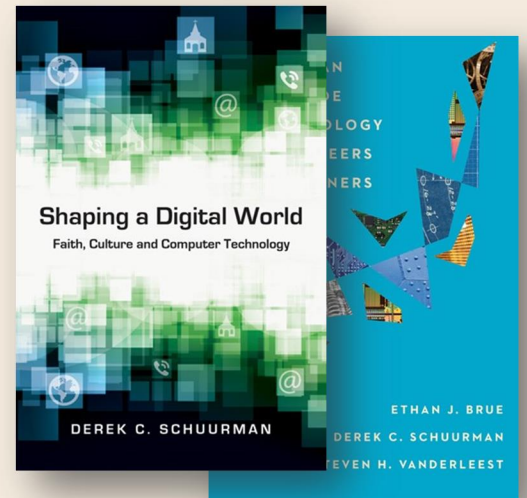# The Story of Progress and a Path to Responsible Technology

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Abstract

The story of progress is a common narrative, and many believe it will lead us toward some sort of paradise. A rival postmodern story suggests that technology will ultimately threaten both humanity and our entire planet. Will technology continuously move towards Utopia or might it lead to a more dystopian future? This talk will sketch a perspective on progress informed by the Biblical story and how it can guide us toward more responsible technology.

Bios

Derek Schuurman's personal story includes working in industry for several years before returning to academia. His interest in technology began in his early teens with ham radio and his first computer, a Timex-Sinclair ZX-81. He is also interested in the bigger picture (metaphorically, not in the number-of-pixels sense) of ethics, faith, and technology. He is author of the book Shaping a Digital World and co-author of A Christian Field Guide to Technology for Engineers and Designers, both published by IVP Academic.

Prof. Schuurman is a fellow of the American Scientific Affiliation and was made a senior member of the IEEE. He is member of the ACM, CES, ACMS, a book review editor for Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith, a regular contributor to the Christian Scholars Review blog, and a columnist for Christian Courier.

Research interests include robotics and computer vision, embedded systems and IoT, CS pedagogy, philosophy of technology, and faith and technology issues.

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