

TRANSFORMED INTO THE SAME IMAGE

CONSTRUCTIVE INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE DOCTRINE OF DEIFICATION

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Theology

The doctrine of deification or theosis has been gaining interest among scholars for some time.

Yet most publications on the topic have focused on Orthodox and Roman Catholic traditions and have subsumed the discussion under the category of soteriology. If “being transformed into the same image” (2 Corinthians 3:18) is truly essential to the Christian life, a fuller understanding of this biblical concept is needed for Christians of all traditions.

In this volume, biblical scholars and theologians offer a constructive account of deification that breaks new ground in key ways. First, several essays focus on the work of major Protestant thinkers and Protestant expressions of the doctrine—including Lutheran, Reformed, Baptist, Wesleyan, Pentecostal, and Evangelical. Second, contributors incorporate deification into arenas that have thus far remained largely unexplored, such as the relationship between justification and deification, applications for theological education, how deification compares with transhumanism, the impact of translation philosophy on the visibility of deification in Scripture, and perspectives on deification in global Christianity.

Contributors include both senior and younger scholars from a variety of backgrounds, including Alister McGrath, Ann Jervis, Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, Ben C. Blackwell, and Michael Gorman. *Transformed into the Same Image* invites readers to dive deeper into the doctrine of deification and continue the conversation.



Paul Copan (PhD, Marquette University) is the Pledger Family Chair of Philosophy and Ethics at Palm Beach Atlantic University. His books include *The Gospel in the Marketplace of Ideas*, *An Introduction to Biblical Ethics*, and *Creation Out of Nothing*.



Michael M. C. Reardon (PhD, University of Toronto) is academic dean and professor of New Testament and historical theology at Canada Christian College and School of Graduate Theological Studies.

“These excellent essays show that evangelical reflection on theosis, with its view of deification not just as salvation for the individual but as the return of the whole of creation to its divine fullness, is of much more than intra-confessional interest. This is a book of truly ecumenical significance.”

Norman Russell, honorary research fellow at the University of Oxford and author of *The Doctrine of Deification in the Greek Patristic Tradition*

“This collection of well-written and groundbreaking essays by a diverse array of fine scholars provides a number of fascinating perspectives on the doctrine of theosis. With a unique (but not exclusive) focus on a spectrum of Protestant viewpoints and ways of approaching deification, this work significantly advances the discussion and is sure to spark further research and dialogue on, among other things, what it means for Christians to be in Christ by faith and reflect the glory of God.”

John C. Peckham, research professor of theology and Christian philosophy at Andrews University in Berrian Springs, Michigan