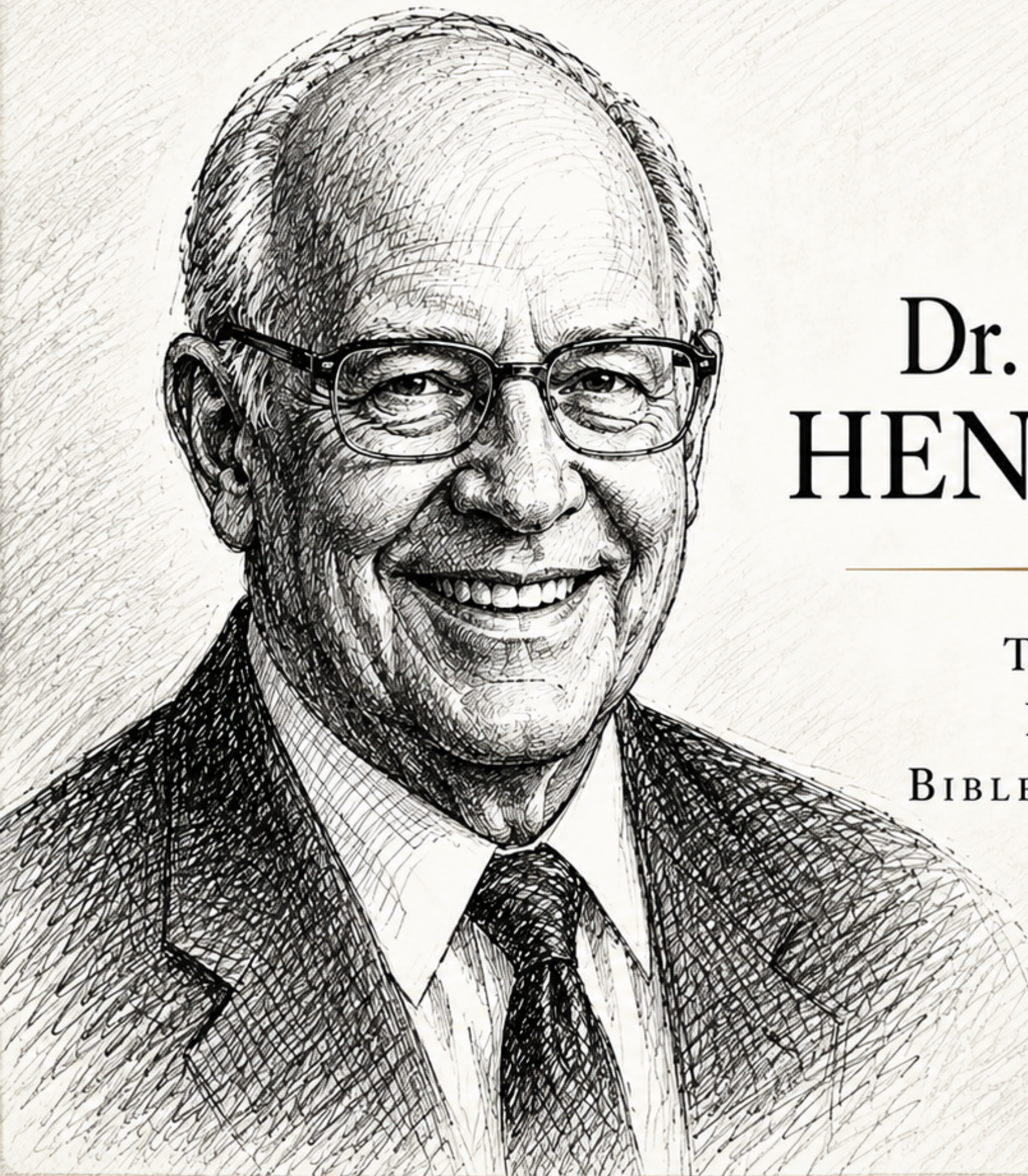




EPHESIANS

TOGETHER IN CHRIST



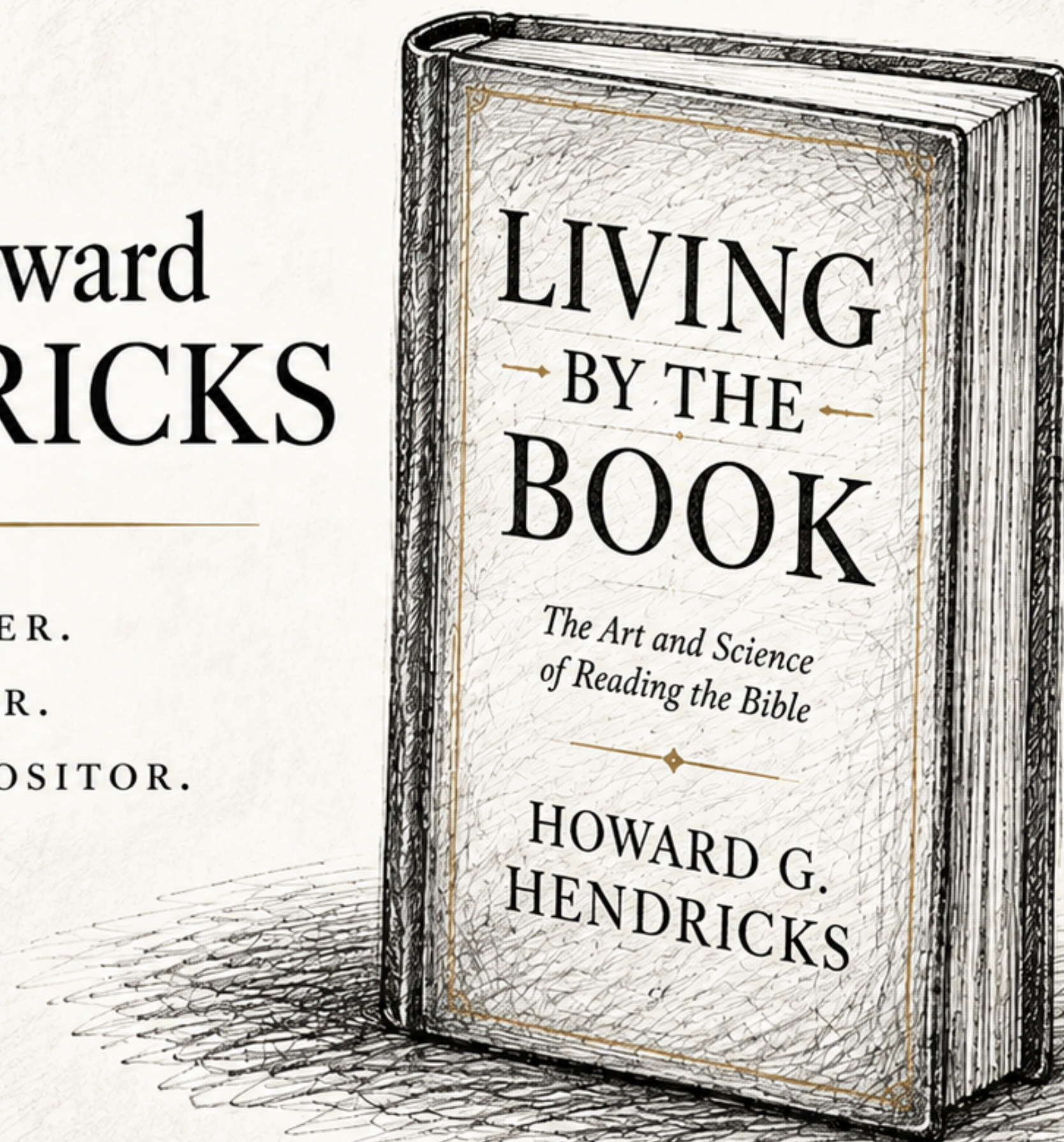


Dr. Howard HENDRICKS

TEACHER.

PASTOR.

BIBLE EXPOSITOR.





THERE &
THEN



HERE &
NOW

BIBLE STUDY METHOD

1. **Observe:** What do I see?
2. **Interpret:** What does it mean?
3. **Application:** How does it work?

OBSERVATION

WHAT DO I SEE?

OBSERVATIONS:

- Paul identifies both his authority and the source of his calling.
- Paul describes his readers by their relationship to Christ.
- ***Blessing:*** Paul's greeting joins grace and peace to God the Father and Jesus Christ.

EPHESIANS 1:1-2

Paul, an **apostle** of Christ Jesus by the will of God,

To the **saints** who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:

² Grace to you and peace from God our **Father** and the Lord **Jesus Christ**.

OBSERVATIONS:

- God is the **primary actor** throughout the passage.
- God's blessings repeatedly come **through union** with Christ.
- God **chose** "us" before the foundation of the world.
 - *What was the basis of his choosing?*

EPHESIANS 1:3-6

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **who has blessed us in Christ** with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as **he chose us in him** before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ **he predestined us** for adoption to himself as sons **through Jesus** Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us **in the Beloved**.

OBSERVATIONS:

- In Christ believers possess redemption and forgiveness through his blood.
- God has revealed a previously hidden purpose centered on Christ.
- God's plan reaches beyond individual salvation to the uniting of all creation in Christ.

EPHESIANS 1:7-10

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth in him.

OBSERVATIONS:

- **God's saving work** unfolds according to his deliberate purpose and will.
- The **Holy Spirit** seals believers and guarantees their future inheritance.

EPHESIANS 1:11-14

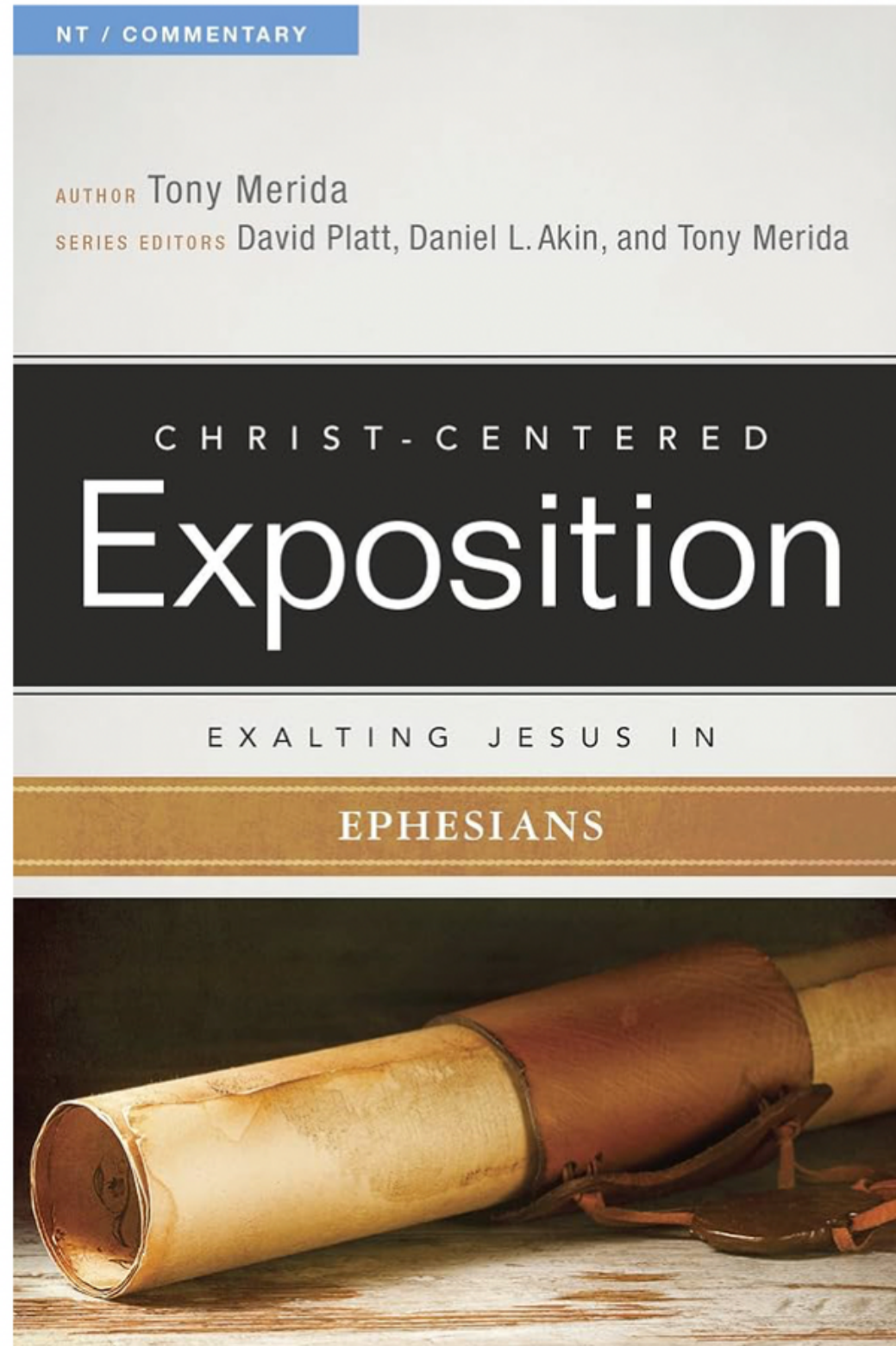
¹¹ In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope

in Christ might be to the praise of his glory.

¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

INTERPRETATION

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?



EPHESIANS

BY TONY MERIDA

EPHESIANS:

**UNITY IN DIVERSITY AS A
WITNESS TO THE “POWERS”**

INTERPRETATION

1. Every spiritual blessing of salvation belongs to believers because they are **united to Christ**.
2. Salvation originates in God's eternal purpose and is accomplished by **the work of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**.
3. God's salvation of individuals is part of his larger purpose to **bring all things together under Christ**.

APPLICATION

HOW DOES IT WORK?

APPLICATION

1. Live from your identity in Christ.

- *Where am I looking for identity or security apart from Christ?*
- *How would remembering what I possess in Christ change the way I act today?*