BOOKS I HAVE READ: THE TRINITY: AN INTRODUCTION

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A short book on a complex topic, that is harder work than it needs to be.
Category: Observations

Writing books is hard work and I admire anyone who is willing to go to the effort of gathering their thoughts together, doing the research and then putting their ideas down in words for the public to read. Anyone who is willing to expose themselves to public examination in this way, especially those who do so in order to bless others, is to be admired. Because of this, I try to be positive about the books I review and only rarely write reviews that are very negative.

Having based my master's dissertation on a study of the Trinity, I was keen to read The Trinity and Introduction (short studies Systematic Theology).

It's a fairly short, moderately academic book that will set you back about ten pounds. The content is generally good, but the problem is that it is written in such strange language that it is a really difficult and rather unpleasant book to read. I understand the need for precision in writing trinitarian theology, but it is possible to be both precise and readable. At times, this book is just opaque; getting to the good stuff is harder work than most people are going to want to put in.

One major consideration, is that I appreciated his comments on "eternal functional subordination" (let the reader understand), though even here, the footnotes were actually clearer than the text.

Those who are students of the Trinity will probably want this on their bookshelves. However, if you are looking for an introduction to the subject I would suggest that you turn to The Good God by Mike Reeves or Delighting in the Trinity by Tim Chester. Indeed, I would suggest that every Christian should read one, if not both, of these books.