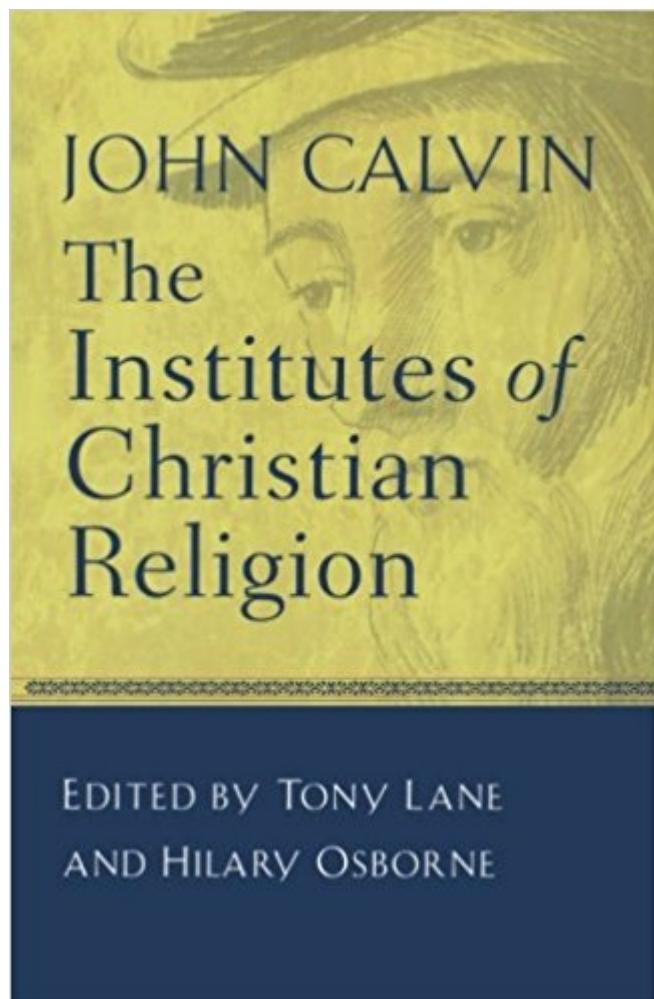


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# The Institutes Of Christian Religion



## Synopsis

This abridged edition of the Institutes provides a readable and inexpensive sampler of Calvin's greatest work. Lane has condensed the 1559 edition, retaining the heart of Calvin's teachings on all his major themes.

## Book Information

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: Baker Academic; Reprint edition (March 1, 1987)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0801025249

ISBN-13: 978-0801025242

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 29 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #61,397 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #33 in Christian Books & Bibles > Theology > Systematic #265 in Books > History > World > Religious > Christianity #284 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Church History

## Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Latin

Benjamin Wirt Farley is Younts Professor Emeritus of Bible, Religion, and Philosophy at Erskine College. He is the translator of John Calvin's Sermons on the Ten Commandments. Anthony N. S. Lane (DD, University of Oxford) is professor of historical theology at the London School of Theology. He is the author of *A Concise History of Christian Thought*, *John Calvin: Student of the Church Fathers*, and *Justification by Faith in Catholic-Protestant Dialogue* and compiled *The Lion Christian Classics Collection*. A world-class Calvin scholar, he abridged the Institutes into a popular student edition and also edited the translation of Calvin's *Bondage and Liberation of the Will*.

I bought the kindle version because I thought it was the same as the paperback. This is not the case. The kindle version is not the Lane and Osborne abridgment. It is an abridgment by some other organization. That is not to say it is not good (it keeps Bevridge's original language in the translation), but it is misleading to have them together. If you are looking for Lane and Osborne's version, get the paperback.

This book written by John Calvin during the time of the Protestant Reformation tells us the beliefs of the original Presbyterians. I found the book very interesting in its coverage of a full range of Christian beliefs. Most of what he said was clear, except I found it difficult to understand what he said about predestination. I never understood this part. A must read book for Presbyterians, most of whom, in my experience, have never even looked at it!

Tony Lane has done a magnificent job with the incredibly long Institutes. This book is an abridgement with very little apology for it is not written so much as a reference work but a work to be read and enjoyed. I recommend this book highly.

This classic for believers is rendered a little lightweight due to the editing and the rather free translation from the original French. But if you haven't read Institutes, read this one first and then get the full unedited translation.

We are a mix in this post-modern age of Catholic and Protestant. We are coming to understand some of the pre-reformation threads that influenced the Protestant Reformation such as the memory of the Cathars in France. Often Calvin's contribution to theological thought and formation has only been understood through the lens of other writers. Calvin's own mammoth work is not for everyone. However this work is a good synopsis for those who want to learn but find the prospect of reading a work of 5 volumes daunting. If you like reading the real work of a founder of Protestant streams of belief, then read this book. Calvin's own stance differs widely from the practice of many current churches who claim his work as their founding theology. It may surprise you!

Except for the bible, "Institutes of the Christian Religion" by John Calvin is the best book I've read on Christianity. This is especially true of this condensed version by Tony Lane and Hillary Osbourne. It is written in modern English, very easy to understand, and written by one of the greatest Christian minds that ever lived. I've read it twice and will reread it many more times.

This is a very good book if you are interested in the subject as I am.

very satisfied with my purchase.

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