| Table of Contents  |
|--|
| Abbreviations 9  |
| Acknowledgments 12   |
| Preface 13   |
| Why a <i>Biblical</i> Theology of Creation? 15 The Function of Biblical Theology 16 Scripture and General Revelation 17 Two Books of Revelation? 18 General Revelation 19 The Primacy of Special Revelation 25   |
| Scripture, Science, and Interpretation 28  |
| Biblical Inerrancy 28 Scripture and the Problem of Interpretation 30 Human Language and God's Medium of Communication 30 Propositional Revelation and Truth 31 The Influence of Postmodernism 33 Historical-Grammatical Exegesis 35 Cultural Accommodation? 37 The Stability of Scripture and Theology 38 What About Science? 39 Subjectivity in Science 39 Is Science Truly Empirical? 40 How Does Science Progress? 42 Scientific Consensus and Peer Review 43 The Shifting Sands of Science 45 Science and Scripture 47 Science and Scripture in History 50 Columbus and the Flat Earth 51 Copernicus, Galileo, and Heliocentrism 52 Summary 58 |
| Creation and Genesis: A Historical Survey Early Jewish and Christian Commentators 60 The Middle Ages and the Reformers 65 The Enlightenment 68 The Modern Period 70 The Influence of Geological Study 70 Darwin and Evolution 79 Current Positions 81 Summary 83   |
| The Genesis Account: Its Purpose and Function 85 Structure of Genesis 85 Ten divisions 85 Genre of Genesis 88  |

Structure of Genesis 85
Ten divisions 85
Genre of Genesis 88
Creation and the Fall (Genesis 1–3) 90
Poetry or 'Exalted Prose'? 90
Accommodation to Primitive Cosmology? 94
A Literary Framework? 95
Chronological History? 99

|   | The Author's Intent 101 The Message of Creation and the Fall 104   |
|---|--|
| 5 | Formation, Re-creation or Creation Ex Nihilo? 106  In the Beginning 106  The Gap Theory 108  Pre-creation Chaos Theory 109  Limited Geography Theory 112  Creation Ex Nihilo 116  The Mode and Mechanism of Creation 117  Theistic Evolution 117  Progressive Creation 120  Fiat Creation 121  Summary 122   |
| 6 | The Days of Creation: God's Creative Activities 123  The First Day 123  Creation of the Raw Materials 123  Creation and Separation of Light 124  Evening and Morning 125  The End of the Day 128  The Translation of the Cardinal 129  The Second Day 129  The Waters Above 129  The Expanse 130  The Third Day 132  Creation of Dry Land 132  Creation of Vegetation 133  The Fourth Day 133  Evening and Morning Without the Sun? 133  The Sun and Moon as the New Dividers 136  The Fifth Day 136  Creation of Aquatic Life 136  Creation of Winged Creatures 137  The Sixth Day 137  Creation of Humans to be God's Image-bearers 138  Mankind's Dominion 139  The 'Very Good' Creation 139  The Seventh Day: The Sabbath 140  'Resting' or 'Ceasing' from Work? 140  Purpose of the Sabbath 141  The Sabbath as a 'Type' of the Kingdom of God 142  The Days of Creation and Time 143  No Relation 143  A Prophetic Overview of World History 143  Instantaneous Creation 144  A Historical Process 144 |
| 7 | The Days of Creation: Meaning and Significance 145 Days of Revelation 145 Objections 146   |

```
Anthropomorphic Days 146
     Objections 147
   Day-Age View 148
     Can □i' Refer to an Age or Period?
     Evening and Morning 150
     The Sabbath of Day Seven 151
     Creation of the Sun on Day Four
     Science and the Day-Age View 152
   Intermittent Day View 154
     Objections 154
   Literary Framework View 155
     Parallels Between the Days 156
     Two-Register Cosmology 156
     Day One and Day Four 158
     Day Two and Day Five 158
     Day Three and Day Six
     The Sabbath of Day Seven 160
     Other Objections 161
   Literal Day View 162
     The Meaning of יוֹם
     Evening and Morning 166
     The Events of Day Six 167
     Day Seven: The Sabbath 169
     Exodus 20:11 and 31:17 171
   The Days of Creation and the Age of the Earth 173
   Summary 175
8 Creation of Humanity and the Garden of Eden
                                                    177
   Relationship Between Genesis 1 and Genesis 2 177
     A Complementary Unit 177
     Chronological Issues 178
     Genesis 2:4b–6 as a Backdrop to the
       Creation of the First Human Couple 180
   Creation of Adam 182
     Pre-Adamites? 183
     Creation and Propagation 186
   Garden of Eden 186
     The Garden Itself 186
     Rivers of Eden 187
   Two Trees 190
     The Tree of Life 190
     The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil
   Adam and Eve 193
     Chronological Issues
     History or Allegory 194
     Marriage and Nakedness 195
   Summary 196
9 The Fall and Its Effects
   The Fall 197
     The Serpent 198
     Temptation and Rebellion 199
   Effects of the Fall 200
```

|    | Guilt 201<br>Separation 201<br>Death 204<br>Distortion 214<br>Summary 220  |
|----|--|
| 10 | The Flood and Its Effects 221 The Fallen World 221 The Wickedness of Humanity 221 The Promise of Judgment 222 Noah's Ark 223 The Flood 224 Global or Local? 226 Physical Effects 235 God's Covenant with Noah and Creation 237 Summary 237   |
| 11 | Creation, Preservation, and Dominion 239 God's Present Work in Creation 239 Divine Immanence 239 Creation and Preservation 239 Creation and Providence 240 Humanity's Present Relationship with Creation 242 God's Order in Creation 242 Human Dominion 244 Human Stewardship 245 Overpopulation? 246 Development and Environmentalism 250 Resisting the Fall and Reversing its Effects 251 Natural Resources, Science, and Technological Innovation 252 Pollution 256 Extinction 258 Environmental Ethics 261 Summary 268 |
| 12 | Creation Restored 270 The Work of Christ 270 The New Creation 271 The Passing Away of the Heavens and the Earth 271 A New Heaven and a New Earth 274 The Disappearance of the Sea 275 Purification and Refinement 276 The Curse Removed 277 Elimination of Suffering and Death 277 Transformation of the Human Body 278 Liberation and Transformation of the Sub-human World 279 Restoration of Paradise 280 Fellowship with the Creator 282 Creation and Eschatology 283 Summary 285                                      |
|    | Bibliography 286   |
|    | Scriptural Index 303   |