

# **Toward a Biblical-Historical Introduction to Evangelism**

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**Foreword by Darrell W. Robinson**

**Front Cover**

The woodcut on the cover depicts a Desert Church meeting in the hills, after the Edict of Nantes was revoked (17 October 1685) and when it became illegal to be non-Catholic in France. Notice that the meeting was soon to be raided by the French military on the horizon. (available from [www.camisards.net/Musee-desert.htm](http://www.camisards.net/Musee-desert.htm))

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Greek, Nestle-Aland 27<sup>th</sup> edition, unless otherwise noted (from BibleWorks 5).

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## Foreword

What a TREASURE our Sovereign God has given to His church through Dr. Tom Johnston's *Toward a Biblical-Historical Theology of Evangelism*. This book provides a wealth of comprehensive Biblical, historical, and statistical resource material on Evangelism.

Every theology professor, Bible teacher, student of theology, pastor, and leader will greatly profit by having Dr. Johnston's book of research on Evangelism in their basic "tool kit" for balanced Biblical studies. He provides an extensive bibliography on Personal Evangelism dated from the 1700's to 2005. The Biblical terms used in both the Old and New Testaments that form a foundation for Evangelism are set forth along with all the Greek words and Scripture references to Evangelism.

Dr. Johnston's book covers every conceivable subject that I could imagine on Evangelism. He gives excellent charts and illustrations as he outlines such subjects as the Biblical Theology of Evangelism; the Practical Theology of Evangelism; A Biblical Theology of Follow-up; and the Local Church Evangelism Strategy.

Dr. Tom Johnston is truly "scholarship on fire!" He is an outstanding theologian, professor, pastor, preacher, and he practices what he writes, teaches and preaches in his life of personal witness for Christ to those who need to know Him.

My only regret is that I did not have this book from the beginning of the pastoral and evangelistic ministry to which God called me.

Dr. Darrell W. Robinson  
The Woodlands, Texas, 2006.

## Preface

I recently read the preface of the 2<sup>nd</sup> volume of Matthew Henry's the following, "*Brevis esse laboro, obscurus fio*—labouring to be concise I become obscure." It occurred to me that these words may relate to this volume, but perhaps in the opposite direction. Several years back I determined that brevity would not befit the subject at hand.

My goal in making these class notes available is not to render obscure the work of the Gospel, but rather to show the avenues in which deviations may be made from the very issues being discussed. Each chapter has meat which drives urgent evangelism, and likewise I have sought to include various theological or practical points which may undermine the very subject at hand. Please indulge me in my desire to show the breadth of issues that relate to evangelism. I have determined in my classes that I cannot hit on every point, nor can I look up every verse with my students. Rather I focus on the main issues of the Gospel, and leave the remainder for their future study and inquiry.

It is my prayer that my efforts will allow the very words of God to motivate His children to evangelize in His way.

Thomas P. Johnston  
Liberty, Missouri, 2007