

A Double Foreword

Every once and a while a gem of great worth is uncovered and put on display for others to appreciate. David H.J. Gay has once again unearthed and polished for us a wonderful theological jewel in this booklet, *Clarity Dispelling Confusion: S.W. Lynd on the Abrahamic Covenant*. Samuel W. Lynd was an influential 19th-century American Baptist minister who has sadly long been forgotten. Drawing on Lynd's 1863 Circular Letter, written for the Miami Baptist Association, Gay shows the relevance of correctly understanding the relationship between the Abrahamic covenant and that of the new covenant in Christ. For anyone interested in Baptist historical-theological studies, this little work is essential.

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Which aspects of God's promises to Abraham are yours, believer? And which were for the Israelites, Abraham's physical descendants? That distinction required clarification in Samuel Lynd's time, and it is still necessary today. Then, as now, whole denominations were misguided by failure to distinguish between God's promises to the Israelites and those to all the people of the earth who share Abraham's faith. Again and again the New Testament teaches this vital distinction, but such is the muddling of the old and new covenants by many, that David Gay has reintroduced Lynd's letter of explanation. I encourage every believer to check this against the Bible's teaching to be clear on what is for Christians and what is not.

Steve Guest.