



## Solomon among the Postmoderns

*Peter J. Leithart*

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Solomon's words from a famous passage of Ecclesiastes have been translated, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity." In *Solomon among the Postmoderns*, Peter Leithart says those words are better translated "Vapor of vapors, all is vapor," emphasizing that human life is fleeting. He uses this theme, as well as the entire book of Ecclesiastes, to indicate how Solomon resonated with the themes of today's postmodernism.

"Classic Leithart: learned, witty, and readable, *Solomon among the Postmoderns* guides us toward a sympathetic and faithful engagement with our critical, protean, and vaporous times."--**R. R. Reno**, Creighton University

"Here is a vivacious account of postmodern culture from a true Renaissance man. With characteristic verve, Leithart deftly narrates the postmodern critique of modernity--without the typical fixation on epistemology and questions of knowledge. But the story doesn't end on the postmodern bandwagon; rather, Leithart pushes further to show that the postmodern critique of idolatry still fails to yield wisdom. In the wake of Derrida and Foucault, we still find ourselves waiting not for Godot or St. Benedict, but Solomon. Amidst the ruins of modernity, this book is an invitation to feast in the temple."--**James K.A. Smith**, associate professor of philosophy, Calvin College and author of *Who's Afraid of Postmodernism? Taking Derrida, Lyotard and Foucault to Church*

"Peter Leithart's *Solomon among the Postmoderns* is welcome evidence of a maturing evaluation of postmodernism in Christian circles that neither lionizes nor demonizes. Engaging in conversation rather than caricature, the author takes his interlocutors seriously precisely because he is so confident in the power of the biblical narrative to pull down all of our towers of Babel, whatever we call them. For those weary of wholesale denunciations or wholesale endorsements of postmodernism, this patient, well-informed and well-written essay in godly wisdom will illumine and inspire."--**Michael Horton**, Westminster Seminary

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