

Q&A

IVP Books

## ***Fearfully and Wonderfully*** *The Marvel of Bearing God's Image*

Available August 6, 2019 | \$25, 264 pages, hardcover | 978-0-8308-4570-5

*"I have long loved the collaboration between the marvelous theologian Philip Yancey and his mentor, orthopedic, humanitarian surgeon Paul Brand. What a blessing to reread this work after thirty years, to immerse myself in the story of Dr. Brand's work with leprosy patients in India and the Bayou, and the resultant lessons about the miraculous workings of the human body, the beauty of human friendship and caring, the profundity of God's love. Brilliant, charming, and wonder inducing, this is a modern classic of science and faith."*

Anne Lamott, author of *Traveling Mercies*, *Bird by Bird*, and *Hallelujah Anyway*

## **"We Need Heroes" of Medicine and Faith in These Divisive Times**

Over 30 years ago Dr. Paul Brand and Philip Yancey wrote together two books, *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made* and *In His Image*. They quickly became classics and award winners, as the pair took readers on a tour of wonder through the human body—from the micro-view of cells to the macro-view of our connectedness as people made in God's image.

In this new book, titled *Fearfully and Wonderfully*, world-renowned author Yancey has fully updated and combined the two books, honoring the heroic work of Dr. Brand by offering a new generation of readers these breathtaking reflections on the body. Yancey unpacks why these books have had such a lasting impact over the decades, and what they will offer afresh in the years to come.

### **What made you want to work with Dr. Brand, and why have you updated your collaborative books here?**

**Philip Yancey:** Dr. Paul Brand has affected me personally and spiritually more than any single person. I first encountered him while writing the book *Where Is God When It Hurts?*, a question he had long thought about. His experience with leprosy gave him a unique angle on answering that question. Dr. Brand was a wise and deep thinker who carefully explored issues of faith. More, he had the unique ability to span science and faith, presenting spiritual lessons in an analogical way with immediate relevance to current times. His years of work among leprosy patients around the world have yielded dramatic stories that give an inside look at medicine in action—something of abiding interest, as TV shows demonstrate. In sum, he presented the good news of the Gospel with a compassionate spirit of hope and unity, something the world badly needs.

### **Why is this book important now, over 30 years after the original release of the two separate volumes?**

**Yancey:** Books of analogies are rare. This one has proven itself in the marketplace, and the newly revised and updated edition should help capture a new audience. As for distinctives, I'll quote from the Preface:

We live in divided times. Politically, racially, and religiously, the United States is experiencing grave strains on its unity, and a similar fractiousness has spread around the world. We have much to learn from a man who learned medicine during the Blitz of World War II, when the entire world was at arms. He began his medical career during the Partition of India, a cataclysmic event that caused more than a million deaths and created fourteen million refugees.

The modern world depends on institutions—global alliances, corporations, church denominations, government bureaucracies—many of which seem to be failing. Perhaps it is time to take a look at a different kind of community, not an organization but rather an organism, best illustrated in the human body.

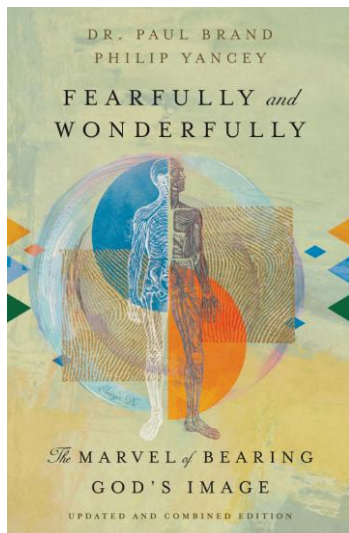


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**Anne Lamott**, author of *Traveling Mercies*, *Bird by Bird*, and *Hallelujah Anyway*

#### **What do you hope readers can learn now from the work of Dr. Brand?**

**Yancey:** We need heroes. Paul Brand and his wife, Margaret, were outstanding examples of people at the very top of their professions who achieved acclaim and success while staying true to their Christian commitment, devoting their lives in service to some of the world's most neglected people.

Surveys show that conflicts and confusion about science/faith issues are primary reasons many millennials turn from the faith. While not addressing these issues in an apologetical manner, Dr. Brand by example shows there is no ultimate conflict, and helps reclaim a proper spirit of praise and reverence for the design of the human body.

Stories of individual patients summon up compassion and underscore the inherent human dignity that comes with being made in God's image.

Some of Dr. Brand's insights are quite startling, such as the emphasis that experiences we view as "enemies"—pain, inflammation, vomiting, fever—are actually our friends, examples of the body's remarkable mechanisms for protecting and healing. Dr. Brand introduces us to the wonders of the body, which we often overlook.

Analogically, the book addresses issues such as social justice, earth care, and spiritual disciplines—though in a unique way that flows illustratively out of lessons from the human body, rather than the more common, didactic approach of Christian books.

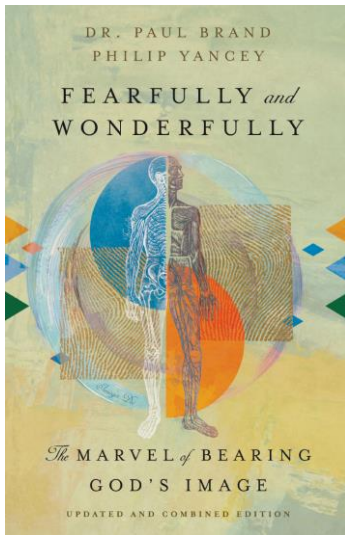


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## ENDORSEMENTS

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The human body holds endlessly fascinating secrets. The resilience of skin, the strength and structure of the bones, the dynamic balance of the muscles—your physical being is knit according to a pattern of stunning purpose. Now Gold Medallion winning books *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made* and *In His Image* have been combined and completely revised and updated to offer a new audience timeless reflections on the body.

## Praise for the work of Philip Yancey and Dr. Paul Brand

"The reader comes away in awe of the fearful and wonderful construction of the body God has given to each of us, an appreciation for the spiritual realm it illustrates, and a reverence for the God in whom both find their source."

—*Christianity Today*

"Beautifully written, absorbing, and highly readable (even for the nonbiologically inclined), the book is tremendously successful in developing a metaphor the New Testament uses more than thirty times to refer to the universal church. The reader gains not only spiritual lessons but a sense of awe and wonder at the human body's complex physiology and anatomy."

—*Religion Today*

"Fascinating reading for anyone interested in the workings of the human body."

—*Insight*

"This book is a testimony to the peculiar mystery of God's presence—the Word made flesh, as John's Gospel names it. For people whose spiritual lives have been too disembodied, Dr. Brand's attention to living bodies invites us to return to our true selves. At the same time, Yancey has rendered enfleshed truth about our existence in words. I pray you can receive this combination of wisdom and craft as the gift that it is—a word in season, inviting each of us deeper into the life that is really life."

—Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove, author of *Reconstructing the Gospel*

"A deeply meaningful book and a much-needed corrective to our opinions about the natural world, what membership means—in our bodies and in the Body."

—Sheldon Vanauken, author of *A Severe Mercy*

"An unusual medical, biological, and spiritual work. A great appreciation of the human body, life, and belief in God fills this book."

—Joseph E. Murray, Nobel Laureate, *The New England Journal of Medicine*

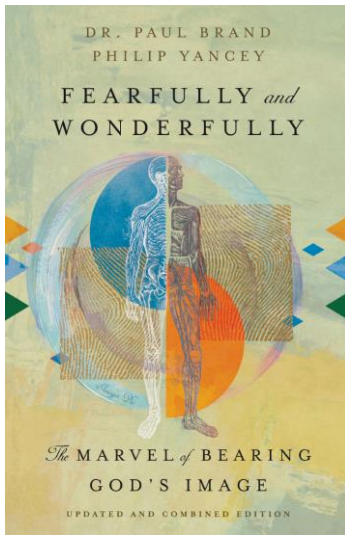


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"This is a stunning, wondrous book by two of my favorite people. I remember reading Phil Yancey in India, as I lived in a village of folks who had leprosy, which is also where I heard about Dr. Brand. Mother Teresa used to say that in the poor we can see Jesus 'in his most distressing disguises.' This book unpacks what that means and invites every one of us to marvel at the image of God in every person. Dr. Brand is a legendary medical doctor and Philip is a doctor of the soul. Together they have written one of the greatest books on life . . . in a world where far too many lives are disgraced and desecrated. May it make you a champion of life, just as both of these men have been, and may we be death's greatest adversary."

—Shane Claiborne, cofounder of *The Simple Way* and *Red Letter Christians*, author of *Beating Guns*

"Reflections and stories by a humane tender of wounds. Paul Brand's book, like his life as a doctor, is wholly admirable."

—Richard Selzer, author of *Mortal Lessons* and *Confessions of a Knife*

"God's imaginative genius with his physical creation always has astounding parallels in the spiritual realm, and it's no different with the epitome of his creation, the human body. In their timeless Christian classic *Fearfully and Wonderfully*, my friend Philip and his coauthor Dr. Brand draw amazing parallels between our bodies and the body of Christ that leave the reader startled and breathless with wonder. This remarkable book had a profound impact on my life when I first read it years ago, and its insights will astonish you for sure!"

—Joni Eareckson Tada, *Joni and Friends International Disability Center*



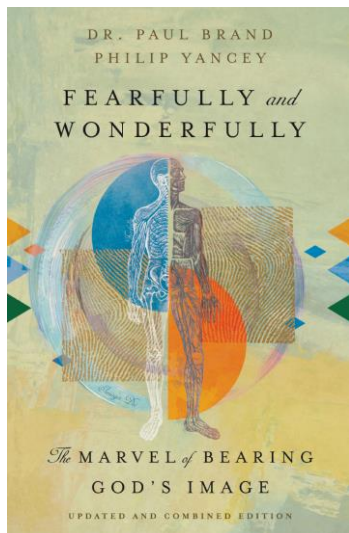
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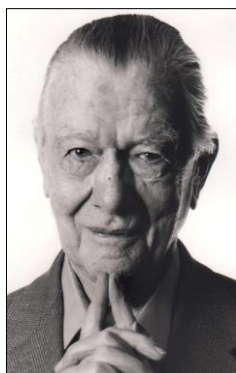
BIO

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*"I see the world largely through his eyes," Yancey said of Brand. "My father died just after my first birthday, and in so many ways Dr. Brand became a father figure to me in the best way. I have never known anyone more brilliant, nor anyone more humble."*



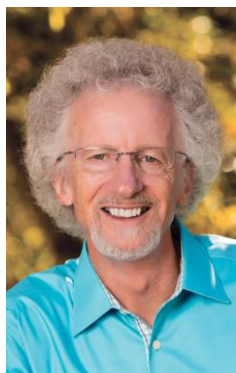
**Dr. Paul Brand** (1914–2003) grew up in India, studied medicine in London, and practiced orthopedic surgery in India and the United States. He achieved world renown for his innovative techniques in the treatment of leprosy.

From his obituary in *Christianity Today* (2003): It was on this issue [leprosy] that Brand's work with Hansen's disease met with his theological reflections on what he viewed as "the most problematic aspect of creation: the existence of pain." Pain, Brand believed, was not antithetical to life, but a requisite for it. "God designed the human body so that it is able to survive *because of pain*," he later wrote.

He wrote *Clinical Mechanics of the Hand*, still considered a classic in the field of hand surgery, as well as *The Gift of Pain* (coauthored with Philip Yancey) and *God's Forever Feast*.

Yancey wrote of Brand: "Truly, I believe that God brought Paul Brand into my life so that I could take all the time in the world to examine one human being and learn what God had in mind with the whole creation experiment. No one has affected my faith more. You need only meet one saint to believe, and I had the inestimable privilege of spending leisurely hours on visits, trips, and phone conversations picking apart a saint piece by piece. He stood up to scrutiny."

Before his death in 2003, Brand received many honors, including the prestigious Albert Lasker Award and appointment as Commander of the Order of the British Empire.



**Philip Yancey** has written twenty-five books. Early on he crafted bestselling books such as *Disappointment with God* and *Where Is God When It Hurts?* while also editing *The Student Bible*. More recently, he has explored central issues of the Christian faith, penning award-winning titles such as *The Jesus I Never Knew*, *What's So Amazing About Grace?*, and *Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference?*

Yancey's books have garnered thirteen Gold Medallion Awards from Christian publishers and booksellers. He currently has more than fifteen million books in print, published in over forty languages worldwide. Yancey worked as a journalist in Chicago for some twenty years, editing the youth magazine *Campus Life* while also writing for a wide variety of magazines including *Reader's Digest*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *National Wildlife*, and *Christianity Today*.

In 1992 he and his wife, Janet, moved to the foothills of Colorado, where they live now.



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