

ChalcedonReport

MINISTRY NEWS FROM THE CHALCEDON FOUNDATION® OCTOBER 2021

We're Still Publishing Christian Reconstruction

Christian Reconstruction spread primarily because of books, and in the era of soundbytes, click bait, and social media influencing, it might seem odd that Chalcedon would remain dedicated to Christian publishing. Do Christians still read theological books?

Although Rushdoony was very much a scholar, he wanted to reach the thoughtful readers sitting in the pew because he saw them as the footsoldiers for Christ's Kingdom. Rushdoony wanted to inspire Christians to faith and action, and that's what he deemed as the purpose of theology.

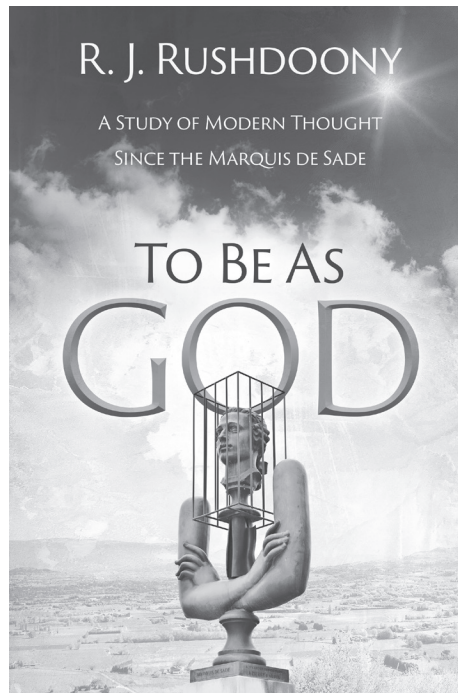
Our Publishing Philosophy

However, as a ministry, we recognize the ever changing landscape of contemporary communications, but we do not feel that alters our mission of Christian education, so our commitment to publishing still consumes much of our effort as we are always working to bring volumes to press.

The work is tedious with many hands involved, but our goal is to publish and preserve the writings of R. J. Rushdoony—and others—in both print and digital formats that make these works more accessible and usable than ever before.

Some of our recent book projects were new, some of the books are reprints, and others are new compilations and collections from previous works that were less than user friendly.

For example, the Legacy Collection featuring *An Informed Faith: The Position Papers of R. J. Rushdoony* (3 vols), *Faith*



Rushdoony's *To Be As God* is currently at the press after much needed corrections and a new cover and inside pages.

and Action: The Collected Articles of R. J. Rushdoony from the Chalcedon Report, 1965-2004 (3 vols), and *Faith + Wellness: Resisting the State Control of Healthcare by Restoring the Priestly Calling of Doctors* are a republishing of the contents of *Roots of Reconstruction* (1,100+ pages)—along with some additional articles—in a more accessible and usable format featuring extensive indices that were not available in *Roots of Reconstruction*.

By making the content of *Roots of Reconstruction* easier to access for research and study, we are helping readers to dive even deeper into Rushdoony's thought, and we believe this will only benefit the Kingdom of God.

Undoing the Darkness

Other book titles were slotted for republishing because we finally sold out of the original printing which provided us the opportunity to make corrections to the text as well as update the design of the book.

One such example is *To Be As God: A Study of Modern Thought Since the Marquis de Sade* which was recently sent to press after much needed corrections to the text by Chalcedon scholar, Martin Selbrede. We took advantage of this opportunity to also design a new cover and inside pages.

The book represents some of the last writings of R. J. Rushdoony, but it covers topics he spoke of often. He clearly saw the destructive power of modern thought since the Enlightenment because it was a reaction to the Reformation's theocentricity. Rushdoony began with the Marquis de Sade because the Frenchman was a forerunner of modern thought. Until today, de Sade may have seemed a strange choice by Rushdoony, but we now see how deeply perversion is embedded and celebrated in contemporary culture. A book like this is needed now more than ever, so we're delighted to release this revised edition.

The Minor Prophets

Because Rushdoony felt his calling was to move men to faith and action (see his introduction in *Systematic Theology in Two Volumes*), his approach was bent towards equipping believers to apply their faith in effective Christian Reconstruction. Therefore, even

Storewide Sale at ChalcedonStore.com

his Biblical commentaries were not technical volumes but rather mined for their usefulness in revealing God's sovereign purpose and His call to action. Because of this expository approach, commentaries like Rushdoony's treatment of *Leviticus* and *Numbers* make for enlightening reading!

That's why we're excited to mention that we're very close to going to press with Rushdoony's *Sermons in Zephaniah, Haggai and Zechariah*.

As with his other commentaries, Rushdoony brings life to these otherwise obscure Old Testament texts that help us to clearly see the ongoing war between the Kingdom of God and humanistic man. This volume is a potent and sobering commentary that you're sure to want to read. Stay tuned for more updates.

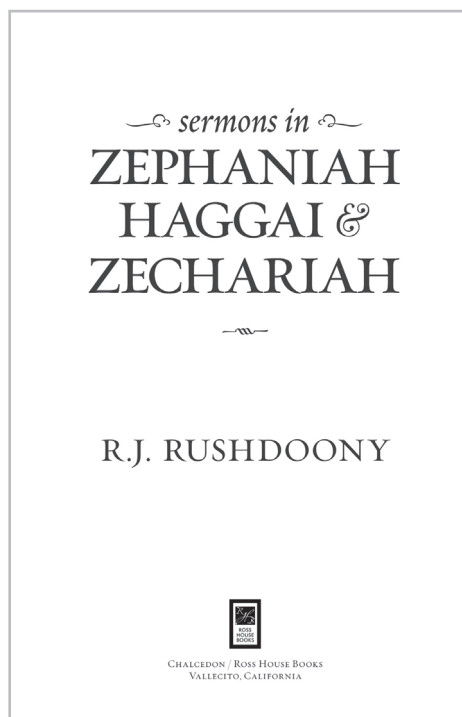
Godly Social Order

A long-awaited book nearing completion is Rushdoony's *I & II Corinthians*, a commentary on these two important Pauline letters which Rushdoony penned from his sermon series *Godly Social Order* which he preached from 1998-2000.

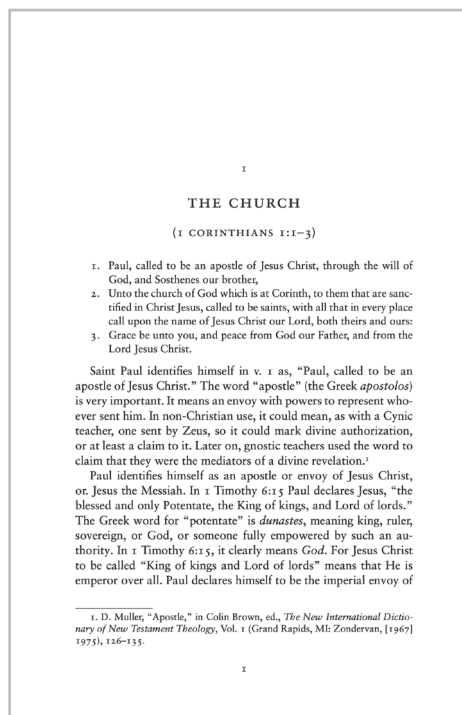
This sizable volume (over 400 pages with indices) is a welcomed addition to Rushdoony's studies of the New Testament, and its thrust demonstrates the true purpose of the church as the embassy of Christ called to establish a godly social order:

The *church* was thus the called out people of the cosmic emperor, Jesus Christ, whose responsibility it was to apply God's law and government to a given area. These early Christians were the advance guard of a people who were to bring everything into submission to Christ. *This was to be done by conversion, not coercion.* The church at Corinth had the responsibility to begin the conversion of all the peoples, families, institutions, arts, sciences, agencies, and all things else to Jesus Christ.¹

For Rushdoony, everything came back to the victory of God in history, and during a time of social and political unrest, this commentary is sure to be a great encouragement. We hope to have this available before year's end.



Rushdoony on some of the minor prophets.

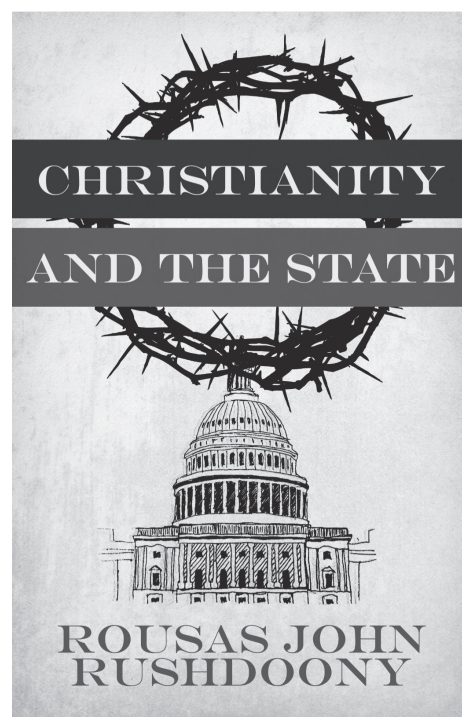


Rushdoony shows the purpose of the church.

Rebirth of Government

We're also close to publishing a new edition of a powerful classic *Christianity and the State* as a paperback, which will feature a new, more extensive index as well as a redesign of the cover and inside pages.

Christian Reconstruction is often viewed as a political movement, and a great reason for that is because Christians themselves have a view of the state that's



New cover design for *Christianity and the State*.

similar to their secular counterparts, and a good many conservative Christians saw hope in politics.

Granted, this does not mean a Christian should not be politically active, but it does mean the church should be informed about the nature of government and work "towards the rebirth of government" (the title of one of the last chapters of this book).

Funds In Hand

There are more publishing projects in the works, such as a biography/history of R. J. Rushdoony written by Mark Rushdoony, and we'll have more to share about them as they progress. Our hope is that you'll continue to see the importance of publishing as a central part of our mission of Christian education.

Remember, it's your financial support that makes all of this happen, and as Martin Selbrede noted in his Foreword to Rushdoony's *I & II Corinthians*:

Dr. Rushdoony insisted upon a zero debt policy for the Chalcedon Foundation, which meant he had to choose what to publish first based on funds actually in hand.²

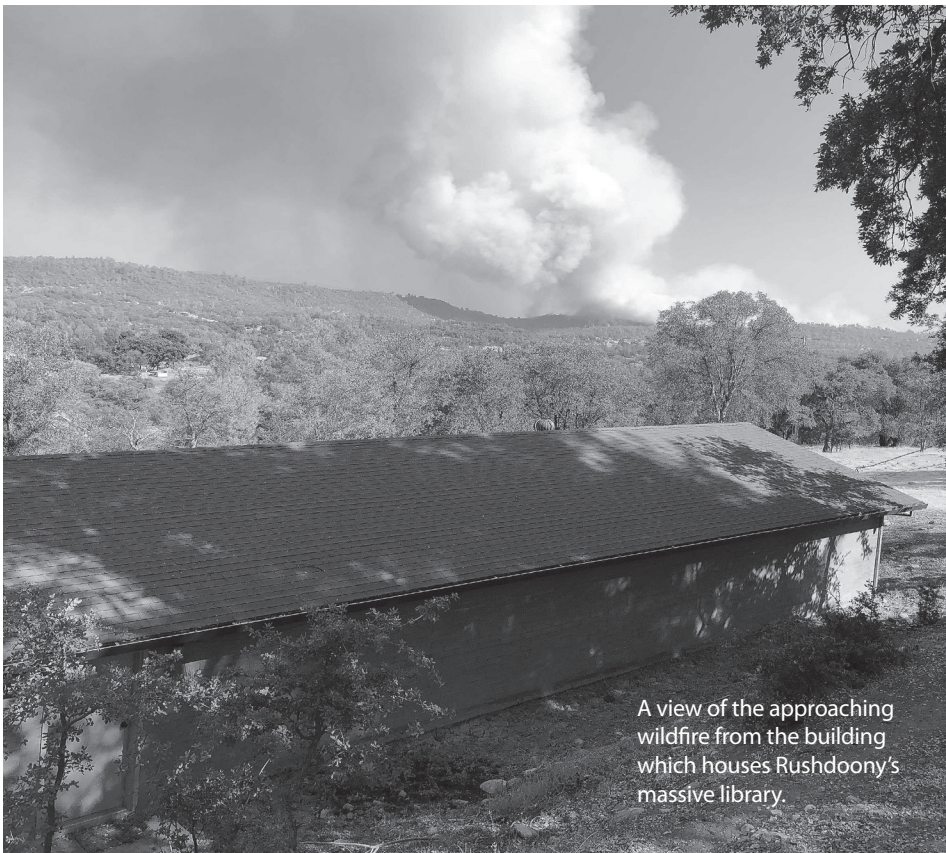
1. R. J. Rushdoony, *I & II Corinthians*, p. 2 (forthcoming).
2. *ibid.*, p. viii.

California Wildfire Burns Close to Chalcedon's Property

On Wednesday, August 25th, a wildfire got dangerously close to Chalcedon's headquarters and the Rushdoony home. Burning over 600 acres in Calaveras County, the Airola Fire broke out in the Stanislaus Canyon but was 75% contained within a few days without loss of life or any damage to structures.

Evacuation orders were given for Vallecito which left the fate of the Chalcedon property and Rushdoony's library in doubt.

Three air tankers dropped retardant on the fire and two helicopters dropped water until dusk and great progress was made. Work on fire containment lines continued incessantly, and the threat was prevented. Praise the Lord! 🙌



A view of the approaching wildfire from the building which houses Rushdoony's massive library.

Carry Chalcedon's Books on Your Mobile Device and Read Whenever and Wherever You Want!

A significant effort has been underway for a few years now to digitize all of our books and journals for reading on a mobile device for both Kindle and Apple's iBooks.

Headed up by our staff member, Jill Rouse (granddaughter of R. J. Rushdoony), she has painstakingly built this ever growing library of ebooks that are helping to make our books available on something as small as a smartphone.

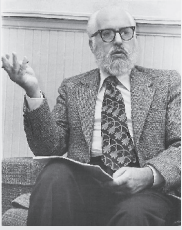
Someone could conceivably have our entire catalog—tens of thousands of pages—in their pocket to enjoy whenever they want.

Rushdoony would carry books with him when he went to the store, the bank, to a physician's office, or on an airplane, so that he could read even for a few moments while he waited. Now, we can do the same in a way that's easier and more affordable!

Discover available ebooks by searching "R. J. Rushdoony" on Apple's iBooks or Amazon's Kindle. You can also review them on our website at ChalcedonStore.com

Law and Order

R. J. Rushdoony (*A Word In Season*, Vol. 7, pp. 9-11)



Law and order are two realities which must go together. If we separate order from law, the result is tyranny. There is a great deal of order in the Soviet Union; in fact, no one dares even disorder the streets with a scrap of paper. But this order is not based on true law but on tyranny, on dictatorship. There is a great deal of order in a graveyard, but there is no law at work in that order. It is the orderliness of death, of a total cessation of all movement and growth. It is possible to have order without law, and it is possible to have lawless order.

Gangsters have lawless order. No principle of justice governs their order: it is a case of either obey or get shot. It is an order which despises justice and law, and it works to subvert them.

“We must not, therefore, separate law and order one from another, nor can we tolerate it from churchmen or politicians. Too many people are working for laws which only create disorders, and for an order which can only destroy law.”

Nowadays, our courts are often working against godly law and creating an ungodly and totalitarian order. In New York City, the police are increasingly being limited and hampered in their work by the politicians and the courts. The police have been seriously handicapped in their efforts to control racial violence. But on August 17, 1966, news dispatches reported that “A city agency that used two notorious gangsters in an attempt to stem New York’s recent racial violence even gave them letters of introduction so police would not interfere.” Gangsters can bring order to a community, but they cannot bring law. Communists have brought order to many countries, but it is the lawless order of dictatorship, tyranny, and the graveyard. And federal officials can bring order to farmers and to farm labor, but it is not the order of law, morally based and religiously grounded.

What the United States needs badly is law and order, godly law and order. Instead, we are increasingly getting order (and orders) without law. Our greatest danger, as we face civil violence, planned rioting, and revolutionary agitation, is that order will be restored without law. Revolutionists have always staged public disorders to break down law and to lead people to demand order, any kind of order.

The revolutionists then help provide a new lawless order, sacrificing law in the name of order.

We must not, therefore, separate law and order one from another, nor can we tolerate it from churchmen or politicians. Too many people are working for laws which only create disorders, and for an order which can only destroy law. Moses said, “Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; but ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man; for the judgment is God’s” (Deut. 1:17). There is thus no law where there is any class legislation, nor is there any order except the order of tyranny. Is this what we want? 🇺🇸