspects of salvation Jesus achieved on the cross

The necessity of receiving salvation by faith

Part 6: The first few minutes of Talk 21 (length: 8:30)

M. The resurrection and ascension of Jesus

CONTENTS OF 'THE TEACHING ABOUT SALVATION'

Part 1: From 8,5 minutes into Talk 21 (length: 47:30)

Laying hold of initial salvation: introduction

Laying hold of salvation: salvation is all about Christ

Laying hold of salvation: salvation is by grace

Laying hold of salvation: salvation is by faith

Part 2: Talk 22 (length: 59:26)

Salvation as calling, drawing and new birth

Understanding the 'baptisms' of Hebrews 6

Part 3: Talk 23 (length: 54:44)

G. How repentance fits in with getting saved

H. Eternal security: the word 'salvation' can mean different things

I. Eternal security: loss of reward, but not loss of salvation

J. Eternal security: once saved, always saved

Part 4: Talk 24 (length: 51:52)

Eternal security: making sense of converts who fall away

L. Eternal security: making sense of the warning Scriptures

Eternal security: the doctrine of predestination

Part 5: Talk 25 (length: 54:21)

N. Three ways to know that we really are saved