



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 8/22/23
Contact info: Jeff Boyd
Phone: 269-471-6537; Email: boyd@andrews.edu

Biblical Research Institute and Andrews University Release Landmark Work on Adventist Doctrine

BERRIEN SPRINGS, Mich.—The General Conference Biblical Research Institute (BRI) and Andrews University have partnered to publish a book for general and classroom readers that theologically examines each of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s fundamental beliefs.

Titled “God with Us: An Introduction to Adventist Theology,” the book is authored by John C. Peckham, research professor of theology and Christian philosophy at Andrews University and recently appointed associate editor of *Adventist Review/Adventist World*. The book was commissioned and edited by BRI, with its first purpose to be a foundational, accessible and yet scholarly introduction to Adventist belief for undergraduate and graduate students. Published by Andrews University Press, the world church’s primary academic publishing house, “God with Us” is also designed and promoted beyond the classroom for the general readership of the Church.

Elias Brasil de Souza, BRI director, who also wrote the foreword to the book, said, “We are very glad to have partnered with Andrews University to bring this work to the Adventist world and beyond. It is much needed. There have been other textbooks dealing with Adventist doctrine, and other presentations of our fundamental beliefs. Peckham’s work stands out because of his

thoughtful, highly readable presentation, which is informed by his perspective as one of our church's leading theologians.”

Broad editorial aspects of Peckham's work were supervised by Frank M. Hasel, associate director of the Biblical Research Institute. In his role as theological editor, Hasel arranged for review of Peckham's work by other theologians and worked with Peckham to put the manuscript in its final form for submission to Andrews for publication. “The title of Peckham's book beautifully describes the organizing principle behind his treatment of Adventist doctrine,” Hasel said. “Peckham shows that, in the most profound way, every aspect of foundational biblical theology, as understood by Adventists, is framed by God's desire to be with and for His people. We see that most obviously in creation, the incarnation, the Sabbath, the second coming, the sanctuary and, as Peckham skillfully shows, in every other aspect of our fundamental beliefs. His insightful interaction with other theological positions gives the reader a deeper understanding of the beauty, coherence and uniqueness of Adventist theology. His book will be a significant reference point for Adventist theology for years to come.”

Dwight K. Nelson, former lead pastor of Pioneer Memorial Church at Andrews University, said, “‘God with Us’ is classic Peckham—carefully reasoned, meticulously shaped, yet winsomely user-friendly for life beyond the academy.”

John McVay, president of Walla Walla University, wrote, “If you are looking for clear, accessible writing tracing the grandest stories and themes while unpacking gentle, persuasive, reasoned faith, you've found it.”

Sung Wook Chung, a well-known evangelical professor of Christian theology at Denver Seminary, endorsed the book by saying, “This excellent piece of theological work will lead to

John Peckham being regarded as one of the most authoritative voices alive today on Adventist theology. A must-read for anyone interested in the contemporary shape of not only Adventist theology but also broader evangelical theology.”

Peckham was a professor of theology and Christian philosophy at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews for 10 years before his recent appointment as an editor of Adventist Review/Adventist World. Previously, he taught at Southwestern Adventist University. Several of his previous books have been released to wide acclaim by Baker, Eerdmans and other evangelical publishers. “God with Us” was released by Andrews University Press in mid-August and is receiving wide interest. A pre-publication sale late in July sparked a strong response from individual purchasers, and several Adventist conferences are ordering the book for distribution to their pastors. The book will be used in classrooms in Adventist colleges and universities beginning this fall.

“God with Us” is available now from Adventist Book Centers (800-765-6955) and from Andrews University Press (universitypress.andrews.edu, 800-467-6369).

Founded in 1874, Andrews University is a premier institution of higher education for the Seventh-day Adventist Church and offers more than 150 areas of study, including advanced degrees. Its main campus is in Berrien Springs, Michigan, but the University also provides instruction at colleges and universities in more than 25 countries around the world.

#

Byline: Andrews University Office of University Communication

John_Peckham.jpg: John C. Peckham. **Photo credit:** John C. Peckham