

Praise for Here and Now: Thriving in the Kingdom of Heaven Today

The kingdom of heaven is one of the most talked about concepts of Jesus' ministry, and at the same time, the most misunderstood. Robby helps the reader understand Jesus' focus on the here and now and not just the there and then of the kingdom. After reading this book, you will be motivated to live on mission to make disciples of all nations.

-Ed Stetzer, Billy Graham Distinguished Chair Wheaton College

It's hard to keep Jesus' command to seek first the kingdom of God when so many Christians seem not to have a clue what the kingdom is. Robby Gallaty is one of the nation's most dynamic and revered pastors. In this book, he conducts an accessible investigation into the kingdom, and our lives in it. You may not agree with every single one of his conclusions, but, whether you do or not, the questions provoked will help you to pray, and to live, the way Jesus taught us to do.

-Russell Moore, president, Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and bestselling author of *Onward* and *The Storm-Tossed Family*

Robby helps us move from an incomplete, two-chapter gospel (fall, redemption) to the full four-chapter gospel of the kingdom: creation, fall, redemption, restoration. He helps us understand that our lives and world come from the kingdom and are headed toward the kingdom of God *on earth as it is in heaven*. In other words, those of us who claim to be Jesus-followers are to live *here and now* as viral kingdom agents. Robby's combination of scholarly reflection and profound insight is nothing less than inspiring!

-Reggie McNeal, author of *Kingdom Come* and *Kingdom Collaborators*

It is rare when a respected friend writes something you like so much that you think, *I could have written that!* The famous theologian Karl Barth commented on the first chapter of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's classic book, *The Cost of Discipleship*. He said that it was so good that he wouldn't attempt to edit it, he would just copy it word for word. That is the way I feel about Robby's introduction and comments on the need for a more robust gospel that includes discipleship as natural part of what it means to be saved. Gallaty's work is getting deeper and deeper.

-Bill Hull, author of *The Disciple Making Pastor*, *Conversion and Discipleship*, *The Christian Leader*, and *The Discipleship Gospel*, and cofounder of the Bonhoeffer Project



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I applaud Gallaty for seeking to ground his view of the kingdom in a historically informed, critically aware reading of Scripture. The result is a message that is neither shallow nor dry, directed toward the serious Bible reader but not written in overly technical language. Gallaty challenges nonscholars but doesn't overwhelm them. More importantly, Gallaty writes as a pastor who is conversant with the top scholarship in this area but who is also in tune with the thought of his congregation. I heartily recommend this book.

-Robert B. Stewart, professor of Philosophy and Theology, Greer-Heard Chair of Faith and Culture, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

This book is the marriage of Robby's commitment to discipleship and his passion for the kingdom of our King. The result is an insightful and challenging read about life for the believer in the here and the now.

-Eric Geiger, senior pastor, Mariners Church