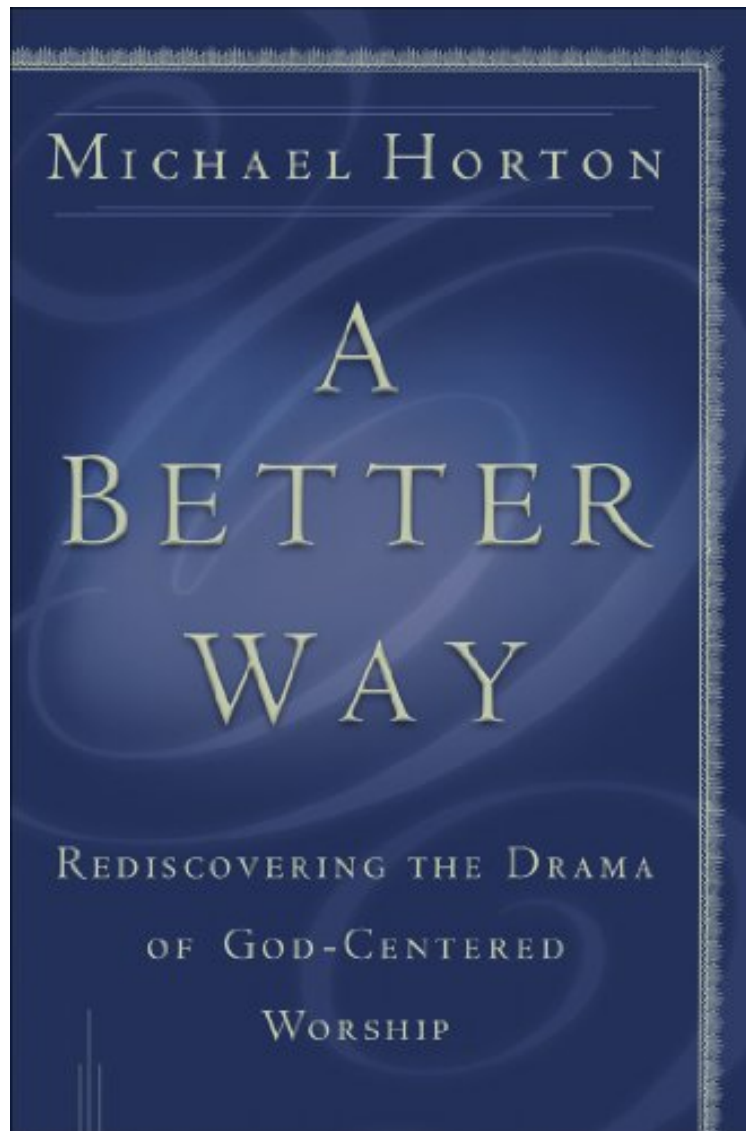


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A Better Way: Rediscovering the Drama of God-Centered Worship

Michael Horton

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Michael Horton : A Better Way: Rediscovering the Drama of God-Centered Worship before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Better Way: Rediscovering the Drama of God-Centered Worship:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A Great Book on the Theology of Worship By Paul Kurtz Michael Horton's "A Better Way" lays out a theology of worship based on the drama of the creator God breaking into the realm of His creation to redeem man from the consequences of His sin. The stated thesis of the book is, "God has promised to save and keep his people through the means he has appointed and through no others; the ordinary means of grace are limited to the preached Word and the administered sacraments; God's rationale for

these means is made explicit in Scripture." Dr. Horton obviously believes that the Word and sacraments are the central aspects of our worship and I thought he made an excellent case for his thesis. The beginning of the book especially, makes the case that the above mentioned drama looks much like an ancient form of covenant known as a Suzerain treaty. In this form of covenant a greater king (the suzerain) would impose a treaty on a lesser king in which the great king promises to rescue/protect the lesser king and in return the lesser king gives his allegiance to the greater king. In God's drama, He is the suzerain and we are the subjects that have been rescued by Him and who owe Him our allegiance. Our worship services were then compared to covenant renewal ceremonies. The part of the book I found most interesting (and which made me wish I lived near a Reformed church) was chapter 9, "What Should Our Service Look Like?" This chapter described the elements that should be present in our worship services if they are to be covenant renewal ceremonies. I found the last few chapters more difficult to digest and will not comment on them because I am not sure how well I have understood them. (I don't consider this a bad thing though. Trying to gain a better understanding gives me something to look forward to the next time I read this book.) Overall, I thought this was an excellent book and heartily recommend it! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An excellent book on reformed worship. By Lisa J This is an excellent book. I have been studying many aspects of reformed (Biblical) doctrine and all that I have learned and concluded about true Biblical worship is explained in superb detail in this book. Michael Horton perceptively describes how and why the condition of Christianity is so weak today. We are so conditioned by our consumer culture and enlightenment thinking that we have jettisoned tradition and liturgy as well as the purpose for them - truly meeting with God in our Lord's Day worship, our moments of heaven on earth. I struggle to afford books for myself, but I am planning to purchase copies of this one for friends and family. I have already mentioned it and recommended it to a number of people just in the last few days. It is a brilliant book. Thank you, Michael Horton. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Somewhat Disappointing By M. Baldanza Pastor Horton writes about a very relevant topic, but it was not his best. He should have gone more in depth in the subject and sometimes he deviates to secondary matters leaving a task unfinished. Better resources on the subject are: "Worship: The Ultimate Priority", "Ashamed of the Gospel", and "Simple Christianity", all by pastor John MacArthur.

Now in paper! "There is a distinct weariness with market-driven, showbiz worship. The pendulum has swung to the longing for transcendence, substance, challenge, and biblically driven worship. Michael Horton shows us the way." -- Robert Webber, president, Institute for Worship Studies; author of *Ancient-Future Faith* "Horton's enlivening wisdom is surely a godsend to all evangelicals." -- J. I. Packer, Regent College

"There is a distinct weariness with market-driven, showbiz worship. The pendulum has swung to the longing for transcendence, substance, challenge, and biblically driven worship. Michael Horton shows us the way." "Horton's enlivening wisdom is surely a godsend to all evangelicals." From the Back Cover The Rev. Michael S. Horton (Ph.D.) is president of the Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals and editor of *Modern Reformation* magazine. A minister in the United Reformed Churches in North America (URCNA), Horton lives in Escondido, California. About the Author The Rev. Michael S. Horton (Ph.D.) is associate professor of historical theology and apologetics at Westminster Theological Seminary in California. He is also president of the Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals, editor of *Modern Reformation* magazine, and the author of numerous books and articles, including his latest two: *Covenant and Eschatology* (Westminster John Knox) and *A Better Way* (Baker). A minister in the United Reformed Churches in North America (URCNA), Michael has served two churches in southern California and now resides with his wife, Lisa, and son, James, in Escondido, California.