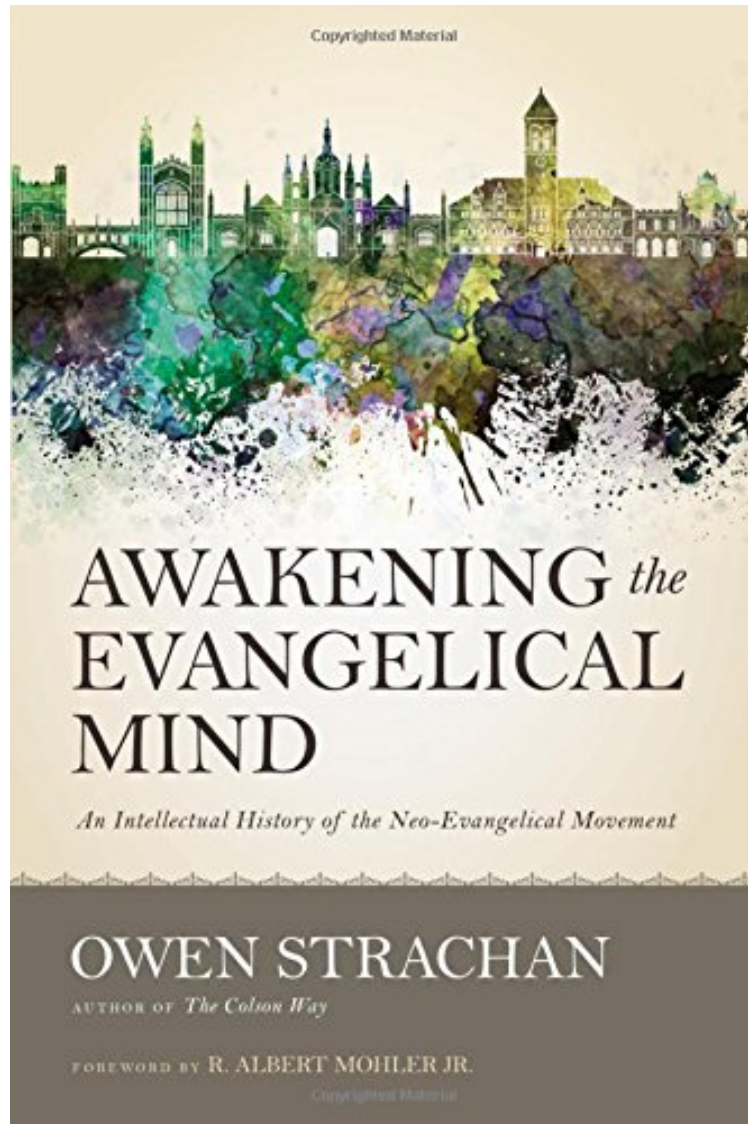


Awakening the Evangelical Mind: An Intellectual History of the Neo-Evangelical Movement

Owen Strachan

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Owen Strachan : Awakening the Evangelical Mind: An Intellectual History of the Neo-Evangelical Movement
before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Awakening the
Evangelical Mind: An Intellectual History of the Neo-Evangelical Movement:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. The Christian Mind Unleashed By Dr. David Steele In the late

1940s, V.W. Steele resigned as the Senior pastor at Bethel Baptist in Everett, Washington. He stepped away from his pulpit at the height of a revival as he felt prompted by God to move to another ministry. He loaded up the car with his young family made the long journey to Los Angeles. Providentially, he was commissioned by Charles Fuller to partner together and preach the gospel in Idaho, Montana and North Dakota. Pastor Steele was my grandfather, so I have a particular interest in his venture with Charles Fuller, the popular preacher on the Old Fashioned Revival Hour radio broadcast. My grandfather pastored churches in a day where the battle lines were drawn. He lived in a day when men were willing to lose life and limb for the sake of doctrinal convictions. But he also lived in a day when the church was in a titanic struggle against the cultural monster of modernism. Dr. Owen Strachan's book, *Awakening the Evangelical Mind* provides an invaluable service for the church as he explores where the battle lines were drawn and introduces readers to the key players. These neo-evangelicals, including Harold Ockenga, Carl Henry, Billy Graham, and others helped establish the Christian mind in a culture awash in a sea of modernism. Strachan traces the evangelical trajectory of these seminal thinkers by guiding readers through key historical turning points and decisions that were decisive for the establishment of the Christian mind in America. The author demonstrates how select Christian colleges and Seminaries were launched and the men who envisioned them. These are important historical details that the author skillfully tells; stories that have either been forgotten or worse yet, never heard! R.C. Sproul and Mark Noll have both lamented about the decline of the Christian mind. Strachan's excellent work is a much-needed corrective and salve for the soul. Strachan is eager to prop up the long history of the evangelical mind and optimistic about its future: If the evangelical mind is not always appreciated, this simply cannot be because it does not exist. It does exist, and its contributions over two millennia are monumental. The author argues that evangelicals face some important decisions in the days ahead: The church faces a profound choice: it can retreat and huddle, nursing its wounds as it accepts its intellectual marginalization. Or, it can learn once more from Ockenga, Henry, Graham, and the Cambridge evangelicals, and promote outstanding education that not only engages the questing heart but freshly awakens the evangelical mind. *Awakening the Evangelical Mind* is a call to the next generation of Christian leaders to lead with biblical conviction and bold courage; to continue the legacy that was established by some great men of the faith.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good book, great bibliography. By Roger Watkins I was a student of Dr. Strachan's a few years ago and can't recommend him more highly. However, if you have read several books about modern church history, especially books relating to the Neo-evangelicals, then this book won't have very many new insights for you. Even so, his bibliography has a great number of book recommendations to further your understanding of modern church history. I'd especially recommend it to new readers of the discipline. I must say, though, that I see more flaws with Neo-evangelicals and their institutions than Strachan. I find much more wisdom and hope in the work of local churches and ecclesiastical partnerships than I do parachurches and institutional endeavors.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. It has a lot of good information, but I didn't find it very interesting. By Michael The book focuses on a history of how the evangelical movement has been formed by intellectuals and specifically intellectuals attached to higher education. It's kinda the passing of the conservative baton from fundamentalism to evangelicalism and how the conservative movement created an evangelical education cornerstone. Even though I've been blessed by this movement in the education I have and the books that are available to me, I found this book rather dry. But it does do a good job in teaching where the evangelical movement came from through intellectual circles. Just don't expect a page turner!

The first major study to draw upon unknown or neglected sources, as well as original interviews with figures like Billy Graham, *Awakening the Evangelical Mind* uniquely tells the engaging story of how evangelicalism developed as an intellectual movement in the middle of the 20th century. Beginning with the life of Harold Ockenga, Strachan shows how Ockenga brought together a small community of Christian scholars at Harvard University in the 1940s who agitated for a reloaded Christian intellect. With fresh insights based on original letters and correspondence, Strachan highlights key developments in the movement by examining the early years and humble beginnings of such future evangelical luminaries as George Eldon Ladd, Edward John Carnell, John Gerstner, Gleason Archer, Carl Henry, and Kenneth Kantzer.

About the Author Owen Strachan is associate professor of Christian Theology and director of the Center on Gospel Culture at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is the president of the Council on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood. The author of seven books, he is married to Bethany and is the father of three children.