

Common Grace (Volume 1): God's Gifts for a Fallen World (Abraham Kuyper Collected Works in Public Theology)

By Abraham Kuyper



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In *Common Grace* Abraham Kuyper presents to the church a vision for cultural engagement rooted in the humanity Christians share with the rest of the world.

Kuyper fills a gap in the development of Reformed teaching on divine grace, and he articulates a Reformed understanding of God's gifts that are common to all people after the fall into sin. This first volume contains Kuyper's demonstration of the biblical basis for common grace and how it works.

This new translation of *Common Grace*, created in partnership with the Kuyper Translation Society and the Acton Institute, is part of a major series of new translations of Kuyper's most important writings. The Abraham Kuyper Collected Works in Public Theology marks a historic moment in Kuyper studies, aimed at deepening and enriching the church's development of public theology.



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Editorial Review

Review

"Abraham Kuyper's *Common Grace* is founded on a deep devotion to the notions of God's sovereignty and our obligation to participate in the divine call to be obedient to the lordship of Jesus Christ in all areas of life. The release of this multi-volume series is timely because many Christians these days--Wesleyans, Baptists, Lutherans, Catholics, Mennonites, and others beyond the boundaries of Reformed/Presbyterian life and thought--are looking for resources for equipping Christians to find alternatives to the various 'world-flight' spiritualities that have long afflicted the broader Christian community. This work gives us a much-needed opportunity to absorb Kuyper's insights about God's marvelous designs for human cultural life."

--Richard J. Mouw, professor of faith and public life, Fuller Theological Seminary

"Abraham Kuyper was a profound theologian, an encyclopedic thinker, and a deeply spiritual man who believed that it is the believer's task 'to know God in all his works.' In a day when secular science is seeking to establish hegemony over all knowing, and when postmodern art is threatening to bring an end to art, Kuyper's solid, biblical insights can help to restore perspective and sanity to these two critical areas of human life."

--Chuck Colson, founder, Prison Fellowship and Colson Center for Christian Worldview

"God's redemption is as wide and high and deep as the expanse of his creation. This is the central message of Abraham Kuyper that has been heard anew by a generation of young evangelicals who have a new appreciation for the importance of Christian culture-making. This book is a wonderful way to meet Kuyper face to face and hear from him firsthand. I look forward to pointing friends and students to this wonderful anthology. It's just what we need."

--James K. A. Smith, The Gary and Henrietta Byker Chair in Applied Reformed Theology and Worldview, Calvin College

"Abraham Kuyper navigates with a sure hand on the tiller, taking us through the waters of culture, church and state, calling, and collaboration, with theological wisdom. Kuyper knows of no separation between warm piety and cultural commitment, nor of biblical texts and issues in the contemporary world. This fresh translation of *Common Grace* is a most welcome addition to the growing body of Kuyper's oeuvre available in English. No one wrestling with issues of church and society can afford to ignore it."

--William Edgar, professor of apologetics, Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia

"How do we make sense of the contributions of, say, a Steve Jobs to human culture? How do Christians account for the rather immeasurable amount of good achieved by those presumably uncovenanted with God? Common grace is the answer: God's mercies are over all his works. This first-ever English translation of Abraham Kuyper's work on common grace hits the sweet spot for Christians seeking answers to questions about the breadth of the gospel, their own roles in public life, and the beneficial contributions of others, especially in science and art. Highly needed and recommended."

-- David K. Naugle, Distinguished University Professor and Chair of Philosophy, Dallas Baptist University

"Abraham Kuyper's work on common grace has enriched my own theological approach to cultural engagement for years. The release of these translations into the English-speaking world is sure to have lasting ripple effects throughout the fields of public theology, Christian ethics, and systematic theology. Kuyper's robust theological portrait of a God whose dynamic, creative, and gracious work pervades the

entire world will inflame the imagination and warm the heart."

--Matthew Kaemingk, executive director, The Fuller Institute for Theology and Northwest Culture

"Abraham Kuyper is one of the most original, productive, and inspiring Christian figures of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. As a newspaper editor, theologian, pastor, party head, and prime minister, he insisted upon recognition of a God whose domain does not end at the act of creation but continues to sustain that creation to our great benefit. Kuyper is one of the modern church's pioneers when it comes to maintaining the vitality of faith and hope in the face of a dry, sterile, and secular culture."

--Hunter Baker, Dean of Instruction and Associate Professor of Political Science, Union University

About the Author

Abraham Kuyper (1837-1920) was a leading Dutch figure in education, politics, and theology. He was a minister in the Dutch Reformed Church, was appointed to Parliament, and served as prime minister. Kuyper also founded the Free University (VU) in Amsterdam, a political party, and a denomination, in addition to writing on a dizzying array of subjects.

Nelson D. Kloosterman (ThD, Theological University of the Reformed Churches [Liberated], Kampen, the Netherlands) is ethics consultant and executive director of Worldview Resources International, a service organization whose mission is to produce and provide resources designed to assist in understanding and applying a Christian worldview to responsible living in a global culture. He has served as minister and professor for more than thirty years and has translated dozens of works on Reformed theology and ethics.

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Ed M. van der Maas (ThM, Dallas Theological Seminary) is an editor and translator. Among his translations are several volumes of the *Korte Verklaring* (Bible Student's Commentary) and *Concise Reformed Dogmatics* (Van Genderen and Velema). Ed has worked for several Dutch publishers and was also the associate editor for the New International Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements. Until his retirement he was senior editor at HarperCollins Christian Publishers/Zondervan in Grand Rapids, Michigan. A native of the Netherlands, Ed lived in the United States for more than forty years before returning to his European base.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

William Martel:

This Common Grace (Volume 1): God's Gifts for a Fallen World (Abraham Kuyper Collected Works in Public Theology) book is simply not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book is usually information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper you read a lot of information you will get. This particular Common Grace (Volume 1): God's Gifts for a Fallen World (Abraham Kuyper Collected Works in Public Theology) without we comprehend teach the one who examining it become critical in contemplating and analyzing. Don't become worry Common Grace (Volume 1): God's Gifts for a Fallen World (Abraham Kuyper Collected Works in Public Theology) can bring if you are and not make your carrier space or bookshelves' turn out to be full

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