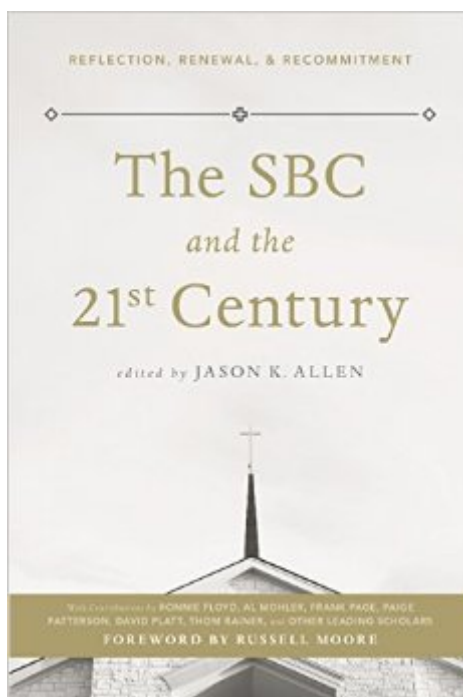


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The SBC And The 21st Century: Reflection, Renewal, & Recommitment



Synopsis

The Southern Baptist Convention is currently facing issues that challenge its identity, heritage, and future. In *The SBC and the 21st Century*, key leaders—including Jason Allen, Frank Page, Ronnie Floyd, Thom Rainer, Albert Mohler, Paige Patterson, David Platt, and Danny Akin—address critical issues such as:

- Will the SBC grow more unified around shared convictions and mission or will it fragment over secondary concerns and tertiary doctrinal differences?
- Will the SBC be able to maintain a distinct Baptist identity while engaging and partnering with the broader evangelical community?
- Will the SBC be willing to reimagine its structures, programs, and efforts to effectively reach the world for Christ or will it risk being a past-tense denomination?

This volume not only promotes meaningful dialogue, it calls leaders throughout the SBC into action. Extensive thought, research, assessment, and wisdom from some of the SBC's brightest minds have been poured into this volume with the intent of rendering a helpful contribution to SBC life that will propel forward the collective work of Southern Baptists well into the 21st century.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Does the title of this book arouse your curiosity? If you are a Southern Baptist, it should. If you are a Christian and follow the world of Christianity, it should. Serving as a Southern Baptist pastor, it sure piqued my interest. What's this volume all about — projection, prediction, propaganda? First, let's get into the basics of the book. The formal title is *The SBC in the 21st Century: Reflection, Renewal, & Recommitment*. It is written by an all-star cast of Southern Baptists. You know — the likes of

seminary presidents and professors, SBC presidents (former) and a few other SB luminaries. It was edited by Jason K. Allen, president of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and published by B&H Academic, a division of Lifeway. The volume is sectioned off into three distinct divisions with an Introduction and Conclusion (those written by the editor). The first section, "Southern Baptist Convention and Cooperation," is historical both in prose and statistics. If you have a numerical interest in Southern Baptist history, Thom Rainer, currently in charge of Lifeway, contributed an essay analyzing the historical numbers of the SBC. It is highly informative. Section two is "Southern Baptist Doctrine and Distinctives." It is this section I found most appealing, particularly the essays by Christian George, "Downgrade: Twenty-First-Century Lessons from Nineteenth-Century Baptists," and Owen Strachan, "Steel-Toed Birkenstocks and Doctrine-Loving Christians: Southern Baptist Witness and Ethics in the New Sexual Age." George is the curator of the Spurgeon Library at Midwestern and make a compelling comparison between Spurgeon downgrade challenge and the present day. Strachan takes on the issue of sexuality in the church in today's culture.

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