

THE HOUSE
THAT JESUS BUILT



'In an age where everyone is offering to re-design the church, Ralph Davis, in this small booklet, winsomely, clearly and most of all Biblically reminds us that we have a designer of the church – Jesus Christ – and the glory and majesty of His design. This is a great instrument to remind, encourage and attract people to the bride of Christ and the body of Christ – His Church.'

Harry L Reeder III,
Briarwood Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, Alabama



'Ralph Davis is a good friend, and a great bible teacher. He has endeared himself to bible readers everywhere through his books, and has probably done more to give real practical help in preaching the former prophets (Joshua – 2 Kings) than anyone else alive. Once again he has come up with a gem for us with this little manual on the church. Biblical, succinct, clear, fun and, above all, brief, I can't imagine anything better for teaching what it means to belong to 'The House that Jesus Built' – to new Christians who don't yet understand the church (and older ones who ought to!)

William J U Philip,
St George's-Tron Church, Glasgow, Scotland

'This is a short book to give to visitors who may come to your church. In a very friendly, succinct and even fun way, it explains both the gospel and what it is to be a Christian and belong to a church shaped by a reformation approach to Scripture. It is a kind of brochure-cum-browser which enables people to make an informed choice about whether or not yours might be the church in which to settle. The brief explanations of the gospel are miniature masterpieces, which caused my heart to leap with thankfulness to God as I read them. Ralph Davis is not only a great expositor, he is also a winsome apologist for Reformation Christianity and this book will dissolve the prejudices which many people bring through our church doors and win them for Christ and his church.'

John Benton,
Evangelicals Now





THE HOUSE THAT JESUS BUILT



Dale Ralph Davis

*An Introductory manual
about the church*

CHRISTIAN
FOCUS



Dale Ralph Davis is pastor of Woodland Presbyterian Church, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Previously he taught Old Testament at Reformed Theological Seminary, Jackson, Mississippi. He has also written commentaries on:

Joshua (ISBN 978-1-84550-137-2)
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NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

When I get airline tickets I always go through a travel agent, even in this day of high-tech online purchasing options. Before I talk to my travel agent, however, I get on the internet and check various flight connections and prices. When I call my agent I may ask for a connection I had seen online. (I know I'd save money to purchase online – I simply have a psychological block about it.) I like to have a feel for my options before I talk to the agent. This book is something like that – in case you have some interest in joining a Reformed church it will give you an opportunity to see what it's like, or what it tries to be like. Hopefully, it will answer some of your questions.

The House that Jesus Built

I originally pulled together this material for visitors to our church – folks who are often curious and occasionally apprehensive about what the church is ‘like.’ Not many people come sliding out of a ‘reformed’ pipeline into a congregation. They come from all over the religious – and non-religious – spectrum. We don’t want them to be surprised in a bad way about what they’ll meet; hence this briefing.

And I must beg some charity. This tiny tome was written with a Presbyterian as the sample church. I can’t much help being Presbyterian just now (they pay me, after all), but please know that I’m not assuming only Presbyterians are reformed. Happily, many Anglicans, Baptists, and others would place themselves under the reformed banner. Please understand that the Presbyterian particulars (e.g. the Westminster Confession) are intended as descriptive not prescriptive, as exemplary (that’s the case in our church) not mandatory (what should be so in all reformed fellowships).

*Ralph Davis
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