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FALL AND WINTER CATALOG • 2023–2024

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Isaiah 1-39

A Commentary

MICHAEL E. W. THOMPSON

978-1-6667-3638-0 | 180 p. | \$25

The book of Isaiah is one of the most significant works of the Old Testament, especially for Christian readers. Its oracles have shaped the cultural imaginations of countless generations, inspiring preachers, artists, musicians, and politicians. This biblical book offers prophetic reflections on and responses to the actions of monarchs and nations during a series of political changes and crises in Israel. With a focus on seeking to understand the text in its ancient context, this commentary is particularly written for those who seek guidance in preparing materials for Christian worship and study.

“This concise and well-informed commentary focuses steadfastly on drawing out the theological, social, and religious themes in the text. Indeed, most sections include additionally some wider hermeneutical reflection. An obvious grasp of academic questions is never allowed to intrude, so that ministers and others wanting introductory guidance for Christian application will find here just what they need.”

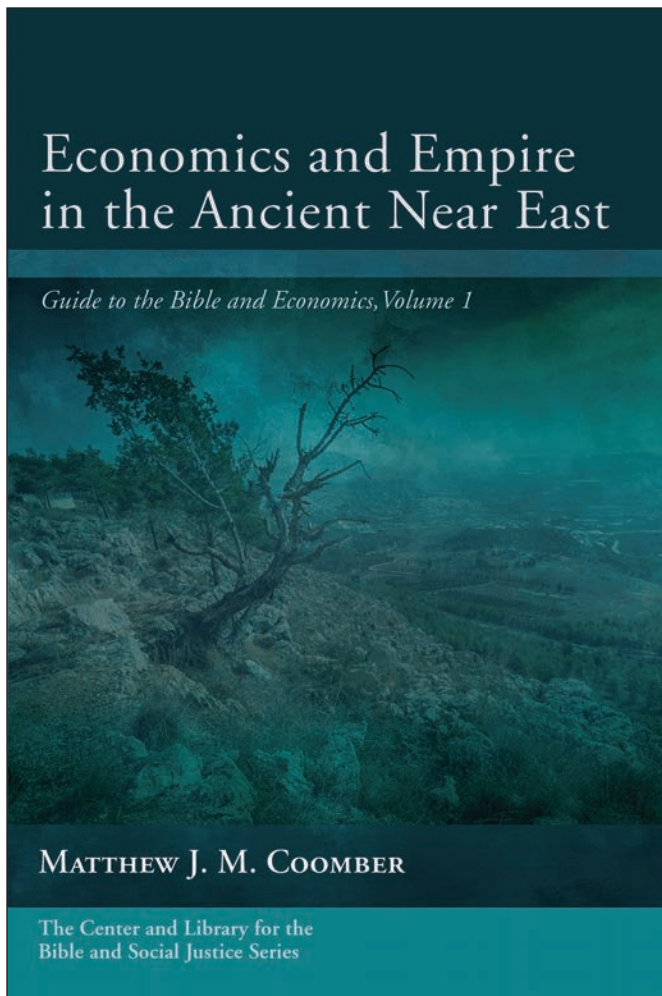
—H. G. M. Williamson, University of Oxford

“Michael Thompson has already done a great service to the church (and more widely) by making available the fruits of Old Testament scholarship to a non-specialist readership. Here he ably steers his readers through the complexities of Isaiah 1-39, with its different types of material and implied contexts. He helpfully highlights expressions of hope amid words of judgment, a message not just for ancient Judah but one which includes worldwide and long-term perspectives.”

—Adrian Curtis, University of Manchester

MICHAEL E. W. THOMPSON is a Methodist minister who before retirement lectured in Old Testament in the UK. He is author of *Where Is the God of Justice? The Old Testament and Suffering* (2011); *Greatly to Be Praised: The Old Testament and Worship* (2016); and *The Old Testament and Christian Spirituality* (2019).





Economics and Empire in the Ancient Near East

Guide to the Bible and Economics, Volume 1

CENTER AND LIBRARY FOR THE BIBLE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE SERIES

EDITED BY **MATTHEW J. M. COOMBER**

978-1-5326-5798-6 | 340 p. | \$41

Over the past few decades *biblical economics* has developed into an important subfield of biblical studies. Through examining the economic realities that lay behind Hebrew biblical texts and archaeological findings, biblical economics has led to greater understandings of the cultures and experiences of ancient Hebrew communities, the legal and religious texts they produced, and of how those texts may or may not relate to the experiences of communities who continue to receive them, today. *Economics and Empire in the Ancient Near East* has brought together ten scholars of biblical economics and one economic anthropologist to create a repository of what is understood about the economic realities of Southwest Asia in the late second and first millennia BCE. In addition to furthering the research and teaching interests of biblical scholars, this volume has also been created for the benefit of economic historians, anthropologists, and sociologists.

“A first-rate volume examining how the empires of Southwest Asia exerted their power and influence on the economics of ancient Israel. Highly recommended for both students and scholars of the Bible and its history.”

—Gale A. Yee, Episcopal Divinity School, emerita

“The opening dedication to Norman Gottwald is appropriate as this volume is an outstanding tribute to his own intellectual legacy, as taken up by each contributor. Collectively, these articles present a balanced and diverse perspective on the phenomenon of empire as a totalizing force in the ancient world.”

—Roger S. Nam, Candler School of Theology

“This volume brings together substantial articles by scholars who have critically explored the economic dimension of biblical texts and the historical contexts they reflect and address. The articles cover several of the aspects that are necessary as the basis for a comprehensive critical exploration of ‘biblical economics’ that has been missing in ‘biblical’ scholarship and interpretation. . . . These articles form the basis for ever more comprehensive and precise understanding of political-economic-religious contexts that biblical texts address.”

—Richard A. Horsley, author of *You Shall Not Bow Down and Serve Them: The Political Economic Projects of Jesus and Paul*

MATTHEW J. M. COOMBER is professor of biblical studies and theology at St. Ambrose University and an Episcopal priest. His publications include *Re-Reading the Prophets through Corporate Globalization* (2010; paperback ed., Cascade, 2022) and *Bible and Justice* (2011). He is coeditor of *Fortress Commentary on the Bible: The Old Testament and Apocrypha* (2014) and editor of the Center and Library for the Bible and Social Justice Guide to Bible and Economics (Cascade).



Lectio Sacra

foreword by Walter Moberly

FAITHFULNESS & RESTORATION



*Towards Reading Ezra-Nehemiah
as Christian Scripture*

Timothy Robert Escott

Faithfulness and Restoration

Towards Reading Ezra-Nehemiah
as Christian Scripture

LECTIO SACRA

TIMOTHY R. ESCOTT

978-1-6667-3113-2 | Forthcoming

The books of Ezra and Nehemiah are rarely taken seriously in Christian theological reflection. To many modern readers, the community restored after the Babylonian exile appears diminished, legalistic, and xenophobic. What place do these books have in theology and practice today? Timothy Escott charts a way forward for reading Ezra-Nehemiah fruitfully as Christian Scripture. By locating Ezra-Nehemiah in the context of the canon and Christian theology, and in conversation with interpreters old and new, he argues that these books are best understood through a variety of Christian reading strategies. Approaching the books figurally, prophetically, ethically, and as part of a biblical story offers a mix of distinctive yet complementary perspectives. Ezra-Nehemiah portrays God's restorative work and God's people seeking to participate with him and live faithfully in the face of opposition and difficulty. In this way, Ezra-Nehemiah is a rich resource for Christian life and faith today.

"This book is the study that I have been waiting for! Few biblical books are as neglected as Ezra and Nehemiah, but few are as important—since Jesus is unimaginable without the return of the people to the land and the rebuilding of Jerusalem and the temple. Most treatments of Ezra and Nehemiah are either as dry as sawdust or, conversely, are insufficiently aware of the historical-critical data. Timothy Escott's book hits the sweet spot."

—Matthew Levering, chair of theology, Mundelein Seminary

"Finally, an approach to reading Ezra-Nehemiah that does not simply press the work into a prefabricated mold. Timothy Escott provides a range of interpretive approaches which are not satisfied with simplistic summaries, but work with the grain of the text. The result is a rich exploration of the meaning of Ezra-Nehemiah which brings forth the work's own concerns and places it within a larger theological framework"

—George Athas, director of research, Moore Theological College

"For most of my life, I have considered Ezra-Nehemiah to be a narrative of straw, the Old Testament book most easily discarded from the canon. Timothy Escott has changed my mind with his insightful and nuanced analysis. I recommend this engaging study, which brings rich reflection through its use of multiple reading strategies."

—Jill Firth, lecturer in Hebrew and Old Testament, Ridley College

"In *Faithfulness and Restoration*, Timothy Escott examines four possible strategies for a Christian theological reading of Ezra-Nehemiah, offering a new and holistic way of understanding these often-overlooked books. Salvation-historical and eschatological approaches provide the framework for carefully considered ethical readings. The relevance of Ezra-Nehemiah for Christian faith and life is thus exposed in a thoughtful and compelling way."

—David Peterson, emeritus faculty, Moore Theological College

TIMOTHY R. ESCOTT is assistant minister at St Mark's Anglican Church in Darling Point, Sydney.

Lectio Sacra

A TABLE in the PRESENCE of MY ENEMIES



Banqueting and Battling in Ancient Israel

Matthew Wade Umbarger

A Table in the Presence of My Enemies

Banqueting and Battling in Ancient Israel

LECTIO SACRA

MATTHEW WADE UMBARGER

978-1-6667-6159-7 | Forthcoming

Psalm 23, the most beloved of the Psalms, contains a perplexing riddle. What can it possibly mean that God prepares a table in the presence of the psalmist's enemies? Matthew Umbarger proposes that Psalm 23:5 makes the most sense when read according to its cultural context of prebattle covenant banquets. Beginning with ancient Mesopotamian mythology, Umbarger traces a conceptual trajectory of the prebattle banquet motif that reaches its zenith in the apocalyptic banquets of Second Temple Period literature and the eucharistic theology of the early church.

"Psalm 23 has been domesticated, and never did I realize the riches underlying its fifth verse. Demonstrating a mastery of ancient Near Eastern cultures and texts, plus a thoroughgoing understanding of the covenant-renewing pre-battle banquet and the eschatological banquet in the books of the Old Testament, Matthew Umbarger draws striking connections to the Gospel narratives of miraculous feedings. The capstone of the book is the church fathers' eucharistic interpretations of Psalm 23:5. A brilliant *tour de force*!"

—Matthew Levering, chair of theology, Mundelein Seminary

"In *A Table in the Presence of My Enemies*, Matthew Umbarger provides a unique approach to a beloved text: Psalm 23:5. Harnessing interdisciplinary insights, Umbarger unveils an enduring scene: a soldier, fit for war, seated at a banquet surrounded by cosmic enemies, ready to consume the covenant that celebrates God's faithfulness across history, settings, and Scripture. With remarkable precision, Umbarger bridges the unnecessary chasm between theology and biblical studies to offer an approach to Scripture which, in the end, proves to be quite old."

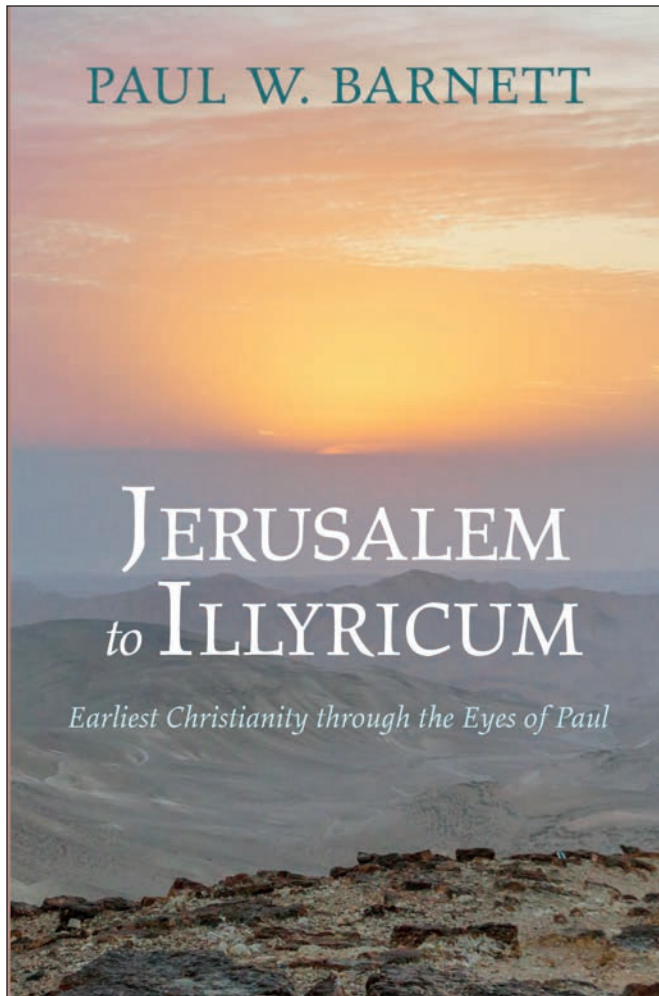
—Shane J. Wood, professor of New Testament, Ozark Christian College

"Matthew Umbarger's remarkable book will revolutionize the way that you read Psalm 23. Drawing upon a rich array of resources—both ancient and modern—Umbarger convincingly demonstrates how a pre-battle banquet motif deepens our understanding of this familiar biblical passage. Umbarger's command of Scripture is impressive, but even more so is his ability to translate this knowledge into genuine wisdom with life-altering potential. Read and study this work! You'll never hear Psalm 23 in the same way again."

—Ryan "Bud" Marr, dean of liberal arts and sciences, Mercy College of Health Sciences

MATTHEW WADE UMBARGER is associate professor of theology in the School of Catholic Studies at Newman University in Wichita, Kansas.





“Between AD 34 and 57, Paul preached Christ in six Roman provinces and wrote nine epistles. Historian and pastor Paul Barnett, by placing those writings within their historical and geographical contexts, expertly constructs a picture of the apostle and his ministry during the first two decades of Christianity—a time some have labeled ‘Paul’s silent years’ but which Barnett shows to be full of sound and color.”

—Philip H. Kern, Moore Theological College

Jerusalem to Illyricum

Earliest Christianity through the Eyes of Paul

PAUL W. BARNETT

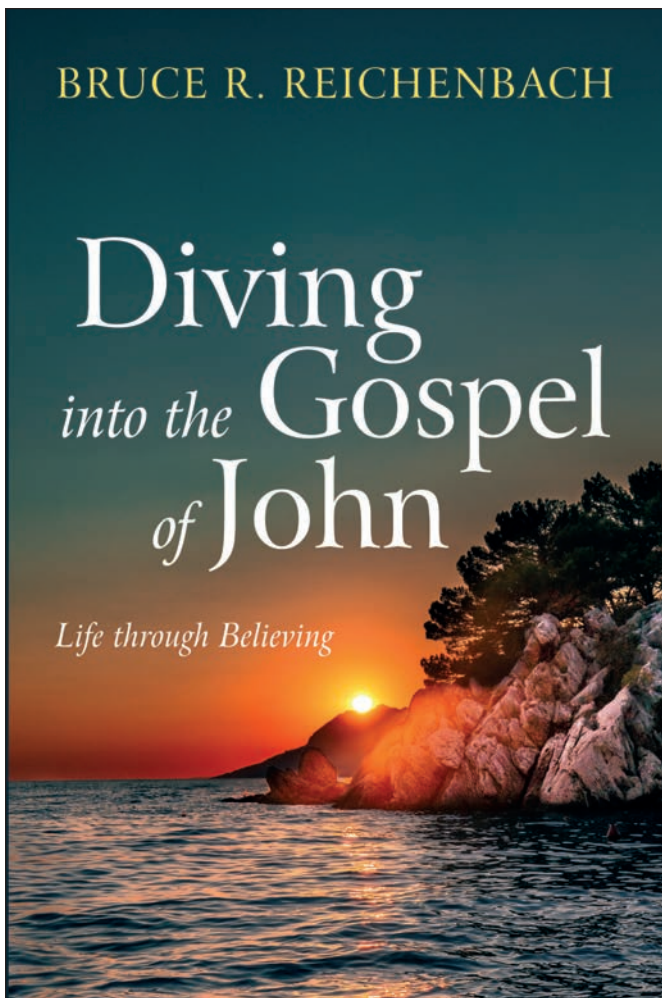
978-1-6667-3816-2 | 194 p. | \$27

Jerusalem to Illyricum is the geographical space and ca. AD 34 to 57 the time frame for Paul’s church planting mission. Acts includes this within its meta-narrative, and while historically accurate, it is not raw history like Paul’s letters. In this study Barnett is seeking references to Paul’s initial missionary “arrival” (*eisodos*) and the local cultural pushback. Of particular interest for history and theology is his encyclical to the Galatians and his account of the dispute with Cephas in Antioch. Paul’s success in his mission to the gentiles in Syria and Cilicia provoked the rise within the Jerusalem Church of those he calls “false brothers” whose colleagues travelled to “agitate” the Galatian believers and to drive the gentile believers in Antioch from the common meal. Some years later a band of preachers from Jerusalem sought to capture the church in Corinth, intending to then capture other churches in Macedonia and Asia. Paul’s missions and writings have been the subject of numerous large studies which, however, unintentionally imply that Paul’s mission years were longer than they were and that his mission writing occupied a lengthy time space. His nine missionary letters were written ca. AD 48 to 57, a mere decade, and all of which point to Paul’s astonishing energy and drive.

“How was the emergence of Christianity experienced by a prime protagonist and eyewitness, the apostle Paul himself? . . . A close reading of the texts combined with Barnett’s extensive knowledge of the historical and cultural contexts provides an illuminating picture of the whole. At the same time, Barnett underlines the integrity of the Pauline gospel and its continuity with earlier apostolic tradition. Highly recommended!”

—Donald A. Hagner, Fuller Theological Seminary, emeritus

PAUL W. BARNETT is lecturer emeritus at Moore College, honorary fellow in ancient history at Macquarie University, and visiting professor at Regent College, Vancouver. He is the author of texts relating to New Testament history as well as biblical commentaries.



Diving into the Gospel of John

Life through Believing

BRUCE R. REICHENBACH

978-1-6667-4207-7 | 316 p. | \$39

Diving into the Gospel of John displays the rich and diverse arguments John presents for his thesis that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing, readers/listeners will find eternal life. John's arguments are developed in four parts. The first two chapters develop the author's literary techniques that are often based on ambiguity and his key symbols and concepts, the understanding of which are essential to fully appreciate the Gospel. Chapters 3 through 6 progressively portray the author's evidence for his thesis in the form of signs, testimony of those who encounter Jesus, Jesus's self-identification, and Jesus's relationships to others. Chapters 7 and 8 show how the author uses theatrically patterned dialogues and triadic discourses to convey Jesus's identity and mission. Finally, chapters 9 through 11 provide important hints that the author gives for his thesis: Jesus's appeals to time, the indirect use of seven as the number of completeness, and invocation of parentage in pointing to salvation. Through diving into the Gospel, readers will discover the richness of John's argument, the Jesus he portrays, and the God Jesus reveals. The book aims to stimulate commitment, challenge mind and spirit, and encourage further reflection and conversation.

"It is a pleasure to read a new approach to John's Gospel. Bruce Reichenbach addresses the entire text but not in the style of a commentary; instead, he offers eleven different 'boards' as the starting points for diving into the pool of John's Gospel, informing and developing the reader's awareness of the evangelist's artistry. This book will appeal to academics, college students, and pastors, and is well worth having in your library."

—Mary Coloe, Yarra Theological Union

"In *Diving into the Gospel of John*, the student of this Gospel is coached how to look with fresh eyes to see 'his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth' and respond with greater faith in who he is and what he has done. I am left with a sense of urgency to read and meditate on the Gospel of John once again."

—Chuck McArthur, executive director, Equipping Leaders International

"Reichenbach's latest contribution brings a fresh and creative approach to the theology of the Fourth Gospel. His study highlights the complex interaction of ambiguity, double meaning, and symbolism in the reader's progressive experience of the Johannine narrative. As the story unfolds, John uses numbers, time, and the key metaphor of 'parentage' to gradually shape the reader's perception of his main character, Jesus. Helpful reflection questions encourage believing readers to apply conclusions to their personal experience."

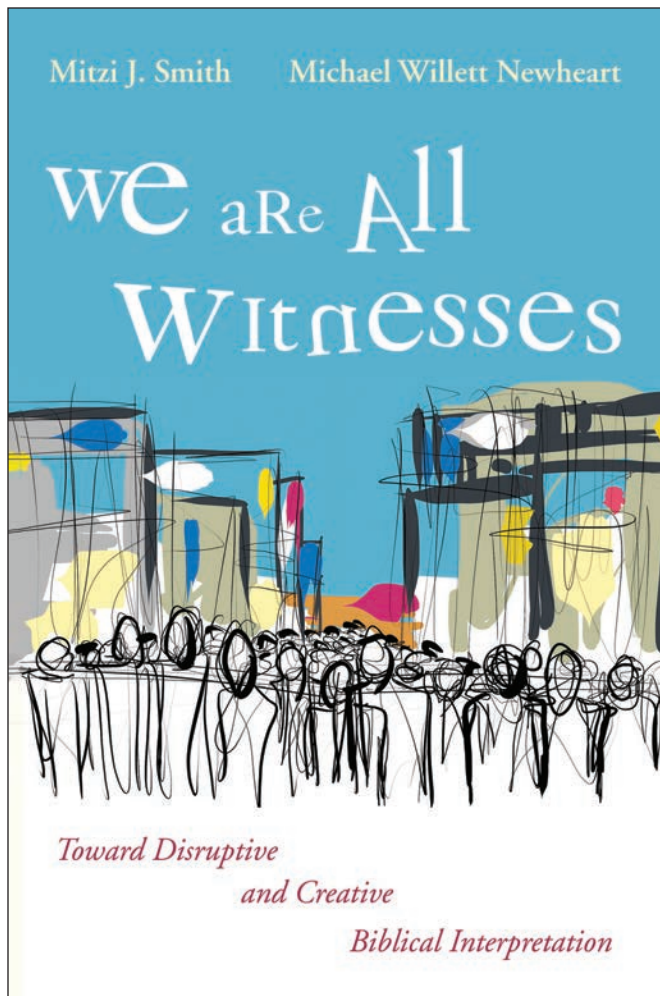
—Tom Thatcher, co-founder of the John, Jesus, and History Project

"In this new and readable introduction to the Gospel of John, Bruce Reichenbach guides readers through eleven lenses—or 'books'—through which to view 'the beauty, architectural and theological integrity, richness of thought and characters, symbolic ideas, and penetrating themes and insights the Gospel expresses.' In so doing, he follows the synchronic approach of Alan Culpepper while also embracing the memory-theory approach of Tom Thatcher, addressing the Johannine riddles lucidly to the benefit of the reader. I like this book!"

—Paul N. Anderson, George Fox University

BRUCE REICHENBACH is professor emeritus at Augsburg University (Minneapolis), where he taught philosophy for forty-three years. He also taught at Luther Seminary and at universities and seminaries in Lesotho, Kenya, China, Ghana, and Liberia. He has published ten books, including *Divine Providence* and *On Behalf of God* (Wipf & Stock), *Epistemic Obligations*, and *Evil and a Good God*, and co-authored *Reason and Religious Belief*. He is married to Sharon and has two children, Robert and Rachel.





We Are All Witnesses

Toward Disruptive and Creative
Biblical Interpretation

MITZI J. SMITH AND MICHAEL WILLETT NEWHEART

978-1-6667-1463-0 | 174 p. | \$24

We Are All Witnesses is a remarkable, sassy, creative, disruptive, and deeply personal textbook. It is like no other text on biblical interpretation. Smith and Newheart have produced a groundbreaking milestone book about how to do biblical interpretation that prioritizes justice and the reader's context. It is both memoir and metatextimony! The layperson, college students, and seminary students will find this book accessible. It is indeed creative, witty, and wayward!

"This book integrates soul and mind. Across a range of New Testament texts, Mitzi Smith and Michael Willett Newheart testify to the integration of public biblical interpretation with personal and communal experience. This book is a gift."

—Greg Carey, Lancaster Theological Seminary

"Witnessing and testimony are central to the project of Smith and Newheart's *We Are All Witnesses*. Our varying contexts, journeys of faith, and life experiences demand that we adhere to their call for 'hermeneutical humility.' I highly recommend this book as a pedagogical model for doing biblical interpretation that is both creative and disruptive of injustice."

—Angela N. Parker, Mercer University

"*We Are All Witnesses*' exhilarating and engrossing collection of essays represents an epistemological earthquake for serious biblical interpreters weary of tepid, bowdlerized approaches to Christian Testament interpretation. At last, we have a sturdy, subtle, original scholarly work that explores the deep ideational, transformative, and threatening potential of viewing the Christian Testament as a 'canonized collection of testimonies' that are, at once, inescapably subjective, transformative, and disruptive."

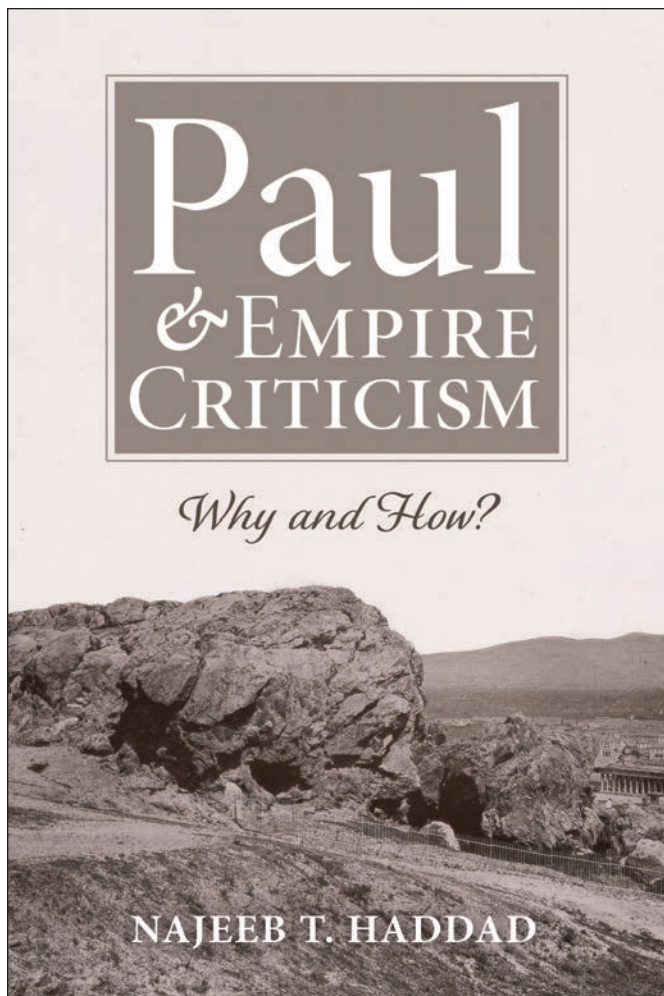
—Clarice J. Martin, Colgate University

"Smith and Newheart invite the reader into their lively and important conversations through their interdisciplinary and intersectional readings of biblical stories. They model for us how to claim our agency as readers of biblical texts through learning to question from our own social locations. They also show us a variety of ways to consider both texts and contexts, historical and contemporary, and they challenge traditional assumptions and interpretations by calling out unjust readings."

—Tina Pippin, Agnes Scott College

MITZI J. SMITH is J. Davison Philips Professor of New Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary and Professor Extraordinarius at the University of South Africa, College of the Humanities, Institute of Gender Studies. She co-edited *Bitter the Chastening Rod* (2022); co-authored *Toward Decentering the New Testament* (2018); and authored *Womanist Sass and Talk Back: Social (In)Justice, Intersectionality and Biblical Interpretation* (2018).

MICHAEL WILLETT NEWHEART is professor emeritus of New Testament at Howard University School of Divinity, and interim ministry specialist, American Baptist Churches of the USA. He is the author of *"My Name Is Legion": The Story and Soul of the Gerasene Demoniac* (2004).



Paul and Empire Criticism

Why and How?

NAJEEB T. HADDAD

978-1-7252-7186-9 | 132 p. | \$20

The world's ever growing highly partisan political environment has fuelled a renewed interest in the study of politics in the New Testament. This interest has given rise to "empire criticism," which attempts to understand how the Roman Empire affected the early Christian communities and writings. The subgenre of "Paul and empire" studies has produced several important studies, but none have offered a clear methodological approach to this topic. This book fills this lacuna by introducing readers to the difficulties of method in Paul and empire studies, as well as introducing them to contemporary methods, debates, and other issues. Most importantly, it will be a guide for learning to apply sound methods to this field of study.

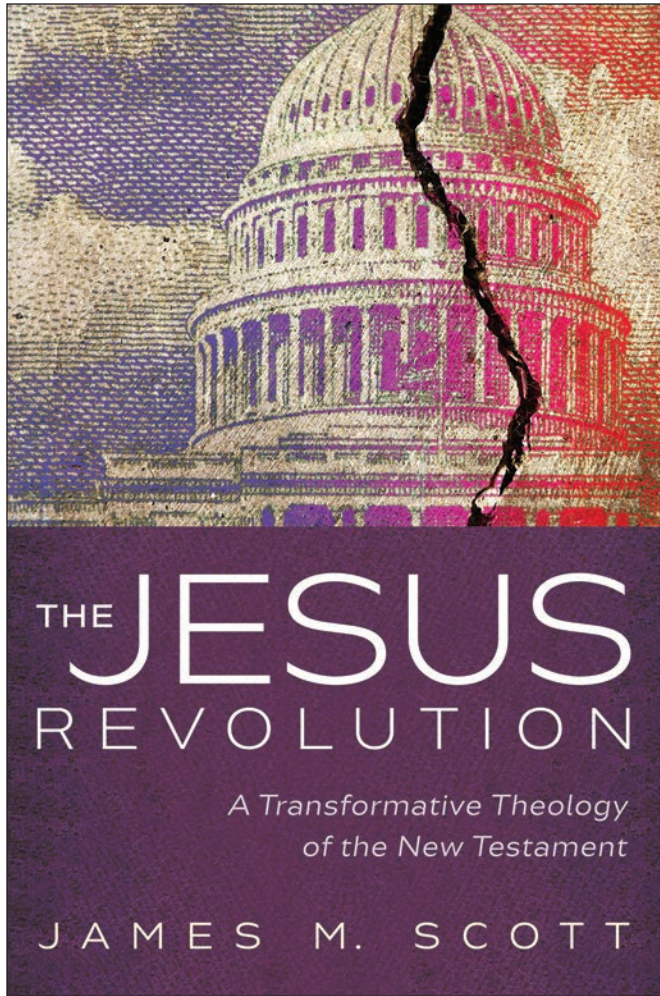
"Finding a reliable starting point is critical to any new method in biblical studies. In this book, Najeeb Haddad achieves this for the new methodology called 'empire criticism,' which analyzes Paul's complex views of civil government. Haddad separates the chaff from the wheat in this new approach to Paul's letters to place it on a sound footing and to avoid overinterpretations. A lucid, balanced, and reliable resource!"

—Ronald D. Witherup, PSS, author of *Scripture and Tradition in the Letters of Paul*

"Among many Pauline scholars it is a truism that several of Paul's texts are anti-imperial. In this volume, Najeeb Haddad takes this truism and puts it to the test. Methodologically rigorous, historically astute, and exegetically thoughtful, Haddad shows that most of our judgments about Paul and the Roman Empire need to be rethought and made in much more complex and nuanced terms. This volume is a superb introduction to the topic of Paul and empire."

—Stephen Fowl, Loyola University Maryland

NAJEEB T. HADDAD is Chair and Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Notre Dame of Maryland University. He is the author of *Paul, Politics, and New Creation* (2021).



The Jesus Revolution

A Transformative Theology of the New Testament

JAMES M. SCOTT

978-1-6667-4658-7 | 354 p. | \$39

This introduction to a biblical theology of the New Testament seeks to revitalize our engagement with the Scriptures for the twenty-first century by showing not only how the assemblage of *ancient* writings consisting of both Old and New Testaments is intrinsically relevant, but also how we can remain faithful to Jesus Christ, the organizing principle of those writings, in the process. The book is an invitation to all people of goodwill—believers and unbelievers, liberals and conservatives—to put aside their differences in order to cooperate in the revolution that Jesus inaugurated, the creation of a new and better world in the here and now as an anticipation of the eschatological finale. In an age in which many people are overwhelmed by life and looking for ways to cope, this book offers fresh perspectives and penetrating insights that are grounded in solid biblical scholarship with the aid of contemporary philosophical concepts.

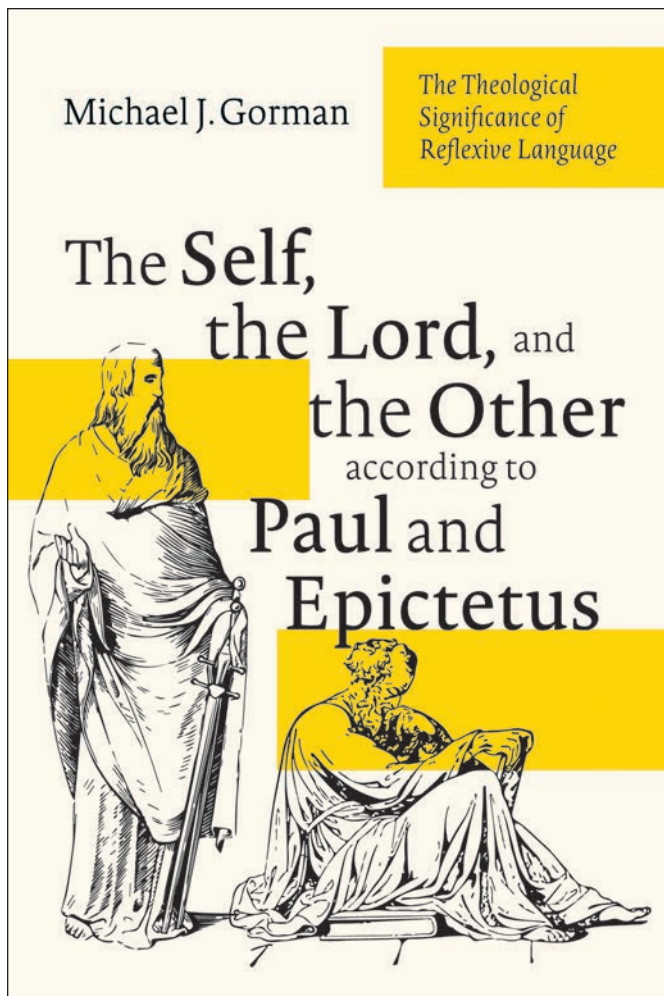
“A stunning and sophisticated rebuke of the moral therapeutic deism and white Christian nationalism that dominates so much of Christendom today. Scott invites us to reclaim the New Testament as an ‘assemblage’ of texts that point to nonviolent revolution.”

—Drew Strait, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

“In this unusual and innovative project, Scott seeks to reorient New Testament theology around Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari’s theorization of the conditions of revolutionary possibility. Scott seeks to align Deleuze and Guattari’s categories with aspects of Jesus and the early ‘Jesus movement,’ including Paul. Scott knows there is some theoretical heavy lifting here; he wants to invite readers into the ‘ongoing process of continual transformation’ in our own turbulent times.”

—Neil Elliott, author of *Liberating Paul*

JAMES M. SCOTT is professor of religious studies at Trinity Western University, British Columbia, Canada. His most recent book is *The Apocalyptic Letter to the Galatians: Paul and the Enochic Heritage* (2021).



The Self, the Lord, and the Other according to Paul and Epictetus

The Theological Significance of Reflexive Language

MICHAEL J. GORMAN

978-1-6667-9531-8 | 540 p. | \$55

This study explores the relationship between the individual person (the self), the divine, and other people in the writings of the apostle Paul and the Roman Stoic Epictetus. It does so by examining self-involving actions expressed with reflexive pronouns (myself, yourself, etc.) in various kinds of sentences: for example, “Examine yourself” and “You do not belong to yourself.” After situating the topic within the fields of linguistics and ancient Greek, the study then examines the reflexive constructions in Epictetus’s *Discourses*, showing that reflexive texts express fundamental aspects of his ethic of rational self-interest in imitation of the indwelling rational deity. Next, the investigation examines the 109 reflexive constructions in Paul, providing an exegesis of each reflexive text and then synthesizing the results. Paul’s reflexive phrases are essential statements of his theology and ethics, expressing an interconnected narrative Christology, narrative apostolic identity, and narrative ethic. Most importantly, the study finds that for Epictetus, concern for others is a rational means to self-realization, whereas for Paul, concern for others is a community ethic grounded in the story of the indwelling Christ and is the antithesis of self-interest.

“In an age of insatiable self-reference—think only of ‘selfies’—Gorman returns to classic Pauline texts to retrieve what a Christian sense of self can be. By juxtaposing his reading of Paul with a reading of Epictetus, Gorman shows how the Pauline self is one that belongs in and to community and works in service against self-exaltation.”

—C. Kavin Rowe, Duke Divinity School

“Gorman convincingly demonstrates that Paul’s use of reflexive pronouns and phrases is an essential element of Paul’s theological and ethical formulations. The detailed comparison of Paul’s usage with that of Epictetus brings the apostle’s distinctiveness into sharp focus and bears considerable theological fruit. This important contribution to Pauline studies deserves a wide readership.”

—Martinus C. de Boer, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

MICHAEL J. GORMAN holds the Raymond E. Brown Chair in Biblical Studies and Theology at St. Mary’s Seminary & University in Baltimore, Maryland. He is the author of numerous books on Paul and other topics in New Testament theology. This book is a thoroughly updated version of his previously unpublished PhD dissertation.



JAMES W. THOMPSON

Christ & Culture *in the New Testament*



“The apostle Paul told the Corinthians that, though they be in the world, they must not be caught up in worldliness. But what should the proper relationship be between church and world? James Thompson brings together insight from biblical studies, history, theology, and sociology to offer more than superficial answers. The New Testament bears witness to the church as an alternative community. Personal and communal identities matter, and Thompson offers rich food for thought for the Christian imagination.”

—Nijay K. Gupta, Northern Seminary

Christ and Culture in the New Testament

JAMES W. THOMPSON

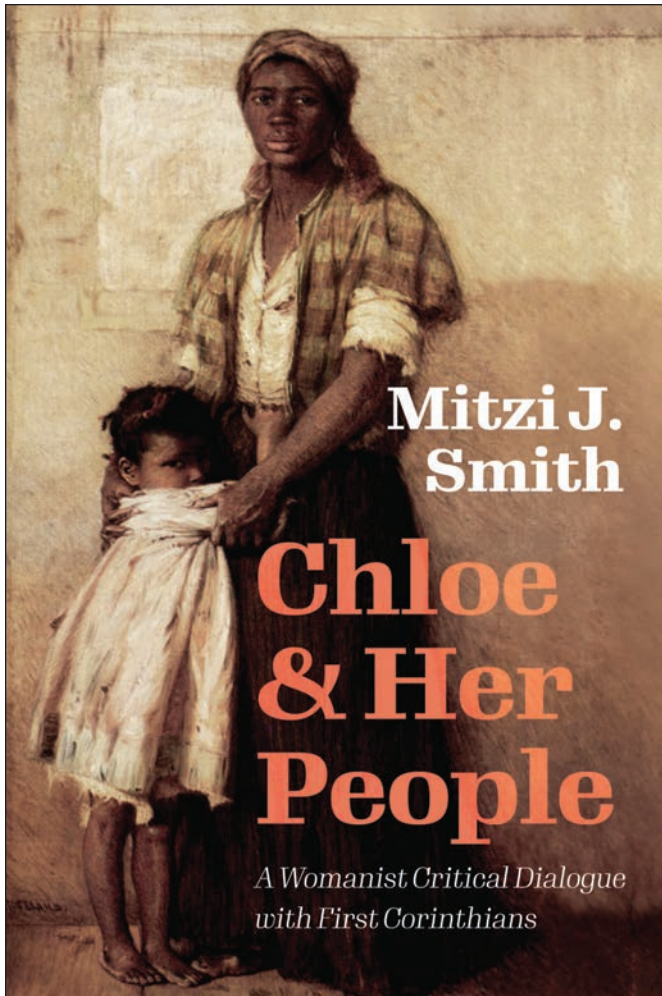
978-1-6667-3946-6 | 238 p. | \$32

Believers in an increasingly secular world face the challenge of responding to the cultural changes that have taken place in the past generation, as Christians become a “cognitive minority,” especially in the West. Some attempt to restore the Christian culture of the past with political activism, and others accommodate to the cultural changes. Christians in a post-Christian world can learn much from believers who lived in the pre-Christian period. The New Testament demonstrates that, in a pluralistic and syncretistic world of religions, Christian identity exists neither through absorption into the culture nor through total withdrawal but through dialogue and critique.

“James Thompson offers us a well-researched and stimulating survey of Christ and culture in the New Testament. The chapters on John and the disputed Pauline letters rightly challenge standard views, and the brief concluding chapter is a *tour de force*. This volume will aid Christians today in wrestling with what it means to be a distinctive minority culture that offers ultimate allegiance only to Christ and engages ‘the world’ in light of the gospel.”

—Michael J. Gorman, St. Mary’s Seminary & University

JAMES W. THOMPSON is scholar in residence in the Graduate School of Theology at Abilene Christian University. He is the author of numerous books, including *Pastoral Ministry according to Paul*, *Moral Formation according to Paul*, *The Church according to Paul*, and *Apostle of Persuasion*.



Chloe and Her People

A Womanist Critical Dialogue
with First Corinthians

MITZI J. SMITH

978-1-7252-5327-8 | 136 p. | \$21

C*hloe and Her People* offers an Africana Womanist reading of First Corinthians that privileges the knowledge, experiences, histories, traditions, voices, and artifacts of Black women and the Black community that challenge or dissent from Paul's rhetorical epistemic constructions. Smith reads First Corinthians dialogically from the perspective of oppressed and marginalized readers situated in front of the text and those muted within and behind the letter. Struggling toward unmitigated freedom, *Chloe and Her People* talks back to and throws shade on, sometimes poetically, Paul's muting and subordination of women, rhetorically constructed binary knowledge, the glass ceiling placed on women's heads, heterosexual marriage as a mechanism for managing lust, and androcentric patriarchal love built on women's passive bodies.

"A stunning womanist reading of resistance of Paul's 1 Corinthians. Mitzi J. Smith has brilliantly choreographed and conducted this conversation about an ancient text, its patent dangers and continual reverberations, and sent it soaring with her wise, eloquent, and ethically urgent voice."

—Margaret M. Mitchell, distinguished service professor of New Testament and early Christian literature, University of Chicago

"In *Chloe and Her People*, Mitzi Smith's critical engagement with Paul in 1 Corinthians sets the stage for unmitigated freedom for the oppressed seeking answers from the Bible. It is a revelation of how uncritical interpretation and reception of biblical texts can be damaging. Through her Africana, womanist lens, she provides a powerful resource for everyone seeking to impact the world positively through critical life-affirming readings and interpretation of Scripture. This is a must-read!"

—Mmapula Diana Kebaneilwe, senior lecturer of biblical studies, University of Botswana

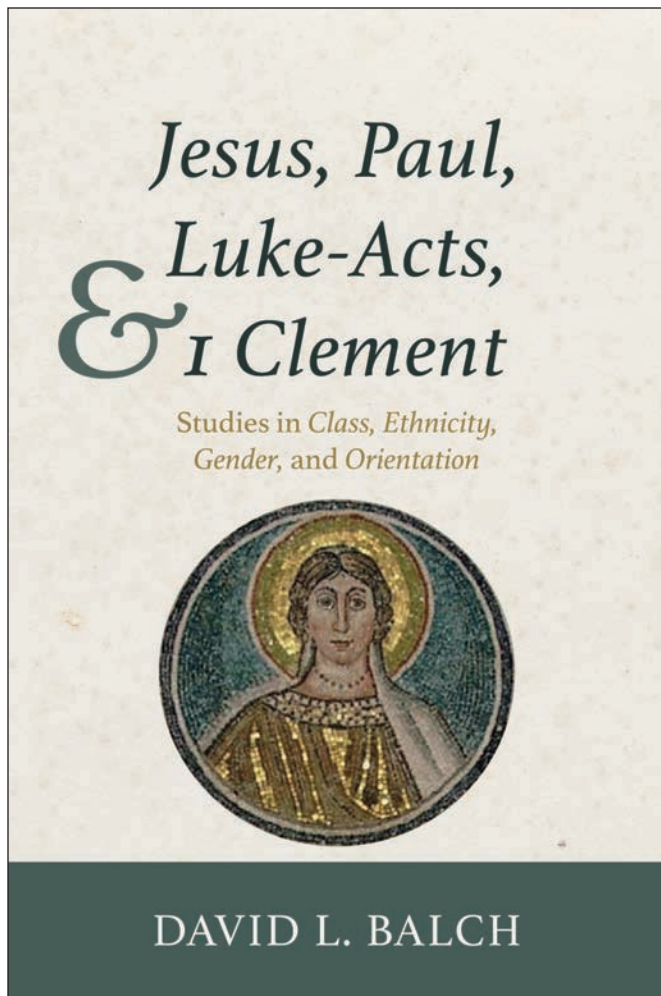
"With *Chloe and Her People*, Mitzi Smith brilliantly shatters the mystifying and opaque glass encasement of one of the consequential leaders in the Corinthian assembly and first-century Christianity. Chloe finally emerges from the dark shadows of Pauline dominance in the Corinthian correspondence to assume her rightful place on the world stage of the first-century Jesus movement as a firebrand to be reckoned with. A spectacular achievement and required reading for serious students of early Christian origins."

—Clarice J. Martin, professor of philosophy and religion, Colgate University

"An incredibly timely and excellent analysis of Paul, *Chloe and Her People* engages with the notions of gender and slavery within the geopolitics of the Corinthian community. Applying womanist critical dialogue, Mitzi Smith engages the intersectionality of race, gender, and the experiences of Black bodies within the geopolitics of the United States. This book is an essential text for academics, teachers, and pastors."

—Itumeleng Daniel Mothoagae, head of the department of gender and sexuality studies, University of South Africa

MITZI J. SMITH is J. Davison Philips Professor of New Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary and Professor Extraordinarius at the University of South Africa, College of the Humanities, Institute of Gender Studies. She is co-editor of *Bitter the Chastening Rod* (2022); co-author of *We Are All Witnesses* (2023) and *Toward Decentering the New Testament* (2018); and author of *Womanist Sass and Talk Back: Social (In)Justice, Intersectionality and Biblical Interpretation* (2018).



Jesus, Paul, Luke-Acts, and 1 Clement

Studies in Class, Ethnicity,
Gender, and Orientation

DAVID L. BALCH

978-1-5326-5956-0 | 382 p. | \$46

In this book, the author draws on two original sources, on a Greek biographer, historian, and rhetorician, Dionysius of Halicarnassus, as well as on Pompeian domestic art and architecture. Generally, NT scholars read texts, but Greeks and ancient Romans loved beauty. The walls and floors of their houses were decorated with thousands of colorful frescoes and mosaics, art that two millennia later is still on display in Pompeii. Christians lived and worshipped in those typical houses; relating the art to NT texts generates many intriguing new questions! What stories/myths did Greeks and Romans see every day? What were their sports, and how violent were they?

Many NT scholars know as much or more Latin than they do Greek, and they therefore cite the Latin historian Livy rather than the Greek Dionysius, who wrote a century before the first Christian historian, Luke. Dionysius' rhetoric expressed values shared across cultures, by Greeks, Romans, and Jews (e.g., by the historian—and rhetorician—Josephus), some values that Luke also shares. Dionysius makes clear that cities and ethnic groups had to praise how they treated emigrant foreigners, questions handled differently by Josephus and by Luke. This enables new interpretations of Jesus' inaugural speech in Luke 4 and of Peter's second Pentecost speech in Acts 10.

event to celebrate. The eleven papers republished here exhibit the versatility and range of this scholar who has moved about comfortably not only in New Testament studies, the center of his contributions, but in Roman history, classical historiography, Greek philosophy, and the visual arts. The ample variety of topics in the collection offer thoughtful reflections for scholars of ancient history, religion, art, mythology, and cultural studies generally."

—Erich S. Gruen, professor emeritus of history and classics, University of California, Berkeley

"David Balch's new collection of essays is an impressive achievement, documenting the career of one of the most generative scholars of early Christianity in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. Eleven chapters, originally published between 1991 and 2022, illuminate passages in Luke-Acts, the Pauline Epistles, and the so-called First Epistle of Clement. Balch draws upon his encyclopedic knowledge of the Greco-Roman world, assembling evidence from diverse sources—political histories, philosophical treatises, wall paintings, honorific inscriptions, public monuments, etc."

—L. L. Welborn, professor of New Testament and early Christian literature, Fordham University

"For nearly fifty years David Balch has been an internationally renowned interpreter of the social and cultural aspects of the New Testament and early Christian literature. In this remarkable collection of essays, Balch's wide-ranging interpretive skills are on full display as he explores issues of class, ethnicity, gender, and orientation with an eye toward both the ancient context in which these texts were written and the (post-)modern context in which they are now read. To have these (mostly) previously published essays in one place is a treasure. This is vintage Balch at its best—a must-read!"

—Mikeal C. Parsons, professor of New Testament, Baylor University

"From the very beginning of his academic career, David Balch has been at the forefront of a fearless vanguard of biblical scholars who are relentless in probing ancient texts, works of art, and artifacts in light of pressing contemporary concerns. In these eleven essays, which are brimming with penetrating insights and observations, we see Balch at his intrepid best, addressing and illuminating a variety of complex issues, including social class, ethnicity, gender, violence, and sexual orientation. Highly recommended!"

—John T. Fitzgerald, professor of New Testament and early Christianity, University of Notre Dame

"Publication of selected essays from the productive career of David Balch is an

DAVID L. BALCH studied in Tübingen with Ernst Käsemann (1968–70) and then at Yale University with Abraham Malherbe and Wayne Meeks. From 1983 to 2006 he taught at Brite Divinity School/TCU in a program focused on postcolonial studies. In 1990 he became fascinated with the domestic art and architecture of Pompeii. Later he taught at PLTS/GTU/CLU (2006–16) and then concluded his career as a staff chaplain in the ICU at the VA hospital in Portland, Oregon.



Reading the Bible in a Secular Age

The New Testament as Spiritual Ancestry

JULIUS-KEI KATO

978-1-7252-7772-4 | 232 p. | \$30

In a secular age which dismisses once-revered matters such as Bible reading, is there still a point to reading and studying Christianity’s foundational text? This book will answer an unequivocal “Absolutely[!]” Why? For us located in the West, the Bible is a vital part of our “spiritual ancestry,” a dominant idea of the book. Hence, learning how to read and interpret the Bible properly (particularly, the New Testament) is like getting to know our spiritual ancestry better. The main strategy that this work will suggest is to treat the New Testament as a metaphorical textual village where some of our most important spiritual ancestors continue to live. If we learn some good strategies to communicate with them, we will be able, as it were, to visit this village, have meaningful conversations with our spiritual ancestors and, thus, become better grounded in our spiritual ancestry here in the West. With that, we can return to our secular context, better equipped both to embrace and wrestle with that spiritual ancestry. Hopefully, that will also help us to create for ourselves a meaning-system or spirituality that would be appropriate for our present world while being well grounded in our spiritual tradition.

“In this marvelous book, Julius-Kei Kato introduces readers, especially students—both Christians who have no familiarity with the Bible and the ‘nones’—to the Bible as literature and history and helps them discover their ancestors in Jesus and the writers of the New Testament. I most enthusiastically recommend Kato’s book, especially to those who style themselves as atheist and ‘none.’ They may be surprised to find their ancestors in the Bible!”

—Peter C. Phan, Georgetown University

“An original, insightful, and accessible book to help us think about why and how we should read the Bible in an age that has often been characterized as ‘secular’ or ‘secularized.’ With the metaphor of ‘spiritual ancestry,’ Kato opens up a way for us to glimpse how we may yet relate to this ancient ‘religious’ library today—and perhaps even find resonance or relevance in it.”

—Tat-siong Benny Liew, College of the Holy Cross

“Many books on the Bible have been written for Christians. This book is boldly written for secular readers who want to know the spiritual ancestors of the New Testament. Well-written and accessible, this book is a gift and can be used in classrooms, churches, and youth groups. I highly recommend it.”

—Kwok Pui-lan, Candler School of Theology, Emory University

“Julius-Kei Kato invites us on a metaphorical journey to the New Testament village where he presents us to our spiritual ancestors, grand-uncles Mark, Matthew, Luke, John, Paul, and the great founding ancestor Jesus. In a surprisingly compelling way, Kato combines expert biblical scholarship with very accessible storytelling, stirring the attention of professionals as well as students. I highly recommend this inspiring exercise in both decentering biblical studies and challenging our hybrid identities in a multicultural secular age.”

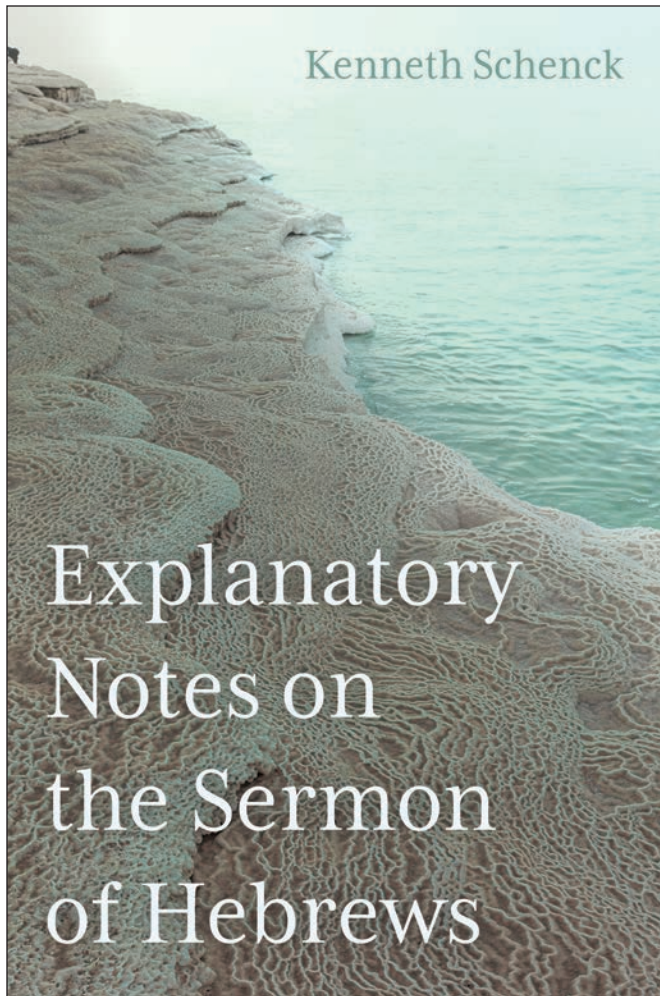
—Lieven Boeve, KU Leuven

“Julius-Kei Kato skillfully weaves together his life story, popular culture, and Asian spirituality in his fascinating exploration of biblical texts. His premise that reading the Bible is an act of conversing with our spiritual ancestors in their metaphorical village offers a fresh lens for reading the texts. Deeply insightful, engaging, and accessible.”

—Raj Nadella, Columbia Theological Seminary

JULIUS-KEI KATO is associate professor of biblical and religious studies at King’s University College-Western University, London, Canada. He is the author of *How Immigrant Christians Living in Mixed Cultures Interpret Their Religion and Religious Language and Asian [North] American Hybridity*.





Explanatory Notes on the Sermon of Hebrews

KENNETH SCHENCK

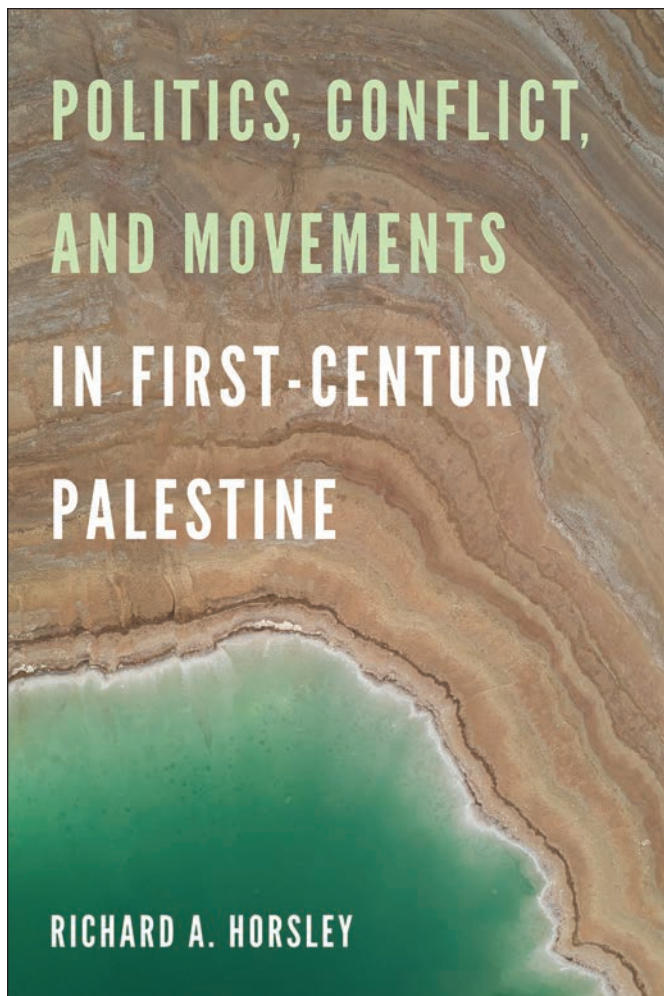
978-1-6667-6769-8 | 142 p. | \$21

In 1755, John Wesley was forced to rest for a year because of illness. In that year, he wrote his *Explanatory Notes upon the New Testament*. These were meant to provide brief commentary on the text for his lay preachers and others to use. These *Explanatory Notes on the Sermon of Hebrews* are also meant to provide brief interpretations of the text of Hebrews without extensive engagement with scholarship. The goal is for the reader to gain a good overview of Hebrews' train of thought, its overall purpose, as well as some engagement with contemporary application for a Christian. In the case of Hebrews, a good deal is unknown. If we knew the details, the sermon's argument would come clearly into view. For this reason, these notes engage in a little more speculation than a normal commentary might.

"After years of studying this complex book, Kenneth Schenck can cut through the conundrums to offer a clear a reading of Hebrews. He states his opinion simply, directs readers to others who might see it differently, and even demonstrates how he's changed his mind. This is a refreshing guide that will equip interpreters to follow the primary message of this sermon: 'Keep going!'"

—Amy Peeler, associate professor of New Testament, Wheaton College

KEN SCHENCK studied New Testament at the University of Durham and is the author of over thirty books. He taught New Testament and biblical languages at Indiana Wesleyan University for twenty-two years, where he also served as Dean for nine years. After two years at Houghton University as the Vice President for Planning and Innovation, he currently is the Provost of Campus Edu. He is an ordained minister in the Wesleyan Church.



Politics, Conflict, and Movements in First-Century Palestine

RICHARD A. HORSLEY

978-1-6667-3070-8 | 304 p. | \$35

This volume brings together groundbreaking essays that laid the foundations of several of Horsley's later works. The initial aims of these essays were, first, to ferret out evidence from our sources, primarily from the histories of Josephus, evidence for the lives of ordinary people living in Judean and Galilean villages. A second purpose was to explore as precisely as possible the fundamental conflictual division between the Roman, Herodian, and high priestly rulers in Palestine and the Judean and Galilean villagers they ruled. A third purpose was to explore more particularly how the popular and scribal opposition to the rulers was manifested in a remarkable diversity of movements and their leaders. And the fourth purpose, entailed in the first two, was to wriggle out from under some of the controlling constructs of New Testament/biblical studies that had been hiding the considerable complexity of the historical context. This was necessary even to begin to discern more precisely the fundamental political—economic—religious conflict between the rulers and the villagers manifested in a diversity of social movements attested in the sources.

“Richard Horsley expertly revisits a vast array of first-century sources such as Josephus and offers fascinating, fresh perspectives on the causes and key players in popular movements that shaped the Gospels. Drawing upon his decades of work as an organizer and rights activist, Horsley methodically shifts focus away from the elite in Roman Palestine and foregrounds the agency of ordinary individuals and communities that spearheaded those movements.”

—Raj Nadella, associate professor of New Testament, Columbia Theological Seminary

“As a doctoral student in the 1980s, Richard Horsley's work on rethinking understanding about political and religious movements in the Jewish world of Jesus and the movement he spawned was an important part of my training. To have these updated and revised critical essays on social banditry, movement prophets, and zealots collected in this volume will be a major contribution for a new generation of scholars in the fields of New Testament and Jewish history.”

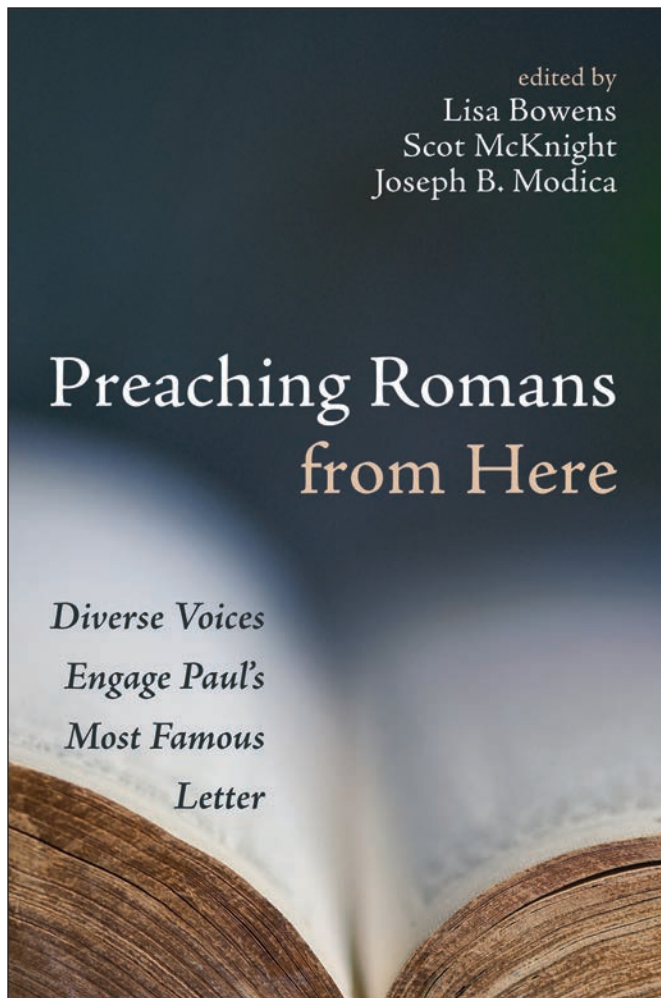
—Efrain Agosto, distinguished visiting professor of Latina/o studies, Williams College

“Richard Horsley's early exploratory articles, collected here, read as fresh, new analyses of the social and political movements of the first century. His goal was simple and revolutionary: in order to understand Judaism and the Jesus movement, one had to re-discover the larger politics of the eastern Roman world. These essays still have much to teach us today.”

—Lawrence Wills, author of *Introduction to the Apocrypha*

RICHARD A. HORSLEY is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Liberal Arts and the Study of Religion at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. His numerous publications include these recent works from Cascade: *Empowering the People: Jesus, Healing, and Exorcism* (2022), *You Shall Not Bow Down and Serve Them: The Political Economic Projects of Jesus and Paul* (2021), *Jesus and the Politics of Roman Palestine, 2nd ed.* (2021), *Jesus and Magic* (2014), and *Text and Tradition in Performance and Writing* (2013).





Preaching Romans from Here

Diverse Voices Engage Paul's Most Famous Letter

EDITED BY **LISA M. BOWENS,**
SCOT MCKNIGHT,
AND **JOSEPH B. MODICA**

978-1-7252-5817-4 | 202 p. | \$28

Romans is the most influential New Testament book in the history of Christian theology: it has shaped Christian theology, how the gospel is framed, and how the Christian life is understood. Preaching Romans for many pastors is the climactic text for a preaching career. There are perspectives (e.g., reformed, new, apocalyptic, participationist, among others) on Romans, but not all of them are known by most and too many of them not known at all. We want to help rectify this by giving voice to those who have been too often voiceless.

“Romans is too often read and preached as abstract theology without sufficient reference to the contexts of its original and contemporary audiences. This volume alerts us to the variety—and the significance—of contextual interpretations of the letter. There is much to learn from these approaches, and this book as a whole reminds us that we all interpret and preach from particular places and spaces.”

—Michael J. Gorman, professor of biblical studies and theology, St. Mary's Seminary & University

“The essays comprising *Preaching Romans from Here* provide a different sort of ‘Romans Road’ to guide Bible-readers. This volume takes seriously the reality of a Bible-reader’s social location and demonstrates how biblical interpretation ought to involve a multiplicity of diverse voices. I’ve preached countless sermons over more than three decades of ministry and wish I had owned such a resource earlier in my career.”

—Dennis R. Edwards, dean, North Park Theological Seminary

LISA BOWENS is an associate professor of New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary. She is the author of *African American Readings of Paul: Reception, Resistance, and Transformation* (2020).

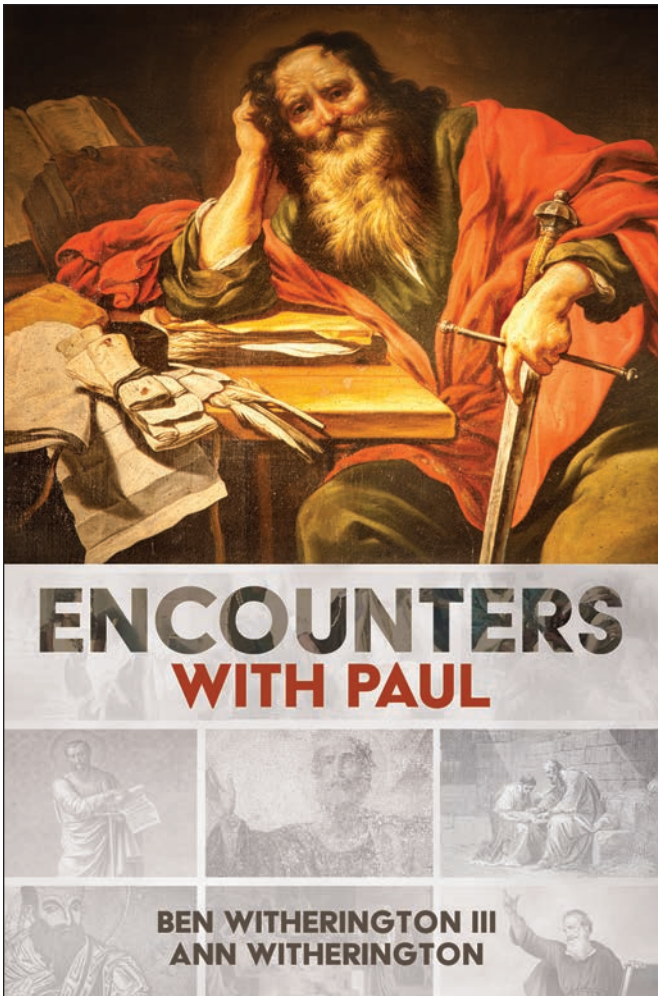
SCOT MCKNIGHT is the Julius R. Mantey Chair of New Testament at Northern Seminary. He is a recognized authority on the historical Jesus, early Christianity, and the New Testament. His blog, *Jesus Creed*, is a leading Christian blog.

JOSEPH B. MODICA is the university chaplain and associate professor of biblical studies at Eastern University. He is co-editor, with Scot McKnight, of *Preaching Romans: Four Perspectives* (2019).

Encounters with Paul

BEN WITHERINGTON III AND ANN WITHERINGTON

978-1-6667-3452-2 | Forthcoming



As a New Testament character of note, the Apostle Paul is second only to Jesus. In this companion volume to *Encounters with Jesus*, Ben and Ann Witherington draw on the biblical text and deep knowledge of historical context to bring alive the reactions of several contemporaries to the famous apostle and his words and deeds. Here we hear from friends and companions as well as passing acquaintances and outright enemies of Paul. Including many photos and illustrations, this book helps us to see Paul from many vivid points of view that all up add to a compelling and revealing portrait.

“In *Encounters with Paul*, Ben and Ann Witherington bring Paul—and his varied and widespread web of connections—to life in this imaginative, yet well-informed, collection of ‘reminiscences’ of Paul and his impact as told by friends, rivals, proteges, and partners. This is a winsome and accessible entry point into the social networks and ministry of the apostle.”

—David A. deSilva, trustees’ distinguished professor of New Testament and Greek, Ashland Theological Seminary

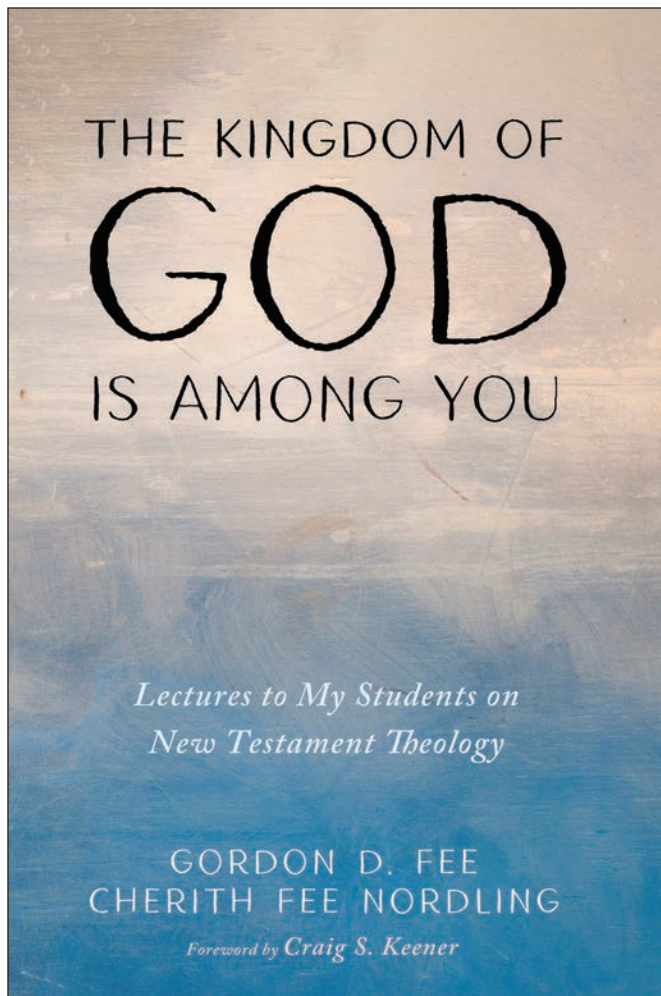
“In *Encounters with Paul*, a sequel to *Encounters with Jesus*, my beloved friends Ben and Ann Witherington offer us valuable and enjoyable insights into the apostle Paul by creatively, yet responsibly, imagining what twenty-five individuals—ranging from Gamaliel to Phoebe to Nero to Luke—might have said regarding him had they been given the chance. A pleasurable read that engages and energizes one’s biblical, historical, and theological imagination, this is another worthwhile project from the Witheringtons!”

—Todd D. Still, dean and professor of Christian Scriptures, George W. Truett Theological Seminary

BEN WITHERINGTON III is Amos Professor of New Testament for Doctoral Studies at Asbury Theological Seminary and doctoral faculty at St. Andrews University, and the author of over thirty-five books, including *New York Times* Best Seller *The Brother of Jesus*.

ANN WITHERINGTON IS Professor of Biology and Environmental Sciences at Asbury College. Ben and Ann have been married for over thirty years.





The Kingdom of God Is among You

Lectures to My Students on
New Testament Theology

GORDON D. FEE AND CHERITH FEE NORDLING

978-1-6667-3292-4 | Forthcoming

In this exciting volume, a renowned New Testament scholar provides his lectures on New Testament theology and provides us a window on his approach on a variety of issues. He describes the task as follows:

“New Testament theology is the art of giving coherence to the collective witness of the twenty-seven New Testament documents as they attest to the Christian faith while not sacrificing the historical particularity of any one text or author within the canon, and to do this as clearly as possible and with as much consistency and unity as possible . . . New Testament theology deals with all the New Testament. We must resist the tendency to find a canon within the canon or to neglect some lesser figures in the New Testament canon . . . New Testament theology is first of all a descriptive task—i.e., we must first try to describe what is there. But given our stance toward Scripture, what we describe also becomes prescriptive or normative . . . We must never forget that the writings of the New Testament are ad hoc documents, written in each and every case to speak to a specific need. Thus, rather than careful, systematic presentations of theology (such as in a book or a lecture), the earliest Christian theology is worked out in the marketplace, as it were. Therefore, we must be careful not to force the New Testament writers to answer all of our questions, nor even to use our logic or thought forms.” (excerpted from chapter 1)

“This New Testament theology captures the best of Gordon Fee: it is profound, pastoral, and passionate. Indeed, this is not only the voice of Fee—it is his true legacy.”

—Mikael Tellbe, associate professor of New Testament studies, ALT School of Theology

“Since the 1980s, I’ve admired the late Gordon Fee, a Pentecostal scholar who profoundly resonated with my own roots. His heartfelt recorded lectures from Gordon-Conwell to Regent College deeply touched and changed me. Every one of his books holds a place in my library. Now, *The Kingdom of God Is among You*, edited by his accomplished daughter Cherith, emerges as a vital continuation of his legacy in Pentecostal scholarship.”

—Mark J. Chironna, founding and lead pastor, Church on the Living Edge

“In Gordon Fee’s posthumous *The Kingdom of God Is among You*, this veteran Pauline scholar, from whom I have learned so much, turns his attention to the coherency of the message of the sweep of the New Testament in a way that draws from the best of older scholarship, shifts the characteristic emphases of most NT theology with his charismatic themes, and outlines a theology that leads us to worship. This book, as was the life of Gordon Fee, is truly doxological.”

—Scot McKnight, professor of New Testament, Northern Seminary

“In a time when global Pentecostalism is taken seriously both by the academy and the church, new generations need the wisdom of mentors like Gordon Fee. This collection of Fee’s lectures on New Testament theology frames him as a scholar of his time and a prophet for ours, demonstrating that the breath of the Spirit grounds and inspires though the winds of scholarship may blow and shift.”

—Holly Beers, associate professor of religious studies, Westmont College

GORDON FEE is Professor Emeritus of New Testament at Regent College, Vancouver, BC. He is a leading authority on the writings of the Apostle Paul. His books include numerous biblical commentaries and books such as *God’s Empowering Presence*; *Paul, the Spirit and the People of God*; and *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth* (with Douglas Stuart).

Crispin Fletcher-Louis



The Divine Heartset

*Paul's Philippians Christ Hymn,
Metaphysical Affections, & Civic Virtues*

The Divine Heartset

Paul's Philippians Christ Hymn, Metaphysical Affections, and Civic Virtues

CRISPIN FLETCHER-LOUIS

978-1-6667-4474-3 | 954 p. | \$79

The fruit of a decade's research, this volume offers a new interpretation of the dense Christological narrative in Philippians 2:6–11, taking inspiration from recent advances in our understanding of the letter's Greek and Roman setting and from insights made possible by recently created linguistic databases (such as TLG and PHI). The passage's praise of Christ engages the language of Hellenistic ruler cults, Platonic metaphysics and moral philosophy, popular (Homeric) beliefs about the gods, and Greek love (*eros*), to articulate a scripturally grounded theology in which God is revealed to be one in two persons (God the Father and LORD Jesus Christ).

The volume also explores hitherto unseen ways in which the central Christ Hymn is tightly connected to the rest of Paul's argument. The hymn presents Christ as an epitome of the ideals of Greek (and Roman) virtue, to support Paul's summoning his readers to a life of praiseworthy and exemplary civic conduct (in 1:27). New or recently proposed translations are advanced for numerous words and phrases (in, e.g., 1:8, 11, 27; 2:3, 4, 6, 11; 3:2, 4) and a new (non-Stendahlian) approach to Paul's boasting in 3:4–6, that is Christological rather than biographical, is put forward.

"Few can match Crispin Fletcher-Louis for breadth of knowledge, depth of analysis, and originality. Here he weighs into perennial debates on one of the most influential New Testament texts. His startling but substantively argued set of new proposals on Philippians 2:6–11 will be a key element in discussion of the text for years to come."

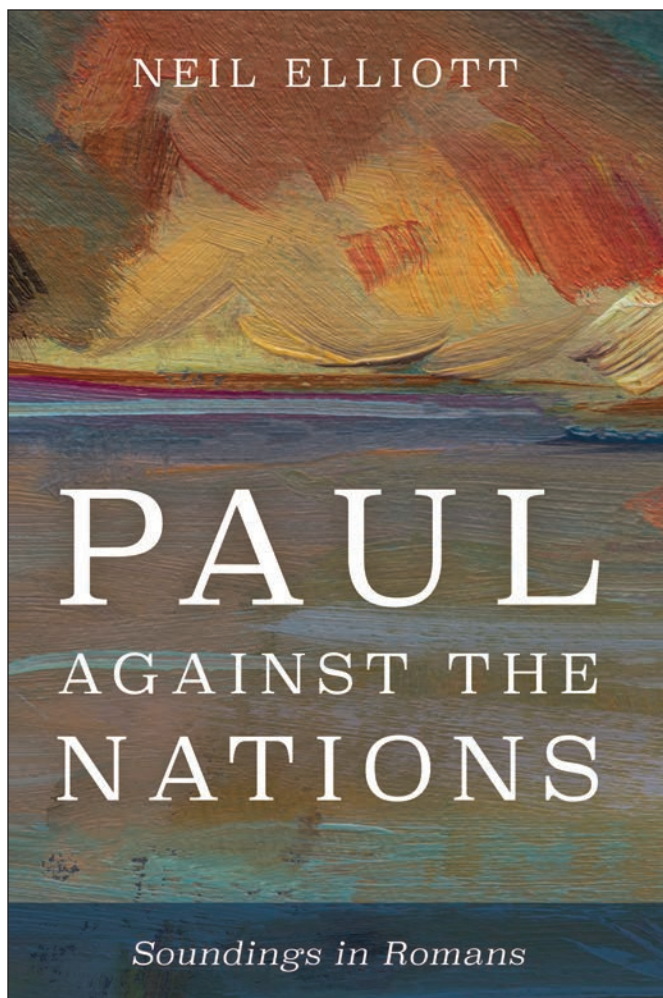
—Peter Oakes, professor of biblical criticism and exegesis, University of Manchester

"This brilliant book offers a treasure trove of fresh exegetical insights and compelling contextual arguments for a Pauline Christology of divine desire. Reading the Philippian hymn within the cultural matrix of ancient Mediterranean religion, philosophy, ethics, and politics, Crispin Fletcher-Louis articulates an affective incarnational theology with wide-ranging implications for early Christian scholarship and contemporary Christian practice."

—Emily J. Gathergood, research fellow, University of Nottingham

CRISPIN FLETCHER-LOUIS is visiting research fellow at the University of Gloucestershire, UK, and director of Whymanity research and training. He is the author of *Jesus Monotheism* (2015–).





Paul against the Nations

Soundings in Romans

NEIL ELLIOTT

978-1-6667-8355-1 | 334 p. | \$41

Some of the most heated contests around the apostle Paul today concern the effort to understand him wholly “within Judaism,” and the effort to interpret him over against the culture and ideology of the early Roman Empire. Here, Neil Elliott argues that these two conversations belong together and must be resolved together, by understanding Paul as a Jew living out Israel’s ancient hopes under the pressures of Roman imperial power.

“In this sterling collection of essays, Neil Elliott presents critical analyses of the most significant themes of the letter, exegetically grounded, historically informed by the most recent research, and superbly illustrated, highlighting the significance of Roman imperial domination and ideology for understanding Paul’s argumentation. He invites us to uncover the challenges of Romans afresh and to think with the apostle when facing our own responsibilities in today’s differing contexts.”

—William S. Campbell, research fellow, Faculty of Theology, University of Basel

“With his insightful and meticulously argued political approach to the letter to the Romans, Elliot adds an important aspect to the ‘Paul within Judaism’ perspective. Challenging traditional Christian readings of Romans, Elliot persuasively argues that Paul in Romans aims to refute triumphalist supersessionist claims made by non-Jews within the early Jesus movement.”

—Karin Hedner Zetterholm, associate professor of Jewish studies, Lund University

“Neil Elliott’s collection of essays summons readers to a ‘day of judgment’ upon a history of interpretation which grounds the doctrine of supersessionism in Paul’s Epistle to the Romans. Elliott offers a sustained political reading of Paul’s letter, informed by broad knowledge of Roman imperial propaganda and keen

insight into Paul’s argumentative strategy. Elliott challenges us to take responsibility for injurious readings and lights the spark of hope for a liberating hermeneutic.”

—L. L. Welborn, professor of New Testament and early Christian literature, Fordham University

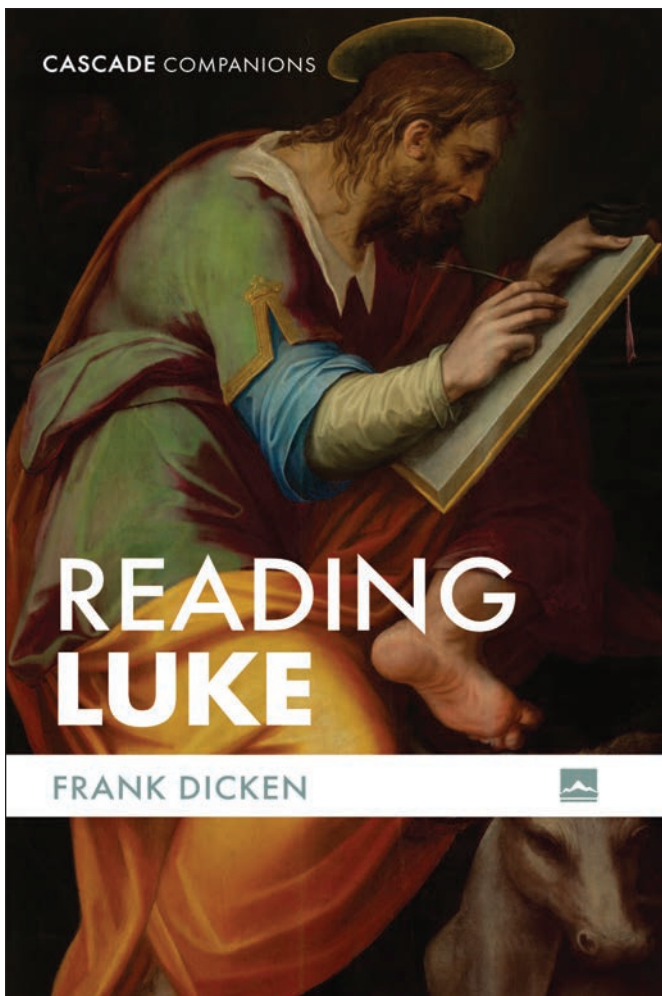
“Here, collected for the first time, are Neil Elliott’s powerfully innovative interventions into the usual business of reading Paul and his letter to the Romans. These essays show what can be possible if interpreters dare to imagine and read beyond trenchant Pauline-studies binaries such as politics vs. theology, ancient vs. contemporary, Jewish vs. non-Jewish, and accommodation vs. resistance. This volume is an invaluable resource wherein the liberative potential of rhetorical criticism is on full display.”

—Davina C. Lopez, professor of religious studies, Eckerd College

“Nobody reads Romans with quite the discerning eye of Neil Elliott; now, through these essays, everybody can re-examine the sources with his carefully reasoned exegetical arguments and morally challenging hermeneutics—and everybody should.”

—Mark D. Nanos, author of *Reading Romans within Judaism*

NEIL ELLIOTT is an Episcopal priest and a New Testament scholar (PhD Princeton Theological Seminary) with particular interests in the political interpretation of scripture. He has taught biblical studies, early Christian history, and American civil religion at the College of St. Catherine and Metropolitan State University, and served as priest at the University Episcopal Center and St. Paul’s on the Hill in the Twin Cities. His publications include *The Rhetoric of Romans* (1990), *Liberating Paul* (1994), *The Arrogance of Nations* (2008), and, with Mark Reasoner, *Documents and Images for the Study of Paul* (2010).



Reading Luke

CASCADE COMPANIONS

FRANK DICKEN

978-1-4982-3361-3 | 188 p. | \$26

The Gospel of Luke is a book about Jesus, claiming to provide assurance concerning what its reader has been taught about Jesus. But how does it do that? This book provides an answer to that question by helping readers understand Luke as a gospel story in its historical context and with appreciation for the author's literary artistry and theological perspectives.

Part one explores background information and literary features of Luke such as its author and first readers, genre, plot and character development, the role of programmatic passages, and interpreting the large number of parables included by Luke. Part two focuses on themes that run throughout the Gospel: Jesus's mission, salvation, discipleship, the kingdom of God, resurrection, and ascension. The discussion of these features and themes will provide readers of Luke's Gospel with a grasp of its overarching framework so that they are able to comprehend Luke's unique presentation of Jesus's life and read the Gospel with increased confidence for themselves.

"Frank Dicken is a wonderful guide to Luke. He orients readers to how Luke's story works by focusing on key passages that open up the rest of the Gospel. Informed by the best scholarship, he addresses why we read Luke: its interpretation of Jesus, his ministry, and how he calls followers to live in the world. The chapter on Luke's distinctive parables is worth the price of the book."

—Greg Carey, professor of New Testament, Lancaster Theological Seminary

"Frank Dicken here provides a super study of Luke's Gospel which will be of great value to those engaging with Luke from a scholarly perspective for the first time. He draws judiciously on up-to-date scholarship to illuminate the Third Gospel and to help readers see how Luke's story of Jesus communicates. He writes accessibly and clearly. It would be hard to imagine laypeople, students, pastors, and scholars who would not benefit from this fine book."

—Steve Walton, senior research fellow in New Testament, Trinity College

"What is new and exciting about Frank Dicken's Reading Luke is its focus on the pragmatics of Luke's narrative. Dicken makes modern readers aware of how Luke's story was meant to work when read sequentially and intertextually by its earliest audience. Replete with insights from cutting-edge research on characterization, plot, parables, and programmatic passages, this text deserves a prominent place in upper-level undergraduate and graduate courses on the Lukan writings."

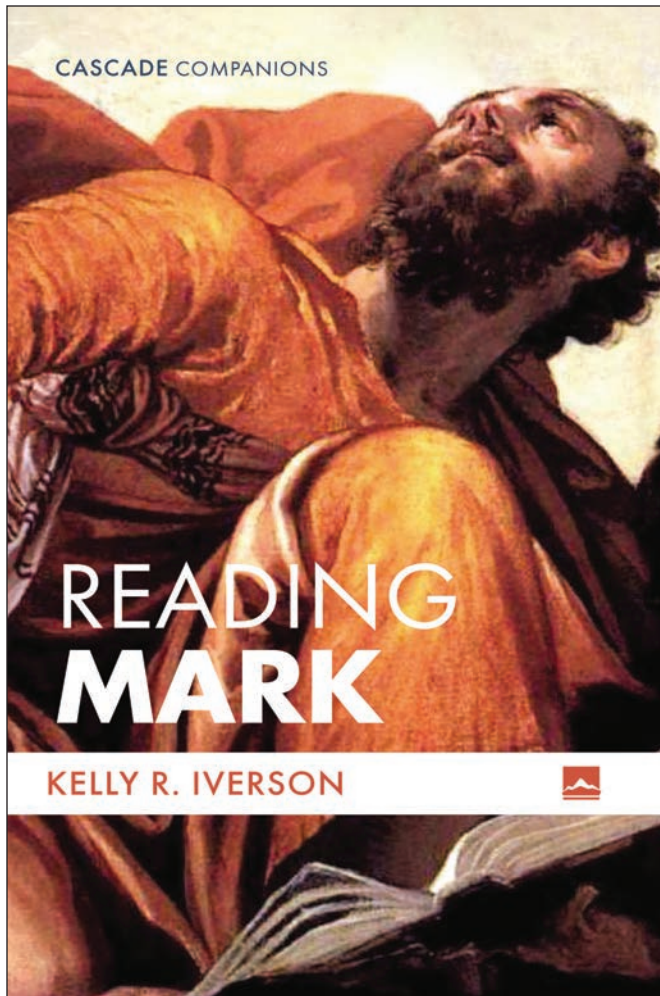
—John A. Darr, associate professor of theology, Boston College

"Frank Dicken makes the world of Lukan studies accessible through this slim volume. He writes as though conducting a personable conversation, striking the friendly tone of mentor as he makes clear important features of Luke's text and elucidates long-standing debates in Lukan studies. The questions for reflection deftly draw the reader further into dialogue. In this generous and thoughtful work, Dicken offers us an excellent resource for biblical studies teaching and Bible study alike."

—Kylie Crabbe, senior research fellow, Australian Catholic University

FRANK DICKEN is professor of New Testament and early Christianity at Lincoln Christian University. He is author of *Herod as a Composite Character in Luke-Acts* (2014) and co-editor of *Characters and Characterization in Luke-Acts* (2016).





Reading Mark

CASCADE COMPANIONS

KELLY R. IVERSON

978-1-4982-3002-5 | 194 p. | \$27

The Gospel of Mark is a relatively short book whose brevity and style create an engaging narrative experience. But Mark's Gospel is by no means a simple text, and scholars have long puzzled over various features of the narrative. *Reading Mark* offers an accessible introduction to Mark's story of Jesus, as well as to important scholarly discussions. Equipping students to become better interpreters of Mark, the discussion focuses on key elements of the narrative, including the presentation of Jesus and the disciples, the so-called messianic secret, and the enigma of Mark's ending. Designed for beginning students, *Reading Mark* offers a broad and inclusive orientation to the fascinating world of Mark's Gospel.

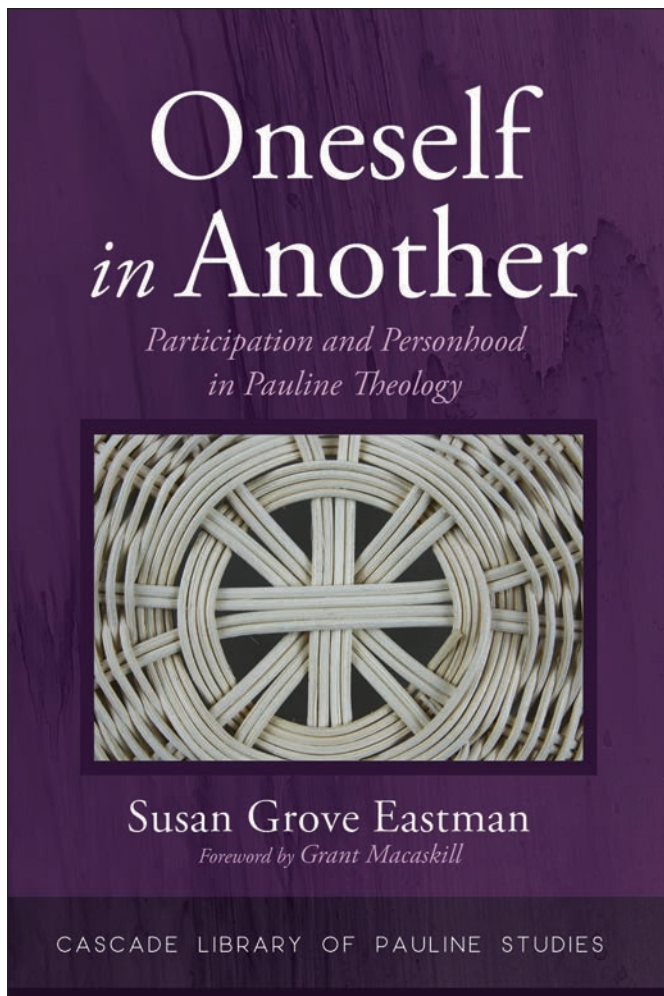
"Kelly Iverson is not only a sophisticated reader of the Second Gospel, but more than that, he is a gifted communicator. This book combines the expertise of a scholar with the sensitivities of a first-rate teacher to provide us with an insightful and engaging introduction to Mark's historical, narrative, and theological contours. Going forward, I have found the book I will be using when I teach the Gospel of Mark!"

—Christopher W. Skinner, professor of New Testament and early Christianity,
Loyola University Chicago

"Mostly, scholars write for other scholars, as Kelly Iverson has ably done elsewhere. Sometimes scholars summarize scholarship for non-scholars. But here, Iverson has taken another step—offering a broad audience a taster's choice of scholarly conversations about significant aspects of Mark's story of Jesus. What a wonderful way to communicate scholarship's enduring goal: informed and respectful dialogue! Iverson's book invites exploration of the worlds of Jesus, Mark, and those who thoughtfully engage them. Join the journey!"

—Elizabeth Struthers Malbon, professor emerita of religion and culture,
Virginia Tech

KELLY R. IVERSON is associate professor of New Testament at Baylor University. Previous titles he has authored or edited include *Performing Early Christian Literature* (2021), *From Text to Performance* (2014), *Unity and Diversity in the Gospels and Paul* (2012), *Mark as Story: Retrospect and Prospect* (2011), and *Gentiles in the Gospel of Mark* (2007).



Oneself in Another

Participation and Personhood
in Pauline Theology

CASCADE LIBRARY OF PAULINE STUDIES

SUSAN GROVE EASTMAN

978-1-5326-9262-8 | 314 p. | \$35

O*neself in Another* explores the Pauline themes of redemption and transformation through Christ's participation in human history and life. The essays range from careful exegetical and historical analysis to interdisciplinary engagements with issues in theology, global events, and medical ethics. Throughout, they focus on human experience, questions about how people change, and God's gracious initiative liberating human agency.

"These superb essays form a rich, interconnected exploration of the relational and participatory dynamics of Paul's theology. Working at the cutting edge of scholarship, and with multiple connections to the anxieties of our age, Susan Eastman's insights are persuasive and profound. This book is a treat, and I shall return to it often."

—John M. G. Barclay, professor of divinity, Durham University

"Susan Eastman is that rare commentator whose readings of Paul are both provocative and persuasive, rigorous and humane, and as relevant to the present day as they are historically grounded and theologically subtle. Developing further some of the themes of her groundbreaking *Paul and the Person* and drawing on theoretical approaches from developmental psychology to theater studies, these penetrating and compassionate essays challenge us to see Paul and ourselves with new eyes."

—Teresa Morgan, professor in New Testament and early Christianity, Yale Divinity School

"This collection of Susan Eastman's recent work is to be treasured. No one has thought as deeply and as carefully as has Eastman about the manifold consequences of Paul's apocalyptic gospel for theological anthropology and so also for our contemporary self-understanding. These fine essays—at once exegetical, theological, and pastoral in force—open up invaluable new perspectives upon how we may faithfully inhabit our beleaguered humanity today."

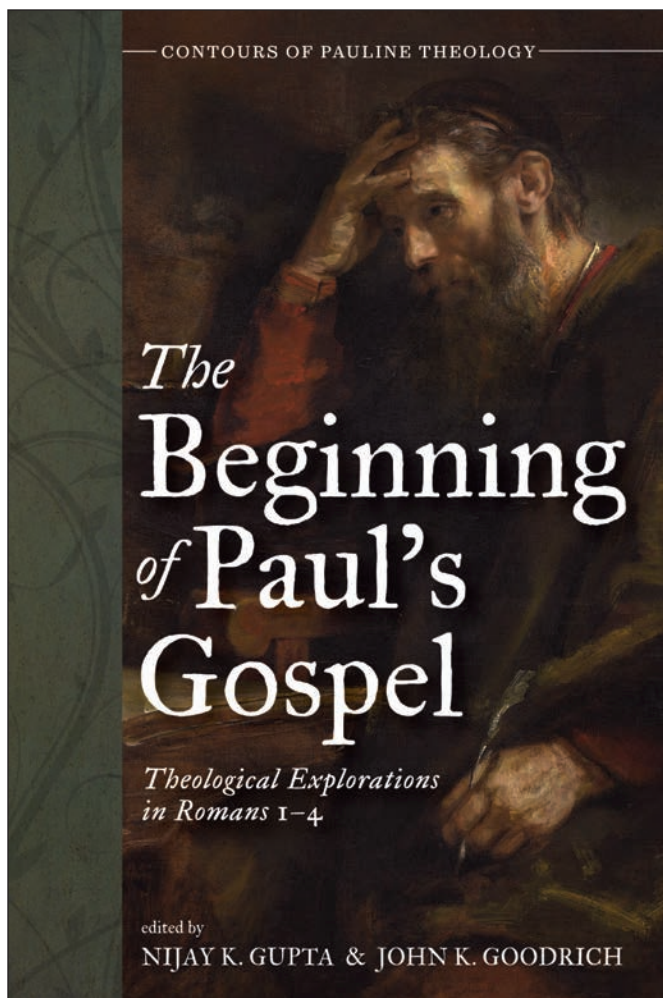
—Philip G. Ziegler, chair in Christian dogmatics, University of Aberdeen

"With her signature clarity and pastoral insight, Susan Eastman unfolds, chapter by chapter, Paul's conviction that communal solidarity in Christ is the heart of the good news he proclaims. As Paul's relational plural 'you' answers the divided 'I' of Romans 7, so does Eastman's own deft tuning of second-person discourse invite her reader into the healing mystery of Christ's saving alliance with human beings and the whole creation."

—Alexandra R. Brown, professor of Bible, Washington and Lee University

SUSAN EASTMAN is associate research professor emerita of New Testament at Duke Divinity School. She is the author of *Paul and the Person: Reframing Paul's Anthropology* (2017) and *Recovering Paul's Mother Tongue: Language and Theology in Galatians* (2007/2022).





The Beginning of Paul's Gospel

Theological Explorations in Romans 1–4

CONTOURS OF PAULINE THEOLOGY

EDITED BY NIJAY K. GUPTA AND JOHN K. GOODRICH

978-1-6667-3108-8 | 362 p. | \$44

The Epistle to the Romans remains the centerpiece of all serious Pauline theological research. Each of the major sections of Romans has received significant attention in recent scholarship, yet no consensus has emerged about how to read the opening chapters of Paul's most important letter, Romans 1–4. This collection of essays returns to the beginning of Paul's theological masterpiece to probe longstanding puzzles and to offer new readings and fresh insights on some of the most cherished chapters in the entire Pauline corpus.

With essays by: John M. G. Barclay, Ben C. Blackwell, Timothy G. Gombis, Erin M. Heim, Chee-Chiew Lee, Grant Macaskill, Marcus A. Mininger, Matthew Monkemeier, Matthew V. Novenson, Rafael Rodríguez, Benjamin Schliesser, Paul T. Sloan, and Ruth Whiteford.

“This is a stellar collection of essays by a cadre of eminent Pauline scholars. The rich, carefully argued essays shed new light on important aspects of Romans 1–4, especially on interpretative controversies old and new. Every serious student of Romans should therefore engage this stimulating volume.”

—Michael J. Gorman, professor of biblical studies and theology, St. Mary's Seminary & University

“Through the ages, Paul's Letter to the Romans has been regarded as his most important letter. This collection of lively essays offers important and impressive analyses of Romans 1–4, the theological fulcrum of the letter. They provide a valuable starting point for delving more deeply into the theology of Romans.”

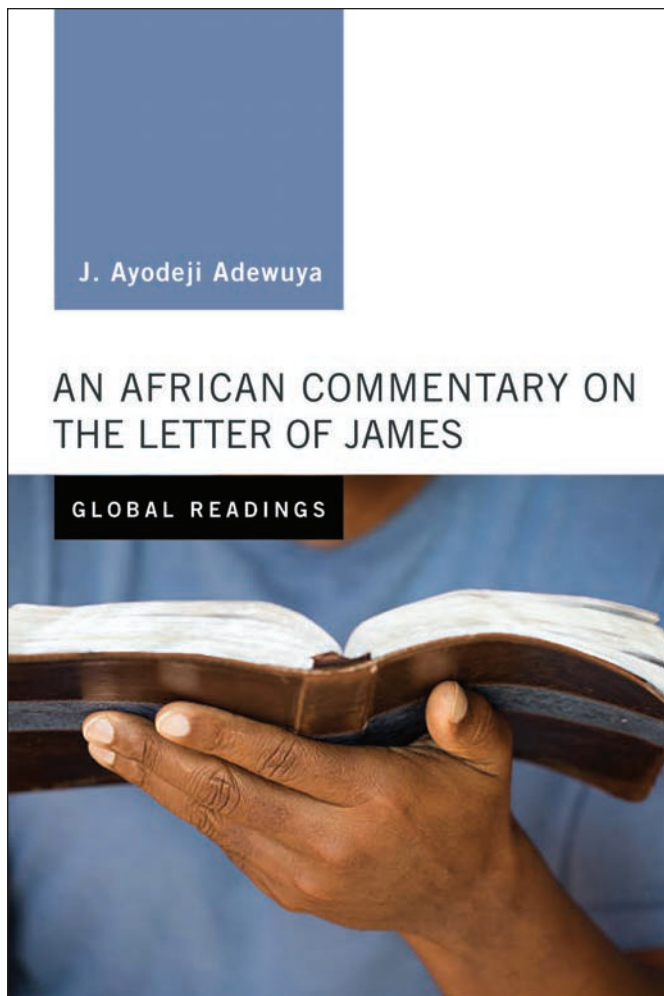
—David E. Garland, professor of Christian Scriptures, George W. Truett Theological Seminary

“Scholarly study of Romans—the most discussed and debated letter in Paul—continues in this fascinating set of essays. The authors don't all agree with one another, but the essays provoke fresh thinking and reflection on Romans. The essays here should be consulted and discussed in the ongoing conversation about Romans.”

—Thomas R. Schreiner, professor of New Testament interpretation, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

NIJAY K. GUPTA is professor of New Testament at Northern Seminary, Illinois. He is the author of *Paul and the Language of Faith*.

JOHN K. GOODRICH is professor of Bible at Moody Bible Institute, Illinois, and adjunct professor at Compass Bible Institute, California. He is the author of *Paul as an Administrator of God in 1 Corinthians*.



An African Commentary on the Letter of James

GLOBAL READING SERIES

J. AYODEJI ADEWUYA

978-1-4982-8438-7 | 120 p. | \$19

Africa is a necessary but an often neglected continent. So also is the letter of James necessary but neglected. Yet there is perhaps no biblical text that speaks to the life situation in Africa in the twenty-first century more directly than the book of James. *An African Commentary on the Letter of James* is an attempt to hear the message of James's letter from a non-Western social and cultural setting. It seeks to demonstrate how one's worldview, language, culture, economic status, and religion make a significant difference in appropriating the message of the biblical text. The commentary explores how the written word impacts the readers in a predominantly oral culture. It attempts to hear what James is saying from a different context but, in doing so, explains James with a different "voice." Like the letter of James itself, the commentary uses pithy sayings, proverbs, and aphorisms to explain the meaning of the text.

"The importance of the letter of James to the church in Africa is not lost on anyone who is interested in the development of Christianity on the continent. This is a letter that speaks to contemporary African socioeconomic and political realities. Readers will find in Adewuya's simple, but profound volume, studies on what a portion of the Scriptures has to teach us about the relationship between faith and the public sphere in contemporary Africa."

—Kwabena Asamoah-Gyadu, Trinity Theological Seminary

"Drawing on the resources of African proverbs and stories, as well as his personal experience, Adewuya spotlights the pastoral and formational message of the letter of James. But this commentary is not just for Africans. Adewuya's

sensitivity to the letter's communal dimension and to its message of hope for the marginalized will enable Western Christian to read James more faithfully. If you are looking for an outstanding example of contextual interpretation that remains faithful to the biblical text, this book is for you!"

—Dean Flemming, MidAmerica Nazarene University, emeritus

"Adewuya has filled in a hole on our bookshelves that many of us may never have known we had. In a commentary that is exegetical and scholarly, he models exegeting well through story, through history, and through the experience of the African peoples. This is a commentary for the community."

—Mariam Kovalishyn, Regent College

J. AYODEJI ADEWUYA is professor of Greek and New Testament at the Pentecostal Theological Seminary, Cleveland Theological Seminary. He is the author of several books, including *Holiness in the Letters of Paul: A Necessary Response to the Gospel* (2016) and *1 Corinthians: A Pastoral Commentary* (2019).



Lectio Sacra

A PAULINE THEOLOGY of JUSTIFICATION



Forgiveness, Friendship, and Life in Christ

James B. Prothro

A Pauline Theology of Justification

Forgiveness, Friendship, and Life in Christ

LECTIO SACRA

JAMES B. PROTHRO

978-1-7252-8291-9 | 252 p. | \$32

Paul's teaching about justification is always important for understanding the apostle and for Christian theology. And, for that same reason, it is always debated. James B. Prothro's book looks at the apostle's words about righteousness, faith, the Mosaic law, and life in Christ to connect the dots of Paul's thought and to bring Paul into dialogue with major theological traditions. He offers an account of justification that is both forensic and thoroughly participatory, God's gift of forgiveness, friendship, and new life in Christ through the Spirit.

"For centuries, we Protestants have staked a claim to the doctrine of justification and to the letters of Paul on which it is based. But, in truth, there is no Protestant monopoly on either, as James Prothro's profound Catholic Pauline theology of justification amply demonstrates. The wealth of exegesis and theology in this book will profit readers of all stripes."

—Matthew V. Novenson, University of Edinburgh

"What a welcome and wonderful contribution Prothro has offered us! His work has relevance, not only for ecumenical dialogue, but much more broadly for the reception of Paul and his message for our time. This work abounds in thoughtful, provocative, and often persuasive judgments, from which all readers will profit. Even for one who finds the totality of faith in Christ and the totality of Christ in faith, this work is instructive and valuable."

—Mark A. Seifrid, Concordia Seminary

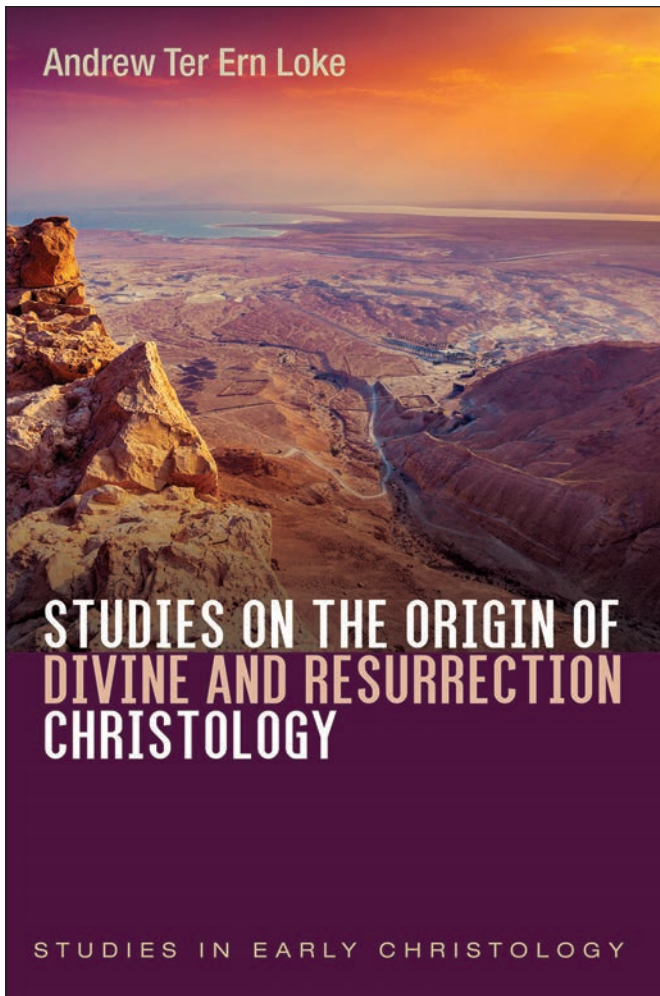
"As a fundamental Pauline teaching and an ecumenical theological concern with great significance for the church, the doctrine of justification always needs a fresh examination. James Prothro provides just that. Thoroughly conversant with ancient sources and the history of interpretation, Prothro's reading of justification in terms of legal 'contention,' as multidimensional, and especially as relational (friendship) and life-giving (participation) makes a highly significant contribution to this critical topic."

—Michael J. Gorman, St. Mary's Seminary & University

"Developing Prothro's more technical study, *Both Judge and Justifier* (2018), this book offers a fresh view of justification in Paul through the lens of the divine (two-sided) contention against sin. Its theological depth, broad grasp of the tradition, and clarity of exposition should ensure that this work becomes, for professional scholars and students alike, a standard resource not only on justification but on Pauline theology generally for many years to come."

—Brendan Byrne, SJ, University of Divinity, emeritus

JAMES B. PROTHRO is assistant professor of Scripture and theology at the Augustine Institute Graduate School of Theology. He is the author of *Both Judge and Justifier* (2018) and *The Apostle Paul and His Letters* (2021).



Studies on the Origin of Divine and Resurrection Christology

STUDIES IN EARLY CHRISTOLOGY

ANDREW TER ERN LOKE

978-1-6667-4337-1 | 276 p. | \$35

The origin and development of divine and resurrection Christologies are among the most important and controversial issues in the study of Christianity. One reason why there is a lack of consensus among scholars—even though they have access to the same historical material—is that different scholars analyze the material differently. Building upon his previous monographs *The Origin of Divine Christology* (Cambridge University Press, 2017) and *Investigating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ* (Routledge, 2020), Andrew Loke demonstrates the fallacies of reasoning in the analyses of the works of numerous scholars such as Bart Ehrman, Paula Fredriksen, David Litwa, Richard Carrier, Raphael Lataster, Daniel Kirk, Matthew Larsen, and Dale Allison. Loke defends his proposal that a sizeable group of earliest Christians perceived that Jesus claimed and showed himself to be truly divine and resurrected, and replies to objections to his previous works. He contributes to the discussion on ancient Jewish monotheism, exalted mediator figures, comparison with Greco-Roman literature, Jesus-mythicism, Markan Christology, the historical reliability of the New Testament, as well as the use of philosophical and theological categories and the use of psychological studies on parallel apparitions, cognitive dissonance, mass hysteria, pareidolia, and memory for the study of early Christology.

“Building on his recent works, Andrew Loke advances the debate with relentless logic which he pursues magnificently, engaging point-by-point with critics.”

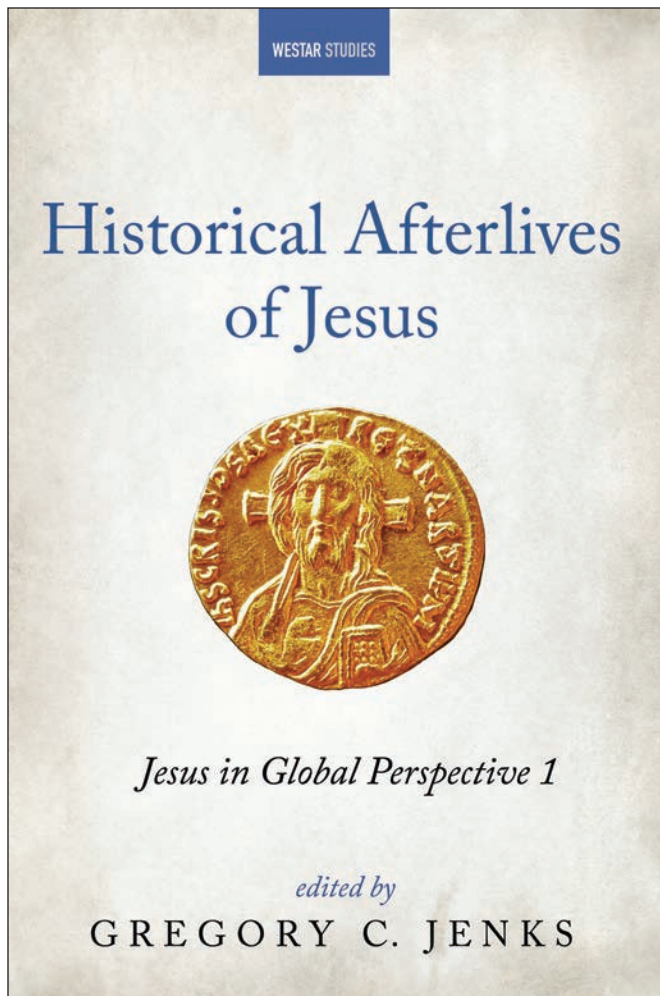
—Craig S. Keener, professor of biblical studies, Asbury Theological Seminary

“Did Jesus understand himself as divine? Or did this idea originate with his followers? Andrew Loke addresses these controversial questions as he engages the best of scholarship concerned with a topic that is of vital importance for Christian faith.”

—Craig A. Evans, distinguished professor of Christian origins, Houston Christian University

ANDREW LOKE is Associate Professor in the Department of Religion and Philosophy at Hong Kong Baptist University. He has published multiple books with world-leading academic publishers in peer-reviewed monograph series in the fields of theology, philosophy of religion, historical-critical New Testament studies, and science and religion. In addition, he has published numerous articles in leading international peer-reviewed journals such as *Religious Studies* (Cambridge University Press) and *Journal of Theological Studies* (Oxford University Press).





Historical Afterlives of Jesus

Jesus in Global Perspective 1

WESTAR STUDIES

EDITED BY **GREGORY C. JENKS**

978-1-6667-4679-2 | 206 p. | \$27

This collection of essays explores the impact of Jesus within and beyond Christianity, including his many afterlives in literature and the arts, social justice and world religions during the past two thousand years and especially in the present global context.

This first volume focuses on selected historical afterlives of Jesus, including the *Pantokrator* of Byzantium and the Aryan Jesus of Nazi Germany. This collection is not an exercise in Christian apologetics, nor is it an interfaith project—except in the sense that many of the contributors are from a Christian context of some kind, while others are from other contexts. The contributors include scholars in relevant fields, as well as religious practitioners reflecting on Jesus in their own cultural and religious settings. While the essays are original work that is grounded in critical scholarship, reflective practice, or both, they are expressed in nontechnical language so the information is accessible to intelligent nonspecialists.

“A wonderful sweep of ‘afterlives’ that free Jesus of Nazareth from the confines of Christian orthodoxy, a Jesus who has fed the imagination of people, cultures, and contexts far beyond the streets of Jerusalem and Rome. We meet the Jesus of early church theological and philosophical pluralism, of historical research, as a changing face on ancient coins, the Aryan Jesus, and many more. What an exhilarating ride of challenge and discovery.”

—Val Webb, author of *Like Catching Water in a Net: Human Attempts to Describe the Divine*

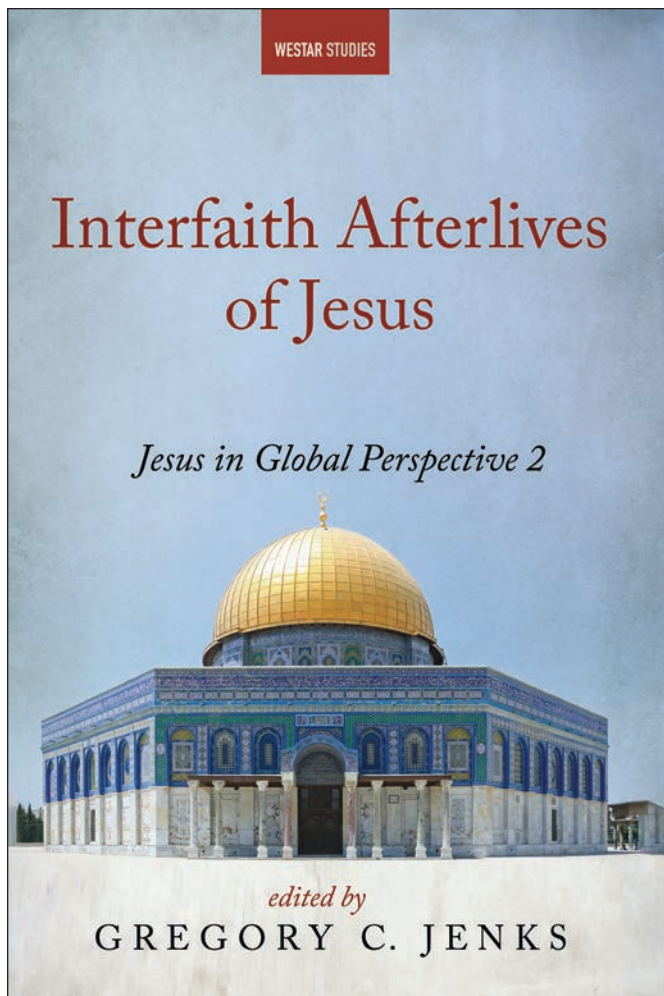
“This volume provides a wonderful collection of scholarly reflections on the historical and Christological afterlives of Jesus in the context of empire and conflict. The authors offer helpful and critical digests on these afterlives, giving the familiar but complex person of Jesus a deeper and more significant meaning. The rich set of afterlives discussed here provoke thought and conversation in terms of our continued life, faith, and reflection on the Jesus of history and the Christ of faith.”

—Monica Jyotsna Melanchthon, University of Divinity

“In this remarkable collection of essays, *Historical Afterlives of Jesus* challenges us to move beyond a fixed understanding of Jesus, to take up a long-range exploration through time and space, engaging with traditions and experiences far outside Christian borders. In doing so, we slowly begin to realize that Jesus is no longer embalmed in doctrinal winding sheets; he has slipped ecclesial control and continues his walkabout on this fragile planet.”

—Arthur J. Dewey, Xavier University

GREGORY C. JENKS is Executive Director, Centre for Coins, Culture & Religious History, Brisbane, Australia. He was Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, Grafton 2017–2022. He is the author of *The Once and Future Bible* (2011) and *Jesus Then and Jesus Now* (2014).



Interfaith Afterlives of Jesus

Jesus in Global Perspective 2

WESTAR STUDIES

EDITED BY **GREGORY C. JENKS**

978-1-6667-5246-5 | 222 p. | \$29

This collection of essays explores the impact of Jesus within and beyond Christianity, including his many afterlives in literature and the arts, social justice, and world religion during the past two thousand years and especially in the present global context.

This second volume focuses on the diverse interfaith afterlives of Jesus. Moving beyond the explicitly Christian afterlives traced in volume one, this set of essays explores how Jesus has significant afterlives in Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Ruism and Mormonism, as well as selected secular afterlives in progressive Christianity. The contributors include religion scholars from the respective traditions, as well as faith practitioners reflecting on Jesus within their own religious context. While the essays are all grounded in critical scholarship, reflective practice, or both, they are expressed in nontechnical language that is accessible to interested nonspecialists.

“Jesus of Nazareth was interpreted through many eyes in the first centuries, long before Christian orthodoxy emerged. This excellent book tells those stories with interpretations from Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Confucianism, and Mormonism. Contemporary interpretations detour around almost two thousand years of church theology to allow Jesus to leak beyond dogmatism and become ‘a beacon to the planet.’ What a rich feast of global stories, contextual diversity, and multifaith exploration.”

—Val Webb, author of *Like Catching Water in a Net: Human Attempts to Describe the Divine*

“This second volume in the series contains a superb collection of compelling essays that awaken us to the many rich, diverse, and varied ways in which Jesus has been imagined and understood in other faiths. Many chapters provide surprises and deep discernments capturing our imaginations and expanding our awareness. There is every reason to become engaged with the offerings in this volume vibrating with insights, with possibilities for a healthy conversation across religious faiths.”

—Monica Jyotsna Melanchthon, University of Divinity

“In this second volume of *Afterlives* each essay is a journey to the outback. Inviting readers to accompany them on a variety of treks into the interior, the authors dare readers to leave behind the traditional take on Jesus and to explore with them the possibilities of seeing Jesus in a variety of afterlives. Jesus indeed has leaked out and belongs to the earth. Each new encounter, delivering a telling insight into that ‘eccentric Jew,’ offers a startling vision and ethic of ecological care for our planet.”

—Arthur J. Dewey, Xavier University

GREGORY C. JENKS is Executive Director, Centre for Coins, Culture & Religious History, Brisbane, Australia. He was Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, Grafton 2017–22. He is the author of *The Once and Future Bible* (2011) and *Jesus Then and Jesus Now* (2014).

WESTAR STUDIES

Cultural Afterlives of Jesus



Jesus in Global Perspective 3

edited by

GREGORY C. JENKS

Cultural Afterlives of Jesus

Jesus in Global Perspective 3

WESTAR STUDIES

EDITED BY GREGORY C. JENKS

978-1-6667-5249-6 | 194 p. | \$27

This collection of essays explores the impact of Jesus within and beyond Christianity, including his many afterlives in literature and the arts, social just and world religions during the past two thousand years and especially in the present global context.

This third volume focuses on the diverse afterlives of Jesus within contemporary culture and the arts. Moving beyond the explicitly religious afterlives traced in the first two volumes, this set of essay traces selected afterlives of Jesus within Indigenous cultures around the Pacific, as well as in the arts and in the contested fields of gender and sexuality. The contributors include religion scholars from diverse cultural contexts, as well as faith practitioners reflecting on Jesus within their own particular context. While the essays are all grounded in critical scholarship, reflective practice, or both, they are expressed in nontechnical language that is accessible to interested nonspecialists.

“Jesus through the eyes of First Nations, the LGBTQIA, the artistic, women, the homeless, Maoris, Latin Americans, and Asians, and drawing on liberation and indigenous theologies, this book is a sumptuous treat which inspires, challenges, and aids reflections. No longer can Jesus of Nazareth be filtered only through traditional western lenses or medieval doctrines and their successors. This volume will simply leave you wishing for more.”

—Val Webb, author of *Like Catching Water in a Net: Human Attempts to Describe the Divine*

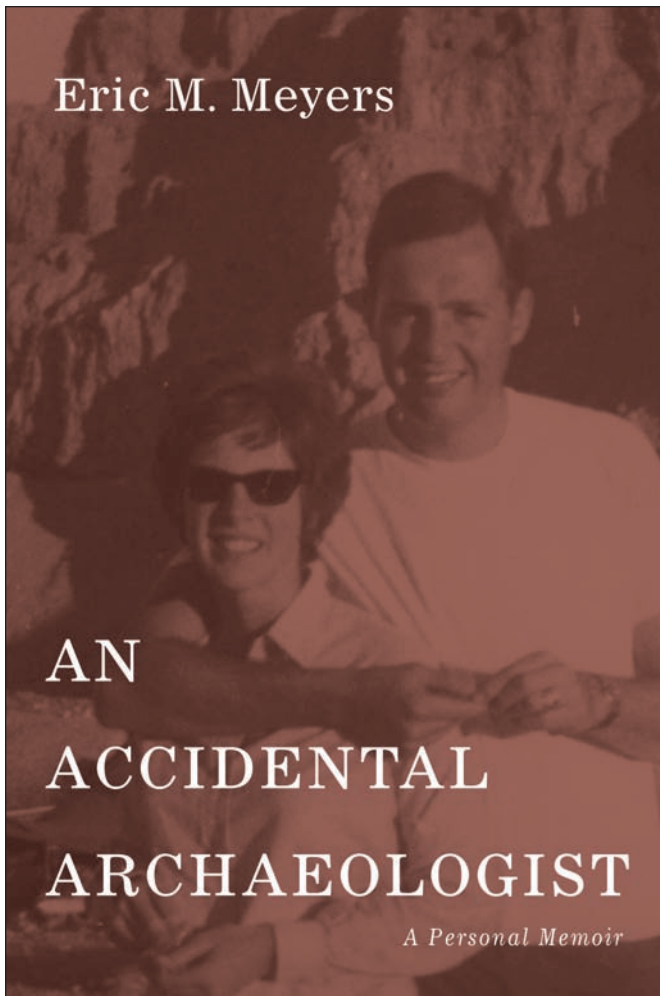
“This fine volume gives voice to several creative and challenging configurations of Jesus in contemporary Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific. Anyone interested in the afterlives of Jesus is urged to engage with the offerings here and make note of the varied ways in which context shapes our understanding of the person, life, and work of Jesus. A fantastic book for use in a class on Christology or the many faces of Jesus. Highly recommended!”

—Monica Jyotsna Melanchthon, University of Divinity

“In this third volume of *Afterlives*, we again confront the fact that the significance of Jesus, that discomfiting peasant, continues to leak out across the globe. Whether reading the Jesus traditions anew through indigenous eyes or recognizing how the tradition itself emerged within the lethal atmosphere of patriarchy, the authors challenge us to nothing less than a radical revisioning of that elusive and alluring figure, dancing in the unnoticed gaps and crevices of our planet.”

—Arthur J. Dewey, Xavier University

GREGORY C. JENKS is Executive Director, Centre for Coins, Culture & Religious History, Brisbane, Australia. He was Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, Grafton 2017–2022. He is the author of *The Once and Future Bible* (2011) and *Jesus Then and Jesus Now* (2014).



An Accidental Archaeologist

A Personal Memoir

ERIC M. MEYERS

978-1-6667-4352-4 | 232 p. | \$30

This personal and professional memoir recounts the author's formative years and the family influences that propelled him forward. The experience of anti-Semitism in grammar school and college played a major role. The centrality of music and family were especially influential. His partnership with Carol Meyers allowed him to have a successful career in academic archaeology and in teaching at Duke University. Other endeavors, however, kept him grounded and focused on everyday matters: singing, golf, social activism, teaching, and writing. But it was teaching most of all that imbued his life with special meaning as both student and teacher confronted the riches of the past in a search for a better future.

"This is an engrossing memoir by one of the greats in the archaeology of Israel-Palestine. In the *Accidental Archaeologist*, Eric Meyers writes with honesty and wit about topics such as the anti-Semitism he experienced as a young man in New England and the challenges he and Carol Meyers faced as they led pioneering expeditions in Galilee. An inspiring book by a scholar I am extremely lucky to have had as a teacher and mentor."

—Benjamin Gordon, University of Pittsburgh

"Eric Meyers calls himself 'an accidental archaeologist,' and then proceeds to describe the career of one of the most influential scholars of ancient Judaism of the twentieth century. Meyers narrates his life from child of Holocaust survivors to 'biblical archaeologist' par excellence with *vivre* and excitement. This volume is a tribute to a long and fruitful life and career of meaning and conscience."

—Steven Fine, Yeshiva University

"An engaging account of the remarkably rich and full life of an important American archaeologist, noteworthy especially for the perspectives Meyers brings to bear not only on his signature archaeological fieldwork—excavations in Israel of Hellenistic, Roman, and Byzantine synagogue sites—but also on key aspects of the history and character of the modern Israeli state and of modern American Jewry."

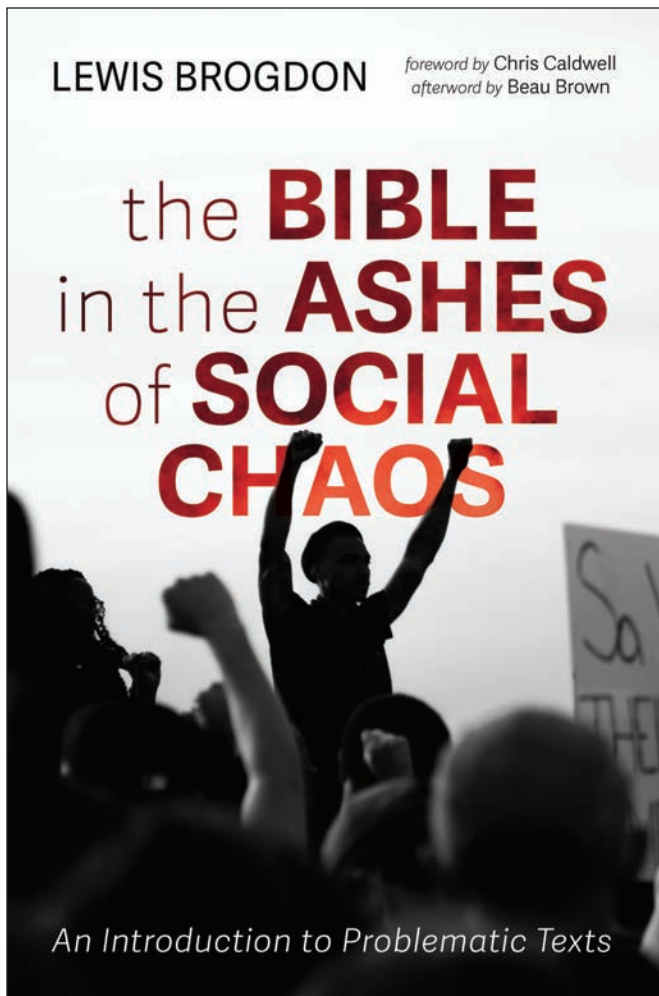
—Susan Ackerman, Dartmouth College

"A whole life dedicated to exploring the Hebrew Bible and the land and culture to which it is connected—how 'accidental' can that be? Who and what formed an archaeologist who authored scores of publications, taught a worldwide public, and inspired generations of scholars to become leaders in their own fields? Curious, humble, and honest, Eric Meyers turns out a true witness of our times—and above all a real *Mensch*. What a blessing for us all!"

—Jürgen K. Zangenberg, Leiden University

ERIC M. MEYERS is the Bernice and Morton Lerner Professor Emeritus of Religious and Jewish Studies at Duke University. He founded the Center for Jewish Studies at Duke in 1972. He co-authored with his wife, Carol Meyers, commentaries on Haggai and Zechariah in the Anchor Bible, and he served as editor in chief of *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Archaeology in the Near East*. His excavations at Sepphoris were fully published in 2018. He also served three terms as president of the American Schools/Society of Overseas Research.





The Bible in the Ashes of Social Chaos

An Introduction to Problematic Texts

LEWIS BROGDON

978-1-6667-4988-5 | 128 p. | \$20

Daily we witness the spectacle of a country in chaos. Mass shootings, partisan gridlock, the growing wealth divide, gross economic inequities, crumbling institutions, and widespread sexism, racism, and xenophobia reflect a country in serious peril. Cynicism, narcissism, fear, and nihilism hide behind the veneer of success, happiness, and materialism that deludes us about our dire condition. Both America and its dominant religion are in decline and more people are raising serious questions about God, the church, and its sacred text for the role they play in past and present realities unfolding around us. This is especially true in the African American community where there are grassroots movements and emerging leaders questioning traditional beliefs of the Black church. Today, millennials and Gen Z youth question problematic things said in the Bible and why a book with moral contradictions continues to be authoritative. There is a real need to grapple with the Bible's relevance in the ashes of social chaos. More importantly, there is a need to expand our moral imagination in new ways that can revitalize faith. In *The Bible in the Ashes of Social Chaos*, Brogdon invites readers to wade into these biblical, theological, and philosophical issues in a way that holds the sacred nature of the biblical text and questioning rooted in faith in a healthy tension. This book will resonate with people in various places in their intellectual and faith journey.

"This is a gem of a book! Brogdon wears his scholarship lightly, using a conversational tone to speak clearly and directly about how to interpret Scripture. He addresses common questions about how to understand the Bible and answers them with intellectual honesty and deep faith. This book deserves a place in every Bible study, confirmation class, and pastor's library."

—Shannon Craig-Snell, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

"*The Bible in the Ashes of Social Chaos* is an invaluable gift to both the Christian church and the everyday, armchair reader of the word. As a New Testament scholar and experienced minister, Brogdon asks tough questions about the biblical text and its interpretation, provides constructive answers, dispels traditional and destructive myths about the Bible, and exposes the oppressive nature of the church's interpretation of certain texts in the Bible. I highly recommend it."

—Darvin A. Adams I, itinerant pastor in the Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) Church

LEWIS BROGDON is an associate professor of Black church studies and the director of the Institute for Black Church Studies at the Baptist Seminary of Kentucky in Louisville. He is the author of several books, such as *A Companion to Philemon*, *The Spirituality of Black Preaching*, *The New Pentecostal Message? An Introduction to the Prosperity Movement*, and *Hope on the Brink: Understanding the Emergence of Nihilism in Black America*, and numerous articles and book chapters.

Opening the Treasure of the Scriptures

SOME BIBLICAL CRUMBS



Brother Richard of Taizé

Opening the Treasure of the Scriptures

Some Biblical Crumbs

BROTHER RICHARD OF TAIZÉ

978-1-6667-5496-4 | 134 p. | \$20

From the inexhaustible treasure which is the Bible, here are a few crumbs. They represent an attempt at serious exegesis and theological reflection as well as a desire to understand not only the Bible, but also our own time and our world. It was the Risen Christ, on the road to Emmaus, who first “opened the Scriptures” to his fellow travelers (Luke 24:32). It is as his disciples and in his steps that we can draw from that treasure “things both new and old” (see Matt 13:52).

“Brother Richard reads the Bible with care and explains the Scriptures with the Scriptures. His grasp is open and surprising, even finding humor in the Holy Book. Among the biblical themes, Brother Richard pays special attention to joy and gratitude. Joy opens space for the Holy Spirit, and the human being becomes free, also to forgive. ‘Whoever knows joy, forgets himself or herself and dares to move forward,’ this book assures us.”

—Vesa Hirvonen, professor of systematic theology, University of Eastern Finland

“A beautifully written book that opens up biblical themes with deep theological insights grounded in pilgrimage spirituality. The author, himself a Taizé brother, inspires us to join in the ecumenical journey towards reconciliation and unity which Christ wills for his church. A book for pilgrims on the ecumenical journey indeed.”

—Hermen Shastri, former general secretary, Council of Churches of Malaysia

“Brother Richard writes like a modern church father. His exegesis and theological reflection bring out the spiritual dimensions of the biblical text in a way that feeds the soul as well as the mind—a wonderful book that one can read with profit again and again.”

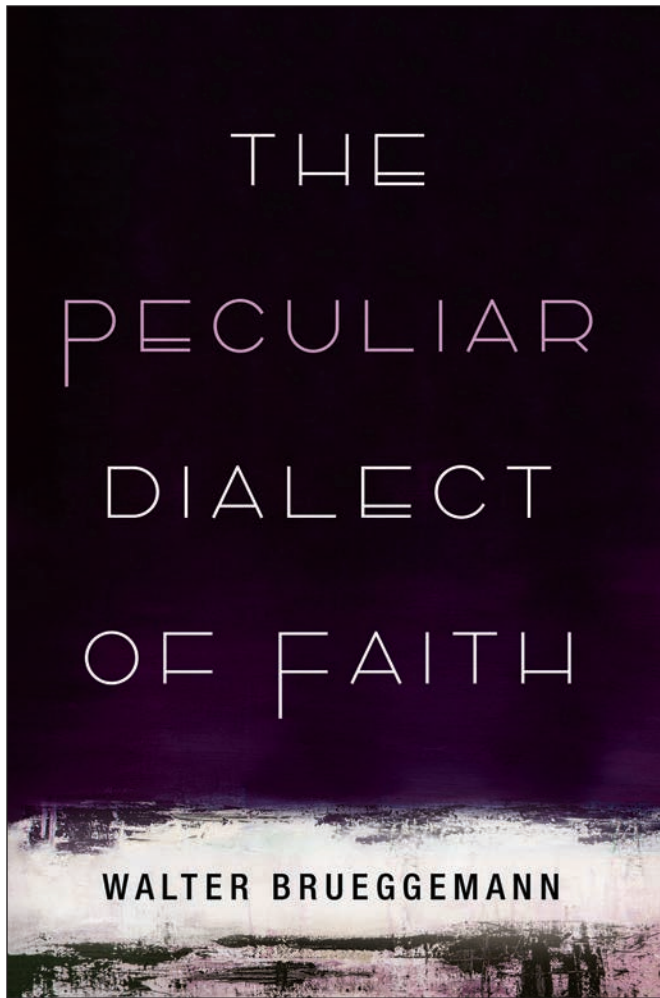
—Norman Russell, honorary research fellow, University of Oxford

“Dealing with biblical themes such as freedom, justice and mercy, joy and friendship, Brother Richard does not so much draw conclusions as invite us to think and search with him. This publication is especially relevant today as the outcome of the confrontation between open societies and authoritarian regimes depends on our ability and desire to distinguish truth from lies, humble humanity from archaic megalomania. Some humble biblical crumbs weigh far more heavily in the court of history than the shadows of twenty-first-century pharaohs.”

—Constantin Sigov, National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy

BROTHER RICHARD, originally from Switzerland, joined the Taizé Community as a brother in 1979. He is involved in the welcome of young people for the meetings at Taizé, particularly in leading Bible studies.





The Peculiar Dialect of Faith

WALTER BRUEGGEMANN

978-1-6667-1517-0 | 124 p. | \$19

Biblical utterance, in contrast to the sounds of power and certitude, offers imaginative probes into the mystery of God's creation and into the hidden complexities of human hurt and human hope. Thus the dialect of the Bible is offered in relational terms, so that the key ingredients to lived reality characteristically concern justice and righteousness, steadfast love, faithfulness, and compassion. Insofar as the church relies upon and attests to this dialect, we may expect that in church we will speak in a different rhetoric, and consequently we will speak about different subject matter. To be sure, the church is sometimes seduced away from this relational dialect to speak in cadences that are elementally alien to the Bible and to the claims of the gospel. Such seduction of the church takes place, for example, when our nation is at war and the church is tempted to reflect and reiterate the force of that social reality. Or such seduction occurs when the church is captured by any *ism*, notably in our time, *racism* or *nationalism*. Or alternatively, ideological *conservatism* that craves the language of certitude or ideological *liberalism* that is easily bewitched by the rhetoric of psychology or the market. When the church is domesticated to such alien claims, it loses its distinctiveness, and consequently loses its nerve and its courage for serious mission. Thus attentiveness to our peculiar dialect is an important investment. —from the Preface

“Among biblical interpreters, Walter Brueggemann is a singular wordsmith. His luminous essays in *The Peculiar Dialect of Faith* explore biblical words in their literary settings and historical conditioning to expose the language worlds they create. Brueggemann refuses to leave these poetic worlds in the past or to wield them as weapons against the present. Instead, his powerful words about texts embrace readers of faith, draw us to full attention, expand our understanding, and call us to renewed hope amid throbbing sufferings of our present moment.”

—Kathleen M. O'Connor, professor emerita of Old Testament, Columbia Theological Seminary

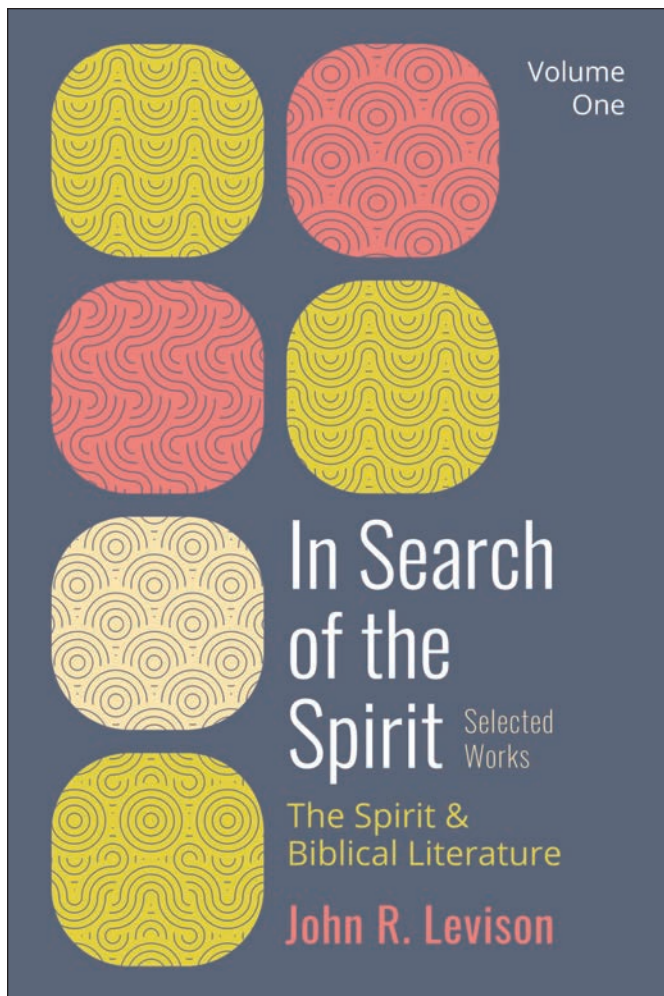
“Quintessential Brueggemann! He has one screen open to the Bible, another to the broader culture, and a third screen open to developing theories in the fields such as economics and sociology. And he has the sound up to eleven on all the screens at once. Yet in the cacophony, Brueggemann hears the word of God and proclaims it with articulate faith and reverent humility.”

—Rolf Jacobson, professor of Old Testament, Luther Seminary

“Walter Brueggemann exhorts us to take seriously the power of our words and to be brave in our use of language that is world-creating and prophetically imaginative. The peculiar and relational dialect of the church should empower, not embarrass, us to give enlivened expression of the steadfast and tenacious love of God. We have been deputized to speak in a new tongue!”

—Clover Reuter Beal, co-lead pastor, Montview Blvd Presbyterian Church

WALTER BRUEGGEMANN is William Marcellus McPheeters Professor of Old Testament Emeritus at Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia. He has published widely on the Old Testament as well as contemporary hermeneutical reflections, including, from Cascade Books: *David and His Theologian* (2011), *A Pathway of Interpretation* (2008), *Embracing the Transformation* (2014), *The Practice of Homefulness* (2014), *Truth-Telling as Subversive Obedience* (2011), *Virus as a Summons to Faith* (2020), *A Wilderness Zone* (2021), and *Resisting Denial, Refusing Despair* (2022).



In Search of the Spirit: Selected Works, Volume One

The Spirit and Biblical Literature

JOHN R. LEVISON

978-1-7252-9052-5 | 384 p. | \$46

In his trailblazing studies of the spirit in Jewish and Christian Antiquity, John R. (Jack) Levison shatters theological and exegetical taxonomies. Should the spirit be understood as breath or Spirit—or both? Is the spirit directed to creation or salvation—or both? Is the spirit a force or an angel—or both? Does the spirit inspire ecstasy or wisdom—or both? When Levison transfers the starting point of pneumatology from the New Testament to the Hebrew Bible, from Christianity to Judaism, questions swell, assumptions detonate, and expectations flourish. Consequently, Levison’s studies are considered “impressive and provocative” (*Review of Biblical Literature*), “delightful, engaging” (*Catholic Biblical Quarterly*), “compelling, eloquent, sensitive” (*Word and World*), and “a remarkable read” (*Themelios*), with “profound ramifications for both Jewish and New Testament Studies” (*Journal of Jewish Studies*). Now, for the first time, selections of his breathtaking array of studies are available in three accessible volumes. This volume, in which you will discover some of the programmatic studies Levison published on the biblical literature of both testaments, reveals why *Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion* forecasts that “Levison will continue to be at the center of our most fruitful discussions of pneumatology.”

“Jack Levison’s masterful work will invite you to take seriously the biblical roots of Christian pneumatology. The result is an invitation to think about pneumatology first from below, from the core of all that is meant to be human, rather than from the heights of trinitarian dogma. This is a provocative read from start to finish.”

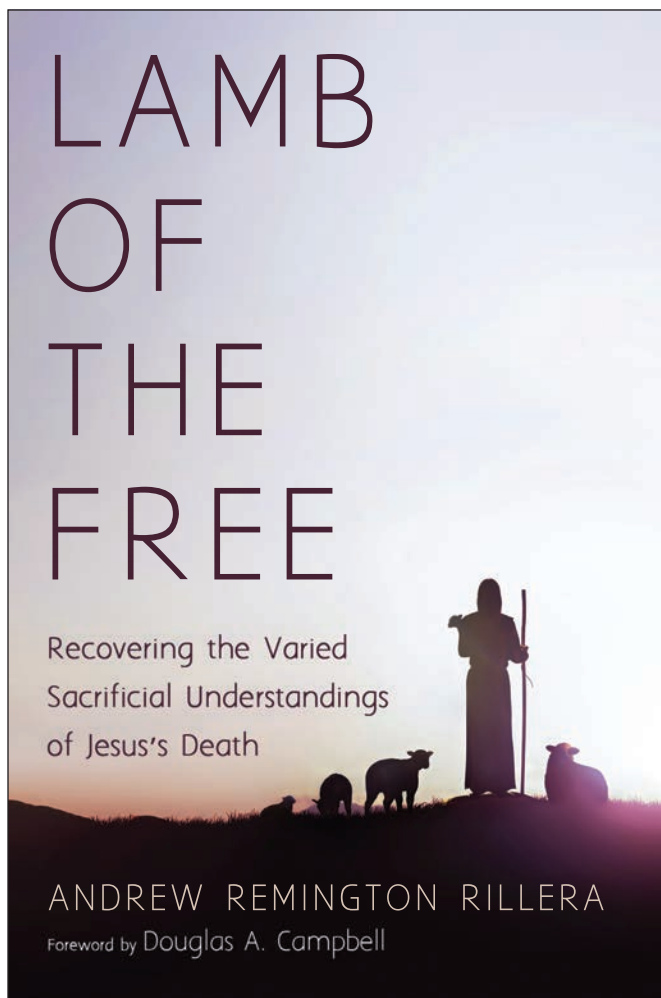
—Frank D. Macchia, professor of systematic theology, Vanguard University

“Jack Levison has been writing about the Spirit for three decades. This volume is the first of three projected volumes of his essays on the subject. These essays are distinguished by the fact that they range over both testaments and also the non-canonical writings of Second Temple Judaism. Levison has amply demonstrated that the Spirit was not thought to have departed from Judaism, and that the New Testament, especially Pauline, view of the Spirit must be understood in its Jewish context. These essays are a fair sample of the best scholarship on the Spirit in this generation.”

—John J. Collins, professor emeritus of Old Testament, Yale Divinity School

JOHN R. LEVISON holds the W. J. A. Power Chair of Old Testament Interpretation and Biblical Hebrew at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. He has received grants from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, National Humanities Center, National Endowment for the Humanities, Lilly Fellows Program, Louisville Institute, International Catacomb Society, Sam Taylor Foundation, and Rotary Foundation. He lives as faculty-in-residence on the SMU campus with his spouse, Priscilla Pope-Levison.





Lamb of the Free

Recovering the Varied Sacrificial Understandings of Jesus's Death

ANDREW REMINGTON RILLERA

978-1-6667-0304-7 | 320 p. | \$40

Lamb of the Free analyzes the different sacrificial imagery applied to Jesus in the NT in light of the facts that (a) there is no such thing as substitutionary death sacrifice in the Torah—neither *death* nor *suffering* nor *punishment* of the animal has any place in the sacrificial system—and (b) there are both atoning and non-atoning sacrifices. Surprisingly, the earliest and most common sacrifices associated with Jesus's death are the *non-atoning* ones. Nevertheless, when considering the whole NT, Jesus is said to accomplish all the benefits of the entire Levitical system, from both atoning and non-atoning sacrifices and purification. Moreover, all sacrificial interpretations of Jesus's death in the NT operate within the paradigm of participation, which is antithetical to notions of substitution. The sacrificial imagery in the NT is aimed at grounding the exhortation for the audience to be conformed to the cruciform image of Jesus *by sharing in his death*. The consistent message throughout the entire NT is not that Jesus died *instead* of us, rather, Jesus dies *ahead* of us so that we can unite with him and be conformed the image of his death.

“Drawing especially on important insights from Jacob Milgrom, Andrew Rillera relentlessly critiques faulty assumptions about sacrifice, substitution, and atonement that (mis)inform certain prevalent interpretations of Jesus's death. Anyone interested in these matters will need to grapple with Rillera's stimulating and provocative work.”

—David M. Moffitt, reader in New Testament Studies, University of St. Andrews

“PSA for all Christians: PSA is dead, and Andrew Rillera just killed it. Christians who have been troubled by the implications of penal substitutionary atonement will want to read *Lamb of the Free*, while those who subscribe to PSA might not want to read it, but absolutely must!”

—Matthew Thiessen, associate professor of religious studies, McMaster University

“Andrew Rillera provides an essential primer to sacrifices and ritual purity situated within a compelling argument about various misreadings of New Testament texts. It is a great resource for anyone interested in Jewish rituals and concepts of 'atonement.'”

—Madison N. Pierce, associate professor of New Testament, Western Theological Seminary

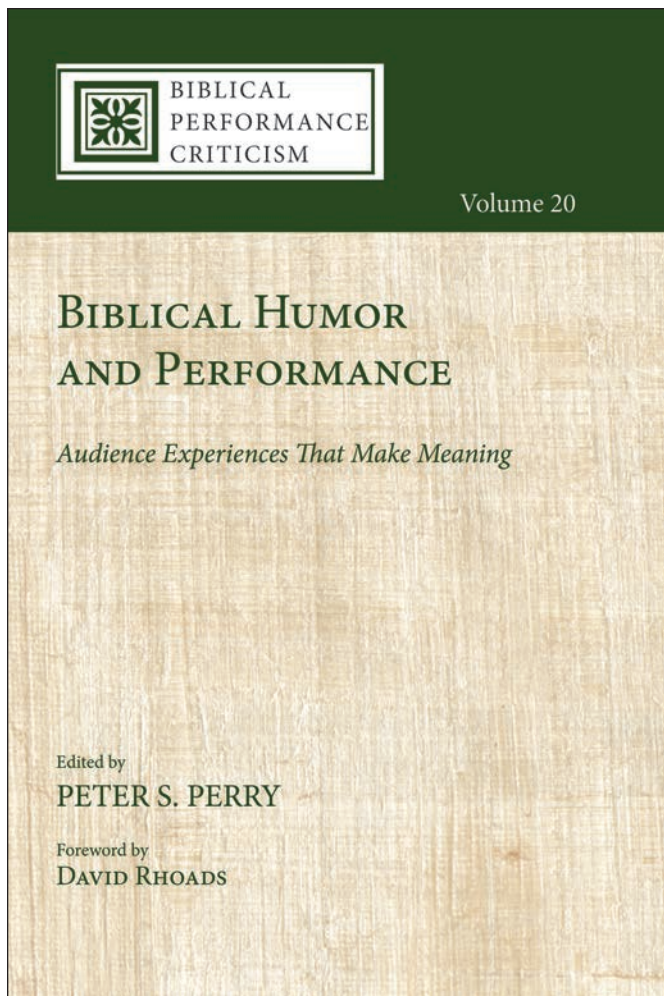
“Beware! Don't read this book if you aren't ready for a head-exploding, pre-vious-theology-mashing, and page-turning exposition of the saving significance of Jesus! Put it down and walk away if you'd rather hang on to penal substitutionary atonement (PSA) or something else similarly unbiblical. This is a book that will satisfy the academic as well as call the Christian into profound discipleship. You will end up using the words 'union' and 'participation' with more joy and depth than ever before as you think about the saving significance of Jesus.”

—Chris Tilling, head of research and senior lecturer in New Testament, St. Mellitus College

“With this book, Andrew Rillera has given readers the best gift a scholar can give: a thoughtful, thorough, clearly written argument that demands attention. Those already familiar with the complex world of Jewish sacrifice will find yet more to explore due to Rillera's judicious and animated exposition, and due to his precision, any who disagree will be required to articulate a well-defended response. If matters about atonement in the Old or New Testament at all interest (or vex) you, read this book.”

—Paul T. Sloan, associate professor of early Christianity, Houston Christian University

ANDREW REMINGTON RILLERA is assistant professor of biblical studies and theology at The King's University in Edmonton, Alberta, in Canada.



Biblical Humor and Performance

Audience Experiences That Make Meaning

BIBLICAL PERFORMANCE CRITICISM

EDITED BY **PETER S. PERRY**

978-1-6667-1129-5 | 288 p. | \$36

What's so humorous about the Bible? Quite a bit, especially if experienced with others! Nine biblical scholars explore their experiences of reading and hearing passages from the Bible and discovering humor that becomes clearer in performance. Each writer found clues in their chosen biblical text that suggested biblical authors expected an audience to respond with laughter. Performers have a powerful role in either bringing out or tamping down humor in the Bible. One audience may be more disposed to respond to humor than another. And each contributor found that experiencing humor changed the interpretation of the biblical passage. From Genesis to Revelation, this study uncovers the Bible's potential for humor.

"So often books about humor end up being humorless attempts to overexplain the joke—especially when written by biblical scholars! This volume is nothing like that. The essays in Peter Perry's collection deftly pair right-sized analysis with keen insights into how humor functions in biblical texts and their performance. The result is as perceptive as it is playful. With this volume, biblical performance criticism has taken an important step forward."

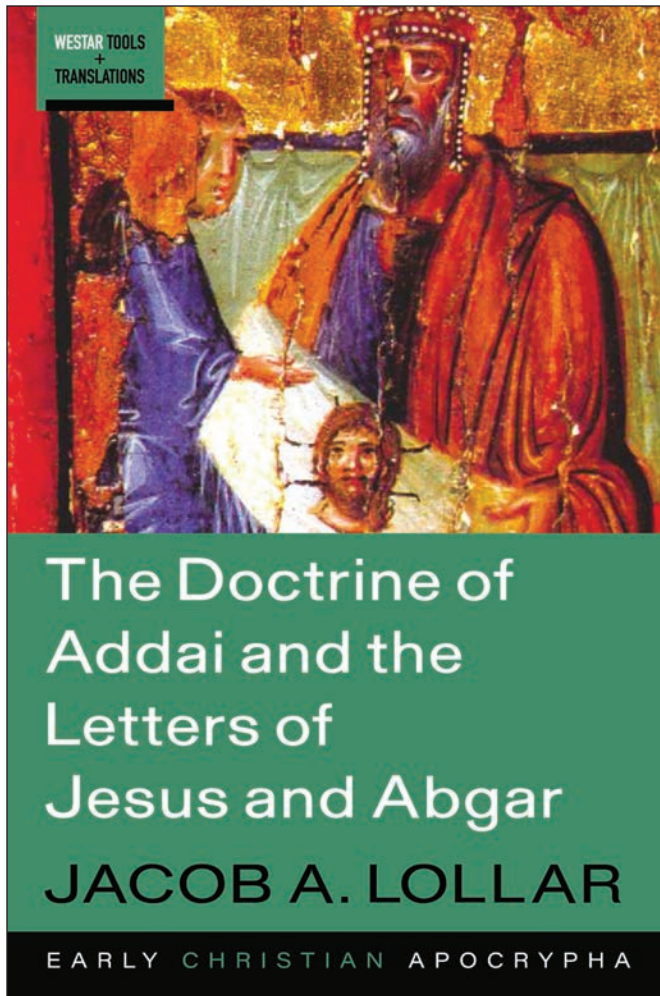
—Travis West, author of *Biblical Hebrew: An Interactive Approach*

"The contributors introduce us to humor's rhetoric, ancient and modern, theoretical and practical. They locate probable humor in multiple strands of the biblical traditions so that we see where it impacted audiences and the likely shape of that impact. As someone who believes that communities worth engaging always have a healthy sense of humor, I found this a fascinating expansion of our understanding of biblical communication events."

—Phil Ruge-Jones, co-editor of *The Bible in Ancient and Modern Media*

PETER S. PERRY is assistant affiliate professor of New Testament at Fuller Seminary and pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Glendale, Arizona. He is the author of *Insights from Performance Criticism* (2016) and *The Rhetoric of Digressions* (2009).





The Doctrine of Addai and the Letters of Jesus and Abgar

EARLY CHRISTIAN APOCRYPHA

JACOB A. LOLLAR

978-1-6667-5206-9 | Forthcoming

The *Doctrine of Addai* tells the story of how Christianity came to the Syrian city of Edessa. It incorporates and adapts a correspondence between Jesus and the Syrian king Abgar, who wrote to Jesus requesting healing from a long-term illness. In his response, Jesus promises to send him an apostle, Addai (sometimes called Thaddaeus), who will heal Abgar's disease and establish Christianity in his kingdom. The exchange between Jesus and Abgar and Edessa's subsequent evangelization by Addai functions as a founding myth for Christianity in the region, which likely did become Christian under a later King Abgar in the early third century. But the activities and interactions of Addai in Edessa reflect a later time: the fifth century, when Christians in the East were embroiled in a conflict over reforms enacted by the Bishop Rabbula. These complexities of Syrian Christian history are all made clear in the introduction and rich commentary that accompanies this updated English translation of the *Doctrine of Addai* and related texts—including early witnesses to the Abgar/ Jesus Correspondence in papyri and inscriptions, and selections from the *Ecclesiastical History* of Eusebius of Caesarea, the Acts of Thaddaeus, and the Acts of Mar Mari.

"This excellent book is much more than a fresh translation of a foundational piece of Syriac literature—the earliest narrative on the arrival of Christianity to Edessa. The volume also comprises a sophisticated commentary, as well as the first systematic study of several inscriptions and papyri that attest the *Doctrine*, and of its textual afterlife over centuries. Jacob Lollar's work reshapes our understanding of the history of the *Doctrine*, its far-reaching impact on early Christians, and the role it played in later Syriac literature."

—Alberto Rigolio, associate professor of classics, Durham University

"Probably composed in the early fifth century, the *Doctrina Addai* contains the earliest Syriac text of the famous written exchange between Jesus and the Edessene king Abgar V, along with a highly detailed account of the apostle Addai's subsequent mission to the kingdom. Let me applaud Jacob Lollar for his outstanding new English translation of this fascinating document."

—William Adler, distinguished university professor of religious studies, North Carolina State University

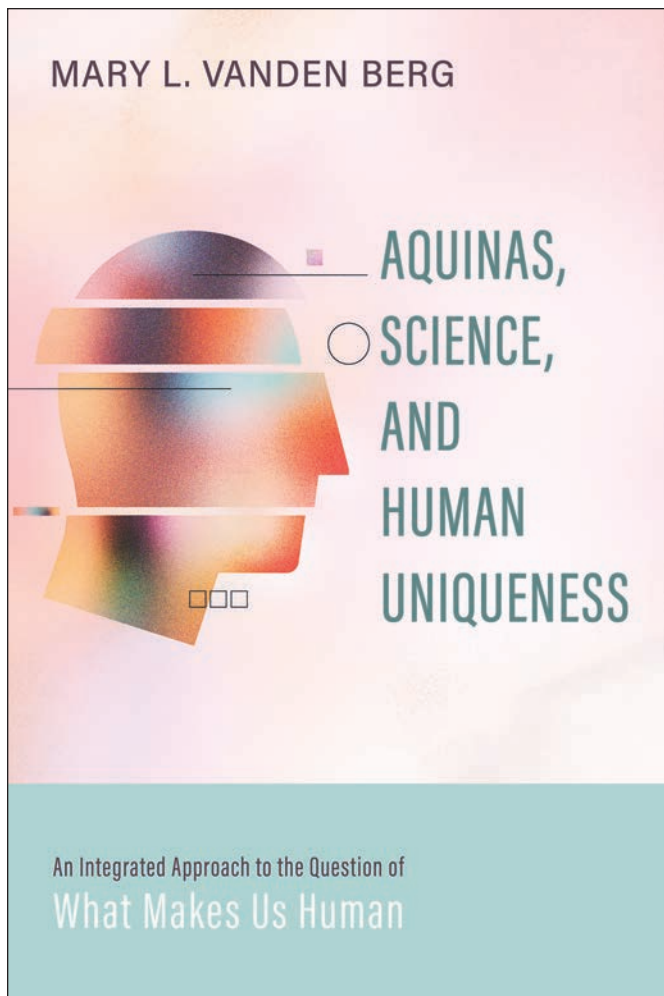
"By making these once-influential texts readily available, the series on early Christian apocrypha performs an invaluable service to scholars but also to any thoughtful reader interested in the breadth and diversity of the Christian tradition. The latest volume on the *Doctrine of Addai* is an excellent contribution, with a lucid translation grounded in thorough scholarly research. Long may this fine series continue."

—Philip Jenkins, distinguished professor of history, Institute for Studies of Religion, Baylor University

"Through idiomatic translations of multiple Syriac, Greek, and Latin sources and a concise, yet comprehensive account of the development and transmission of the Abgar legend, Jacob Lollar has provided an invaluable tool for understanding how the Christians of Edessa fused civic history with sacred history to put Roman Mesopotamia at the very forefront of the apostolic tradition."

—Kyle Smith, associate professor of historical studies and the study of religion, University of Toronto

JACOB A. LOLLAR is an Alexander von Humboldt postdoctoral fellow at the University of Regensburg. He is the author of *The History of John the Son of Zebedee* (2020), and his research focuses on apocryphal and pseudepigraphal traditions in Syriac, including his Humboldt project on the Syriac traditions of Saint Thekla.



Aquinas, Science, and Human Uniqueness

An Integrated Approach to the Question of What Makes Us Human

MARY L. VANDEN BERG

978-1-7252-6777-0 | 158 p. | \$22

What is a human being? What makes humans special, different from other creatures? Or is a human just another animal? Drawing on Scripture, Aquinas, and science, this book seeks to articulate both *why* and *how* humans should be understood as special. Despite amazing similarities to other creatures, humans are physiologically, psychologically, and spiritually unique beings. No other creatures—not even angels—have the unique combination of capacities nor the divine calling that humans have. Vanden Berg argues that only humans are material-spiritual, intellective, worshipping beings created specifically for a personal relationship with their Creator and with the stated vocation of caring for God’s world and representing God in it.

“It is a wonderful gift to have a thoughtful and courageous theologian reach across Christian perspectives, pursue interdisciplinary engagement with the sciences, and remain intentionally rooted within her own tradition. Vanden Berg’s argument for human uniqueness is a valuable starting place that will foster robust conversations between Protestants and Catholics, scientists and theologians, clergy and congregants.”

—Clay Carlson, Trinity Christian College

“Mary Vanden Berg makes a persuasive case for retrieving Aquinas’s notion of the soul’s intellective capacity as the best way forward for doing justice not only to human uniqueness but to the human dignity of the disabled as well. The argument turns on rightly dividing physical from metaphysical judgments, science from theology. The conclusion—that humans are material-spiritual worshipping animals—is compelling.”

—Kevin J. Vanhoozer, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

“Mary Vanden Berg provides an insightful exploration of human uniqueness in this well-researched and well-written book. Vanden Berg’s retrieval of Aquinas, interpretation of Scripture, and engagement with contemporary science,

all in conversation with the Reformed tradition, make a valuable contribution to contemporary theological anthropology. This is no small feat. Moreover, Vanden Berg’s epistemological humility is a balm for treating those wounded by debates in science and religion.”

—Ryan S. Peterson, Talbot School of Theology, Biola University

“Dr. Vanden Berg provides an uncommon integration of theological acumen, careful exegesis, informed science, and pastoral engagement. The result is a cogent and existentially satisfying presentation of what it means to be human.”

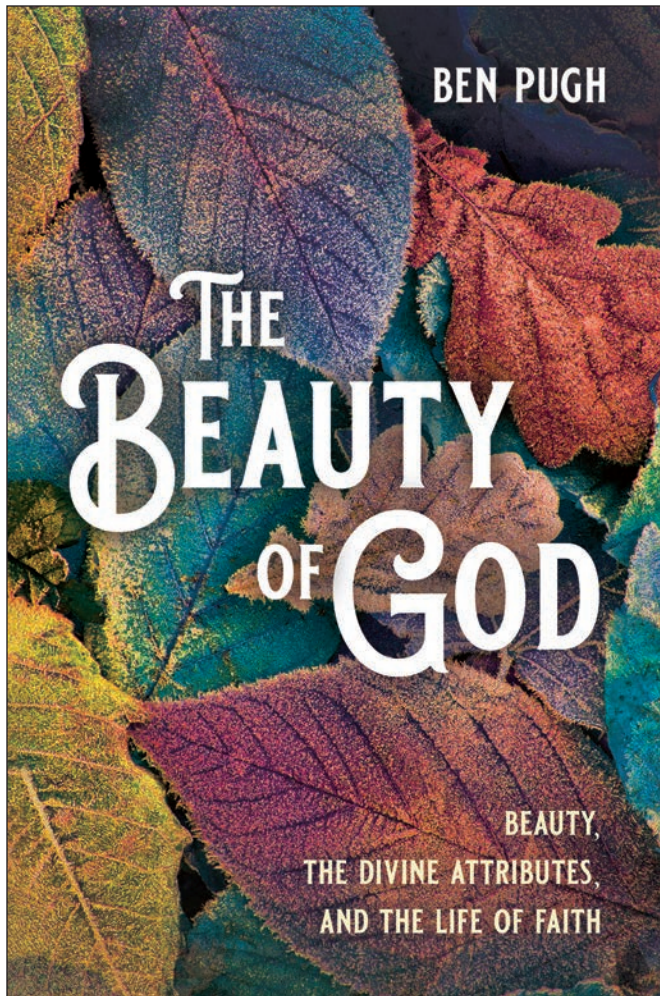
—John W. Hilber, McMaster Divinity College

“Vanden Berg’s new book is a welcome entrée into what it means to be human in a post-Darwinian world. In dialogue with the natural sciences and Aquinas, she probes the mystery of the human condition while drawing from Scripture and the Catholic tradition. Even for readers like me who are unconvinced by the evolutionary story, her insights are brimming with pastoral relevance. . . . Vanden Berg offers us a stimulating treatment of what’s so astonishing about God’s gracious gift of being human.”

—Hans Madueme, MD, Covenant College

MARY L. VANDEN BERG is the Jean and Kenneth Baker Professor of Systematic Theology at Calvin Theological Seminary in Grand Rapids, Michigan.





The Beauty of God

Beauty, the Divine Attributes,
and the Life of Faith

BEN PUGH

978-1-6667-5066-9 | 100 p. | \$18

Ever get the feeling that so much of what we give our time to is an exercise in missing the point? The path towards recovering meaning, purpose, and right order in our lives is the path towards a fresh vision of our Creator. Here, in this short book, you get to contemplate *God*. From sixteen different angles you will have the chance to dwell upon who God is: what we call the divine attributes. It will remind you of why God is worthy of worship and, in the process, it may just realign your priorities.

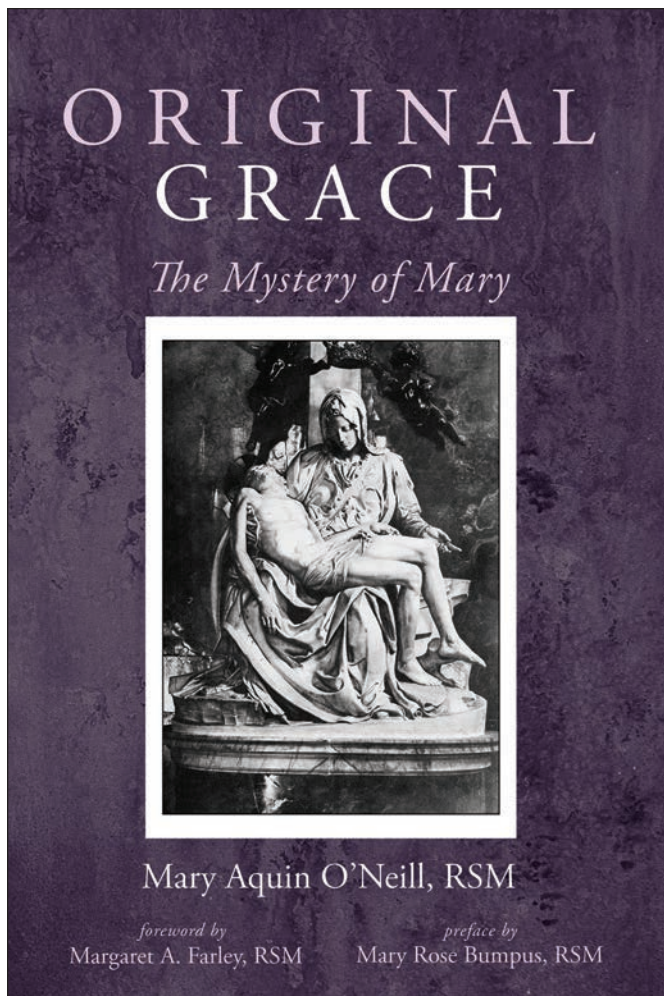
“In *The Beauty of God*, Pugh offers a refreshing antidote to the opening pages of many systematic theologies, where the treatment of God’s attributes sits somewhat detached from the reader’s life of faith. In this devotional offering, Pugh demonstrates, with reference to Scripture and his own faith journey, that knowledge of God is not gained through studying and contemplating God, but by allowing God to disclose himself to us. *The Beauty of God* is an invitation into this relational experience.”

—Sandra Brower, Academic Delivery Director, Cliff College

“This is an accessible yet thought-provoking book. Pugh’s refreshing approach enables us to consider the divine attributes, as traditionally conceived, through the lens of beauty. The first and final chapters in particular open the door for original theological speculations under the influence of art and aesthetics. The book is a fine resource for teaching and reflection, commendable for its range of references from the Psalms to Salvador Dali.”

—Daniel Gustafsson, author of *Fordings*

BEN PUGH is lecturer in theology and postgraduate research program lead at Cliff College, and honorary research fellow at the University of Manchester, United Kingdom. He is the author of *The King of the Jews: 28 Moments with the Son of God* (2014).



Original Grace

The Mystery of Mary
MARY AQUIN O'NEILL RSM

978-1-6667-4442-2 | 162 p. | \$23

O'Neill's *Original Grace* provides a fresh analysis of biblical texts and explores the rich tradition and development of Marian devotion, liturgical prayer, artwork, and dogma. It invites the reader to discover how our capacity for biblical and theological understanding matures over time, correcting our perception of Mary, the second Eve and the mother of Jesus the Christ, and of the place and role of women in church and society. This exhilarating book reveals the benefit that courageous questioning can bring to the church's self-understanding and to the vital relationships between women and men. In it we gently discover that a wise and good God is our Creator, affirming us in our gendered humanity, still slowly teaching us what went on in Eden, in Nazareth, and on Calvary.

"A rich and profound theological reflection on Mary through Scripture, ecclesiology, liturgy, the arts, and contemporary feminist scholarship, this is a treasure of a book which combines deep devotion with fearless challenge. It applies a careful anthropological lens to vexed questions with deft ecumenical sensitivity and is undoubtedly a book for our times."

—Gemma Simmonds, Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology

"Mary Aquin O'Neill reintroduces Mary, the mother of Jesus, to us by showing how the graced Christian imagination reveals a surplus of meaning in traditional Mariology, a meaning which goes beyond historical criticism, accommodation to interfaith dialogues, and contemporary feminist critiques. Scholarship enlivened by a deep faith and a love of Mary brings us this treasure."

—Doris Gottemoeller, RSM, co-author of *Union and Charity: The History of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas*

"*Original Grace* challenges the damaging imbalance in the life and teachings of the Church regarding men and women and argues that this cannot be rectified unless we get our thinking about Mary straightened out. Different themes echo throughout: refashioning the Marian tradition, a theological anthropology that affirms the equal dignity of men and women, and a pastoral sensitivity to contemporary challenges. Eminently readable, this book will appeal to theologians and lay people."

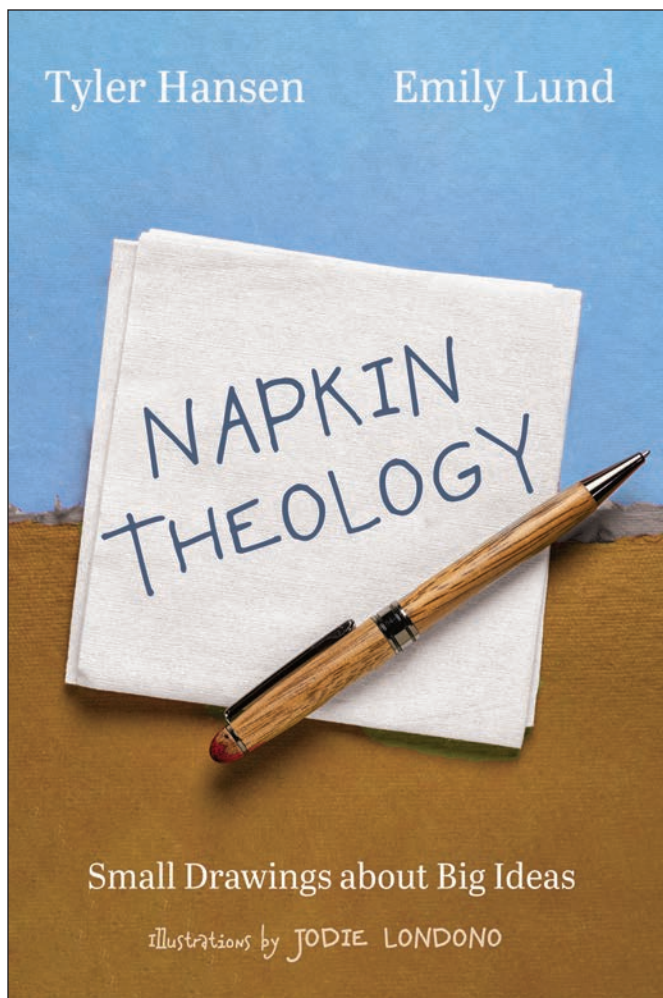
—John R. Donahue, SJ, St. Mary's Seminary and University, emeritus

"*Original Grace* is a holy and imaginative rendering of integrated theology and spirituality that will richly serve women seeking an authentic image of the divine feminine. Mary Aquin O'Neill offers us a personal, devotional, and theological weaving of her own search and scholarship as to the place of Mary in the Christian tradition. Women (and men) seeking their rightful and just place in Church and society will find solace, hope, and inspiration in this book."

—Patricia McDermott, RSM, president, Sisters of Mercy of the Americas

MARY AQUIN O'NEILL, RSM (1941–2016) taught theology at Loyola University, Maryland, and Notre Dame, and later co-founded, with Diane Caplin, Mount Saint Agnes Theological Center for Women in Baltimore, Maryland.





Napkin Theology

Small Drawings about Big Ideas

TYLER HANSEN AND EMILY LUND

978-1-6667-4785-0 | 134 p. | \$20

Many Christians know that something mysterious and powerful happens on the cross—and that it has something to do with salvation. They know that God created out of nothing. They know that Jesus was both human and divine. But what do those various doctrines and concepts have to do with one another? This is what *Napkin Theology* is all about. It is an accessible, rich introduction to Christian theology, illustrated with simple, memorable drawings that describe the classic concepts of Christian belief. In reading *Napkin Theology*, you can peer into the depths of two thousand years of theology in the length of a CliffsNotes guide. This is not *Theology for Dummies*; this is not watered-down. We explain terms like *creatio ex nihilo* and “eschatology,” because they contain truths that all Christians, and not just seminarians, should know. Theology is for everyone—so let’s start drawing.

“Engaging and winsome, down-to-earth and disarmingly direct, Tyler Hansen and Emily Lund lead you step by step into the vast cathedral of theology, exploring its puzzles and perplexities as well as its vaulting wonders and infinite glories.”

—Jeremy Begbie, professor of Theology and director of Duke Initiatives in Theology and the Arts, Duke University

“Conversational in tone and rich in substance, *Napkin Theology* is a faithful and creative offering that will bless those who dive into its pages. This book is an accessible primer on theology for those new to such ideas while also possessing a depth that will guide seasoned readers deeper into the truth, goodness, and beauty of the Christian faith.”

—Claude Atcho, pastor, Church of the Resurrection, author of *Reading Black Books*

“Tyler Hansen and Emily Lund have succeeded in sharing the heart and meat of Christian theology in a fresh way that will appeal to those wanting a first foothold in the conversation. *Napkin Theology* is warm and genuine.”

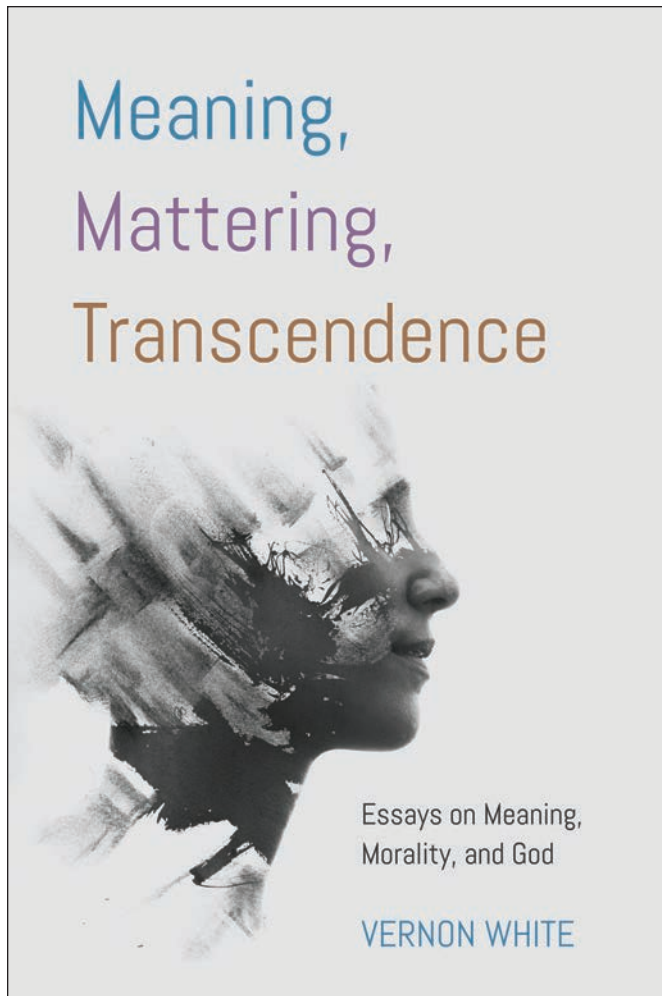
—Beth Felker Jones, professor of theology, Northern Seminary

“What fun to read an introductory theology book that is both lighthearted and weighty instead of lightweight or overwhelming. The joy permeating this book permeates the lives of Tyler Hansen and Emily Lund, who have worked hard together to give the church a wonderful gift. I’ll be using this accessible and delightful book in multiple teaching contexts!”

—Cherith Fee Nordling, sessional lecturer in theology, Regent College

TYLER HANSEN works in Alumni Engagement and Development at Duke University. He is a graduate of Northern Seminary and Wheaton College and has served in various ministry roles.

EMILY LUND serves as the communications specialist for Leadership Education at Duke Divinity. She previously worked as an assistant editor for various brands at *Christianity Today*. She is a graduate of Duke Divinity School and George Fox University.



Meaning, Mattering, Transcendence

Essays on Meaning, Morality, and God

VERNON WHITE

978-1-6667-6486-4 | 122 p. | \$19

This book examines the meaning of some of the most basic terms we use in both confessional and secular discussion about morality and religion. *Is there any credible and distinctive meaning in what we refer to as “right and wrong” and “God”? What do we even mean by meaning itself?* Outside specialist academic discourse these terms are rarely examined in depth. Here they are probed with as much rigor as possible, but also accessibly. Literary, philosophical, and theological sources are all widely drawn on in the discussion. Experiences of ordinary life help illustrate the issue and arguments at stake. As a collection of essays each section is freestanding. But there is also a clear overall connecting argument. It demonstrates a common trajectory towards “ultimacy” or “transcendence” in the meaning of these terms. It argues that the meaning of morality, of God, and of meaning itself, is not just an individual or social construction. It is grounded in what lies beyond us. In this way it offers an alternative to reductionist views, and advances a thesis about transcendence which connects across a wide range of both religious and non-religious experience.

“Vernon White is one of the most insightful and original thinkers working in the world today. In this book, he brings his elegant writing to the complex issues of meaning, morality, and God. He is always stimulating, always informed, and always creative. From the teacher in the classroom who wants a stimulating essay for students to discuss to the parish priest needing to think about a sermon to the academic in the study, White’s book is an important resource.”

—Ian S. Markham, dean and president, Virginia Theological Seminary

“In these winsome explorations, Vernon White invites us to pause in the midst of our busyness long enough to take stock. What is going on when we have experiences or encounters that *mean* something to us? With deft guidance, he shows us that we are suspended in webs of meaning, that those webs stretch far further than we can reach—and that, if we follow their threads, we may find ourselves asking questions about God.”

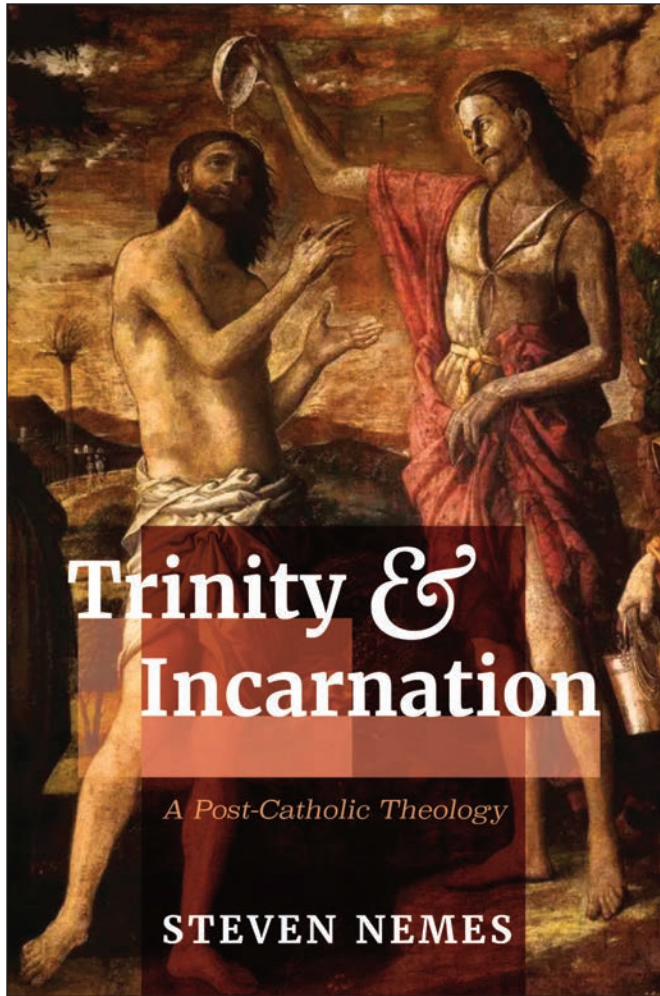
—Mike Higton, professor of theology and ministry, Durham University

“Vernon White’s gifts for preaching to the unconverted, as well as those inside the religious fold, are deployed to great effect in this brief but penetrating book. The author issues a characteristically gentle challenge to secularists, and in the process, points to how believers themselves can raise their game and extend their sympathies. A triumph.”

—Rupert Shortt, research associate, Von Hügel Institute, University of Cambridge

VERNON WHITE is visiting professor in the department of Theology & Religious Studies at King’s College, London, and Senior Fellow of the Westminster Abbey Institute. He is the author of a number of books of moral and philosophical theology, most recently *Purpose and Providence* (2015/2018).





Trinity and Incarnation

A Post-Catholic Theology

STEVEN NEMES

978-1-6667-7356-9 | 244 p. | \$31

This book argues that the doctrine of God taken for granted in the catholic tradition (divine transcendence, *creatio ex nihilo*, divine simplicity) makes it impossible to give an intelligible and coherent interpretation of the verbal formulas of the catholic dogmas of Trinity and incarnation. By way of response to this apparent incoherence at the heart of the catholic theological tradition, it proposes an alternative post-catholic take on these central doctrines in the light of a qualified monistic conception of God and a “Spirit Christological” interpretation of Jesus’s relation to God the Father as presented in the New Testament.

“Most theologians, even in modernity, have sought to ‘repair’ and ‘reform’ the traditional (or ‘catholic’) understandings of God, Trinity, and incarnation to make them coherent under the assumption that retaining the orthodox categories is a prerequisite for doing Christian theology. It is thus refreshing to read the work of Steven Nemes, who subjects these categories and concepts to withering critique. This is a bold and courageous work of revisionist metaphysics.”

—David W. Congdon, senior editor, University Press of Kansas

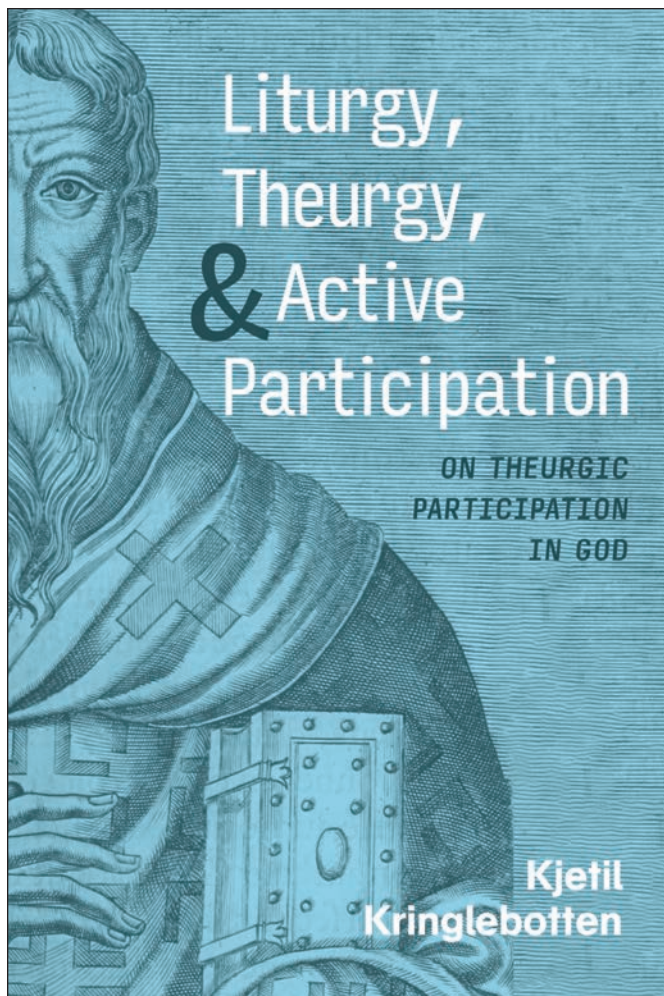
“In *Trinity and Incarnation*, Steven Nemes addresses some of the most intricate problems in Christian theology. The precision of his analysis and the edge of his critical acumen make this important reading even for those who will not fully adopt his conclusions.”

—Johannes Zachhuber, professor of historical and systematic theology, University of Oxford

“If truth is our main concern, we must be willing to critically evaluate even central catholic traditions. Using the concept of ontological priority, *Trinity and Incarnation* mounts powerful arguments against those doctrines as normally understood. There are important challenges here also to divine simplicity and creation *ex nihilo*. Most Protestants are to various degrees catholic, but Nemes offers us here a *post-catholic* theology. This interesting and challenging book will, rightly, generate a lot of discussion!”

—Dale Tuggy, author of *What Is the Trinity?*

STEVEN NEMES is an academic theologian and instructor of Latin, Greek, and Humane Letters at North Phoenix Preparatory Academy in Phoenix, Arizona. He is the author of *Orthodoxy and Heresy* (2022), *Theology of the Manifest: Christianity without Metaphysics* (2023), and *Theological Authority in the Church: Reconsidering Traditionalism and Hierarchy* (2023).



Liturgy, Theurgy, and Active Participation

On Theurgic Participation in God

KJETIL KRINGLEBOTTEN

978-1-6667-7125-1 | 258 p. | \$33

Providing a metaphysical grounding for liturgical participation, this book argues that “active participation” in the liturgy must be understood principally as our participation in God’s act, particularly in the act of Christ, and only secondarily as our ritual involvement. Utilizing Neoplatonist philosophy, Kjetil Kringlebotten proposes that this should be understood in terms of theurgy, which is the human participation in divine action, which finds its consummation in the incarnation of Christ. Without the incarnation all acts will remain extrinsic and imposed but acts can become real and intrinsic precisely because the incarnation makes possible true union with the divine, a metaphysical union-in-distinction, without confusion, because this union is not extrinsic. Through union with Christ, as the one common focus of the divine-human relation, we can have true union with God and may offer true worship. In order to make sense of active participation, then, we need to understand theology in theurgic terms, where theurgy is understood not as a mechanical “coercion” of God but as a participation in His act, in creation and through Christ as the true theurgist, the “master theurgist,” Whose work transforms our act and the liturgy.

“This is a striking, important, and original book. It makes the case that the liturgy is a divine work and not a human action. ‘Participation’ in the liturgy should be construed as a participation in the divine work, rather than in a more sociological and congregational sense of ‘being practically involved.’ This leads to an understanding of metaphysics as the original source of practices. The thesis of the book is bold and distinctive and is presented with great clarity and charity.”

—Christopher Insole, professor of philosophical theology and ethics, Durham University

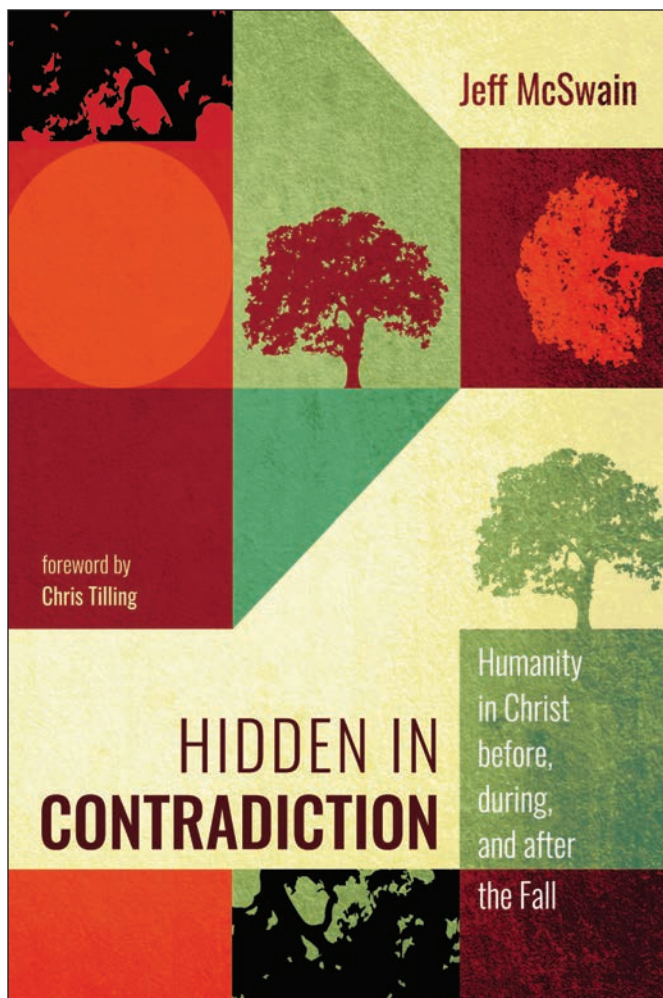
“The metaphysics of participation, rooted in Christian Platonism, claims that creation exists not in itself, but by receiving a share in the divine life. Kjetil Kringlebotten argues that participation is fundamentally liturgical. It finds its source and end in Christ, the master theurgist. Christ calls down the Holy Spirit to gather all people to Himself, that we might rise with Him in glory. This is a bold and inspiring contribution to theological and liturgical scholarship.”

—Simon Oliver, professor of divinity, Durham University

“Kjetil Kringlebotten works skillfully between doctrine, history, prayer and worship, and the life of the church, all with an infectious enthusiasm. His book is wonderfully ecumenical and, indeed, also an excellent example of one of the church’s first, crucial interfaith exchanges with Neoplatonism. I heartily recommend *Liturgy, Theurgy, and Active Participation* to anyone wanting to explore the relation between liturgy and philosophical theology.”

—Andrew Davison, Starbridge associate professor in theology and natural sciences, University of Cambridge

KJETIL KRINGLEBOTTEN is a parish priest in the Church of Norway who earned his PhD in systematic theology from Durham University.



Hidden in Contradiction

Humanity in Christ before,
during, and after the Fall

JEFF MCSWAIN

978-1-6667-3925-1 | 448 p. | \$40

Does God's grace grab you and stir you to purposeful, Spirit-filled living? Or is the gospel that you hear and preach big on belief and short on embodiment? Do you see a need for change, whether personal, ecclesial, or social, that transcends "us" (righteous) vs. "them" (wicked) polarizations? Beginning with every person's participation in Christ as a keystone to creation, Jeff McSwain introduces the vibrant reality of Trinitarian community and shows us the dangers of losing sight of the belovedness we share as humans hidden with Christ in God. Avoiding simplistic categories, McSwain exalts the total goodness of every person in this world (by virtue of creation in Christ) while also acknowledging the simultaneous contradiction—the total depravity of every person (by virtue of the fall). If ignoring our human duplicity contributes to relational fractures at every level, McSwain's dimensional view of human agency urges us to embrace the redemptive truth of our identity in Christ and to refuse our false, destructive selves that have been crucified with Christ. Filled with scriptural exegesis and practical illustrations that pastors and teachers will especially appreciate, this project is a refreshing application of Christology to anthropology and everyday life—an *inspiring work of systematic theology aimed at systematic change*.

it means to live in the truth of who we really are in Christ, as those who are included in God's life and love."

—Linda Rex, blogger at *Our Life in the Trinity*

"Jeff McSwain is one of the key contemporary thinkers providing the theological heft the church needs for renewal in the days and years ahead. Right from the start, McSwain's articulation exhibits a biblical understanding that is more helpful and more hopeful than the norm. 'Ex-vangelical' church communities have formed in reaction to fearful and divisive 'us vs. them' rhetoric, longing for transcendence and meaning, but also largely theologically untethered. McSwain's provocative work is the ticket home."

—Todd Wiebe, host of *The Rector's Cupboard*

"Jeff McSwain does systematic theology in the cadence of the practice of ministry. Few to no one else can do this like he does. He continually lands doctrine nicely in the reader's life. McSwain's rich grasp of Scripture is complemented with stories and analogies unpacking his central idea of a Christological anthropology. Pastors and others seeking a robust theological grounding for gospel embodiment will find this work engaging, challenging, and refreshing."

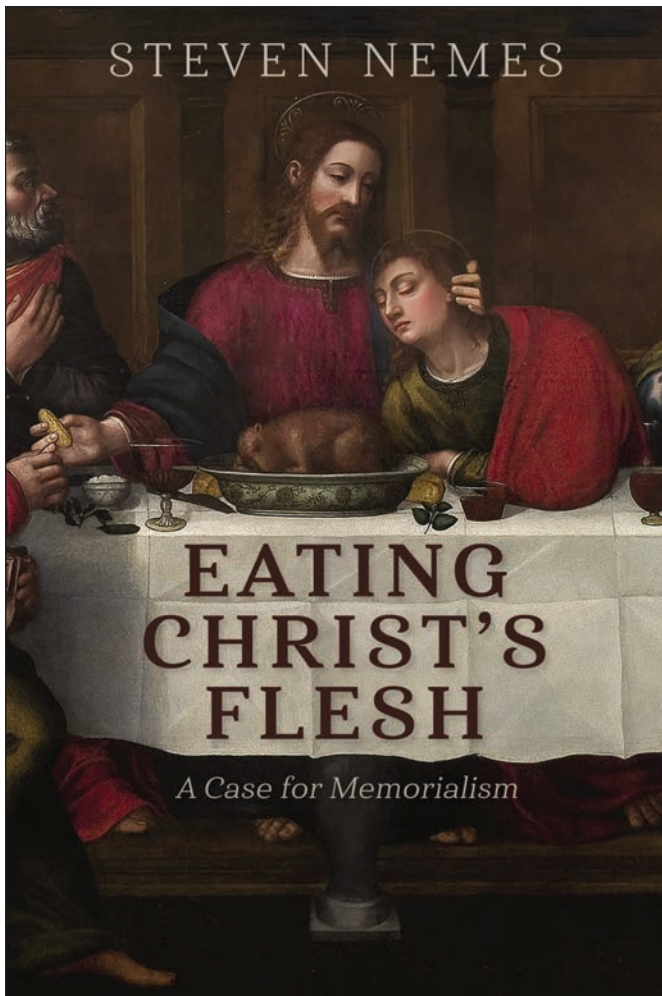
—Andrew Root, author of *Churches and the Crisis of Decline*

"In a society plagued by pervasive and persistent divisions, Jeff McSwain provides a much-needed perspective. His Christ-centered theology explains how holding anthropological opposites together is not only possible but necessary in order to better understand ourselves, human behavior, and the miracle of Jesus' redemptive work. From the preface to the closing essay, I was impressed by the love, vulnerability, and courage that jumps off every page."

—Dishon Mills, pastor, Grace Communion International

"In this world where beauty and goodness are often overwhelmed by evil and human failure, Jeff McSwain has articulated well what it means to be truly human. He takes seriously who Jesus Christ is, re-envisioning the way we look at God, ourselves, sin, evil, and judgment. He invites us to reconsider what

JEFF MCSWAIN earned his PhD at the University of St. Andrews, Scotland. He is the founder of Reality Ministries Inc. in Durham, North Carolina, and author of *Movements of Grace* (2010) and *Simul Sanctification* (2018).



Eating Christ's Flesh

A Case for Memorialism

STEVEN NEMES

978-1-6667-7756-7 | 222 p. | \$29

What does it mean to “eat Christ’s flesh” (John 6:53)? And what does this eating have to do with the bread and wine of the eucharistic meal which Jesus called his “body” and “blood” (1 Cor 11:23–25)? These are central questions in the theology of the Eucharist. Memorialism says that to eat Christ’s flesh is to take joy in Christ’s person and work. The bread and wine of the Eucharist make it possible to engage in this sort of eating sacramentally by serving as symbols that represent Christ’s person and work. This book presents a systematic case for memorialism. It addresses the biblical *loci classici* (the bread of life discourse, the words of institution, and 1 Corinthians), important early church sources (the Didache, Ignatius, Justin Martyr, Irenaeus, and Tertullian), and the philosophical-phenomenological interpretation of the Eucharist in Huldrych Zwingli and Michel Henry. It also argues against the alternative pneumatic and real presence paradigms in conversation with their historic and contemporary advocates.

“For a very long time, memorialist understandings of the Lord’s Supper have been the poor—even disparaged—relations of eucharistic theology. In this compelling work, however, Steven Nemes sets forth an impressively rigorous memorialist position that is biblically grounded, theologically robust, and philosophically coherent. He thereby adds to a growing awareness of the integrity and significance of such accounts of the Lord’s Supper and does so with especial lucidity and welcome insight.”

—Paul T. Nimmo, chair of systematic theology, University of Aberdeen

“*Eating Christ’s Flesh* offers the full Steven Nemes experience: lucid argumentation, clear writing, and a frank reappraisal of ‘catholic’ Christianity that invites us to live our faith, not as an escape from the world, but as a way of living differently here and now.”

—Neal DeRoo, senior member and professor of philosophy, Institute for Christian Studies

“Though it can stand alone, *Eating Christ’s Flesh* logically extends Steven Nemes’s other provocative works. Analytically articulating the merits of a memorialist view, he offers a compelling case biblically, historically, and phenomenologically to resist dividing being and appearance in the Eucharist. Such resistance does not undermine its significance but enables us to see the beauty of the ordinary, experience the power of remembrance, and cultivate the practice of communal thankfulness.”

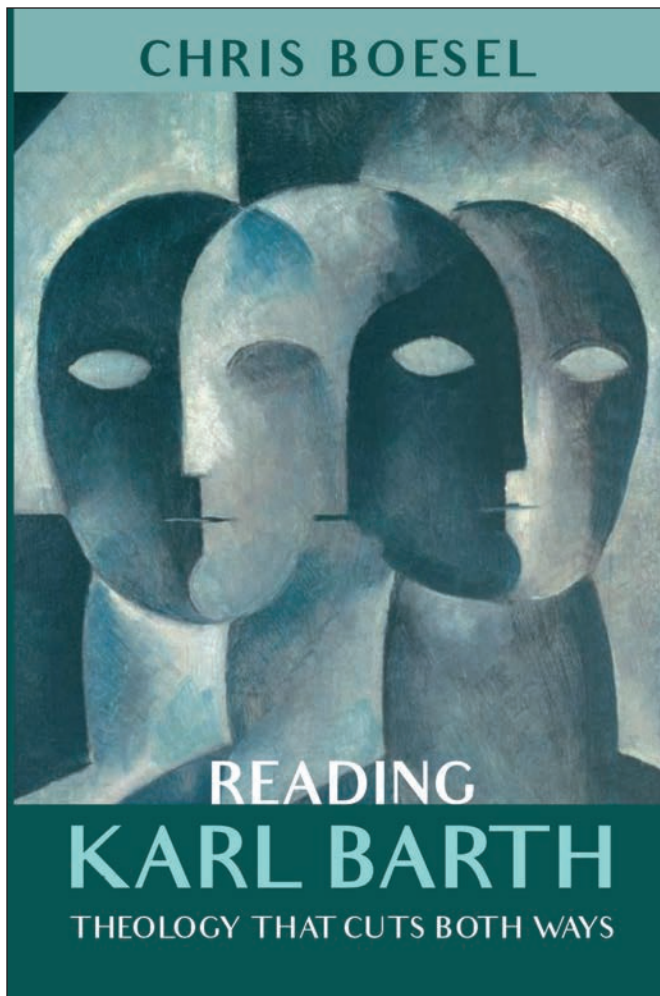
—Christa L. McKirland, lecturer in theology, Carey Baptist College

“Much recent work in sacramental theology praises the virtues of a catholic approach. In such views, the real corporeal presence of Christ is the point of departure for rightly understanding the Eucharist. Steven Nemes stands against such views. Drawing on the work of Huldrych Zwingli and Michel Henry, he sets out a careful and sophisticated memorialist account that divests the bread and wine of any ‘magical’ connotations. This is a work of real intellectual quality that its naysayers will need to address.”

—Oliver D. Crisp, principal, St. Mary’s College

STEVEN NEMES is an academic theologian and instructor of Latin, Greek, and Humane Letters at North Phoenix Preparatory Academy in Phoenix, Arizona. He is the author of *Orthodoxy and Heresy* (2022), *Theology of the Manifest: Christianity without Metaphysics* (2023), and *Theological Authority in the Church: Reconsidering Traditionalism and Hierarchy* (2023).





Reading Karl Barth

Theology That Cuts Both Ways

CASCADE COMPANIONS

CHRIS BOESEL

978-1-4982-0034-9 | 174 p. | \$24

Reading Karl Barth provides a cluster of major themes and signposts by which to orient one's reading of Barth's theology. It assists readers in (a) recognizing and understanding *what* Barth is doing theologically and *why* and *how* he is doing it; and (b) assessing the extent to which Barth's theology is or is not a fruitful resource for their own context, as individuals and communities of faith. The distinctive value of the book's approach lies in its demonstration of the ways in which Barth's theology—in both his own time and in ours—"cuts both ways," to the theological left and right. This involves identifying various theological logics that constitute the diverse and conflictual landscape of shared Christian identity and faith—both in Barth's time and in our own—enabling readers to recognize not only where and why Barth is located in that landscape, but also where and why they themselves are located, together with their respective faith communities. This makes the book of particular interest to individuals and communities of faith who feel themselves homeless in today's polemical polarization between theological conservatives and theological progressives, especially those who are hungry for the possibility of a progressive socio-political vision of the gospel rooted in relatively traditional confessions of Christian faith.

"Sharp, clear, and witty, in this introduction Chris Boesel invites all readers of Barth to a fresh appreciation for the value of his theology today. Longtime Barth readers will find refreshing return to the heart of the matter: the good news that God is for us—all of us—in and through Jesus Christ. Those new to or skeptical of Barth will discover how his theological orthodoxy leads to radical social critique and activism. A welcome word for a weary world!"

—Martha Moore-Keish, Columbia Theological Seminary

"Without glossing over criticism of Barth from both the left and right, Boesel brilliantly captures the particular beauty of Barth's theology—that enormously spacious YES. This is an excellent, thorough, surprisingly enjoyable, and even occasionally humorous read. I highly recommend it for students, pastors, and the general reader who wants to be reminded of (or hear for the first time) Barth's enduringly provocative and inspiring work."

—Debbie Blue, pastor, House of Mercy

"This witty, winsome, and provocative text has the capacity to charm and intrigue those suspicious of Barth and to unsettle and disconcert more traditional allies and defenders. It offers an assured, distinctive, and even emphatic reading of Barth in its own right, which merits our attention, consideration, and critique."

—Doug Gay, University of Glasgow

CHRIS BOESEL is associate professor of Christian Theology at Drew Theological School in Madison, New Jersey. He is the author of *In Kierkegaard's Garden: Why Derrida Doesn't Read Kierkegaard When He Reads Kierkegaard* (2021) and *Risking Proclamation, Respecting Difference: Christian Faith, Imperialistic Discourse, and Abraham* (2008).

WORD & SPIRIT 
Pentecostal
Investigations
in Theology
and History

TONGUES OF FIRE

A Systematic Theology of the Christian Faith

Frank D. Macchia

Tongues of Fire

A Systematic Theology of the Christian Faith

WORD AND SPIRIT: PENTECOSTAL INVESTIGATIONS IN THEOLOGY AND HISTORY

FRANK D. MACCHIA

978-1-6667-3022-7 | 478 p. | \$52

In this volume, Frank Macchia offers a systematic theology written with Christ's outpouring of the Holy Spirit from the heavenly Father at Pentecost as its dominant motif. Christ's death and resurrection provide for our reconciliation with God and make way for the Spirit, for the divine overflowing onto all flesh. The church is born in the grace of that overflowing. From the abundance of this divine self-giving spring forth many different tongues aflame with the church's praise and witness. This systematic theology seeks to join and further guide these tongues in their diverse contexts by reflecting in a coherent fashion across the spectrum of Christian doctrine. The first three chapters offer an extensive treatment of modern approaches to theology. Subsequent chapters explore all of the major topics of importance to theology historically. This is theology written from a Pentecostal interest, yet seeking to speak beyond it to a larger ecumenical horizon.

"Frank Macchia's *magnum opus* does something no other theological work that I know has delivered before: engages the whole of classical theological thought in dialogue with the best of Pentecostal and Charismatic traditions. Always hospitable in posture, Macchia's solutions to ancient questions and fresh proposals to current ones come as an invitation for further dialogue. No theologian, pastor, or student—Pentecostal or not—can afford anything other than a careful study of this landmark work."

—Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, Fuller Theological Seminary and Helsinki University

"In the spirit of 1 Peter 3:15–16, Frank Macchia offers us with this book a compelling account of the Christian faith from one of Pentecostalism's most capable and talented theologians. This book is a genuine gift—a culminating achievement that reflects a lifetime of dedication, study, and prayer."

—Daniel Castelo, Duke Divinity School

"I first met Frank Macchia when we were both research scholars living in Switzerland. Even then he was both brilliant and conscientious, a deep thinker and a gracious conversation partner. Here we have the mature fruits of his seminal theological work which has led to his recognition as one of our leading Pentecostal scholars. This is a magisterial study, deeply rooted in Pentecostal thought but meant for the whole church—at once evangelical and ecumenical."

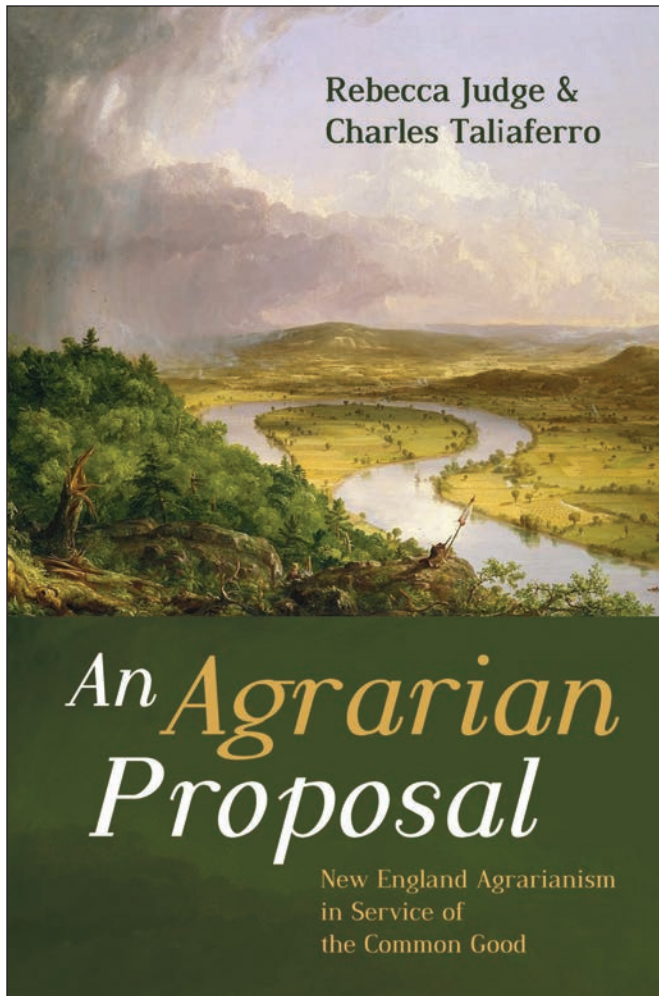
—Timothy George, Beeson Divinity School

"Classical Pentecostals have not generally been known for producing ecumenically rich and theologically erudite systems of theology. Frank Macchia has produced just such a work in *Tongues of Fire*. For this post-Pentecostal theologian, it was a joy to read. It is a surprising and satisfying Pentecostal contribution to ecumenical and evangelical systematic theology."

—Roger E. Olson, Baylor University, emeritus

FRANK D. MACCHIA is professor of systematic theology at Vanguard University and associate director of the Centre for Pentecostal and Charismatic Studies at Bangor University, Wales.





An Agrarian Proposal

New England Agrarianism in Service
of the Common Good

REBECCA JUDGE AND CHARLES TALIAFERRO

978-1-6667-1009-0 | 102 p. | \$17

An Agrarian Proposal examines how the communitarian perspectives shared among colonial New England's settlers and the farming methods they employed can be adapted to cultivate contemporary agricultural practices, policies, and ethical commitments. Together these promote sustainable farming and land stewardship, even as they valorize farming as a vital locus for cultivating virtue. In contrast to the celebration of libertarian ideals and the general distrust of government regulation characterizing the writings of many prominent modern agrarian writers who follow the tradition of Jefferson and the Southern agrarians, *An Agrarian Proposal* explores how faith-based commitments shared among colonial New England's settlers resulted in resource distribution and stewardship practices that created a sustainable approach to land and resource management. *An Agrarian Proposal* adds to contemporary considerations of the ethics and practices of agrarianism by exploring a time and place where regulation was deemed a necessary means of fostering good land stewardship and where a faith-based communitarianism challenged individualism to promote sustainable land practices by individuals farming New England's rocky and isolated fields.

"A noteworthy contribution to contemporary proposals to reform agricultural policy in a way to save us from environmental catastrophe. . . . If you believe history can be a guide to the future and that Christian theism, properly understood, might provide the basis for public policy, read this book. You'll find an incisive analysis of what ails American agriculture—and America."

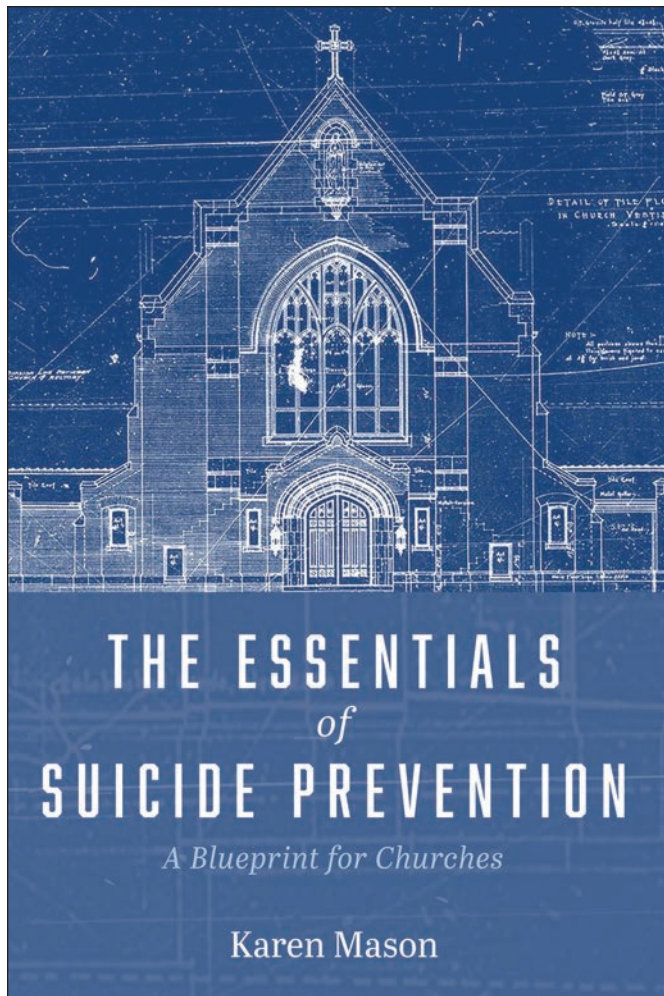
—Gary Comstock, North Carolina State University

"This timely study of the communitarian agrarianism of New England, as contrasted with Southern libertarian agrarianism, is essential reading for followers of the stewardship tradition, as well as for students of American intellectual history. Its recommendations deserve to be heeded at the levels of both local state and federal government."

—Robin Attfield, Cardiff University, emeritus

REBECCA JUDGE is Professor of Economics and Environmental Studies and holds the Husby-Johnson Endowed Chair of Business and Economics, St. Olaf College.

CHARLES TALIAFERRO is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and Oscar and Gertrude Boe Overby Professor Emeritus, St. Olaf College.



The Essentials of Suicide Prevention

A Blueprint for Churches

KAREN MASON

978-1-6667-0976-6 | 192 p. | \$26

Suicide is a growing tragedy in the US and in the church. We can stop the climbing numbers of suicide deaths, but it is going to take everyone working together, *including the church*. Without the church, suicidal people may not hear the life-affirming messages they need to hear. Without an informed church, people who have lost loved ones to suicide may leave the church. Too often, the church watches from the sidelines not knowing what to do. Why is it that the wider (secular) culture is more engaged in suicide prevention than God's people, especially given that Christians care deeply about the sanctity of life? The apostle Paul modeled suicide prevention for the church when he stopped the suicide of the Philippian jailer. But pastors and congregants may not know how to follow his example. The result is that people who struggle with suicide or who have lost loved ones to suicide wonder if the Bible or their church have anything relevant to say about suicide. This book will provide the resources needed to help prevent suicide in a church, even when a church does not want to start one more program.

"As a leading expert in the church's role in suicide prevention, Karen Mason has compiled a tremendously helpful resource on the 'essential elements' for the church's role in preserving the lives of suicidal individuals. This book will be invaluable for church leaders who want to provide a skillful, compassionate, and life-affirming response to people's suffering and distress."

—Curtis Lehmann, licensed psychologist, Center for Flourishing

"*The Essentials of Suicide Prevention* is an essential resource for pastoral leaders. Karen Mason's research and insights thoroughly integrate the disciplines of theology and psychology, duly recognizing the purpose and mission of the church as an important part of preventive care and holistic health. Church leaders will be simultaneously informed and inspired as this book raises awareness and better equips leaders to serve this present age via the life-affirming hope of the gospel."

—C. Guy Robinson, pastor, Tabernacle of the Lord Church

"Persons experiencing suicidal desperation are often considered sick people who need to be fixed so they can fit into the faith community again. *The Essentials of Suicide Prevention* takes an important step in the opposite direction:

changing faith communities to become places where the suicidally desperate find remedies to issues that made them desperate in the first place."

—Fe Anam Avis, author of *A Second Day: A Hopeful Journey out of Suicidal Thinking*

"*The Essentials of Suicide Prevention* is a gift to the church. In a winsome, well-researched, and accessible way, Mason engages with one of the most slippery areas of ministry in which a church can take part—suicide prevention. There isn't a person in a congregation who hasn't been affected by suicide. The 'essentials' in this helpful book provide concrete steps for suicide prevention that any church can implement and from which any church can benefit."

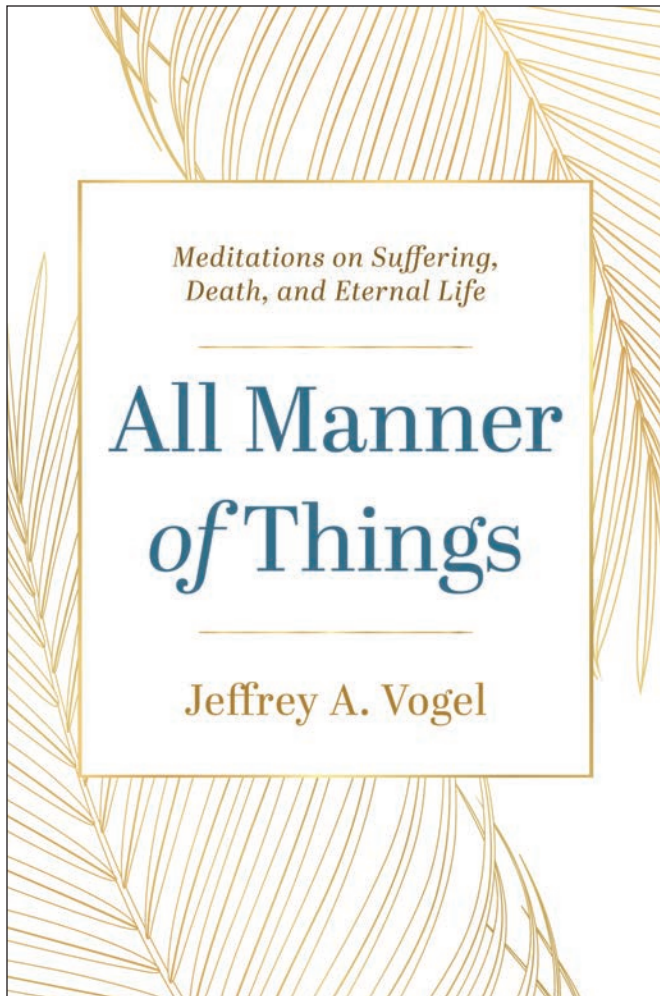
—Scott M. Gibson, George W. Truett Theological Seminary

"After reading this work my immediate reaction was to rise to action. Karen Mason's careful and expert research on the topic not only illumines the problem (stigmas and a faulty anthropology) but provides a doable way forward for the church. In this case, reading and following the blueprint she offers truly is a matter of life or death."

—Donna Petter, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

KAREN MASON is professor of counseling and psychology and the director of the MA Counseling program at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. She is the author of *Preventing Suicide: A Handbook for Clergy, Chaplains and Pastoral Counselors* (2014), and co-author with Scott Gibson of *Preaching Hope in Darkness: Help for Pastors in Addressing Suicide from the Pulpit* (2020).





All Manner of Things

Meditations on Suffering, Death, and Eternal Life

JEFFREY A. VOGEL

978-1-6667-0517-1 | 176 p. | \$25

The meditations in this collection originated from a series of questions about suffering, death, and eternal life put to the author by a friend who was dying from cancer. These questions included: How do we wait upon God and cancer at the same time? What do we know of the God to whom we go when we experience only the silence of God in our suffering? How do we long for heaven when what we want most is to continue on with our families and loved ones in this life? Is heaven removed from this world? Does the joy associated with it depend on ignorance of the suffering of those we leave behind? And so on. The meditations themselves are not intended primarily as answers to these questions so much as an attempt to enter into them more fully, the goal being to think about how we might best inhabit those places where doubt and faith, grief and hope, forsakenness and grace are so often made to coexist. For though the tension between suffering and hope cannot ultimately be resolved in this world, we can look for ways to stand within it a little more boldly, and to fall within it a little more boldly as well. We can seek out words or images that allow us to speak about it a little more clearly, a language that helps us to find rest in our longing and perhaps also longing in our rest.

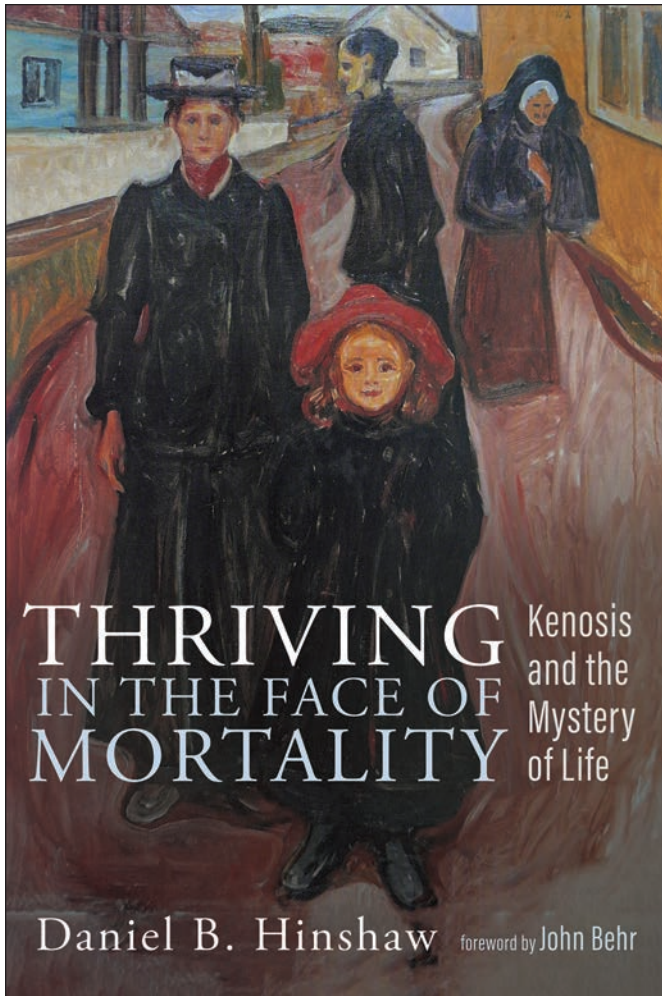
“Theology has not often been done at the bedside of a dying friend. Jeff Vogel offers us here fragments of grace, in vocative voice and interrogative mood, allied with Dame Julian’s promise that ‘all shall be well.’ We have long needed someone to take up the theme of heaven without the otherworldly escapism—and now we have that book.”

—Jason Byassee, Vancouver School of Theology

“Jeffrey Vogel’s beautifully written book of meditations is a rare blessing: a text that combines honesty, compassion, and profundity with a well-honed theological sensibility. Those who understand that reflection on suffering, death, the afterlife, and heaven requires a faithful inhabitation of mystery, as opposed to the false allure of easy answers, will profit enormously from *All Manner of Things*.”

—Paul Dafydd Jones, University of Virginia

JEFF VOGEL is Associate Professor of Theology and Ethics at Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia.



Thriving in the Face of Mortality

Kenosis and the Mystery of Life

DANIEL B. HINSHAW

978-1-6667-4482-8 | 222 p. | \$29

Kenosis, a Greek word meaning “depletion” or “emptying” and a concept borrowed from Christian theology, has deeply profound implications for understanding and ordering life in a world marked by suffering and death. Whereas the divine kenosis was *voluntary*, human beings experience an *involuntary* kenosis which is characterized by the inevitable losses experienced during the lives of mortal creatures. How one chooses *voluntarily* to respond to this involuntary kenosis, regardless of faith commitments, in effect defines us, both in our relationships with other suffering creatures and with the entire cosmos. This book offers a unique perspective on how the losses of involuntary kenosis *choreograph* the suffering which is such a defining aspect of the lives of persons, communities, and the environment in which they live, and how the kenotic process, rather than being a source of despair, can be a source of hope presenting opportunities for extraordinary personal growth.

“Drawing on the wellsprings of Orthodox Christianity and a lifetime of self-emptying service in the medical profession, Daniel Hinshaw marshals a dizzying array of sources to guide us through the puzzle of life’s meaning in the face of our common mortality. He speaks to us gently, yet with the authority of profound experience, about how the involuntary kenosis confronting us can, by the gift of grace, be rendered voluntary and life-giving. *A tour de force.*”

—Alexis Torrance, University of Notre Dame

“Rare indeed are those in the academy who are both distinguished physicians and sophisticated theologians; rarer still are those who could have written *Thriving in the Face of Mortality*. We don’t have a choice about whether we will die, but the Christian notion of kenotic self-emptying offers a gracious freedom in how we face our deaths. Dan Hinshaw’s book will be a gift to all its readers.”

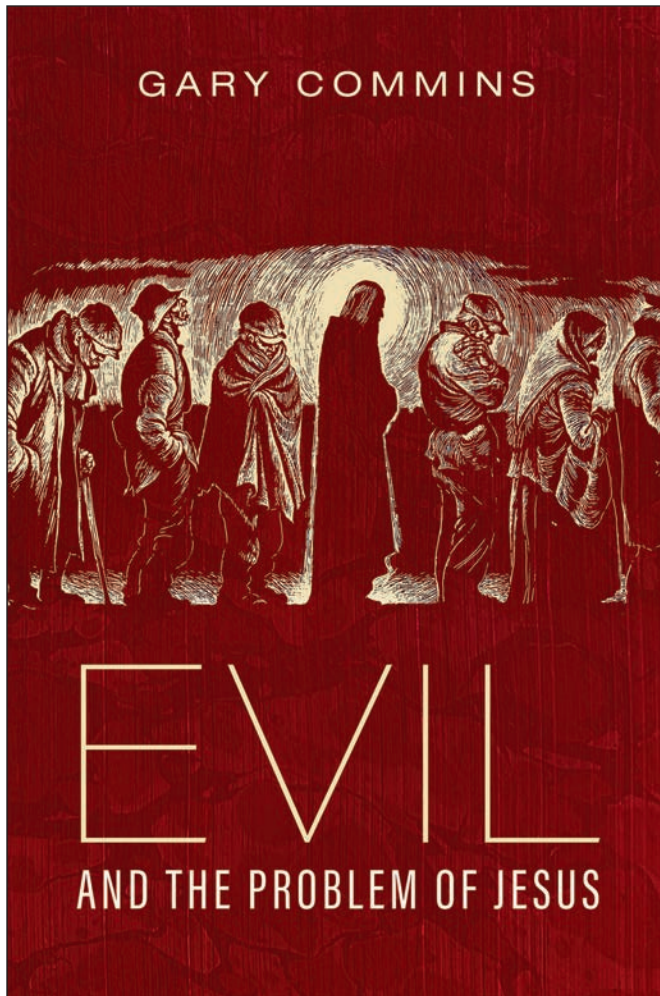
—Brad Gregory, University of Notre Dame

“Daniel Hinshaw unwraps the quintessential secret of the gospel: that life is attained in and through—not beyond or by cheating—death, that sharing is achieved in and through—not without or by avoiding—restraint, that fullness is acquired in and through—not despite or by denying—impoverishment. This is the way of spirituality, salvation, and sustainability alike.”

—John Chryssavgis, archdeacon, Ecumenical Patriarchate

DANIEL B. HINSHAW, MD, is professor emeritus of surgery and consultant in palliative medicine at the University of Michigan. His interest in the role of suffering and death in life grew out of extensive clinical experience caring for suffering and dying patients but is also informed by his Orthodox Christian faith. He is the author of several books of nonfiction and one historical novel.





Evil and the Problem of Jesus

GARY COMMINS

978-1-6667-3608-3 | 256 p. | \$33

Evil and the Problem of Jesus approaches age-old questions about God's relationship with evil (theodicy) from an entirely fresh angle. Rather than tweaking airy abstractions, it makes Jesus' interactions with evil our primary source for thinking about theodicy.

This Christ-centered approach reveals the failure of traditional theodicy to be intellectually convincing or spiritually satisfying. Unlike that fossilized intellectual heritage, *Christodicy* (evil-and-Jesus) provides original insights into divine power, presence, and love that help us reengage the God Jesus reveals and the evil Jesus challenges. Presenting Jesus as a model for how to be fully human, it crafts new ways to envision our own multidimensional relationships with God and with evil.

Written with both breadth and focus, the book includes pastoral experiences of tragedy, suffering, and evil; retraces philosophical, multifield, and biblical insights; and explores the ways the Gospels describe Jesus' complex interactions with evil.

Evil and the Problem of Jesus asks pointed questions and offers thoughtful conceptual frameworks to help people live more faithfully, compassionately, wisely, and justly in response to the evils around us, among us, and within us.

"With incisive research and penetrating insights, Commins exposes a Christian theological and philosophical tradition that has ignored Jesus when addressing the perplexing problem of evil. By taking seriously the ways in which Jesus navigated and responded to evil in his own day, Commins offers a thoughtful, faithful, and just pathway for responding to the complex ways in which evil impacts everyday lives, from the systemic to the personal. A must-read for scholars and pastors alike."

—Kelly Brown Douglas, Dean, Episcopal Divinity School at Union Theological Seminary

"*Evil and the Problem of Jesus* asks: How can Christians live with daily mass shootings in America? How can they live with the evil within? As Commins states, 'we forget to think as Christians. We forget to engage the mind of Christ as we respond to exploitation and injustice, misery and pain, and violence and death.' This book, beautifully written, with *Christodicy* responds: 'How do we justify our ways to Christ?'"

—Tim Vivian, California State University Bakersfield, emeritus

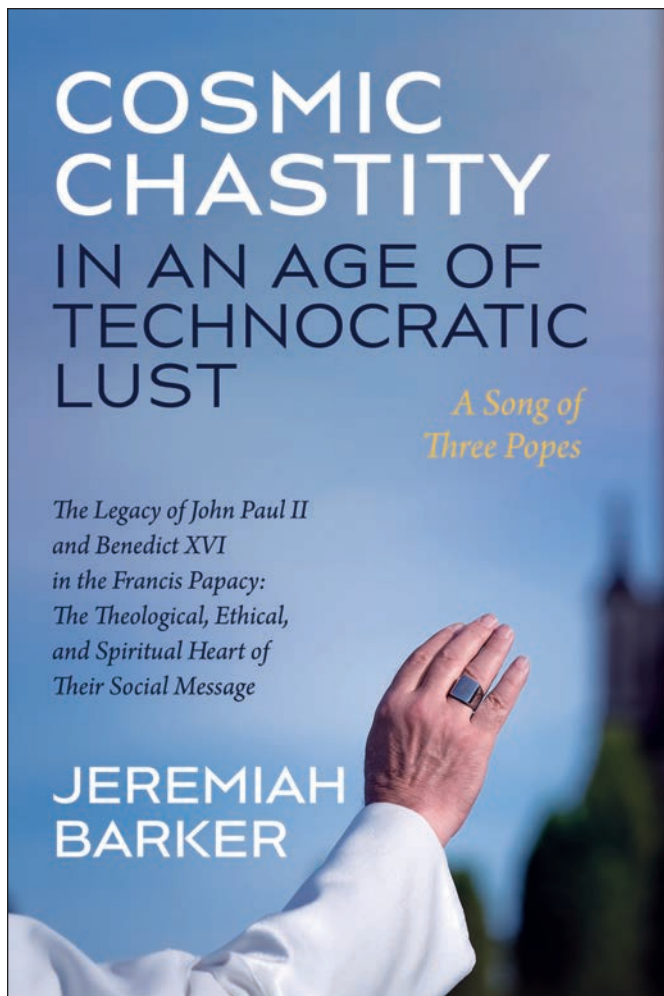
"In this time of mass shootings, climate catastrophe, rising authoritarianism, and racial terrorism, this book is a timely study of the overwhelming nature of the social forces that generate and perpetuate social injustice, held in tension with personal responsibility and agency critical to Christian thought. The God that emerges in these pages is a God Jews and Hindus would recognize, yet challenging for those of us who inhabit Christianity in twenty-first century America and equate God with power."

—Winnie Varghese, Rector, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Atlanta

"Gary Commins has written a creative and innovative reflection on the nature of evil. Commins persuasively asserts that an appropriately Christian perspective begins with Jesus' own engagement with evil, enlightened by the Hebrew Scriptures, Trinitarian doctrine, and insights from other religious traditions. Crafted in Commins' unique and eminently readable style, the book offers a 'Christodicy' that honors Scripture and tradition but is resolutely contemporary."

—John L. Kater, Church Divinity School of the Pacific, emeritus

GARY COMMINS is a retired Episcopal priest who exercised his forty-year ministry in urban, suburban, inclusive, bilingual, and multicultural settings. He is the author of three other books, including *If Only We Could See: Mystical Vision and Social Transformation* (2015). He received an honorary doctorate for his work that has blended scholarship with ministry.



Cosmic Chastity in an Age of Technocratic Lust: A Song of Three Popes

The Legacy of John Paul II and Benedict XVI in the Francis Papacy: The Theological, Ethical, and Spiritual Heart of Their Social Message

JEREMIAH BARKER

978-1-6667-1700-6 | 300 p. | \$37

This book arises from the conviction that the ways in which John Paul II and Benedict XVI were confused as allies with American conservatism is as misleading, unclear, and confusing as any misapprehension of Francis's genuine orthodoxy. As the author does not have a stake in reacting against a liberal Catholicism that he sees dying out anyway, the bigger threat, in his view, sociologically, for the North American church, is falling into a right-wing tribalism—and Francis resists precisely that.

First Things editor R. R. Reno, highly critical of Francis, has called for a redemption of hints and suggestions of a cogent argument in the Francis message. Jeremiah Barker reappropriates Reno's call as a call to draw out or highlight what he takes to be the underlying rationale of the Francis message. That underlying rationale, he compellingly argues, is strikingly identical to that of the two previous popes. Barker, who has learned much from Reno, is in fact inspired by Francis's call and teaching, and it is the aim of this book to draw out what inspires him and to identify what he hopes Reno and fellow 'John Paul II Catholics' don't miss in the Francis message: the theological, ethical, and spiritual core of his social teaching, which Francis shares with that of John Paul II and Benedict XVI.

away from the siren call of technocratic consumerism to hearken to a different melody: the song of creation-as-gift, one sung by Francis, Benedict XVI, and John Paul II in seamless harmony."

—Abigail Favale, professor, McGrath Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame

"For many, Pope Francis is an enigma. But in the spirit of Ignatius of Loyola, Jeremiah Barker reminds us that charity would rather discover a good interpretation than condemn, and that the hermeneutics of continuity is a guide to reading well. That sort of charity is commendable, and Barker's readers will be well-served to read along with him."

—R. J. Snell, editor-in-chief, *The Public Discourse*

"For all the 'John Paul II Catholics' who have found the pontificate of Pope Francis to be trying times, here is a carefully reasoned and deeply pious invitation to see Francis differently. It should be welcomed by all who do not like the idea of trying to be more Catholic than the Pope. Jeremiah Barker does us a great service in this book, which will stand as one of the most insightful assessments of Francis's theology."

—Phillip Cary, editor, *Pro Ecclesia: A Journal of Catholic and Evangelical Theology*

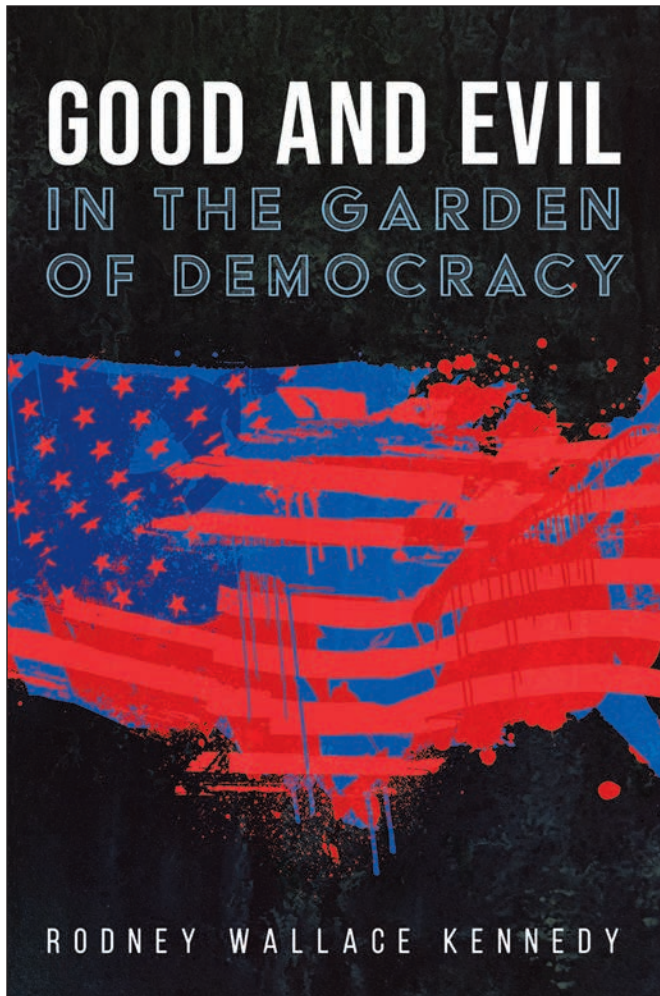
"In a deeply polarized age where convinced positions tend to harden rather than listen, this *Song of Three Popes* is listening to the notes, augmenting the harmonies, and monitoring the dynamics of the melody, inviting Roman Catholics who uphold orthodoxy to do so with open ears. Catholic social teaching is well worth rescuing from the politics of the culture wars. This proposal offers a sound alternative."

—Ellen Charry, emerita professor of theology, Princeton Theological Seminary

"Through the distorting lens of American politics, Pope Francis is often cast as an opponent to his predecessors, rather than their faithful heir. Jeremiah Barker's rich and insightful book shows this to be a profound misreading. Compellingly written and theologically profound, *Cosmic Chastity* beckons us

JEREMIAH BARKER is a lay member of Madonna House Apostolate in Combermere, Ontario, where he serves in the maintenance department and H.E.L.P. department (Heating, Electrical, Landscaping, and Plumbing) and in the sugar bush during the spring sap run. At Madonna House, he also oversees the vegetable processing operation in the evenings, is the housefather for the guests, and sings bass in the schola. He has contributed articles to *Communio* and *Plough*.





Good and Evil in the Garden of Democracy

RODNEY WALLACE KENNEDY

978-1-6667-1297-1 | 242 p. | \$31

Democracy faces threats from an emerging right-wing movement in democratic governments around the world. This may be even more prevalent in the United States because there is an evil that uses rhetorical tropes to undermine the anchor institutions of democracy: press, courts, universities, and Congress. This evil has a personification—former President Donald Trump. All the rhetorical critiques of Trump, that he is a demagogue, an authoritarian, a serial liar, a populist on steroids, fail to take into account the evil that is fomented by his angry and vengeful rhetoric. Pictures of evil in Scripture, philosophy, and rhetoric bear a striking resemblance to Trump. It is not enough to say that he is dangerous to democracy. Kennedy claims that he is the evil seed in democracy that is even now sprouting new versions of the Trump rhetoric as each acolyte attempts to outrage the next. *Good and Evil in the Garden of Democracy* screams at the evil, fights against the evil, and then attempts to sing the songs of goodness and democracy from poets, prophets, and rhapsodes. For the health of democracy these words have been written.

“A worthy sequel to Kennedy’s *The Immaculate Mistake*—here now is an in-depth examination of Trump’s malevolent rhetoric that is so damaging to America’s psyche. Kennedy identifies in starkest terms the malignancy of Trump-speak that desires to confuse good and evil while promising an escape from truth. Nevertheless, Kennedy offers confidence that America can return to a healthy state of rhetorical good by seeking Wisdom as personified in the Psalms and Proverbs. A must-read for America!”

—Gerald B. Cleaver, moderator of “Concerns of a Pre-Trump Republican”

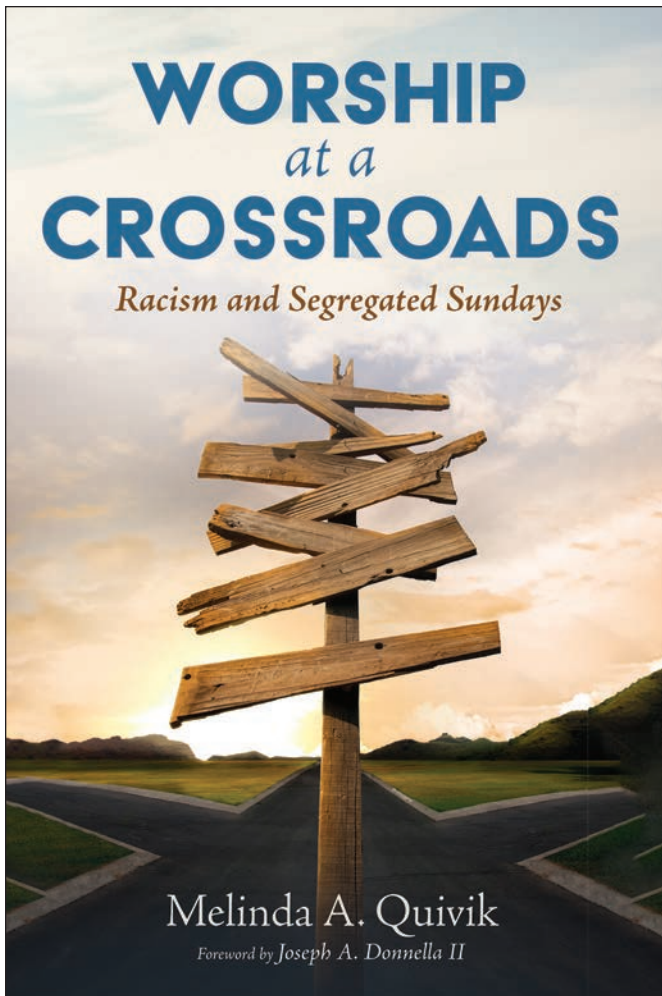
“I can’t remember the last time I read a book on rhetoric that I couldn’t put down. In fact, I’ve never read a book on rhetoric that I couldn’t put down—until this one by Rodney Kennedy. He combines the erudition of a scholar who knows the power of words with the passion of an old-time prophetic preacher who calls us to discern what’s going on and work for the change needed in our society.”

—Kyle Childress, pastor, Austin Heights Baptist Church

“Rod Kennedy’s expertise in a broad range of theology and rhetorical criticism, combined with a razor-sharp wit, unlocks a new clarity in understanding the Trump era that is both sophisticated and approachable. This book demonstrates how terms like ‘good’ and ‘evil’ can still have power at a time when words are often thought to have lost their meaning. And in the wake of January 6, our democracy might just depend on such an urgent moral imagination.”

—Jeremy Fuzy, Voices editor, *Word&Way*

RODNEY KENNEDY is interim pastor of Emmanuel Fiedens Federated Church, Schenectady, New York. He is homiletics instructor at Palmer Theological Seminary. He is the author of *The Immaculate Mistake* (2021).



Worship at a Crossroads

Racism and Segregated Sundays

MELINDA A. QUIVIK

978-1-6667-3520-8 | 256 p. | \$33

This book calls Protestant churches, and the ELCA in particular, to a church-wide conversation about racism. It is a response to the 2019 book *Dear Church* by Lenny Duncan, a former Lutheran pastor who is Black and who, among other reparations, calls for changing the church's worship in order to address segregated Sundays.

Changes in worship affect theological foundations. Informed consideration is essential.

Because entering into life-changing conversations requires vulnerability and commitment, this book includes several narratives: my life as a White woman and pastor, the history of the Black church as defined by Black theologians, the development of the liturgical renewal movement, and my experiences as a professor navigating worship conflicts as my seminary struggled with financial constraints and a changing student body.

The seminary conflicts offered me a window into how better to address racism inspired by the example of post-WWII German truth-telling and how some US Southern states have come to grips with the history of the Jim Crow South (described in Susan Neiman's *Learning from the Germans*).

This book outlines a way forward for churches in responding to racism by encouraging healthy engagement with contentious relationships as a necessity for healing.

line Protestant seminaries. Many who teach and lead worship in these contexts will find her story familiar. Yet, in telling her particular story, Quivik invites others to undertake new conversations, to find new ways of hearing the diverse voices in our communities, and to the possibility for transformation."

—E. Byron (Ron) Anderson, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

"Melinda Quivik has written an engaging book on the intersection of worship and race. This is sometimes a difficult topic to discuss; however, Quivik shares stories of her struggle to present liturgical theology from a Lutheran perspective and to include a diversity of ideas about worship. Her stories communicate the difficulties inherent in such a task. I commend Quivik for challenging the church, especially the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) to begin talking about a central dimension of what it means to worship."

—Richard Perry, Lutheran School of Theology

"Quivik offers the insights of a liturgical scholar on the origins of Christian worship, exploring the claims that it contains racist elements and providing further information regarding this important subject. She listens carefully, then speaks—and invites the reader to do the same. . . . It is ultimately a dialogue about love: our love for God and how we express it in worship, our love for neighbor and the desire to understand one another, and Christ's love for his church."

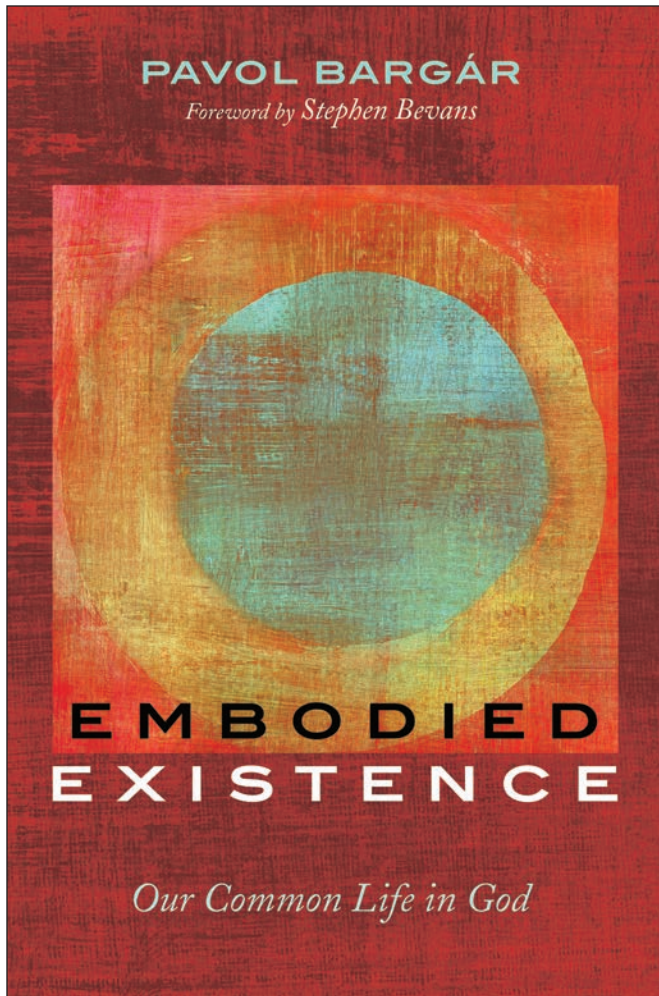
—Clay Schmit, Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

"Martin Luther King said, 'Nothing is more dangerous than sincere ignorance.' Quivik leaves no room for ignorance. She confronts the critique that worship life in the Protestant church today is racist. I note her work with the Black church and how that witness becomes foundational for her premise. Hers is an intellectual exploration of the church at worship, avoiding the quick alliance with popular culture and experimentation. Quivik exposes a 'sincere ignorance' about racism in worship and graciously gives us a way forward."

—Mark R. Ramseth, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, emeritus

"Quivik provides an honest, searching, and at times painful look at attitudes toward worship in the context of theological education, particularly in main-

MELINDA QUIVIK, an ordained ELCA pastor who has served churches in three states, former professor of liturgy and preaching, and past president of the North American Academy of Liturgy, is the Editor-in-Chief of *Liturgy*, a mentor with Backstory Preaching, and a freelance liturgical and homiletical scholar whose books include *Serving the Word: Preaching in Worship* (2009), *Leading Worship Matters* (2017), and *Remembering God's Promises: A Funeral Planning Handbook* (2018), among other publications.



Embodied Existence

Our Common Life in God

PAVOL BARGÁR

978-1-6667-4408-8 | 188 p. | \$26

This book makes a case, from an ecumenical Christian perspective, for a theological anthropology and a missiology that are based on the essential significance of story, body, imagination, and relationality, in order to understand what it means to be human vis-à-vis God, the other, and creation. Such an interpretation, moreover, enables seeking and pursuing a common life for the whole creation in the force field of God's radical and transformative reign. To advance its argument, it engages contemporary culture, including cinema and, to a lesser extent, fiction and music.

Embodied Existence critiques a prominent Christian position that encourages social isolation and exclusivism and offers a helpful and necessary pathway for future dialogue, especially if Christianity is to be a relevant contributor to social meaning and cultural truth. *Embodied Existence* is a profound book that deserves a wide audience. It is particularly relevant for pastors, theologians, and contemporary Jesus followers who want to engage our world respectfully, intelligently, and courageously.”

—Michael Trainor, Australian Catholic University

“In our increasingly virtual world where the collapsing of time and space has been intensified by the COVID-19 pandemic, we are in need more than ever of an incarnational theological anthropology that sees matter as the means for bearing the weight of God's presence. *Embodied Existence* provides such a theological vision. . . . Through this remarkable book, Bargár teaches us much about what it means to be human.”

—Aristotle “Telly” Papanikolaou, Fordham University

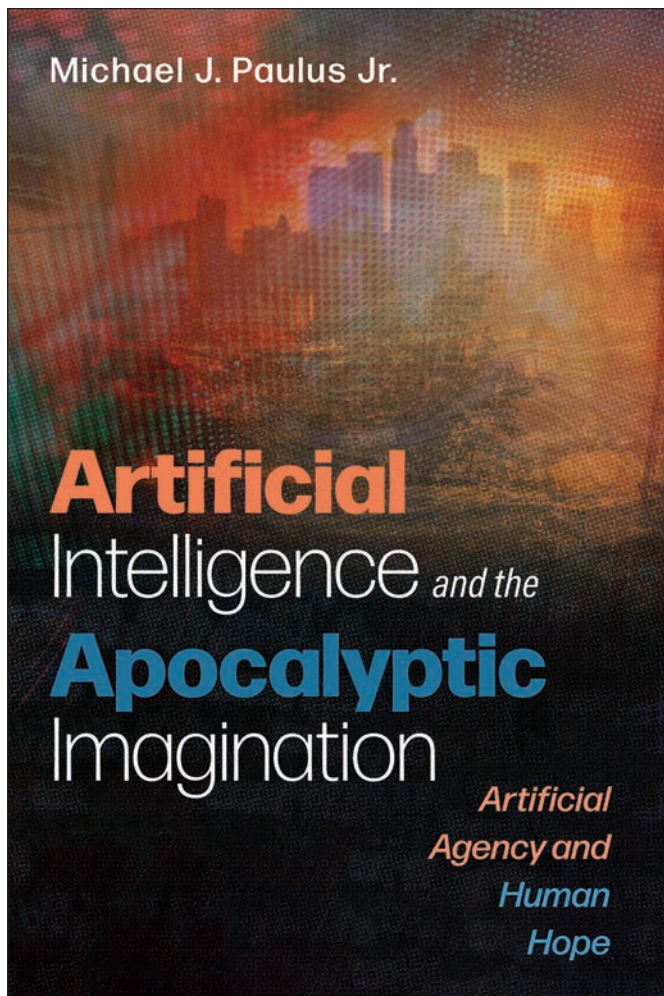
“This theological anthropology is a creative encounter with a wide range of theologians, but the main stimulus comes from contemporary films that explore the pain, ambiguity, and joy of being human. The author draws us into an engaging conversation on being bodies, as he grapples with what is true, good, and beautiful. The result is not a dry book on doctrine but a warm invitation into being Christian—in order to be genuinely human.”

—J. N. J. Kritzinger, University of South Africa, emeritus

“This book is a refreshing treat in theological anthropology. It is an invitation for interactively doing theology in conscious relationality. Through the scars of the worldwide pandemic the ‘what about the body?’ question compels faith-praxis. Pavol Bargár poses this question through the entry of art/film as embodied theology, and he provokes the readers' own answers and the answers from theologizing community. The book is theology at its best: it is existential, it is public theology.”

—Dorottya Nagy, Protestant Theological University

PAVOL BARGÁR is assistant professor and researcher at the Protestant Theological Faculty of Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic. He is the author of *Narrative, Myth, Transformation: Reflecting Theologically on Contemporary Culture* (2016).



Artificial Intelligence and the Apocalyptic Imagination

Artificial Agency and Human Hope

MICHAEL J. PAULUS JR.

978-1-6667-3639-7 | 162 p. | \$23

The increasing role and power of artificial intelligence in our lives and world requires us to imagine and shape a desirable future with this technology. Since visions of AI often draw from Christian apocalyptic narratives, current discussions about technological hopes and fears present an opportunity for a deeper engagement with Christian eschatological resources. This book argues that the Christian apocalyptic imagination can transform how we think about and use AI, helping us discover ways artificial agency may participate in new creation.

“If you want to think theologically and ethically about artificial intelligence, Michael Paulus has written the book for you. Although he uses the biblical theme of apocalypse throughout the book, his account of artificial intelligence is thoughtful, measured, and engaging. As a bonus, the text is well-written and reflects a command of the most pertinent literature.”

—Brent Waters, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, emeritus

“If you haven’t been paying attention to artificial intelligence, it’s time to start! A highly readable book with clear, nontechnical summaries of the latest expert thinking about artificial intelligence cast within the broad sweep of human civilization. Sobering, enlightening, at times bordering on the frightening, but never without hints of hope that perhaps, just perhaps, we humans will learn to live with and control our greatest invention, this runaway called artificial intelligence.”

—Ron Cole-Turner, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, emeritus

MICHAEL J. PAULUS JR. is dean of the library, assistant provost for educational technology, and associate professor of information studies at Seattle Pacific University. He is the co-editor of *AI, Faith, and the Future* (Pickwick, 2022).





Just Marriage

ANDREW KIM

978-1-6667-5436-0 | 146 p. | \$22

It is not difficult nowadays to find books decrying divorce and defending the Christian doctrine that marriage is a permanent union. Such a teaching by its very nature raises the problem of how to respond when marriages become destructive. The response generally given by church officials is that if grave danger is present, spouses may separate. Some denominations even allow for divorce and remarriage. This response, however, is not particularly helpful for spouses not in grave danger but nonetheless in destructive marriages, nor does it tell us anything about how to avoid destructive marriages in the first place. This book argues that just conflict in marriage can both prevent marriages from becoming destructive and be a path toward reconciliation for those who find themselves already ensconced within a destructive marriage. The criteria for just conflict are adopted and translated from the just war tradition. Though conflict in war and in marriage is quite distinct, in both domains conflict is just if ordered to unity and reconciliation and unjust when it devolves into mere antagonism, whether cold or hot. Just conflict, then, is a path of reconciliation for Christian spouses whose faith rests in the Christ who makes all things new.

“Andrew Kim has given us a book that is philosophically incisive and imminently practical. *Just Marriage* unmasks an indelible feature of all marriages: conflict. Challenging conventional wisdom and resisting simplistic frameworks, Kim offers an array of insights to help couples make their conflict an engine of deepening communion rather than destruction.”

—Abigail Favale, author *The Genesis of Gender*

“Andrew Kim has written an unexpected and intensely practical book. Taking just war theory for what it is—a set of guidelines with the goal of peace—Kim offers it as a tool for navigating the conflict that marriage inevitably involves. Wise and realistic, this book will offer on-the-ground help to real couples in real marriages.”

—Holly Taylor Coolman, assistant professor of theology, Providence College

“How is it that no one has thought previously to write a theology of marriage from this perspective? In this delightful and groundbreaking book, Andrew Kim calls upon Christians to learn the arts of marital peacemaking. The grace of the sacrament is present to strengthen husband and wife, but only if the spouses recognize their shared sinfulness. To foster this, Kim proposes the analogy of the rules of just war—and he brilliantly demonstrates their value.”

—Matthew Levering, chair of theology, Mundelein Seminary

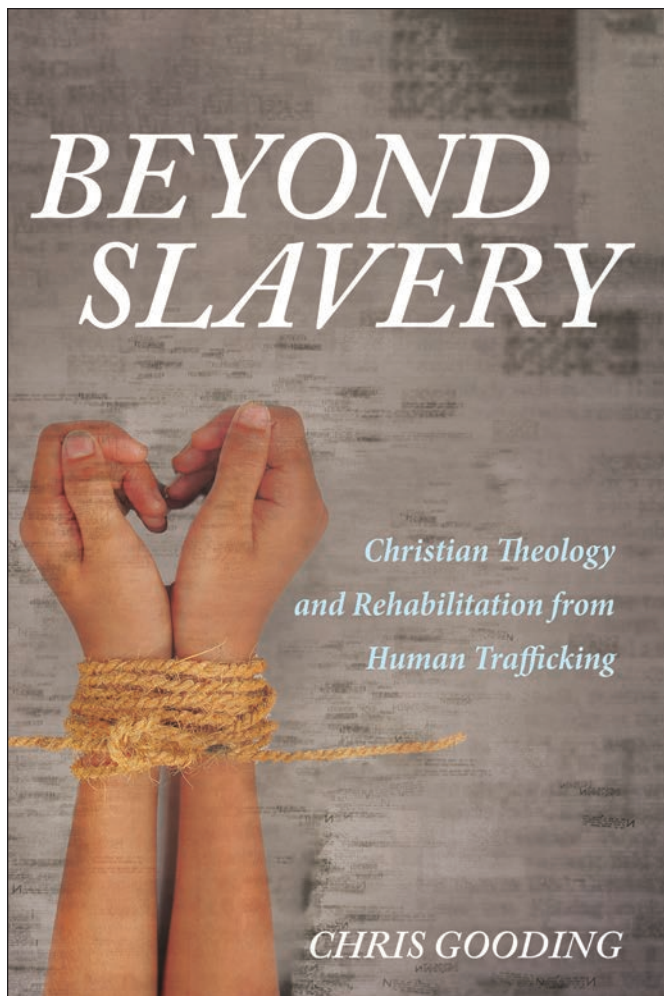
“Andrew Kim accomplishes three amazing points here. First, he takes seriously, in ways that Christians often fail to do, the reality that conflicts can be very destructive to marriages. Second, he takes seriously that lifelong vows are integral to Christian marriage. Third, he rejects the idea that one must remain in destructive marriages in order to embrace lifelong fidelity. With great care and compassion, Kim explores just war theory as a way toward marital reconciliation.”

—Jana M. Bennett, professor of moral theology, University of Dayton

“The real genius of *Just Marriage* is its uncanny pairing of just war theory and conflict resolution in marriage, taking aim at the transfigurative target of all genuinely charitable conflict: reconciliation. Andrew Kim’s book makes an evocative and lasting contribution to the Catholic theology of marriage, showcasing those inescapable fissures that have the potential to become fault lines of division or channels of redeeming grace.”

—Donald Wallenfang, OCDS, professor of theology and philosophy, Sacred Heart Major Seminary

ANDREW KIM is associate professor of theological ethics at Marquette University, where he also directs the Center for the Advancement of the Humanities. He is the author of *An Introduction to Catholic Ethics Since Vatican II* (2015) and coauthor of *Just War Theory and Literary Studies: An Invitation to Dialogue* (2021). His essays have appeared in *Studies in Christian Ethics*, *The Journal of Moral Theology*, *New Blackfriars*, *The Journal of Peace and Justice Studies*,



Beyond Slavery

Christian Theology and Rehabilitation
from Human Trafficking

CHRIS GOODING

978-1-6667-3515-4 | 286 p. | \$36

Is there life beyond slavery? In the past twenty years, there has been an explosion of research related to human trafficking. However, very little of it has examined the moral issues that survivors face after they are freed, or that aftercare workers face as they help survivors try to live a life outside of bondage. And there has been almost nothing written on how the tools of moral and political theology might offer insight for Christians who wish to help survivors live a normal life after enslavement. This book hopes to address this gap in the discussion.

Drawing on over fifty interviews with survivors, aftercare workers, and human trafficking specialists from his field work in India, Chris Gooding confronts difficult questions that arise during rehabilitation. Why do so many survivors of trafficking end up walking back into bondage? What might life after slavery look like for survivors who helped enslave other people? How can we build antislavery coalitions that keep survivors' voices at the center? Gooding looks at all these questions through the eschatological hope that Christians have that the Messiah will one day break every chain and free all people from all forms of bondage.

“Through sensitive field research, Chris Gooding shows how modern-day slavery offers its own perverse theology—‘warped portraits’ of love, justice, and God. Advocates for today’s enslaved human beings need good theology to offer accounts of love, justice, and God that can help survivors make sense of life after liberation. Through Scripture, ethics, and restorative justice, good theology for life after liberation is exactly what Gooding has to offer.”

—Kate Ward, Marquette University

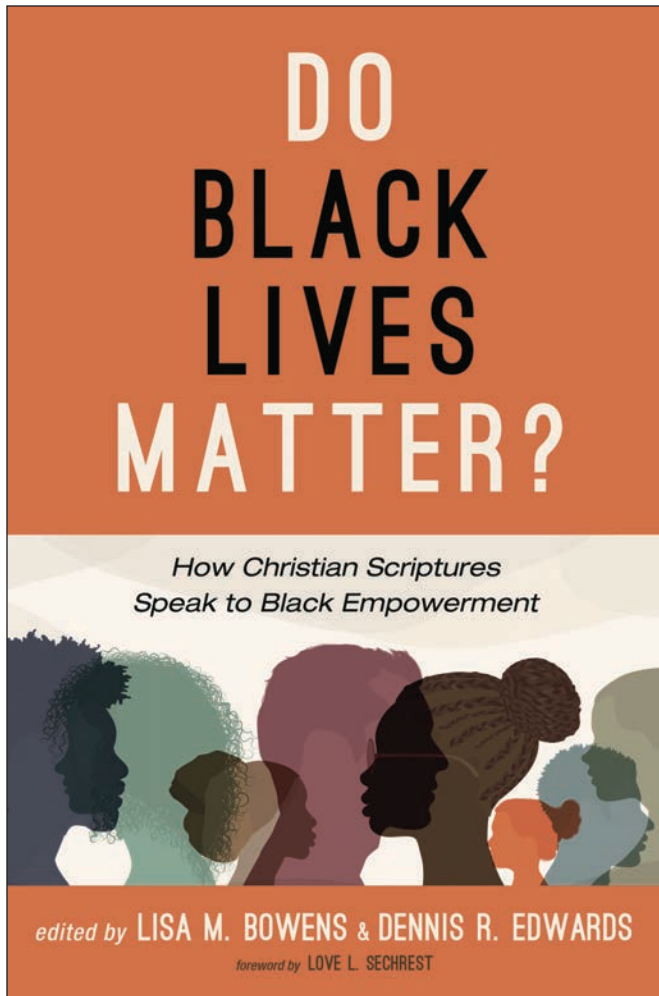
“This is a book for the many who are yet to take slavery (both past and present) seriously as a theological problem for Christian faith and witness. It is also a book for those who treat addressing human trafficking as an opportunity for evangelical messianism. . . . Gooding has given us the most theologically substantive treatment of human trafficking currently available. This book will quickly find its way into a wide variety of syllabi, and it will stay there for many years.”

—Willie James Jennings, Yale Divinity School

“Gooding’s work is a difficult read, not because of style or argument; it is beautifully written and compellingly argued. It is difficult because he draws attention to realities from which we would rather turn away. Without discounting the work of previous generations of abolitionists, Gooding reminds us that slavery is still with us. This work stands in the best of abolitionist Christianity and is a clarion call as to why we still need that tradition. It is a must-read.”

—D. Stephen Long, Southern Methodist University

CHRIS GOODING is an Assistant Teaching Professor in the Theology Department at Marquette University and a member of the Mennonite Church USA. He is also a member of Milwaukee Inner-city Congregations Allied for Hope (MICA) and WISDOM, community organizations working to end mass incarceration in Wisconsin.



Do Black Lives Matter?

How Christian Scriptures Speak to Black Empowerment

EDITED BY **LISA M. BOWENS AND DENNIS R. EDWARDS**

978-1-6667-0541-6 | 318 p. | \$36

In this book Lisa Bowens and Dennis R. Edwards collate a virtual manifesto on the way the Bible serves as inspiration, theological grist, and even the language needed to be the change to people of good faith everywhere. The authors of this book challenge the forces of racism that are so deeply entrenched in church and society today offering prophetic insight into Black resilience and the historic and ongoing importance of Scripture to that resilience. The authors also forefront the significance of Scripture to the Black struggle for justice by bringing together here prominent, gifted Black scholars in biblical studies, ethics, history, and theology, as their work and writing contribute so much to the ongoing struggle against injustice. The book will offer both biblical reflection celebrating an African American theological reading and a prophetic call to arms by means of sermons and other reflections.

The book includes contributions from: Jaime L. Waters, Jennifer Kaalund, Angela Parker Reggie, Williams Antonia Daymond, Brian Bantum, Danjuma Gibson, David Daniels, Y. Joy Harris-Smith, Vince Bantu, Marcia Clarke, Valerie Landfair, Antipas Harris, Luke Powery, Efreem Smith, Donyelle McCray, Jamal-Dominique Hopkins.

“These expertly argued essays draw together various disciplines to form a chorus of voices that not only affirm black lives, but also testify to Scripture’s call for justice, human dignity, and diverse unity. This book showcases how Christian Scripture and tradition can speak to some of the most important issues in life today. Those who have eyes, let them read!”

—Nijay K. Gupta, professor of New Testament, Northern Seminary

“Contrary to the views of many white Americans, African Americans have always known that the Bible provides no support for either white supremacy or black inferiority. Thus, motivated by the murder of George Floyd during the summer of 2020, a group of black biblical scholars, historians, ethicists, theologians, and homiletics decided to write this impressive book of essays to demonstrate how the Bible addresses racism and the struggle for racial justice in America. In differing ways, every essay is an enlightening experience.”

—Peter J. Paris, professor emeritus of Christian social ethics, Princeton Theological Seminary

LISA M. BOWENS is associate professor of New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary. She is the author of *An Apostle in Battle: Paul and Spiritual Warfare in 2 Corinthians 12:1-10* (2017) and *African American Readings of Paul: Reception, Resistance, and Transformation* (2020).

DENNIS R. EDWARDS is seminary dean and vice president of church relations at North Park Theological Seminary. He is author of *1 Peter in the Story of God Bible Commentary* (2017) and *Might from the Margins: The Gospel’s Power to Turn the Tables on Injustice* (2019).



Incompatible

How the Church Cast Out LGBTQ Christians and Where We Go Next

CHARLIE BABER

EDITED BY MIKE FRIEDRICH

978-1-6667-7018-6 | 76 p. | \$19

Incompatible: two things so opposed in character as to be incapable of existing together.

LGBTQ Christians exist. They worship beside you, preach from your pulpits, direct your choirs, and love God and neighbor, just like you. Yet denominations continue to split over issues around inclusion, and LGBTQ Christians are told their faith and sexuality are incompatible.

When two young congregants approach their pastor on the subject of LGBTQ inclusion in the church, they embark on a journey through the history of Christian belief and practices around human sexuality. Centered around the events leading to the current split within The United Methodist denomination, this funny and informative graphic novel explores how the full inclusion of LGBTQ Christians is a faithful witness to the work of the Holy Spirit.

“To all those who are feeling exhausted by debates and contention over the issue that’s become the single most important issue of our church, Charlie Baber’s book is a welcomed contribution.”

—Will Willimon, professor of the practice of Christian ministry, Duke Divinity School

“This hugely creative graphic novel helps readers visualize the suffering visited upon LGBTQ+ people in the name of Christ.”

—David P. Gushee, distinguished professor of Christian ethics, Mercer University

“Charlie Baber succeeds admirably in bringing context to the debate over LGBT rights and inclusion—both biblical context and historical context.”

—Randall Balmer, professor of religion, Dartmouth College

“*Incompatible* provides a vibrant, convicting narrative for a church at a crossroads.”

—Keegan Osinski, author of *Queering Wesley, Queering the Church*

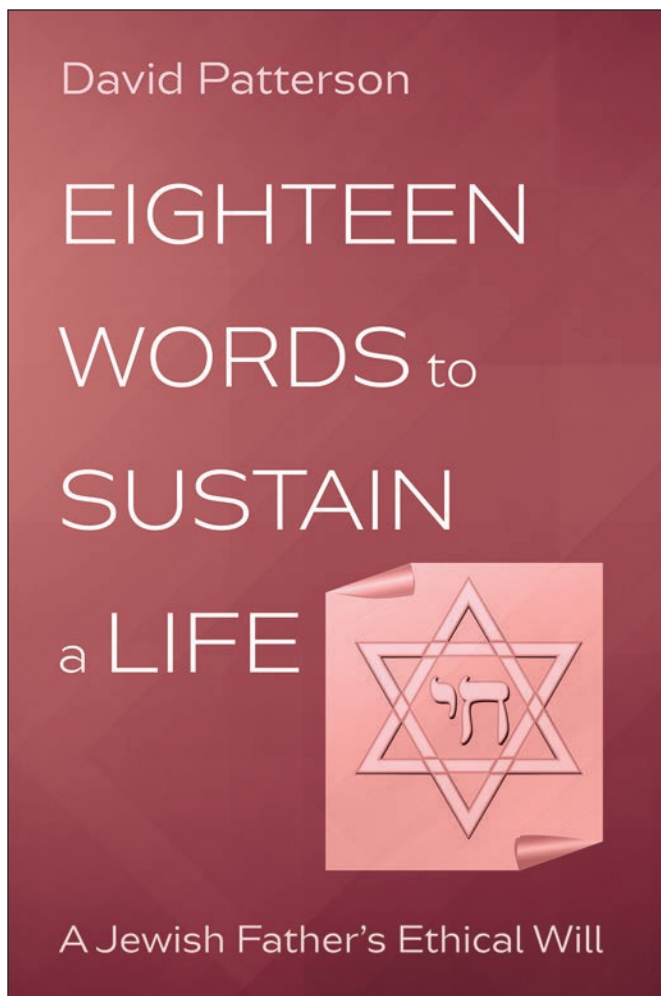
“*Incompatible* is a stunning work of art, a potent mix of graphics and story that offers not only a glimpse of how we got to where we are but shines a hopeful light on the path forward.”

—Matthew Paul Turner, author of *What Is God Like?*

“This book offers freedom to people who’ve been shamed for who they are. You can read it in half an hour. Don’t miss this unique and powerful resource!”

—Susan Cottrell, co-founder, FreedHearts

CHARLIE BABER is an ordained deacon in The United Methodist Church with an MDiv from Duke Divinity School. Raised on a chicken farm in Cartersville, Virginia, Charlie spent his childhood reading *Calvin and Hobbes* and putting away chairs after potlucks at Oakwood United Methodist Church. He now lives in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where he serves as a full-time youth pastor, full-time dad, and three-quarters-time illustrator of Wesley Bros Comics. He is the author of *Submitting to Be More Vile: The Illustrated Adventures of John & Charles Wesley* and several installments of Fathom curriculum for Abingdon Press. Weekly comics posted every Tuesday at wesleybros.com.



Eighteen Words to Sustain a Life

A Jewish Father's Ethical Will

DAVID PATTERSON

978-1-6667-5093-5 | 182 p. | \$25

In the Jewish tradition, going back to Jacob, many fathers have written down whatever wisdom they might have attained in their lives in order to pass along that wisdom to their heirs. It is called an ethical will. Written as a testimony and a testament, in an epistolary format, this book is a compendium of the wisdom of a father, who has spent a lifetime studying the teachings of the Jewish tradition, as well as literary and philosophical traditions of the West. The insights taken from those traditions, which explore the life of the soul, are intended for anyone who has a soul. The book is organized around eighteen words that form the foundations of human life. The number eighteen is taken from the Hebrew word for “life,” *chai*, which has a numerical value of eighteen. Among the words at the heart of these reflections are faith, goodness, responsibility, meaning, gratitude, prayer, love, and others.

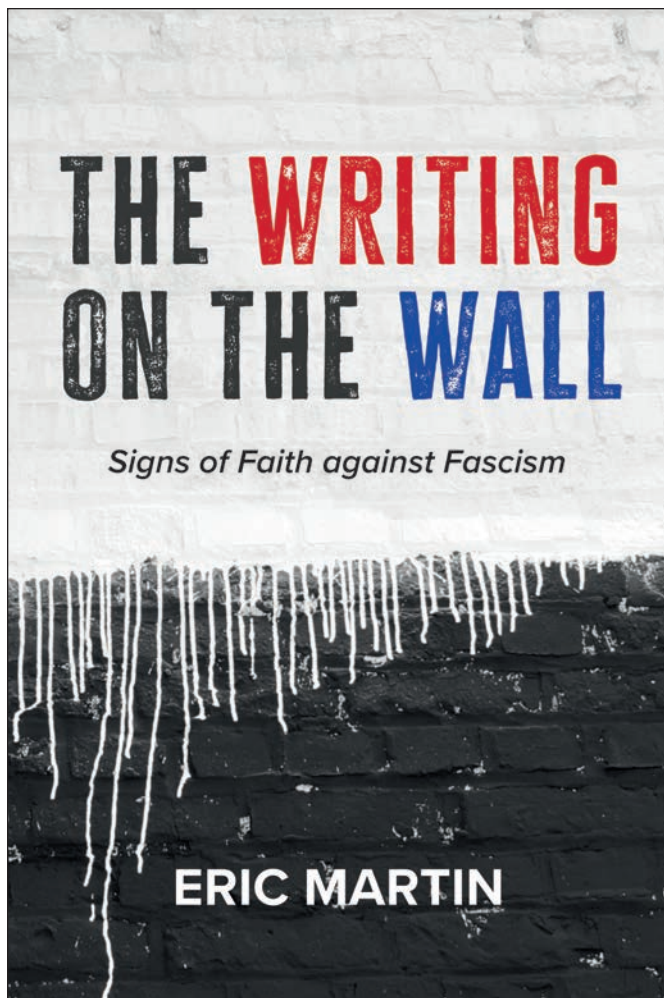
“David Patterson’s profoundly Jewish book shows how deep-down, ethical understanding of eighteen key words including *truth* and *goodness*, *responsibility* and *love*, *gratitude* and *peace* can resist the destruction and despair that threaten human flourishing in the 2020s and beyond. Much needed, *Eighteen Words to Sustain a Life* is a gift for all seasons but especially timely, welcome, and urgent for ours now.”

—John K. Roth, author of *The Failures of Ethics: Confronting the Holocaust, Genocide, and Other Mass Atrocities*

“This is a wonderful, searching, learned, and necessary book—personal and personable, joyous and loving, transmitting and telling all in one. David Patterson offers us eighteen English words that wrap within them Hebrew, Aramaic, and Yiddish teachings of Jewish life, about the life of a Jew, and surely about life itself. These richly evocative words and teachings are directed to his children and grandchildren. But they are clearly a gift to all of us as well.”

—Alan Rosen, author of *The Holocaust’s Jewish Calendars: Keeping Time Sacred, Making Time Holy*

DAVID PATTERSON holds the Hillel Feinberg Distinguished Chair in Holocaust Studies at the University of Texas at Dallas. A winner of the National Jewish Book Award and the Koret Jewish Book Award, he has published more than two hundred and fifty articles and chapters on philosophy, literature, Judaism, and Holocaust studies. His more than forty books include *Judaism, Antisemitism, and the Holocaust; Shoah and Torah; Portraits: Elie Wiesel’s Hasidic*



The Writing on the Wall

Signs of Faith against Fascism

ERIC MARTIN

978-1-6667-5909-9 | 204 p. | \$27

How can people of faith connect their religious traditions with the rise of overtly fascist violence in the United States? That's the question this book takes up. With first-hand accounts from the largest white supremacist gathering in modern American history at Unite the Right in Charlottesville, Virginia, it shares how the clergy resisting Nazis and the KKK point a way forward for Christians in particular. But *The Writing on the Wall* expands outward to ask what churches can learn from antifascists, Black Lives Matter, and those working on the ground to combat the continuing coalition of far-right militias and gangs that promise to endure with or without Trump in office. In the wake of a deadly Capitol insurrection robed in Christian imagery, this book invites the faithful to imagine a counter-witness that does more than merely preach against hate. Using biblical exegesis, storytelling, interviews, thought experiments, art, and theology, *The Writing on the Wall* explores how we can rethink notions of civil disobedience, nonviolence, love, prayer, and liturgy to enfold a worthy faith in the face of a fascist creep.

"What a necessary book this is! The writing is on the wall, and how people of faith read, resist, and rewrite it is of great urgency. Drawing on biblical and historical inspiration and his own experiences of activism and community, Eric Martin deftly breaks open ideas with humility and courage. In these pages we meet comrades for the journey, and their collective wisdom will illuminate how we move forward together."

—Amanda Daloisio, co-managing editor, *The Catholic Worker*

"In this book, Eric Martin evokes memories of Merton and the Berrigans as he looks for a public Catholicism responsive to our present-day polarization. This well-written narrative essay covers recent events, alternates between action and contemplation, and offers moral and spiritual commentary. The writing engages the reader with eyewitness authenticity, and the interviews with activists are moving. The message rings true: white supremacy has no legitimate voice in our politics."

—Roger Haight, SJ, visiting professor of theology, Union Theological Seminary

"Eric Martin is one of the most prophetic figures of his generation. He is an heir of the Berrigan brothers and Dorothy Day—a deeply spiritual Catholic

who is incarnational in praxis. *The Writing on the Wall* is a lament for a nation whose heart is bent toward fascism and a prophecy against religious leaders who seek civility over justice."

—Osagyefo Sekou, pastor, Valley and Mountain Fellowship

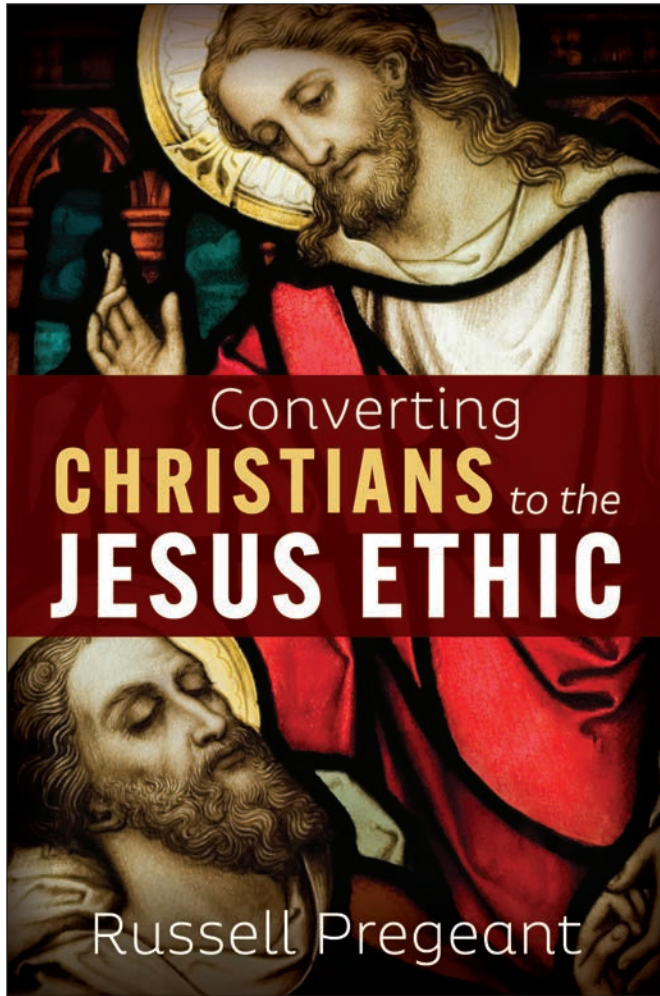
"Eric Martin's *The Writing on the Wall* takes readers to the front lines in Charlottesville in order to pull back the curtain on the tangled histories of hate that led to that day. Deeply reported, thoroughly revolutionary, and theologically attuned to the crisis in American politics and religion, this book is a collective psalm for our times."

—Kaya Oakes, author of *The Defiant Middle*

"Few books you read this year will be as provocative as Eric Martin's *The Writing on the Wall*. To 'provoke' is a 'calling forth' to form a church of divine inbreaking, 'grace with feet,' and a radical discipleship so foreign to our current status quo. It is a call to an embodied active love that refuses to be a place for 'sheltered piety.' Like the folding of a thousand paper cranes, is it about peace or fighting white supremacy? Yes."

—Gregory Boyle, founder, Homeboy Industries

ERIC MARTIN teaches on the Bible, spirituality, and liberation movements at UCLA and Loyola Marymount.



Converting Christians to the Jesus Ethic

RUSSELL PREGEANT

978-1-6667-4950-2 | 134 p. | \$20

Most Christians believe that their views on social and political issues are biblically based. But are they really? Sometimes, Pregeant suggests, an exclusive emphasis on Jesus' death and resurrection crowds out the role of Jesus as teacher and example. This obscures the way in which authentic Christian faith cuts against the grain of many of our contemporary cultural values. The result is that some Christians unknowingly allow those secular values to undermine the potential of the gospel to challenge the injustices in our economic system and other aspects of our lives together. The author therefore invites the reader to an in-depth encounter with Jesus' ethical teachings and related biblical materials as a way of recovering that dimension of Christian discipleship. And the irony is this: some readers might find that even though they think of themselves as countercultural, they are in some ways quite captive to values that are actually counterbiblical. There is, however, a remedy for this—conversion of Christians to the Jesus ethic!

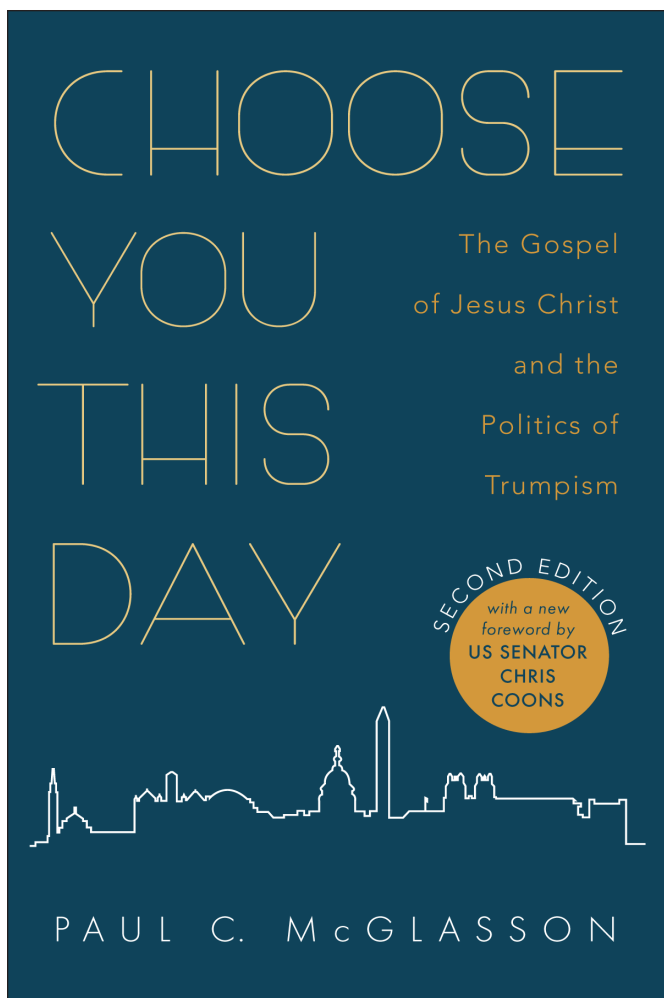
"Russell Pregeant is concerned that the contemporary church and its members are, in the realm of public affairs, too accommodated to dominant cultural forces opposed to the ethics of Jesus. Discussing wealth and politics, governments, expressions of violence, and 'the stranger,' Pregeant challenges readers to follow in the totality of their lives a Christ who questions contemporary cultural values and idolatries. This is a thoughtful, insightful, and challenging conversation concerning biblical ethics and contemporary sociopolitical issues."

—Warren Carter, Phillips Theological Seminary

"This book transcends the culture wars that sometimes masquerade as 'religious ethics.' Addressing readers across the religious and cultural spectrum who take seriously the issues of social and personal ethics that polarize American society, Pregeant calls church insiders to put their faith into practice, following the example and teaching of Jesus as the heart and core of Christian ethics. This book can ignite and fuel discussion in the academic and religious settings and is especially recommended to church study groups and their leaders."

—M. Eugene Boring, Brite Divinity School, emeritus

RUSSELL PREGEANT is professor of religion and philosophy and chaplain emeritus at Curry College, and was frequently visiting professor in New Testament at Andover Newton Theological School. An ordained minister in the United Methodist Church, he spent four years in the parish ministry. His previous books include *For the Healing of the Nation: A Biblical Vision*; *Encounter with the New Testament: An Interdisciplinary Approach*; and *Knowing Truth, Doing Good: Engaging New Testament Ethics*.



Choose You This Day, Second Edition

The Gospel of Jesus Christ and
the Politics of Trumpism

PAUL C. MCGLOSSON

978-1-6667-7458-0 | 158 p. | \$22

The American church is in crisis. The crisis is not caused by the politics of Trumpism, though that is the occasion for it. The crisis is evoked by the great challenge which every generation faces: to follow Jesus Christ in the way of discipleship. The word of God's promise sets before American Christians a simple but dramatic choice in the face of the toxic politics of Trumpism. Yes, or no? Each must choose, and the gospel itself is at stake.

"McGlasson has done what needed to be done. That is, he actually documents the evangelical support for Trump. Just as importantly, he frames that support by directing attention to the German Christians' identification with National Socialism. He is aware that such a thesis will invite easy dismissal, but he rightly sees that these are dangerous times that require plain speech. Hopefully this book will be widely read."

—Stanley Hauerwas, professor emeritus of divinity and law, Duke Divinity School

"At times statements and actions by political leaders and the faith leaders who facilitate and endorse them can set us on a dangerous path where we risk losing more than an election or position, we risk losing the very essence of what makes us Christian. . . . Into this space McGlasson proposes a new confession, and a new calling for a reformed mission for the ecumenical Christian church in all its challenges."

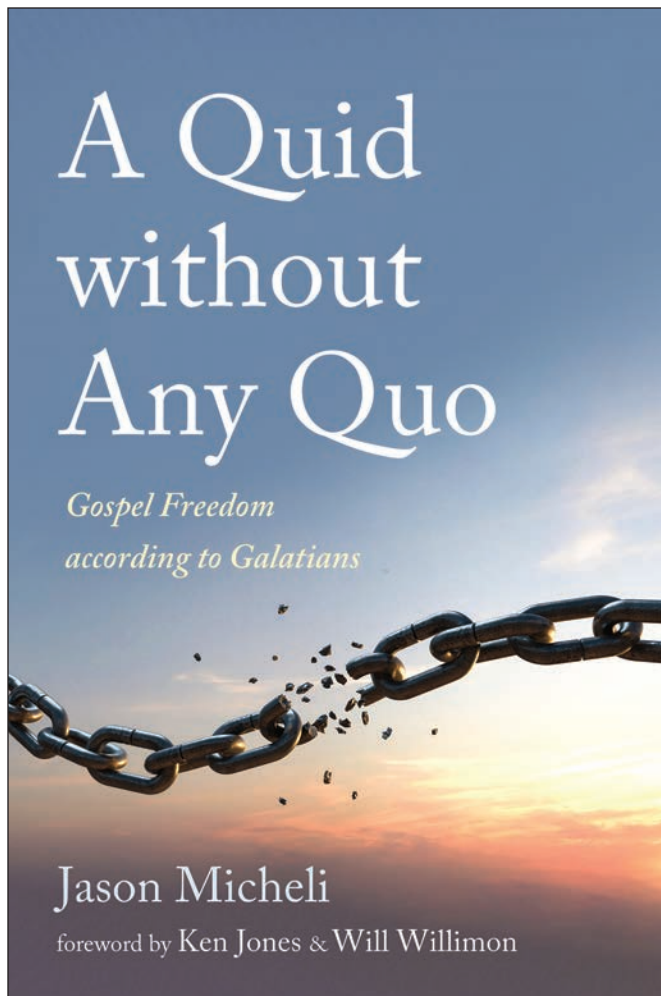
—Chris Coons, U.S. senator

"McGlasson accomplishes in this book something that is almost entirely absent in public life today. Without demonizing people who hold an opposing political view, he examines the theology undergirding the political loyalties he critiques. Drawing on the German Confessing Church movement, he not only shows the serious consequences of false doctrine, he also offers a compelling articulation of the gospel of Jesus Christ for our time."

—Jennifer M. McBride, president, International Bonhoeffer Society—English Language Section

PAUL C. MCGLOSSON received his MDiv from Yale Divinity School and his PhD in systematic theology from Yale University. He is the author of numerous books, including the multivolume work *Church Doctrine*. He has begun a six-volume Theological Exegesis of Scripture, covering the entire Bible. The first volume, on the Pentateuch, is now available.





A Quid without Any Quo

Gospel Freedom according to Galatians

JASON MICHELI

978-1-6667-4450-7 | 130 p. | \$19

Contemporary culture frequently defines freedom the way the Bible describes sin: complete autonomy. *A Quid without Any Quo* explores how the gospel sets us free for glad and joyful service. Not only is Paul's Letter to the Galatians perhaps the most consequential book of the New Testament for the Protestant Reformation, its radical and unyielding proclamation of grace apart from the law is once again timely in a culture that is often without mercy.

In these reflections on Paul's explosive epistle, Jason Micheli shows how Protestants generally, but preachers especially, can recover a confident articulation of their original message. In addition, *A Quid without Any Quo* tackles challenging and relevant questions such as the nature of the Old Testament law, the relationship between works and faith, the meaning of justification by faith, how the gospel relates to issues of race, the character of Christian community, and the reality of the hope found in Jesus Christ.

"Take a deep dive with Jason Micheli into why grace frees us to live actual Christian lives. Jesus didn't come as a moral obligation but as a merciful consolation. And since the church lives in theological crisis on the distinction, this book couldn't have come at a better time."

—Sarah Condon, co-host, Mockingcast podcast

"Don't tell him I said so, but Jason Micheli is my favorite preacher. He never fails to proclaim the radical freedom (and enduring offense!) of the gospel with heart and humor and without fingers crossed in the slightest. Galatians is already a powder keg; in Jason's hands, it becomes a neutron bomb of fathomless grace. Watch out, reader, you're about to get leveled. Essential stuff!"

—David Zahl, director, Mockingbird Ministries

"*A Quid without Any Quo* is a crisp slap across the face of any attempt to turn the liberating gospel of Jesus Christ into the striving and scolding of religious moralism. Though Micheli is clearly well-read theologically and possesses a keen mind, he writes as a pastor who understands the real-life implications of a salvation offered by the sheer gratuity of the God whose very nature is grace. This is a wonderful book!"

—Brian Zahnd, author of *Sinners in the Hands of a Loving God*

JASON MICHELI is the lead pastor of Annandale United Methodist Church and host of the popular podcast, *Crackers and Grape Juice*. He is the author of *Cancer Is Funny* (2016) and *Living in Sin* (2019).



Acting for the Common Good

Social Justice in the Light of
Catholic Social Teaching

MICHAEL J. MCGRATH

978-1-5326-1774-4 | 304 p. | \$35

The goods that we pursue in our lives are for us, first and foremost, goods that are particular and personal, and thus goods that are immediate to our attention. Not readily apparent to us are goods necessary for the flourishing of our lives but that can be attained by us only in consort with others and thus realized only through collective action. Such goods are common goods. The wider the good, the more extensive must be the human cooperation to realize the good. A stable, orderly society and a habitable planetary environment are common goods that can be realized only in and through the cooperation of all for the benefit of all. That all contribute to the shared good of the whole is a matter of justice—social justice. *Acting for the Common Good* undertakes the study of social justice in light of the common good—this from the viewpoint of Catholic social teaching, which draws upon the tradition of the common good that is articulated classically in the philosophy of Aristotle and the theology of Thomas Aquinas and in the modern-day social thought and authoritative teachings of the Catholic Church.

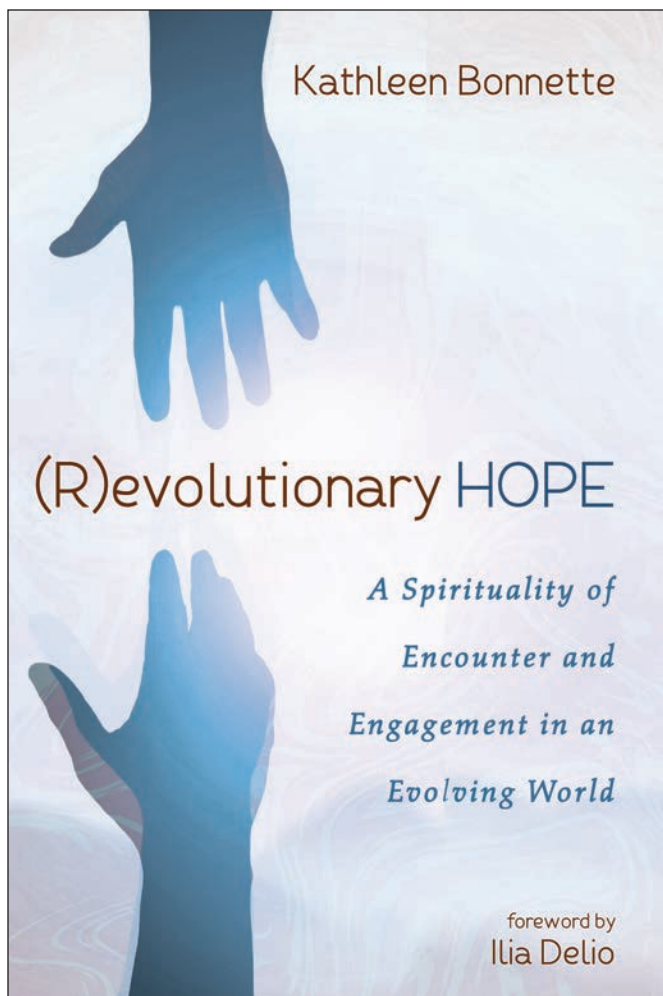
“As the Catholic Church lives out the call to synodality from Pope Francis, many sectors are calling for a new emphasis on Catholic social teaching and moral witness. In *Acting for the Common Good*, Michael McGrath provides the intellectual underpinnings for that project, offering a view of the church as social witness and active agent for social justice and the common good in society. This book arrives at just the right moment for Catholics in the U.S. and around the world.”

— Richard L. Wood, University of New Mexico

“This book has an insightful theme of social justice based on the Aristotelian-Thomistic tradition. Social justice is not a social activity but rather a common good that pivots on the virtue of the rational appetite. For pluralistic societies, Michael J. McGrath’s thought provides a challenge to overcome the complexities of tension between minority and majority, where unconditional love is still possible to be shared.”

—Stefanus Christian Haryono, Duta Wacana Christian University, Indonesia

MICHAEL J. MCGRATH teaches theology and ethics at Bloy House, The Episcopal Theological School at Los Angeles.



(R)evolutionary Hope

A Spirituality of Encounter and Engagement in an Evolving World

KATHLEEN BONNETTE

978-1-6667-5203-8 | 150 p. | \$22

This book is for seekers—for those with restless hearts. It is especially for those who express their hope through the Catholic tradition but struggle with disillusionment and long for something more. *(R)evolutionary Hope* invites readers to journey toward that More. With theological reflection explored and interrogated through memoir, this work reimagines what it means to be Catholic, challenging readers to remain open to the grace that draws them from certainty to possibility, beyond what is to what could be. By infusing the theological tradition of St. Augustine with the spirituality emerging in contemporary women of the church, *(R)evolutionary Hope* invites readers to shift their paradigm from one of hierarchy to one of interconnection, offering a theology of encounter that is rooted in tradition, responsive to present realities, and ever open to the future.

“One of the hallmarks of Jesus’s public ministry was a call to metanoia or conversion. In this wide-ranging new book, Kathleen Bonnette looks at how our conversion of heart must always be at once directed towards God and directed out towards our fellow human beings. With stories from her own life as a Catholic woman (and scholar and mother and friend), she offers a book that is that rare combination of superb scholarship and warm personal stories. Highly recommended.”

—James Martin, SJ, Author of *Learning to Pray: A Guide for Everyone*

“Written with keen perspective, wit, love, and an open heart for healing that caresses a genuine quest for reconciliation, Kathleen Bonnette invites us to enter a true revolution today, where together, we can build a better tomorrow with grace. This is an engaging book. A serious adventure for justice.”

—Patrick Saint-Jean, SJ, author of *Home-Going: The Journey from Racism and Death to Community and Hope*

“Kathleen Bonnette is no fan of the hierarchal paradigm for the *ordo amoris* or the love that renders the cosmos a place of belonging. Hierarchies put people into their proper places. In what she advocates—a relational ethic with cosmic overtones—propriety honors love’s inventiveness. But Bonnette doesn’t just pit restless against rooted. She explores, together with her School Sisters, the art

of relating to what resists relationship. This proves to be a bravely confessional venture.”

—James Wetzel, author of *Parting Knowledge: Essays after Augustine*

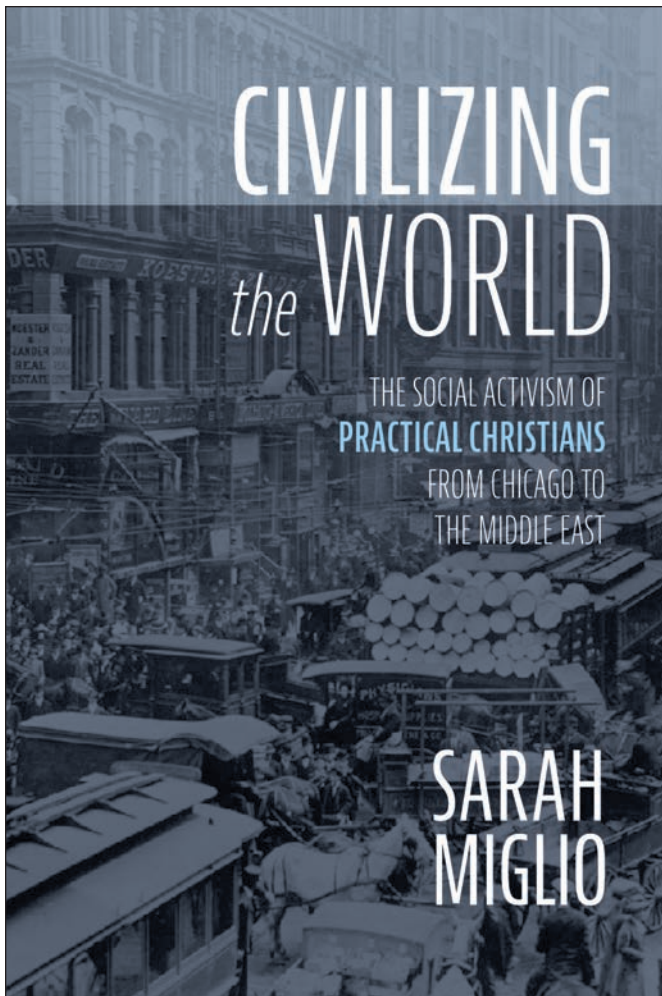
“A holy thought not only can save you, but also help sanctify the world. Kathleen Bonnette’s theological exploration is a very thoughtful and faithful journey towards that objective. Her academic prose elevates this work.”

—Gloria Purvis, host of *The Gloria Purvis Podcast*

“Kathleen Bonnette’s beautifully written book invites readers on a journey to wholeness. She deftly uses her own story, the experiences of women religious, and the wisdom of Augustine to remind us that we are created for communion. Despite attempts by many to divide us, to deny the essence of trinitarian love, Bonnette encourages us to embrace the great mystery: We are one in the abundance of God. *(R)evolutionary Hope* is the perfect companion for all those on the journey: justice seekers, meaning makers, and all who long to know God who is loving us into wholeness.”

—ANN SCHOLZ, SSND, former associate director for social mission, Leadership Conference of Women Religious

KATHLEEN BONNETTE is an adjunct lecturer of theology at Georgetown University. You can find her scholarly writing in sources such as the *Journal of Moral Theology* and the *Journal of Catholic Social Thought*; for public opinion pieces, look for her byline in *America: The Jesuit Review*, *U.S. Catholic*, and *Millennial*. She lives in Maryland with her husband and three children. Learn more by subscribing to her website, evolutionaryhope.wordpress.org, or following her on Twitter/Instagram @kbonnette_thd.



Civilizing the World

The Social Activism of Practical Christians
from Chicago to the Middle East

SARAH MIGLIO

978-1-6667-3719-6 | 330 p. | \$39

Civilizing the World explores the vibrancy and impact of forgotten social reformers who defied categorization within the Social Gospel or secular progressive movements. These social reformers, or “Practical Christians,” functioned as a network of activists whose dedication to spiritual conversions and cultural transformation arose from a shared commitment to nonsectarian Christian cooperation and practicing Christian citizenship. Bringing together a diverse coalition of liberal Protestants, revivalists, evangelicals, and “secular” reformers, Practical Christians rejected theological divisions in favor of broad alliances committed to improving society at home and abroad. A complete understanding of the intimate relationship between local and global activism provides new insight into Practical Christians’ social networks, political goals, religious identities, and international outlook. This broad reform alliance considered their domestic and global reforms as seamless tasks in modernizing the world. Just as Chicago Practical Christians labored to “civilize” their immigrant neighbors and encourage their adoption of their own Christian and American habits, like-minded Americans worked to “Christianize” and “modernize” Armenians and the Middle East. The Practical Christian coalition faltered post-World War I as evangelicals and revivalists continued to prioritize spiritual conversions while liberal Protestant and secularizing activists placed more emphasis on the process of Americanizing immigrants and the world.

“Sarah Miglio’s marvelous *Civilizing the World* freshly illuminates the complex connections between evangelicals, Social Gospellers, missions, and social reform. Through her remarkable archival research into Progressive-era Chicago, Miglio introduces a broad, activist cohort of ‘Practical Christians’ and overturns a host of stereotypes and clichés about her subject. This book is a model of original historical writing.”

—Thomas S. Kidd, author of *Thomas Jefferson: A Biography of Spirit and Flesh*

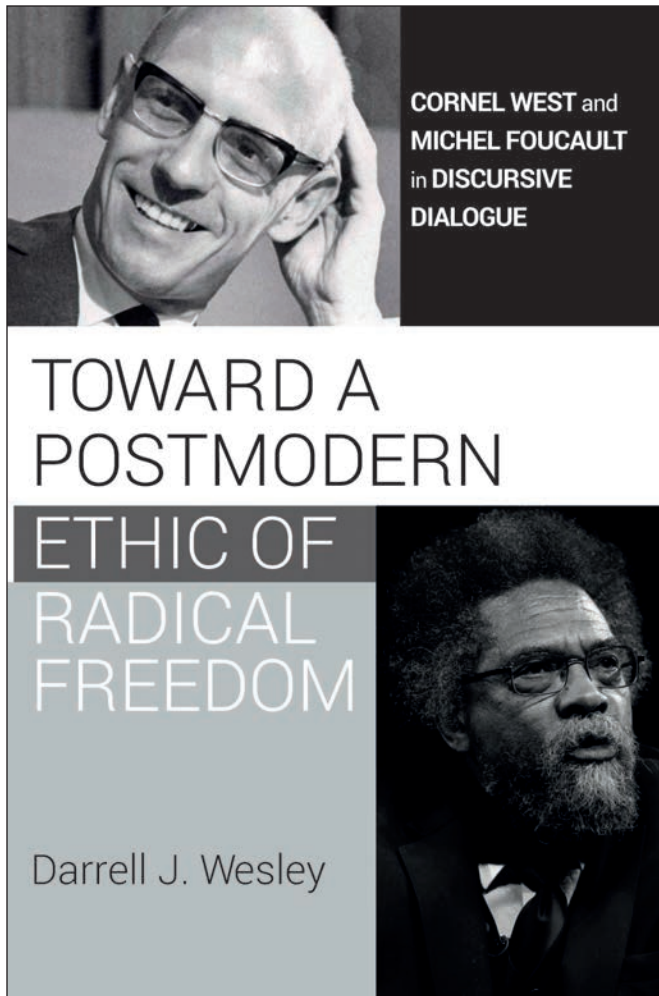
“*Civilizing the World* is historical scholarship at its best. Sarah Miglio incandescently explodes so many false binaries that are currently conventional wisdom. If you are used to thinking of late nineteenth-century America in terms of proto-Fundamentalists vs. proto-Modernists, revivalists vs. Social Gospellers, moral causes vs. political action, or humanitarian vs. proselytizing efforts, then the rediscovery of the ‘Practical Christians’ is going to cause you to reassess it all.”

—Timothy Larsen, author of *A People of One Book: The Bible and the Victorians*

“In this important study, Sarah Miglio offers us a window on a lost era in American religious history. She recounts more fully than has been done previously how, before the polarization of the fundamentalist era, revivalist evangelicals could cooperate with liberal Protestants and secularists in practical Christian charity and social reform at home and abroad.”

—George Marsden, author of *Fundamentalism and American Culture*

SARAH MIGLIO is assistant provost at Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois.



Toward a Postmodern Ethic of Radical Freedom

Cornel West and Michel Foucault
in Discursive Dialogue

DARRELL J. WESLEY

978-1-7252-9415-8 | 180 p. | \$25

Toward a Postmodern Ethic of Radical Freedom is one of the first, if not the first, to bring Cornel West and Michel Foucault together in a meaningful dialogue to formulate “a postmodern ethic of radical freedom.” This dialogue begins with the practical posture of West, more specifically his notions of truth and reality and work, then goes back to his more theoretical work to explore the same notions. As a project in constructive ethics, this book examines Cornel West’s epistemology (notion of truth) and metaphysics (notions of reality) as foundational components for a postmodern ethic of radical freedom. These foundational components are then brought into a discursive conversation with aspects of Michel Foucault’s archaeology and genealogy, with a method called reconstruction. This reconstruction results in two important trajectories, radical ontology and radical epistemology, which become the pillars for a postmodern ethic of radical freedom. The last chapter of the book weaves together all components with the womanist work of Monica Coleman and Patricia Hill Collins as examples of this ethic of radical freedom. Practically speaking, this postmodern ethic of radical freedom serves as a platform to ensure transcendence so that all people, regardless of race, gender, or sexuality, can enjoy a flourishing and fulfilled life.

“In the first ever book written about Cornel West and Michel Foucault, *Toward a Postmodern Ethic of Radical Freedom* is personal, theoretical, and practical. Darrell Wesley weaves philosophy, social theory, religious epistemology, and metaphysics into a manifesto of hope. Ingeniously, this text shows how deep philosophic notions can serve as resources for existential self-help. In a word, this book is nothing short of *genius*.”

—Glenn S. Johnson, professor of urban planning and environmental policy, Texas Southern University

“Darrell Wesley has put a pen to words that inoculate the human spirit with wisdom from one of the greatest contemporary intellectuals I know. This work is a must-read for those who desire to transcend their current reality to a place where only a few dare to live, freedom.”

—Charley Hames Jr., bishop, Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

“*Toward a Postmodern Ethic of Radical Freedom* is an essential and insightful book. Working in academia, I see it as a required reading for American Studies and interdisciplinary programs. Darrell Wesley brilliantly brings Cornel West and Michel Foucault, two postmodern giants, into a conversation that will change how the academy conceptualizes the connection between theory and practice. Scholars, public intellectuals, church leaders, and practitioners have been waiting on this book. An amazing gift!”

—Bennie L. Harris, chancellor, University of South Carolina Upstate

DARRELL J. WESLEY is a public theologian and ethicist and currently serves as senior pastor for Redlands First United Methodist in Redlands, California. He holds a PhD from Claremont Graduate University in addition to graduate degrees from Yale University and the Naval War College. He has served as university chaplain and ethics professor at the Naval Postgraduate in Monterey, California, and from May 2017 to August 2021 he served as dean of the Leadership Training School for the Ninth Episcopal District of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Political Crisis and Christian Ethics

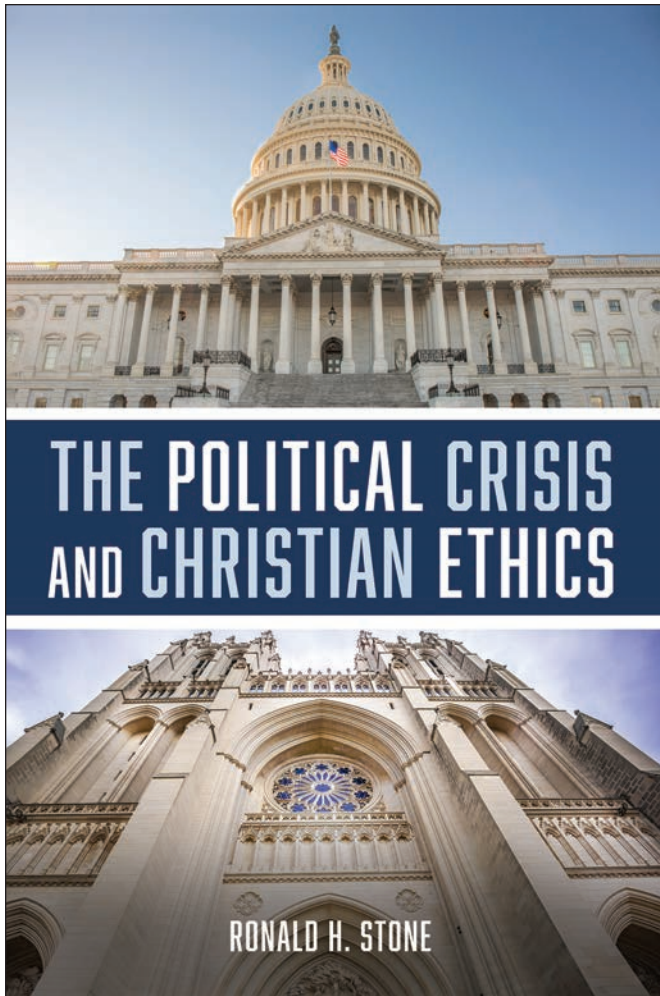
RONALD H. STONE

978-1-6667-4622-8 | 276 p. | \$35

The Political Crisis and Christian Ethics addresses themes in political philosophy in the context of a crisis in democracy after the denial of the 2020 election by the Republican candidate for president. The refusal to accept the results of the election divided the electorate and drove the president's followers to fail in their attempted coup attempt in January of 2020. Democracy is defended in Reinhold Niebuhr's writing on politics and in Barack Obama's use of the theologian's thought. It is developed further in the political theory of Paul Tillich. The themes of just peacemaking are reviewed in Paul Tillich's critique of John Foster Dulles' work and in the author's critique of just peacemaking in the work of Glen Stassen. Domestically the issues of race, inequality, ecology, and healthcare are addressed from the perspective of prophetic realism. The book concludes in terms of Alfred North Whitehead's philosophy of education and religion and a vision of the good president. In summary, *The Political Crisis and Christian Ethics* is a volume of American, Christian political theory in a period of overcoming the trauma of 2016 with Christian ethics and political philosophy.

"At a point in time in which our civilization is replete with staggering mixtures of crisis and hope, the American tradition of Prophetic Realism—which declines any way of life other than the synergetic practice of reasonable religion, ethics, and politics—needs to be advanced. *The Political Crisis and Christian Ethics* exquisitely demonstrates how we can accomplish this and more."

—Bin Song, assistant professor of philosophy and religion, Washington College



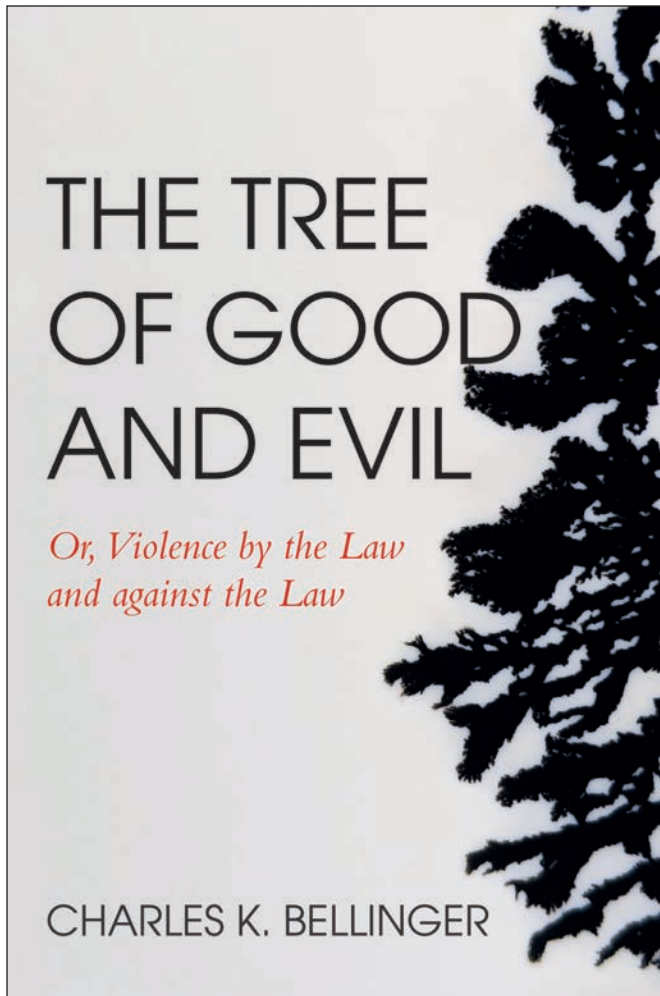
"At a time when Christian participation in politics is guided more by religious enthusiasms than by theological analysis, this timely book provides both caution and corrective. Ronald Stone importantly centers public life as an object of theological reflection while identifying essential theological frameworks for examining some of today's most urgent public arena concerns."

—R. Drew Smith, professor of urban ministry, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

"A timely, insightful analysis of what Christian ethics can offer to American politics. Ronald Stone offers critical reflection on and application of the political ethics of Reinhold Niebuhr, Paul Tillich, and Richard Niebuhr, as well as his personal experiences as a Christian political ethicist and activist. Affirming that Christianity informs American politics, Stone offers concrete recommendations on issues of race, economic justice, climate, and more, and calls us to enact a prophetic realism."

—Mary Ann Stenger, professor emerita of humanities, University of Louisville

RONALD H. STONE is the Professor Emeritus of Christian Ethics at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and the recent author of *Reinhold Niebuhr in the 1960s* and *The Ethics of Paul Tillich*.



The Tree of Good and Evil

Or, Violence by the Law and against the Law

CHARLES K. BELLINGER

978-1-6667-5903-7 | 156 p. | \$23

There is a common way of thinking that distinguishes between the regular law-abiding citizens and the “criminals.” The many high-profile killings committed by police officers in recent years, with the George Floyd case being the most famous, have served to render this simplistic way of thinking highly problematic. It is more realistic, in terms of cultural understanding, to see violence as a dialectic; it can come from the direction of “law and order” or from the direction of the violation of law. Employing the thought of René Girard, Søren Kierkegaard, and others, this book provides a framework for understanding this dialectic. Drawing on examples from slavery, lynching, the killing of unarmed Black persons by police, and the death penalty, the theme of violence coming from the direction of “law and order” is vividly illustrated, with Girard’s thought being employed to formulate a deeply rooted theoretical understanding. There is also extensive attention paid to many examples of mass shootings and terrorist attacks—violence that is intentionally immoral and illegal. A psychological taxonomy is employed that comprehends such violence under the headings of the psychopathic, the psychotic, the traumatized, and the ideological actor.

“Drawing insights from an interdisciplinary array of authors, including René Girard, Giorgio Agamben, James Cone, and others, Charles K. Bellinger provides an incisive analysis of violence by slave owners and lynch mobs, police officers and anti-police rioters, White supremacists and Antifa supporters—all without succumbing to relativism, moral equivalency, or a might-makes-right power struggle. This book is a must-read for anyone, pacifist or not, concerned about past and present violence.”

—Tobias Winright, professor of moral theology, St Patrick’s Pontifical University

“In *The Tree of Good and Evil*, Charles Bellinger takes up the question of violence in general, and police and governmental violence in particular. Unlike so many studies of violence, Bellinger has the courage to peel away the layers of superficial social commentary to get to the root of human violence, which means getting to the root of what drives human behavior. This work reflects the thought of a mature thinker, and the writing mirrors the thinking of one of America’s most provocative theologians—focused, serious, undistracted. This book deserves a wide readership.”

—Grant Kaplan, professor of theology, Saint Louis University

CHARLES K. BELLINGER is professor of theology and ethics at Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University. He is the author of *The Genealogy of Violence* (2001), *The Trinitarian Self* (2008), and *Othering: The Original Sin of Humanity* (2020).

ROGER BERGMAN

Catholic Social Learning

Educating the Faith That Does Justice



Expanded Edition

Foreword by Daniel R. DiLeo

Catholic Social Learning, Expanded Edition

Educating the Faith That Does Justice

ROGER BERGMAN

978-1-6667-3780-6 | Forthcoming

The award-winning and widely read first edition of *Catholic Social Learning: Educating the Faith That Does Justice*, published in 2011, described the critical edge of the tradition of justice pedagogy in Catholic higher education at the end of the first decade of the twenty-first century. But living traditions change in response to new challenges and develop their own resources more fully. The most obvious and compelling development in recent years has been the publication in 2015 of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*—the occasion for the new chapter-length afterword to this expanded edition of *Catholic Social Learning*. The urgent imperative to defend creation is a major but not the only reason for a new edition. Two new chapters, on the many forms of shame as a pedagogical issue and on the Book of Job and belief in a just world, add spiritual and theological depth to the original assessment of more than a decade ago. Those three additions comprise the totally new Part IV: The Critical Edge of the Tradition. A new preface sets the argument in the context of current controversies over the place of painful emotions in educational settings.

“This is that rare volume whose medium and message move exquisitely in tandem. On practically every page, Roger Bergman inspires us to deeper reflection on effective education for justice, vocational development, and the entire process of social learning. Building upon its core themes of personal encounter, perspective transformation, and eliciting empathy for all, this book may well disrupt your accustomed perceptions of the ethical commitments required of all—starting with our student days and stretching across the lifespan.”

—Thomas Massaro, SJ, professor of moral theology, Fordham University

“Canvassing philosophers, poets, saints, social activists, and students, and drawing from the ancient-past or the now-present, an elite college campus or a poor campo community, Roger Bergman conveys the power of moral exemplars in our lives, as well as transformative experiences with the poor. These ‘encounterings’ build the foundations of curricula in peace, justice, and service programs that probe the mind, provoke the heart, and form global citizens of the best kind.”

—Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, president, Creighton University

“The Catholic university today more than ever needs to retrieve a more holistic teaching and learning model in which the intellectual, moral, and spiritual formation is central, and to retrieve its prophetic voice as an institution that models a more just response for the poor of the world rather than succumb to the seduction of neoliberalism and corporatization. Bergman leaves us to ponder that ‘people want to and have to believe that they live in a just world, so that they can go about their daily lives with a sense of trust, hope, and confidence in the future.’”

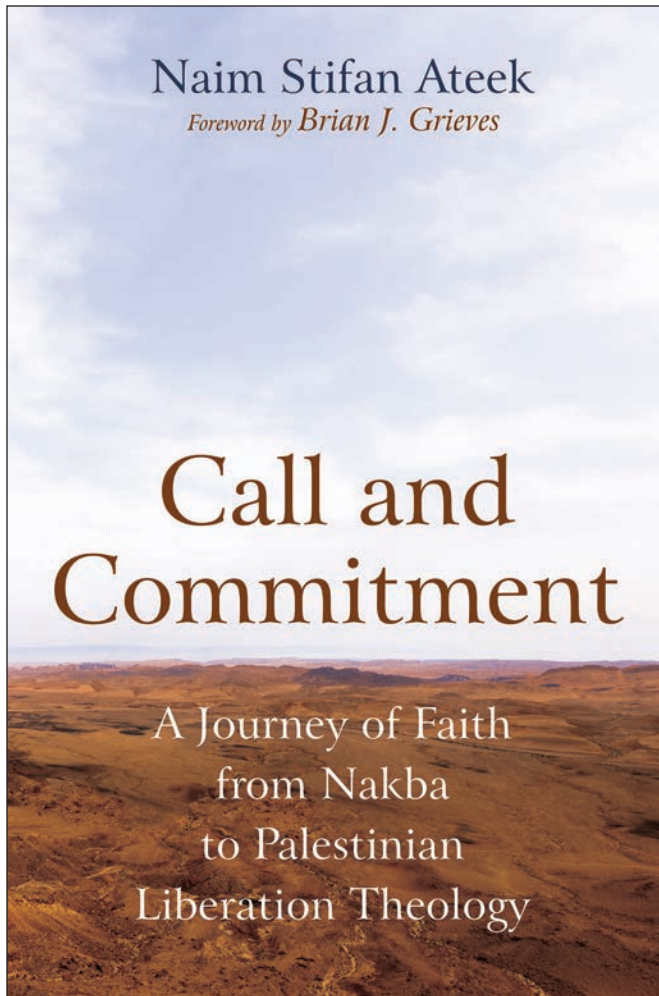
—Barbara E. Wall, editor, *Journal of Catholic Social Thought*

“How do we learn the rich but complex principles at the heart of Catholic social teaching? Read this book. Roger Bergman does a masterful job of integrating fields—from philosophy to social science—to build toward the book's apropos title (which few others have addressed). New additions update an already remarkable early edition for the current moment. The work of justice is given new light and vision here, with wisdom for both educators and practitioners.”

—Jay Brandenberger, associate director, Center for Social Concerns, University of Notre Dame

ROGER BERGMAN is Professor Emeritus of Cultural and Social Studies at Creighton University, where in 1995 he founded the Justice and Peace Studies Program, which he directed until his retirement in 2017. He is also the author of *Preventing Unjust War: A Catholic Argument for Selective Conscientious Objection* (Cascade, 2020) and of many articles and reviews in scholarly journals. Daniel R. DiLeo, author of the afterword, is his successor.





Call and Commitment

A Journey of Faith from Nakba to
Palestinian Liberation Theology

NAIM STIFAN ATEEK

978-1-6667-9897-5 | Forthcoming

The Reverend Canon Naim Ateek, a Palestinian and an Episcopal priest, writes of the Palestinians' dispossession of their land during his lifetime leading Canon Ateek to embrace a groundbreaking theology of liberation for his people. Told in his own words, Canon Ateek weaves his personal story within the context of ever-increasing injustices endured by the Palestinian people under Israeli rule and occupation. His story is a gift to all those who wish to understand what justice requires in the seventy-five years since the *Nakba* (catastrophe) that befell the Palestinian people in 1948 in the creation of the State of Israel, and the enduring occupation that has been imposed on them since 1967.

"A delightful reading of the origins of Palestinian Liberation theology as a lived-in response to the real-life situation of a Palestinian Christian clergyman, this book is a rich tapestry of the life, ministry, and mission of Naim Ateek and the creation of Sabeel Ecumenical Center and its activities. An eminently readable and enjoyable book as it educates, informs, and inspires readers."

—Jonathan Kuttub, executive director, Friends of Sabeel North America

"This powerful and evocative decolonial memoir reveals in personal terms the cost of injustice for the Palestinian people and the challenging conditions that inhibit possibilities for finding lasting peace. This book is a must-read for those interested in the contexts and conditions that gave birth to Palestinian liberation theology and the birth of an international movement resisting the occupation."

—Sheryl A. Kujawa-Holbrook, editor-in-chief, *Anglican and Episcopal History*

"Naim Ateek has every reason to write an angry, revengeful book denouncing the colonial Brits, the right-wing Americans, and the Israeli occupiers. Instead, he draws from his Christian faith to call for justice and reconciliation. Why are we, including so many in our Churches, unable to hear?"

—Michael Doe, assistant bishop, Diocese of Southwark

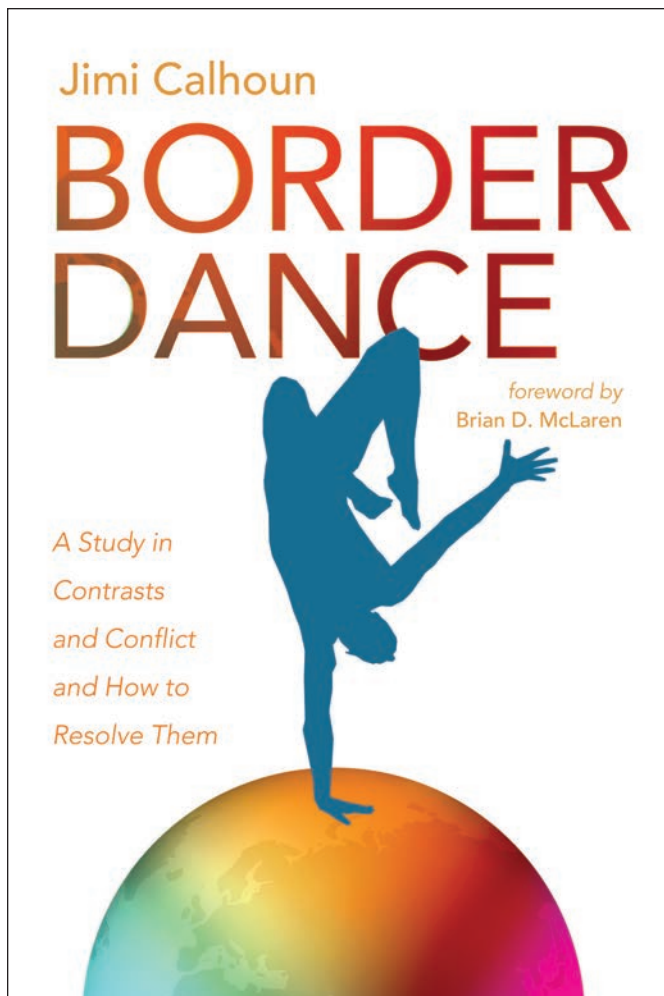
NAIM STIFAN ATEEK, an Episcopal priest of the diocese of Jerusalem, is cofounder and former director of the Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center based in Jerusalem, with a satellite office in Nazareth. He served as Canon of St. George's Cathedral in Jerusalem and is the author of the groundbreaking book, *Justice and Only Justice*, a treatise of liberation theology for the Palestinian people which, according to Sabeel's website, is "based on love, justice, peace, nonviolence, and reconciliation for the different national and faith communities."

"Powerful. Personal. Poignant. Palestine. A visceral firsthand autobiographical account. Here is Assis Naim Ateek at his most vulnerable and thus at his most prophetic. As a truth teller, he lays bare the origins and the deadly consequences of the Zionist project to illegally occupy Palestine. As justice seeker, he urges his readers ever toward the moral high ground; his is the deeply compassionate and faith-filled voice of a truly holy man of God."

—Jenny Te Paa Daniel, *te mareikura* (woman visionary), National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, Otago University

Naim Ateek's memoir, spanning the history of the Palestinian catastrophe and the birth of the state of Israel, is expansive in its breadth yet detailed in its markings. Through trial and tribulation, Ateek is firm and open, justice-seeking, and compassionate. We the readers embark with Ateek on a journey of despair and hope where faith is tried and honed."

—Marc H. Ellis, author of *First Light: Encountering Edward Said and the Late-Style Jewish Prophetic in the New Diaspora*



Border Dance

A Study in Contrasts and Conflict
and How to Resolve Them

JIMI CALHOUN

978-1-6667-3853-7 | 186 p. | \$26

Every culture on earth has at one time or another danced. From tribal times forward people have danced to socialize, express themselves creatively, and promote societal unity. The borders that separate us came much later in human development. It is time to return to our roots and dance, dance, dance. That is because dance has the unique ability to unite a person's mind, body, and soul. In his capacity as a touring bassist, Jimi Calhoun witnessed thousands upon thousands of people lose themselves in dance. Suddenly, ethnic, racial, and religious differences disappear. Borders, on the other hand, divide religious communities, races, and nations. Human conflict is perpetuated by these boundaries. What is written within these pages will show you ways to dance across divisions by means of a choreography of altruism. This is a book that invites you to dance to the rhythms of grace that result in true harmony and unity.

"This is a gem of a book. With a huge historical sweep, Jimi Calhoun shows the power of dance and music to break down the barriers which threaten our common humanity. From his own experience he challenges us to root out the deeply grounded evil of racism which poisons all too much of our world. *Border Dance* should be required reading for all religious and civic leaders whose attitudes and actions affect us all."

—Iain Whyte, author of *Scotland and the Abolition of Black Slavery, 1756–1838*

"*Border Dance* provides a unique glimpse of the phenomenal musicians and groups with whom Jimi Calhoun performed. This book shines a light on how people survived through dance and music and ultimately describes how our spiritual souls unite in our pathway to oneness."

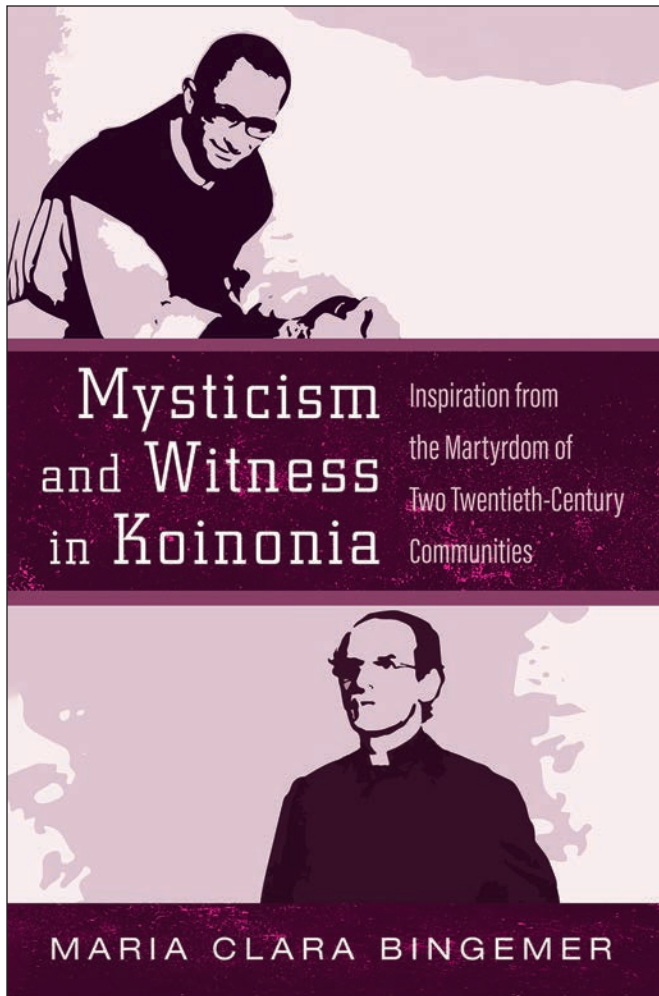
—Marie Betcher, rabbi cantor senior chaplain, Austin Police Department

"I'm not sure when we first met—perhaps when Jimi Calhoun was a missionary on furlough—but years later, rumors of his work reached me. Friends insisted we meet because we were fellow exiles of denominational status quo. We paid a price for crossing uncrossable boundaries. Fortunately, Jimi still crosses those boundaries. He crosses them with a smile and a jazz shuffle. This book is proof of his artful skill playing on the borders where God dances."

—Phil Wyman, author of *Love Big or Go Home*

JIMI CALHOUN is an author, minister, and social ethicist. He is a pastor at Bridging Austin, a Reconciling Community. He is the author of *A Story of Rhythm and Grace* (2018), *The Art of God* (2015), *The Sounds of Love and Grace* (2020), and *Funknology* (2021). He gained international recognition as bassist for Creation, Rare Earth, Dr. John, The Buddy Miles Regiment, and Funkadelic. Calhoun presently sits on the boards of three nonprofits.





Mysticism and Witness in Koinonia

Inspiration from the Martyrdom of Two Twentieth-Century Communities

MARIA CLARA BINGEMER

978-1-6667-5264-9 | Forthcoming

Testimony until the end in a radical donation of life and blood can be communitarian and not only individual. That is the case for the two communities of Trappists and Jesuits, so different in their form and so close in their radicality. One is contemplative, the other active; one is in Africa, the other in Latin America. Both are religious Catholic orders. Nevertheless, the cause of their violent death is secular. For one, there is love and dialogue with otherness: other cultures, other religions, other beliefs. For the other, there is justice for those who are the victims of iniquitous economic and political systems: the poor. Assuming secular causes into their religious consecration and commitment, those communities teach today to the plural society we live in how to be open to otherness, to difference, and to the various vulnerabilities that clamor for justice. They also teach to the churches a new radical way to live the gospel—not with a unique institutional point of view but with an unlimited openness to all hungers and thirsts of the world. Their martyrdom is a liturgy celebrated publicly, instigating reflection and action.

“Mysticism is sometimes conceived of as being esoteric and removed from everyday experience. In this beautiful and moving theological reflection on two twentieth-century communities of martyrs, Maria Clara Bingemer reveals the vital mysticism of solidarity and accompaniment that was at the heart of their lives and their witness; one that continues to speak to us in our own time. An important and necessary work.”

—Douglas E. Christie, professor of theological studies, Loyola Marymount University

“In this beautifully translated work, Maria Clara Bingemer has joined her expertise in Ignatian discernment with a vivid recounting of how the monks of Tibhirine and the Salvadoran martyrs gave themselves over to God. This hope-filled and deeply reflective narrative allows Catholics to awaken from the mere dream of synodality to see it before their very eyes as a concrete reality in history. Three cheers for Bingemer’s latest spiritual masterpiece!”

—Peter Casarella, professor of theology, Duke Divinity School

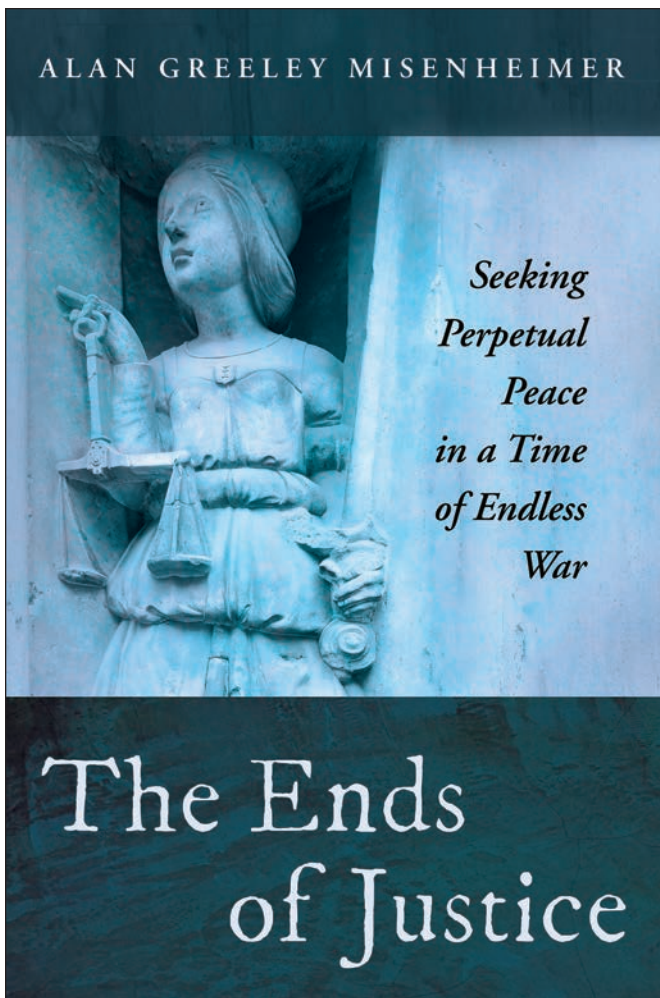
“This book is a timely reflection on the relationship of contemplation and action. Maria Clara Bingemer gives us a window into a new style of mysticism that is open to the divine in the other and simultaneously immersed in a violent world. The witness of these two communities inspires a profound hope that living for others is possible.”

—William T. Cavanaugh, professor of Catholic studies, DePaul University

“Taking readers into a space of quiet and stillness, this book invites us to journey into the worlds of Christian De Chergé and Ignacio Ellacuría, to know more intimately these two extraordinary disciples. Their prayer, thought, and leadership crossed boundaries of difference by which they offered and continue to offer the world an exquisite gift. Maria Clara Bingemer richly honors their gift in these pages. A wonderful, spiritual feast.”

—Nancy Pineda-Madrid, chair of Catholic theology, Loyola Marymount University

MARIA CLARA BINGEMER is Brazilian, married, mother, and grandmother. She has a PhD in Theology from the Gregorian University in Rome. Bingemer is professor of theology at the Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (PUC-Rio) where she teaches fundamental theology and the theology of God. Her research goes in the direction of studying the experience of God in the modern and contemporary world. Therefore, she has written in many languages about the experience of God, Saint Ignatius Loyola, Simone Weil, and women mystics in today’s world. Bingemer has also published considerably about the dialogue between theology and literature.



The Ends of Justice

Seeking Perpetual Peace in a Time of Endless War

ALAN GREELEY MISENHEIMER

978-1-6667-5394-3 | 288 p. | \$30

US forces have been engaged around the globe since World War II, and “endless” war has become the backdrop of American life. This militarized status quo is rife with contradiction. The Constitution requires a congressional declaration of war, yet the executive branch routinely acts alone to dispatch forces and launch attacks. The norms of republican self-governance stipulate alignment between popular will and public policy, yet our post-9/11 wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and elsewhere have proceeded without public support and often despite public opposition. These wars became endless precisely because they lacked declared ends. Like the mythical Cyclops, the United States has embraced perpetual conflict as an end in itself. This is unacceptable, and un-American. Our history and our values demand a national security policy that recognizes the hard-wired human longing for justice as the key to decisions of peace and war. As citizens of a self-governing republic, we must ensure that US wars are fought with discrimination and proportionality, undertaken for legitimate, significant, transparent, and achievable goals, and entered as a last resort in the pursuit of justice.

“Combining a rich grasp of Greco-Roman literature on war with his impressive knowledge of American perspectives from the forefathers to the present day, Alan Misenheimer argues for a more rigorous application of *jus ad bellum* standards. In elegant prose, he offers a powerful and persuasive rejection of the contemporary acquiescence to war.”

—Terrence Reynolds, associate professor emeritus of theology, Georgetown University

“Dr. Misenheimer’s book is a compelling, well-crafted plea for us to confront our hypotheses about war and peace as we face the challenges of our time. War is serious business, and peace no less so. At a time when the world seeks to end old wars while facing the threat of new ones, Dr. Misenheimer’s call to replace ‘auto-pilot’ assumptions—especially the view that conflict is inevitable and peace unattainable—with an emphasis on justice offers a message for citizens and leaders alike. His rich examination of our heritage shows how the past can illuminate today’s national security decisions.”

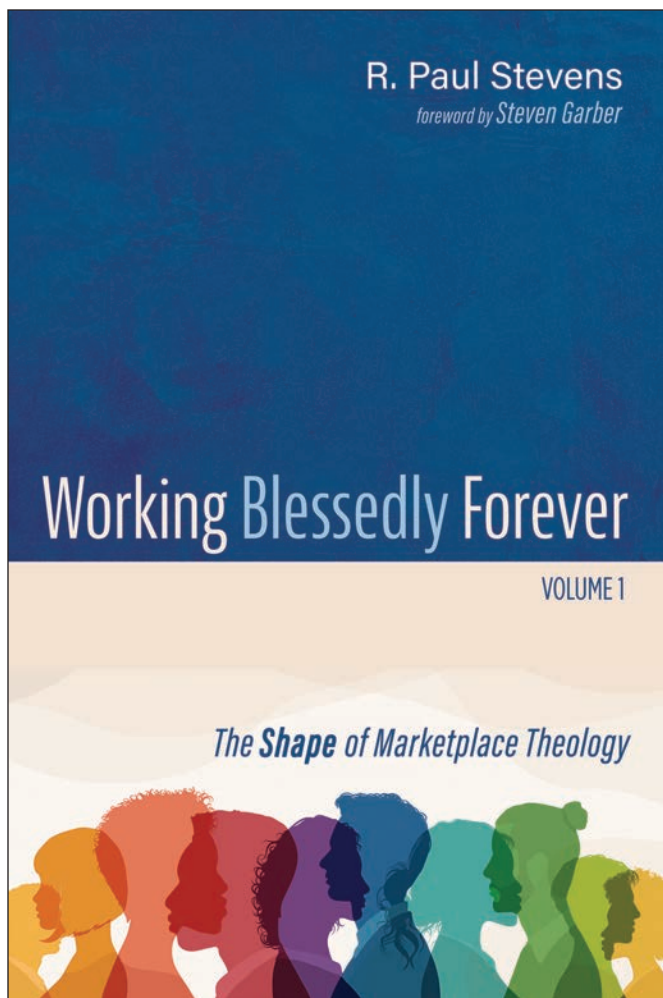
—General Darren W. McDew, U.S. Air Force (Ret), former Commander of United States Transportation Command

“This is a truly important work that US citizens should read to avoid the mistakes of the past, including recently in Afghanistan, Iraq, and elsewhere, regarding war and peace. Drawing both on his vast professional experience and copious scholarly research, Alan Misenheimer provides an engaging and persuasive account concerning the need for citizens to become better informed about what justice requires when it comes to embarking upon, conducting, and ending war.”

—Tobias Winright, professor of moral theology, St. Patrick’s Pontifical University

DR. ALAN GREELEY MISENHEIMER recently retired after a thirty-five-year career as a diplomat with the US State Department. His assignments focused primarily on areas of conflict in the Near East, North Africa, and Central Asia, including Yemen, Iraq, and Afghanistan.





Working Blessedly Forever, Volume 1

The Shape of Marketplace Theology

R. PAUL STEVENS

978-1-6667-5710-1 | Forthcoming

Work, whether from home, in cyberspace, or in a factory or office, occupies a major chunk of our time, energy, and soul. This book seeks to make sense of our work in the world through adapting the pithy statement of the Puritan William Perkins to define marketplace theology as the “science of working blessedly forever.” It is a science involving investigation, but not just with the head (thought), but also with heart (prayer) and hand (practice). But it is a science of working. So the book investigates a theology of work undertaken in the light of God’s blessing and purpose. And our work is not just for this life but “forever,” since some of it could last into the new heaven and new earth where, guess what, Scripture says we will work as fully human and resurrected beings. Stevens gathers his lifetime of research and teaching into this book showing through biblical research and contemporary analysis the meaning of work and human enterprise. It could change your lifestyle, your work style, and your soul.

“In this volume, R. Paul Stevens embarks on a journey to guide his readers to live a blessed life through working for the glory of God. The book integrates marketplace theology concepts with the author’s personal stories and experiences, providing readers with provocative insights towards being blessed, to bless, and to stay blessed in our daily work. We learn that we can experience spiritual growth and actively contemplate God’s presence through our daily work.”

—Jean Lee, professor of theological studies, China Graduate School of Theology

“In a world of anxiety, societal breakdown, global insecurities, and the all-pervasive threat of climate change, it is easy to become self-focused and defensive, even as Christians. But R. Paul Stevens’s marketplace theology calls us into a very different way of thinking and being. Rather than only a Sunday faith, marketplace theology provides the vision of living the kingdom of God in the most basic of human activity—our daily work. What a vision! How incarnational! How practical! And so needed, today!”

—Charles Ringma, professor emeritus of missions and evangelism, Regent College

“R. Paul Stevens’s approach is grounded in practical and life-giving interpretations of Scripture, avoiding fluff and generic recipes. He uses history and contextualization to synthesize the essence of the marketplace, making the theology both highly academic and intensely practical. The writing style is

accessible to both academics and non-academics. The author does not seek to convince but rather enlightens readers with his insights. His approach is compelling, providing a rich and relevant understanding of work through a theological lens.”

—Willy Kotiuga, chair of the Board of Regents, Bakke Graduate University

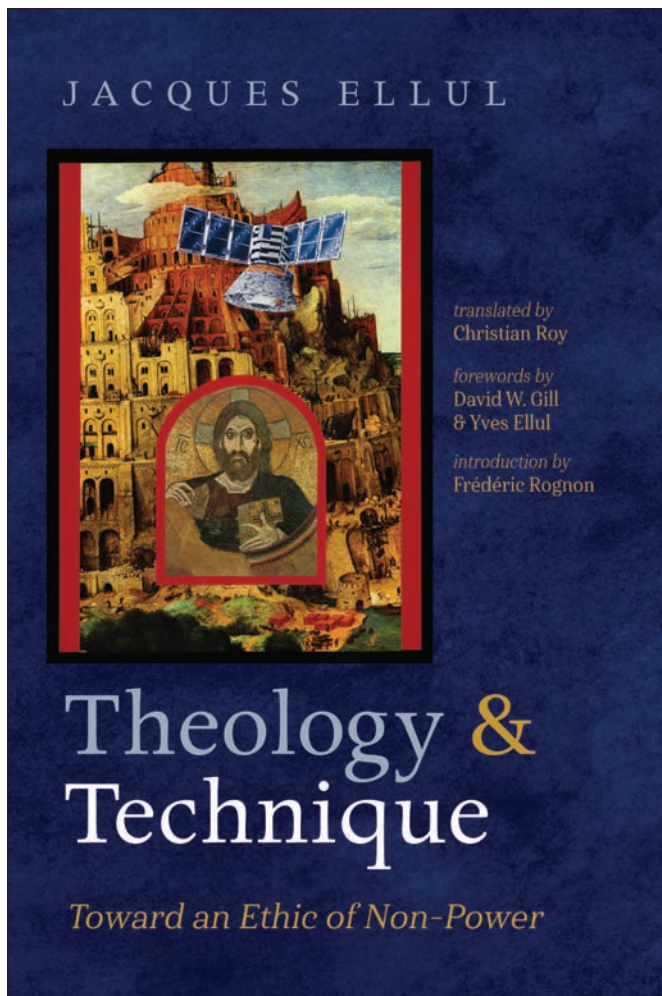
“R. Paul Stevens is the most experienced teacher of the theology of work in our generation—and possibly in any generation. He is also the rare theological professor who has taught as many marketplace Christians as he has pastors and academics, maybe more. Here he distills a lifetime of experience, study, wisdom and passion for anyone who wants to understand how the Bible applies to work.”

—William Messenger, executive editor, Theology of Work Project

“R. Paul Stevens had sensed ‘something missing’ in his experience of working, so he left his pastor-role for several years to become a day-laborer. No wonder his words on work are so authentic. Now, decades later, as he says, ‘Marketplace theology takes time, indeed a lifetime.’ Stevens has spent his own long lifetime exploring God’s revelation about our daily work. Now, in this book, he has distilled for us the essential elements of his hard-won insights.”

—Larry Peabody, author of *God Loves Your Work*

R. PAUL STEVENS is professor emeritus of marketplace theology at Regent College, Vancouver, and chairman of the Institute for Marketplace Transformation. He teaches, writes, and practices what he writes as a carpenter, a homemaker, a professor, and a husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. His most recent book among many is *The Kingdom of God in Working Clothes: The Marketplace and the Reign of God* (Wipf & Stock, 2022).



Theology and Technique

Toward an Ethic of Non-Power

JACQUES ELLUL

978-1-7252-5977-5 | 296 p. | \$37

Theology and Technique is a posthumous, incomplete volume drafted in the 1970s that nevertheless constitutes a significant addition to the Ellul corpus. Working from Jacques Ellul's original outline, a collaborative team including three of Ellul's children, a grandson, and Ellul scholars has assembled previous partial publications that Ellul himself approved for eventual incorporation along with relevant unpublished essays and notes into a book which throws the relationship between Ellul's radical theology and sociological critique into fresh perspective. Frédéric Rognon contributes an especially insightful general introduction. The translation by Christian Roy is a model of rendering the complexities of the French original into English. This latest Ellul publication will be essential to any serious attempt to appreciate the scope and depth of Ellul's Christian engagement with the challenges of the contemporary world.

"The challenge of technique or technology is a central theme in Jacques Ellul's theology. This volume is a necessary addition to the Ellul corpus for anyone who wishes a full appreciation of his thought."

—Carl Mitcham, author of *Theology and Technology*

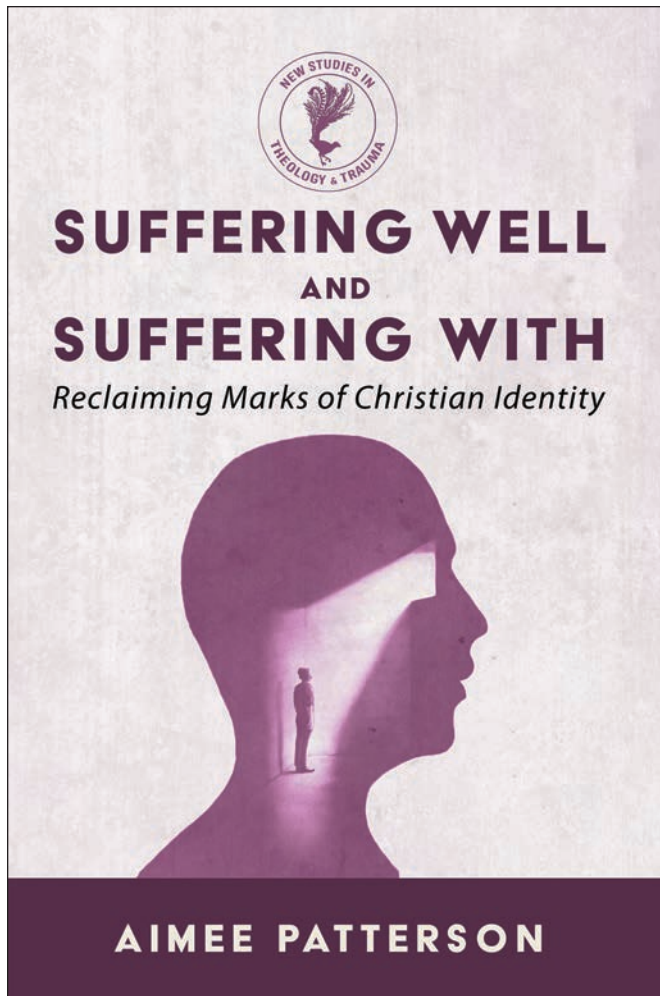
"The keystone of Jacques Ellul's whole work, this posthumous edition of *Theology and Technique* gives us the genuine meaning of the dialectics between his sociology and his theology. It shows the way of an ethic of Non-Power to understand how to live as Christians in the technological society today. Very stimulating!"

—Frédéric Rognon, professor of philosophy, University of Strasbourg

"This remarkable text helps us piece together Jacques Ellul's life project of thinking theologically about the social and historical reality he called *Technique*. I commend Christian Roy's careful translation of the 2014 French edition, which includes Frédéric Rognon's masterful introduction summarizing Ellul's enduring contribution. This is essential reading for anyone wanting to think theologically about technology today, informed by the voice of Jacques Ellul."

—Matthew Prior, tutor and lecturer in ethics, St. Mellitus College

JACQUES ELLUL (1912–94) was a French law professor, social theorist, and lay theologian, teaching at the University of Bordeaux, France. Among his fifty-eight published books and writings, his best-known works include *The Technological Society*, *Propaganda*, *Presence in the Modern World*, and *The Humiliation of the Word*.



Suffering Well and Suffering With Reclaiming Marks of Christian Identity

NEW STUDIES IN THEOLOGY AND TRAUMA

AIMEE PATTERSON

978-1-6667-6545-8 | 154 p. | \$22

We live in a society that has little tolerance for suffering. Suffering is not only unpleasant. Profound, innocent suffering can upend our sense of identity. Yet, we push suffering people to the periphery to avoid an uncomfortable truth: We are all subject to suffering. In a time when Christian churches suffer the loss of authority, influence, and membership, Patterson challenges the idea that we need such power to live on earth as in heaven. Only God can transform suffering into joy. Drawing on her experience with cancer, Patterson claims Christians hold certain responsibilities while we wait for this transformation. Revisiting the story of Job, she confronts the problem of suffering and what it takes to suffer well. This sets the scene for what a fleshy, wounded Jesus Christ calls us to do: use suffering to build compassionate relationships with others who suffer.

“Aimee Patterson knows the deep, excruciating, endless realities of suffering. In this book she moves readers to feel the pain, to know the bodily, intellectual, and emotional suffering in their bones, to consider the morality of suffering including the necessity of suffering with others who ache, agonize, and grieve. With beautiful clarity she places the power of *suffering well* and *suffering with* before our eyes, urging us to faithful action.”

—Roy R. Jeal, professor emeritus of religion, Booth University College

“In this open, honest, and profound reflection, Aimee Patterson brilliantly takes us through a diagnosis to the isolating power of illness, to transformation, to questions of theodicy, to a superb retelling of Job, and to a reclaiming of Christianity as a faith of and for suffering. This book—a call for us to be present to and in our shared vulnerability—is an invaluable one for a church and a world that is in dire need of a renewed commitment to the sacred ministry of suffering (well) with others.”

—Cory Andrew Labrecque, professor and chair of bioethics and theological ethics, Université Laval

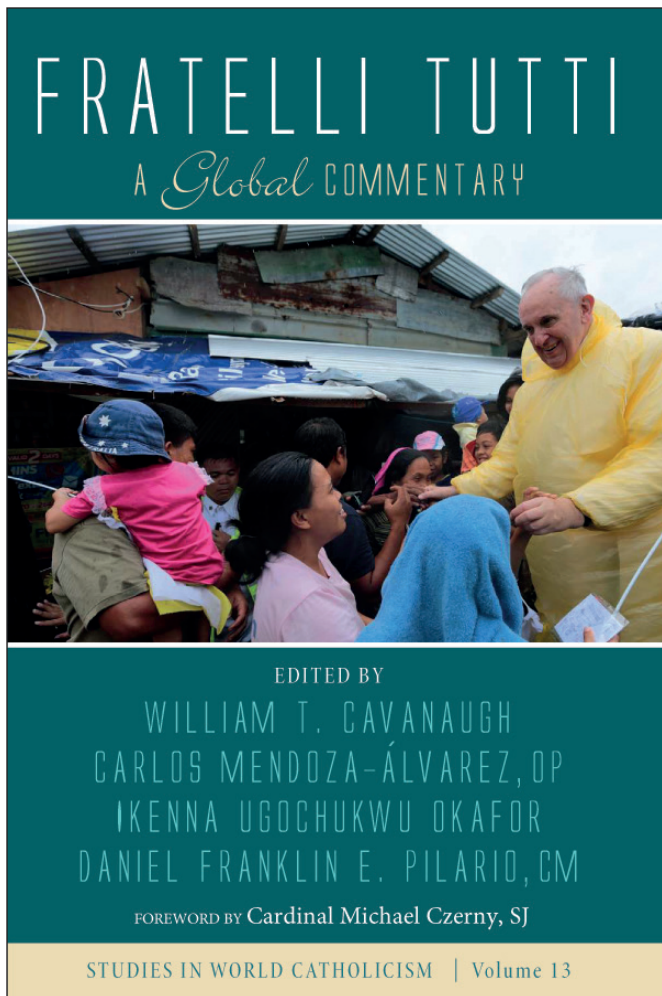
“This powerful book offers a rare combination of academic substance and personal testimony. Aimee Patterson’s traumatic story is moving in and of itself, and she tells it with courageous honesty. But her rich theological analysis transforms the story into a challenging and hope-filled prescription for a post-Christendom church that has forgotten how to suffer well and suffer with others. It is a profound contribution that will inspire scholars and church leaders alike.”

—James E. Pedlar, chair of Wesley studies, Tyndale University

“Aimee Patterson’s book combines an authenticity born out of her personal experience as a young wife and mother who unexpectedly was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor and her deep knowledge of the Christian tradition to help us think about what it means to suffer well and to suffer with (others). When I finished reading the book I felt as though I had been treading on sacred ground.”

—Donald E. Burke, professor of biblical studies, Booth University College

AIMEE PATTERSON is a Christian ethicist at The Salvation Army Ethics Centre and adjunct faculty at Booth University College. Patterson holds a PhD in religious ethics from McGill University and wrote her dissertation on the ethics of care at the end of life. She is a repeat award winner with the Canadian Christian Communicators Association. This book is an outcome of Patterson’s personal experiences with suffering and compassion.



Fratelli Tutti

A Global Commentary

STUDIES IN WORLD CATHOLICISM

EDITED BY **WILLIAM T. CAVANAUGH, CARLOS MENDOZA-ÁLVAREZ, AND IKENNA UGOCHUKWU OKAFOR, AND DANIEL FRANKLIN E. PILARIO**

978-1-6667-1997-0 | 340 p. | \$43

This volume is the first truly global commentary on a papal encyclical. Pope Francis published *Fratelli Tutti* in October 2020 in the midst of interrelated global crises: climate catastrophe, ongoing racial injustice, a widening gap between the rich and the desperately poor, battles over human migration, the rise of authoritarian politics, and the erosion of democracy, all exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The encyclical provided a sobering assessment of the devastation but also a hopeful vision of solidarity and healing. The responses in this book not only reflect on *Fratelli Tutti* from a great diversity of locations and perspectives but also attempt to model Francis's call to fraternity and sorority within this volume. In these pages, scholars from around the world create a conversation meant to embody one of the virtues that Francis elicits in the encyclical: creative openness to the reciprocal gifts of others. This book takes up Pope Francis's invitation to continue talking, thinking, and acting, always in a climate of both confidence and audacity, to promote social friendship among the people of the world.

"This is the first commentary on Pope Francis's encyclical on fraternity and social friendship, but it is hard to imagine it ever being surpassed. Such is the breadth and depth of this extraordinary work that stands as a genuinely worthy companion to an encyclical that powerfully calls us to recognize ourselves as children of the same God."

—James F. Keenan, SJ, professor of theology, Boston College

"This book is a powerful commentary on the encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*, where Pope Francis convokes Christians to fraternity, departing from a particular local level in order to build a global ethics. Through the various perspectives rises and shines the central proposal of the document: to convert from current logic of competition and interest to the logic of fraternity and love."

—Maria Clara Bingemer, professor of theology, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro

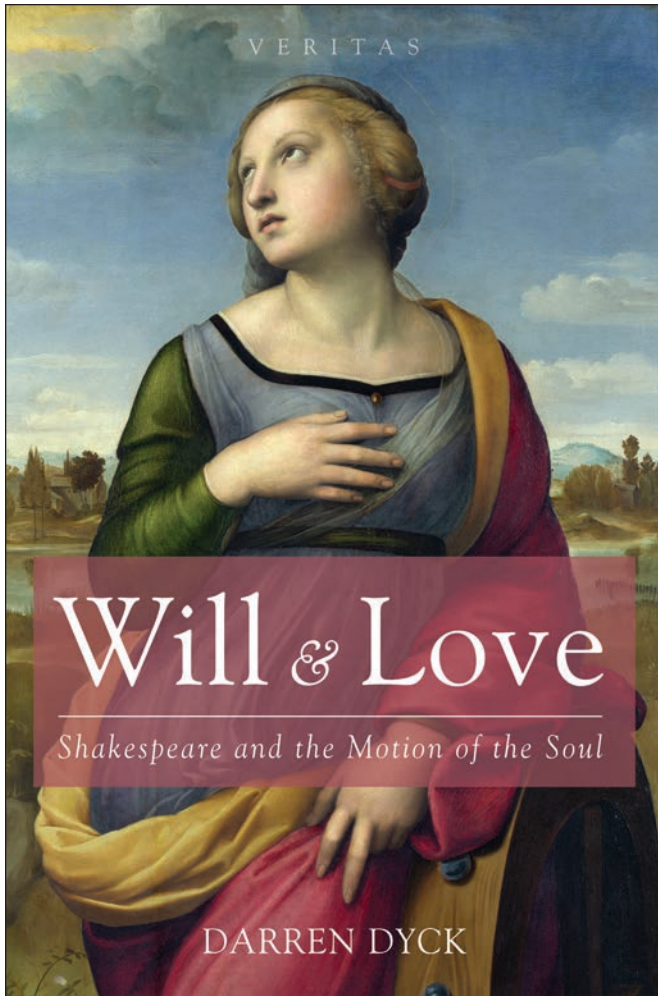
WILLIAM T. CAVANAUGH is director of the Center for World Catholicism and Intercultural Theology and professor of Catholic studies at DePaul University in Chicago. His areas of specialization are political theology, economic ethics, and ecclesiology. His publications include *Field Hospital: The Church's Engagement in Markets, Politics, and Conflict*; *Migrations of the Holy: Theologies of State and Church*; and *The Myth of Religious Violence: Secular Ideology and the Roots of Modern Conflict*.

CARLOS MENDOZA-ÁLVAREZ, OP, is a tenured professor in the Department of Theology at Boston College and a member of the board of directors of *Concilium: International Journal of Theology*. His fundamental theology develops a critical dialogue with late modernity. He has published twenty-five collective works, over fifty journal articles, and eight books, the latest of which is *La resurrección como insurrección mesiánica: Duelo, memoria y esperanza desde los sobrevivientes* (2019).

IKENNA U. Okafor is a Nigerian-born adjunct professor of intercultural theology at the University of Vienna and a pastor in the Archdiocese of Vienna. His research interests are in themes related to fraternity, intercultural and interreligious relations, and African theology. He is the author of *Toward an African Theology of Fraternal Solidarity: UBE NWANNE* (Pickwick, 2014) and the co-editor of volumes 2 and 3 of *Faith in Action*, also published by Pickwick.

DANIEL FRANKLIN PILARIO, CM, is an associate professor at St. Vincent School of Theology and director of research at Adamson University in Manila. He received his PhD in theology and religious studies and *Sacra Theologia Doctor* (SThD) from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium. His publications focus on theological method, inculturation, political theology, Catholic social teaching, human rights, and ecology. He also serves as a minister of a garbage dump parish in Quezon City, Philippines.





Will & Love

Shakespeare and the Motion of the Soul

VERITAS

DARREN DYCK

978-1-6667-3836-0 | 302 p. | \$37

Will & Love examines four of Shakespeare's love plays (*Romeo and Juliet*, *Troilus and Cressida*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Antony and Cleopatra*) in light of the Augustinian psychology at the heart of the theological romance tradition. This tradition, which Shakespeare inherits from medieval theologian-poets such as Boethius, Dante, Petrarch, and Chaucer, issues from the idea, initially expressed by Augustine in his *Confessions*, that love functions as volitional weight, as a kind of magnetism or almost-gravitational force—that it *moves* the lover in mysterious ways yet without diminishing his or her agency. *Will & Love* highlights Shakespeare's conception of love in terms of motion and explores the metaphysical, ethical, psychological, and dramatic implications of his doing so.

“What if Shakespeare's deepest inquiries into love were receptions of the Augustinian inheritance, according to which love is a divine and human motion within us? In close readings of four plays, Dyck shows the next step in theological readings of Shakespeare, demonstrating the multifaceted ways these plays test and transform received ideas about God and creatures. This is a brilliantly conceived book.”

—Anthony D. Baker, Seminary of the Southwest

“As a believer in intellectual history, I am glad to see Darren Dyck's *Will & Love*. It is a lucid and forceful genealogy of Augustine's conceptual impact on Shakespeare, by way of Dante, Petrarch, and Chaucer. It is one of those works that recovers a whole atmosphere of thought, bringing ideas to life through accomplished readings of major texts.”

—Lee Oser, College of the Holy Cross

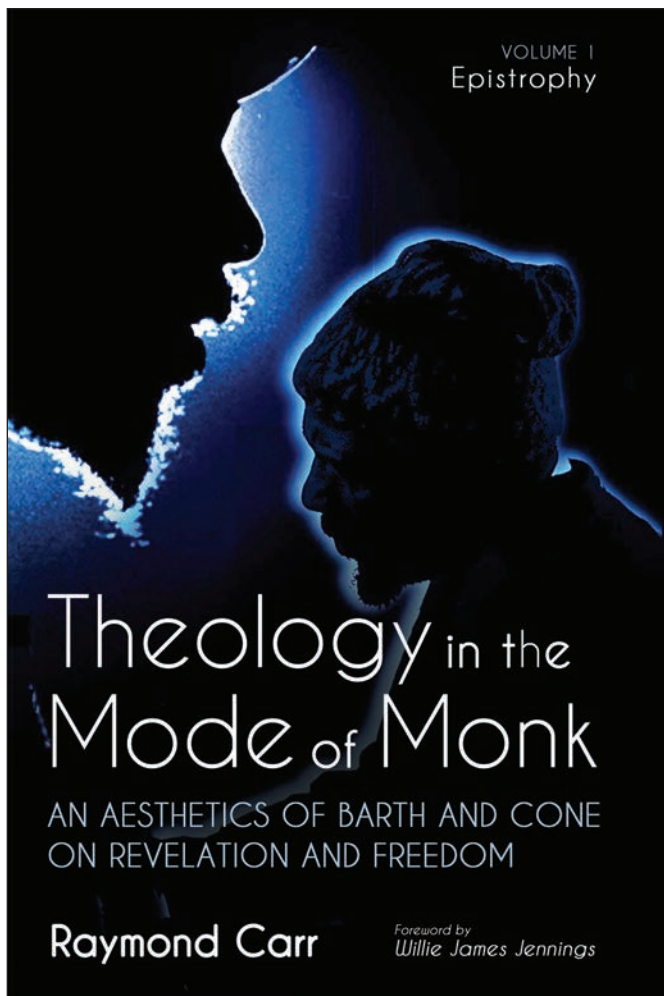
“By carefully close reading some of Shakespeare's best-loved plays, Dyck persuasively situates Shakespeare within the theological romance tradition. The book tracks Shakespeare's career-long engagement with love as it develops across comedies, tragedies, and ‘problem plays.’ It is an ambitious task, but Dyck succeeds.”

—Andrew Moore, St. Thomas University

“In this rich work of literary history, Darren Dyck uncovers an Augustinian tradition of ‘theological romance,’ which sees love as the moving force of human will and agency. Dyck shows how this theological understanding of love animates the psychology and action of some of Shakespeare's great lovers. The book makes a compelling case for reading Shakespeare in conversation with the literature and theology of the Christian medieval tradition.”

—Ben Myers, Alphacrucis University College

DARREN DYCK is Associate Professor of English at Ambrose University in Calgary, Alberta.



Theology in the Mode of Monk: Epistrophy, Volume 1

An Aesthetics of Barth and Cone
on Revelation and Freedom

RAYMOND CARR

978-1-5326-7153-1 | 238 p. | \$29

This captivating study engages two of the most influential theologians of the twentieth century: Karl Barth, the Swiss Protestant theologian, who constructed his theology “from above” and engaged the powers in the background of Nazi Germany, and James H. Cone, the father of Black Theology in America, who constructed his theology “from below” and confronted white racism—the most intractable issue in America’s history. In this three-volume project, Carr employs the aesthetic thinking of the jazz legend Thelonious Monk to reconceptualize, restructure, and advance the theologies of Barth and Cone. This first volume appeals to the Bebop tune “Epistrophy” as the analogical framework for (re)conceptualizing the historical form and hermeneutical backgrounds of Karl Barth and James H. Cone. Monk’s mode of musical thinking establishes the aesthetic theological architecture Carr uses to reiterate and reimagine the revolutionary theological contributions Barth and Cone

“Many of us who know the brilliance of Raymond Carr have waited for these volumes. They are epic. Here in volume 1, Carr sets the stage for an astounding re-reading of Karl Barth and James Cone through the music of Thelonious Monk. The depth, subtlety, and artistic dexterity through which he articulates Barth and Cone’s theological projects is unmatched by any text I have ever read. This book is a turning point in Barth studies and emerging Cone studies.”

—Willie Jennings, associate professor of systematic theology and Africana studies, Yale Divinity School

Raymond Carr is one of the few groundbreaking and path-blazing theologians of his generation! This magisterial trilogy on three of the towering spiritual giants of the past one hundred years gives us new terrain in our grim and dim times.”

—Cornel West, professor of philosophy and Christian practice, Union Theological Seminary

“Thelonious Monk’s unprecedented aesthetics allow Raymond Carr to innovate brilliantly a mode that creates the interpenetration of James H. Cone and Karl Barth as supplementation and correction in counterpoint. In this groundbreaking first volume, Carr, himself a theological jazz creator and trickster

theoretician, deploys history and interpretation to set us up for the Monkian melodies in his forthcoming volumes 2 and 3!”

—Dwight N. Hopkins, professor of theology, University of Chicago

“Raymond Carr undertakes an audacious attempt to construct ‘irregular theology’ in an aesthetic mode through which Karl Barth encounters James Cone. He interrogates and advances Barth’s thinking of freedom (Mozartean) down a line that includes James Cone’s spirituals and blues and Thelonious Monk’s jazz. In Carr’s groundbreaking proposal, Friedrich-Wilhelm Marquardt’s ‘logos of society’ finds significance in the Black experience of sociopolitical struggle. Do not miss this book!”

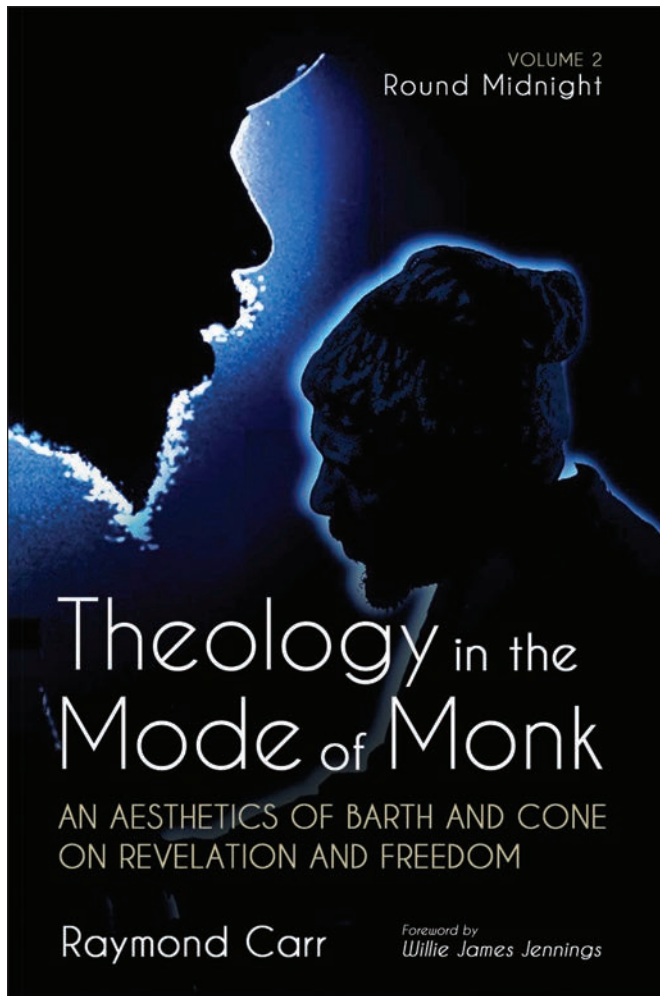
—Paul S. Chung, director, Karl Barth and Public Theology Center

“Raymond Carr is the *Conjunto Cat!* ‘Conjunto’ is Spanish for ‘to join together’ or a ‘set’ or a musical group. In *Theology in the Mode of Monk*, Carr has arranged a new polygonal bandstand on which appears a theological vision and practice whose main players are Karl Barth, James Cone, and Thelonious Monk! Watch out! Give a listen! Read deep! *Conjunto* can also mean totality, everybody! Come onstage by reading this book and join Raymond Carr’s *conjunto*.”

—David Carrasco, professor of the study of Latin America, Harvard Divinity School

RAYMOND CARR is an international public theologian. His research interests are theologically ecumenical, historically sensitive, and radically inclusive. He is a visiting professor and director of the Codex Charles H. Long Papers Project at Harvard Divinity School, a research scholar at the Moses Mesoamerican Archive and Research Project at Harvard University, and the president elect of the Society for the Study of Black Religion (SSBR).





Theology in the Mode of Monk: Round Midnight, Volume 2

An Aesthetics of Barth and Cone
on Revelation and Freedom

RAYMOND CARR

978-1-6667-4520-7 | 224 p. | \$27

This captivating study engages two of the most influential theologians of the twentieth century: Karl Barth, the Swiss Protestant theologian, who constructed his theology “from above” and engaged the powers in the background of Nazi Germany, and James H. Cone, the father of Black Theology in America, who constructed his theology “from below” and confronted white racism—the most intractable issue in America’s history. In this three-volume project, Carr employs the aesthetic thinking of the jazz legend Thelonious Monk to reconceptualize, restructure, and advance the theologies of Barth and Cone. This second volume appeals to Monk’s tune “Round Midnight” as the ground for articulating the meaning between Christ, the *Cantus Firmus*, and the social histories of Karl Barth and James Cone. Monk’s encouragement to “improvise on the melody” is heard as the ground-tone for a new form of christological reflection.

“This third volume of Raymond Carr’s magisterial comparison of Karl Barth and James Cone retraces the meaning of the political for both these luminaries. Carr in a way unmatched by any interpreter of Barth and Cone lays side by side their notions of freedom and articulates their architecture both historically and theologically through the musicality of Monk. With these three volumes the ground has shifted and Karl Barth and James Cone may now be read together far more productively.”

—Willie Jennings, associate professor of systematic theology and Africana studies, Yale Divinity School

Raymond Carr is one of the few groundbreaking and path-blazing theologians of his generation! This magisterial trilogy on three of the towering spiritual giants of the past one hundred years gives us new terrain in our grim and dim times.”

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“Thelonious Monk’s unprecedented aesthetics allow Raymond Carr to innovate brilliantly a mode that creates the interpenetration of James H. Cone and Karl Barth as supplementation and correction in counterpoint. In this ground-

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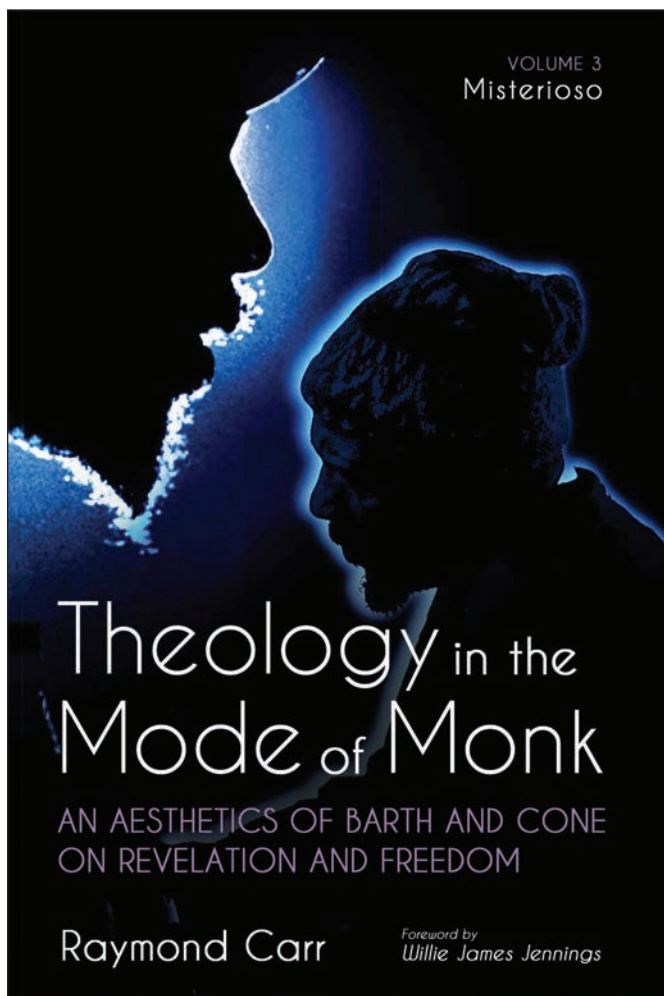
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Theology in the Mode of Monk: Misterioso, Volume 3

An Aesthetics of Barth and Cone on Revelation and Freedom

RAYMOND CARR

978-1-6667-4525-2 | 196 p. | \$26

This captivating study engages two of the most influential theologians of the twentieth century: Karl Barth, the Swiss Protestant theologian, who constructed his theology “from above” and engaged the powers in the background of Nazi Germany, and James H. Cone, the father of Black Theology in America, who constructed his theology “from below” and confronted white racism—the most intractable issue in America’s history. In this three-volume project, Carr employs the aesthetic thinking of the jazz legend Thelonious Monk to reconceptualize, restructure, and advance the theologies of Barth and Cone. In this final volume, Carr appeals to Thelonious Monk’s tune “Misterioso” as the framework for Monk’s musical thinking as a coherent image to explore the freedom of God as the groundtone for black liberation. He encourages theologians to play in the mystery of God’s freedom as the true ground for living freely within the world of the principalities and powers.

“This third volume of Raymond Carr’s magisterial comparison of Karl Barth and James Cone retraces the meaning of the political for both these luminaries. Carr in a way unmatched by any interpreter of Barth and Cone lays side by side their notions of freedom and articulates their architecture both historically and theologically through the musicality of Monk. With these three volumes the ground has shifted and Karl Barth and James Cone may now be read together far more productively.”

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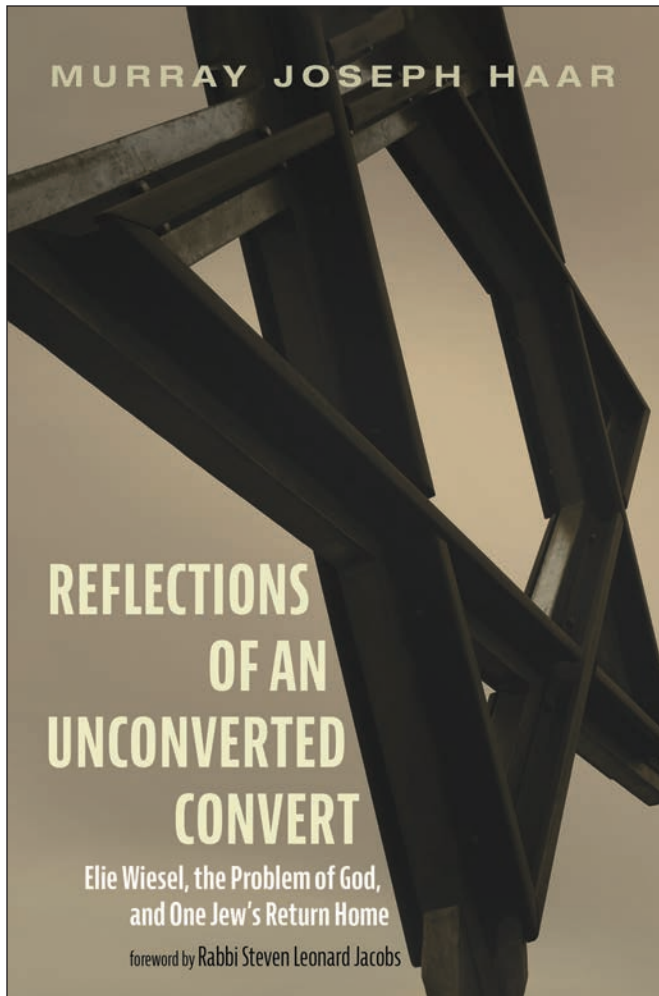
“Raymond Carr undertakes an audacious attempt to construct ‘irregular theology’ in an aesthetic mode through which Karl Barth encounters James Cone. He interrogates and advances Barth’s thinking of freedom (Mozartean) down a line that includes James Cone’s spirituals and blues and Thelonious Monk’s jazz. In Carr’s groundbreaking proposal, Friedrich-Wilhelm Marquardt’s ‘logos of society’ finds significance in the Black experience of sociopolitical struggle. Do not miss this book!”

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Reflections of an Unconverted Convert

Elie Wiesel, the Problem of God,
and One Jew's Return Home

MURRAY JOSEPH HAAR

978-1-6667-3056-2 | 118 p. | \$19

This is the story of Dr. Murray Haar's odyssey from Jewish tradition to Christianity and back again. As the child of Holocaust survivors, he struggled with questions of God and faith and finally left the religious tradition of his youth behind. He became an ordained Lutheran pastor and professor at a midwestern Lutheran College. Ultimately, through the influence of Elie Wiesel, he found the way back home to the Jewish tradition and community of his birth.

"Murray Haar's story—no, his journey away from and his return to his Jewish roots and identity—sets his book far apart from those recounted by other children of Holocaust survivors, me included. It deserves not only a wide readership by both Jews and Christians and others but important conversations as well, for he has much to teach us all about life and faith in the aftermath of this horrific tragedy."

—Steven Leonard Jacobs, University of Alabama, from the foreword

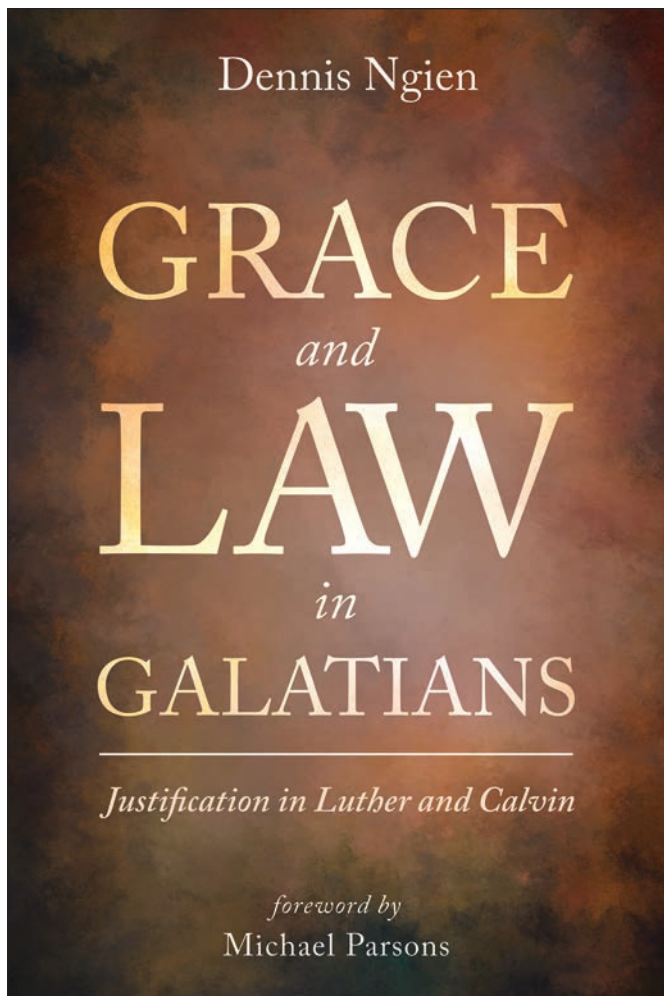
"It may be too late to hear the cries of living Holocaust survivors—witnesses like Elie Wiesel of blessed memory. Yet we can still hear their children. As an 'unconverted convert,' Murray Haar offers just such a voice. Like Wiesel, resplendent with interrogative power, Haar refuses to let God off the hook of Holocaust betrayal and death. With impassioned questions, Haar confronts the problem of God. It's a privilege to listen."

—Franklin Arthur Wilson, retired senior pastor, Luther Memorial Church

"Through the prism of Elie Wiesel, Israel's rich but underappreciated lament tradition, the book of Job, and his own experiences in both the Jewish and Christian faiths, Murray Haar explores what it means to speak honestly and faithfully about God after the Holocaust. Haar skillfully weaves memoir, midrash, and musings about the problem of God together in a discussion of how what happened 'in those days' remains deeply relevant for honest faith in our current day."

—John E. Anderson, Presentation College

MURRAY HAAR is a retired professor of religion and Jewish studies. He holds a doctorate in biblical studies from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. He taught courses in Judaism, Islam, world religions, and the Holocaust at Augustana University for forty-three years.



Grace and Law in Galatians

Justification in Luther and Calvin

DENNIS NGIEN

978-1-6667-1840-9 | 196 p. | \$27

The author does not aim to defend Luther's and Calvin's reading of Galatians against modern biblical scholarship but to read and hear them in their own contexts. He grapples with major theological themes underlying their approach: law and gospel, active and passive righteousness, faith alone yet not alone, attribution of contraries between Christ and the justified saints, human love and God's love, Christ as gift and example, the creative power of God's word, union with Christ, the economic action of the Son, the role of Holy Spirit in the justified life, faith *in* Christ and the faith *of* Christ, the uses of the law, true identity as God's gift, flesh and Spirit, and radical discontinuity of the old existence and the re-creation of the new. Readers will learn from the Reformers how they apply a text or theological theme homiletically in a pastoral context and appreciate how their understanding of the gospel can spiritually nurture the life of faith.

"Understanding the theology of the reformers means understanding how they have read the Bible. Dennis Ngien's erudite study on Luther's and Calvin's interpretation of the Letter to the Galatians provides us with a thoroughly thoughtful and well-written exploration of how both reformers lifted the treasures of Paul's writing on the cross and on justification. Seeing both theologians focusing on a theology pro nobis, Ngien shows their message for today's church and theology."

—Volker Leppin, Yale Divinity School

"*Grace and Law in Galatians* does something original and significant. It is not primarily a study of how Luther and Calvin handled exegetical issues in the text, nor is it primarily a study of how Galatians shaped particular themes in their theology. Rather, it shows us how Paul's letter was an indispensable basis for their understanding and application of the gospel itself. Ngien offers an important resource to all those attempting to understand and apply the gospel."

—Stephen J. Chester, Wycliffe College

"Dennis Ngien has once again written a fantastic book. Brimming with original insights into Luther's and Calvin's engagement with Galatians, the reader is blessed with a sense of how the gospel enables us to live in Christ and in the neighbor. Ngien's scholarship is outstanding, his prose inviting, and most

importantly, his love of the Lord Jesus Christ, of whom he writes, overflowing. We are in his debts for providing us with such a book."

—Christopher R. J. Holmes, University of Otago

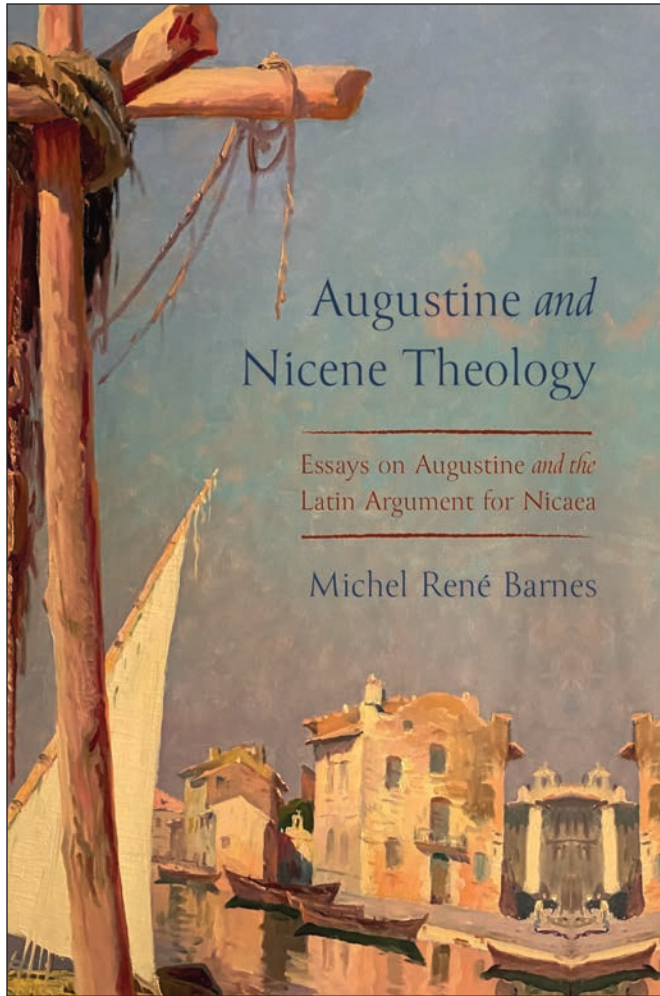
"While engaging numerous contemporary scholars of Luther and Calvin, the great value of Dennis Ngien's work is he lets both Reformers speak for themselves. Those who seek better to understand the Reformers on the doctrine of justification, the distinction of law and gospel, the nature of the sanctified life, and the assurance of salvation, will find Ngien an illuminating and accessible guide."

—John T. Pless, Concordia Theological Seminary

"The history of Lutheran-Reformed polemics has tended to occlude the substantial theological agreement between their founders. Ngien's fresh reading of Luther and Calvin on Paul's Letter to the Galatians is sympathetic, contextual, and pastoral as he explores the Reformers' respective theological nuances on a variety of important themes. Masterfully weaving together primary and secondary sources, Ngien's book is immensely readable, academically-sound, non-combative, and essential reading for all who take the Christian life seriously."

—Dennis Bielfeldt, president, Institute of Lutheran Theology

DENNIS NGIEN is research professor of theology at Tyndale University. Formerly the Alister E. McGrath Chair of Christian Thought and Spirituality, he is the author of several books including *Fruit for the Soul* (2015) and *Luther's Theology of the Cross* (Cascade, 2018).



Augustine and Nicene Theology

Essays on Augustine and the Latin Argument for Nicaea

MICHEL RENÉ BARNES

978-1-7252-9215-4 | 344 p. | \$42

This book draws together a collection of thirteen published and unpublished articles which together constitute a new reading of the character and development of Latin Trinitarian theology in the fourth and fifth centuries. The focus of the essays is on Augustine of Hippo (354–430 CE), but Augustine is treated here as an inheritor of earlier Latin tradition. Many of the figures of that tradition here receive a new interpretation—particularly Marius Victorinus. Augustine himself is explored from many angles; at every turn the developments in his theology are shown to be a response to the anti-Nicene theologies of the period.

The beginning of the book discusses the manner in which modern “systematic” theology has engaged Augustine only through a simplified version of late-nineteenth-century categories. In conclusion, the broader question of how far modern theology can actually engage Patristic theology is explored at length.

“Scholarship on Augustine’s Trinitarian theology has undergone a sea change. This wonderful collection provides us with some of the brilliant essays by means of which Michel’s work played a fundamental role in washing away the old paradigms, *and* it enables us to trace the process by which Michel’s work has gradually explored the rich and strange new landscape that is still emerging. Scholars of early Christian theology and modern theologians all need this book thrust before them.”

—Lewis Ayres, Durham University and Australian Catholic University

“Now in a collected form, Barnes’s essays most usefully show how Augustine and his predecessors must be more thoroughly contextualized within the theological-historical stream of pro-Nicene Latin theology. . . . The serious student of Augustine today cannot avoid the force of Barnes’s conclusions and will find in them a necessary set of correctives upon which future portraits of Augustine can be structured.”

—D. H. Williams, Baylor University

“In these masterful and edgy essays, Michel Barnes rescues Augustine from the zombiedom of neo-Scholastic Platonism and restores him to a vibrantly Latin tradition of reflection on the God who is Trinity. This is not a game of

historical nicety. Barnes wars against modern moralism and its retrospective refusal to treat Scripture as an intellectual idiom. He is that rarest of intellectuals: a faithful reader.”

—James Wetzel, Villanova University

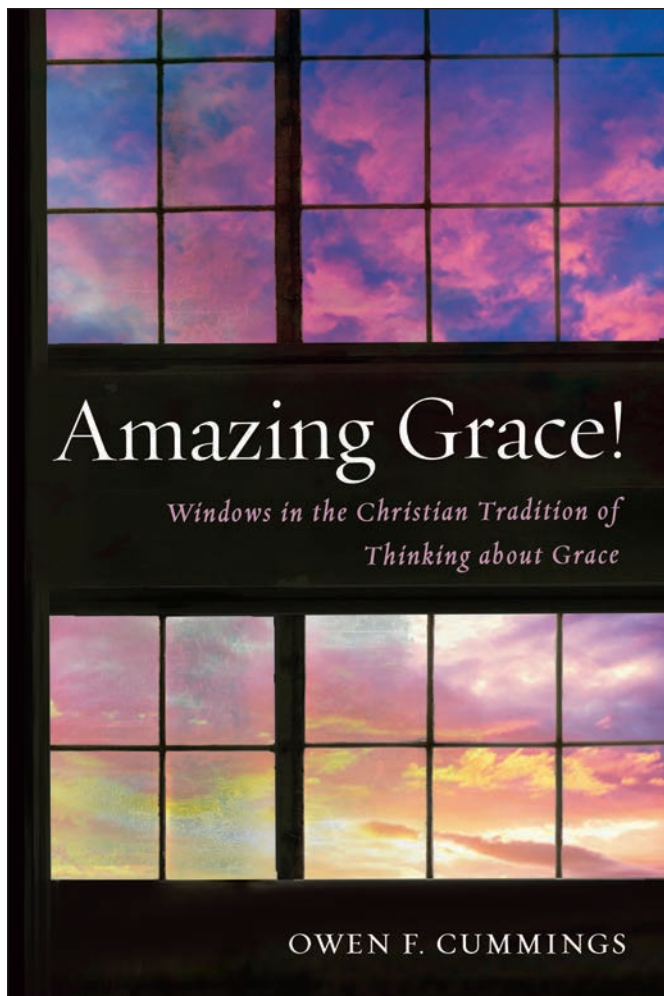
“These essays represent some of the richest and most profound work on the theology of the Trinity in our time. They are indispensable for the study of Augustine and will be an inspiration for anyone interested in the renewal of historical theology today. Highly recommended!”

—John Cavadini, University of Notre Dame

“This volume is the fruit of decades of scrupulous and often inspired scholarship. There is perhaps always more to be said about Augustine, but very few students of his writings continue to unearth theological riches as reliably as Barnes does. This book is a significant contribution to our understanding of the most consequential epoch in the history of Christian thought.”

—David Bentley Hart, author of *That All Shall Be Saved: Heaven, Hell, and Universal Salvation*

MICHEL RENÉ BARNES was for many years Associate Professor of Theology at Marquette University. He is also Director of the Augustine Agency and Research Library in Milwaukee. Among his many publications, he is the author of *The Power of God: Dynamis in Gregory of Nyssa’s Trinitarian Theology* (2001, 2016), and coeditor of *A Man of the Church: Honoring the Theology, Life, and Witness of Ralph del Colle* (2012).



Amazing Grace!

Windows in the Christian Tradition
of Thinking about Grace

OWEN F. CUMMINGS

978-1-6667-5629-6 | 118 p. | \$19

Grace is a *key reality* for all Christians of any denomination. More than that, it is a central *experience*. The history of grace is fascinating in and of itself. This little book offers a series of windows through which to see and understand how Christians in the past and in the present have thought about grace.

“Owen Cummings has thought, researched, taught, and lived his theology of the grace of God for decades. Now he has distilled it into a clear yet deep account of grace in Christian theology, viewed through vivid accounts of well-chosen key thinkers and texts. The result is a wise path through a complex topic, never losing sight of the essence of the matter: the utterly gracious, generous, healing, and transforming love of God.”

—David F. Ford, Regius Professor of Divinity Emeritus, University of Cambridge

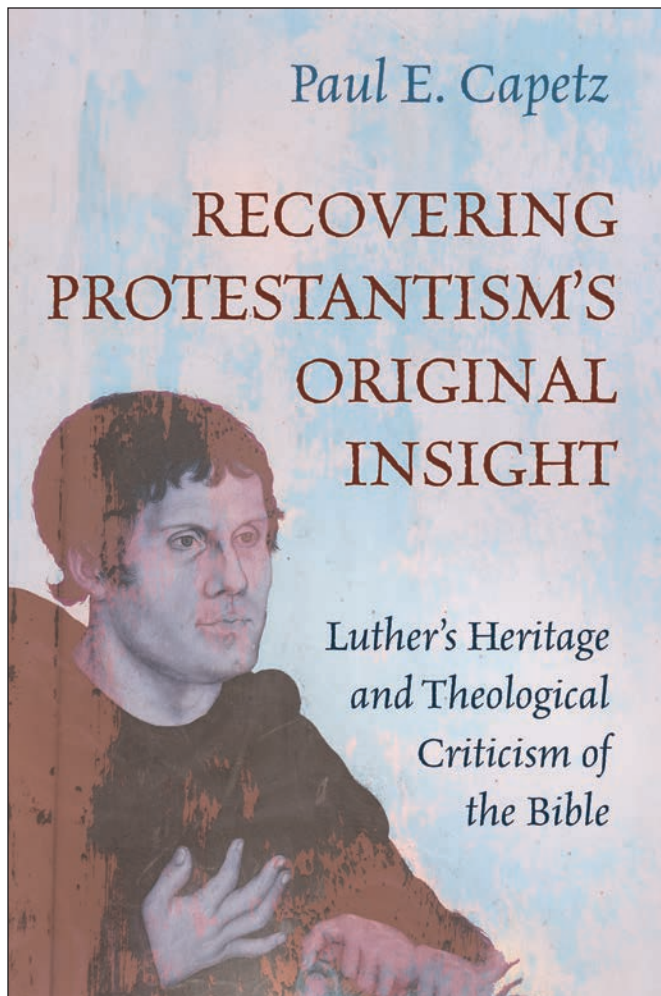
“In many previous books, Owen Cummings has shown a knack for making complicated theological matters clear. Here he applies that skill to the theology of grace, taking us to the heart of Christianity: divine gift and human gratitude. He has chosen wisely which windows to look through, allowing the reader to think their own way into the complexity and simplicity of grace.”

—Hugh Feiss, OSB, theologian and medievalist, Ascension Priory

“This book you are holding—what Owen Cummings humbly refers to as a ‘little primer on grace’—is the work of a mature and articulate theologian and a man of prayer. Each and every page of this little primer deepens the radiant mystery calling us under and beyond the seemingly relentless tensions within our churches today. Be kind to your heart; let this book lead you to these healing windows into the infinite hope at the center of God’s word for you.”

—Abbot Peter McCarthy, OCSO, Our Lady of Guadalupe Trappist Abbey

OWEN F. CUMMINGS is Distinguished Regents’ Professor of Theology at Mount Angel Seminary in Oregon. He is the author of over twenty books in theology and church history and is a permanent deacon of the Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City.



Recovering Protestantism's Original Insight

Luther's Heritage and Theological Criticism of the Bible

PAUL E. CAPETZ

978-1-6667-3747-9 | 190 p. | \$26

In this engaging volume, Capetz argues that Protestants have largely ignored Luther's heritage when it comes to thinking about biblical authority and instead have followed Calvin's biblicism, leading to many intellectual and moral problems in the face of a fully historical-critical understanding of the Bible in our time. After prefacing the book with a personal story that illustrates what is at stake in this question for the church's pastoral ministry, he examines in detail the debate between Barth—an heir of Calvin—and Bultmann—a Lutheran—regarding *Sachkritik* or “content criticism” of Scripture since their debate serves to clarify the central issue facing Protestants today. He then traces their debate back to the Reformation itself to show how the difference between Luther and Calvin presented Protestants from the outset with two conflicting models of biblical authority. He then reflects on how this question of the proper understanding of biblical authority manifests itself in the debates over sexual ethics that have plagued mainline denominations for the past four decades. And he concludes by arguing that Luther's heritage provides Protestants with a viable way to engage in a robust theological interpretation of the Bible that does not violate what historical criticism has taught us about it.

“Drawing on decades of experience as a historical theologian, teacher, and pastor, Paul Capetz zeroes in on the problem of biblical authority that has long divided American Protestantism and now even threatens our republic. This is a rare and full-throated defense of Luther's ‘original insight’ and its continuing significance by a scholar too well-versed in the Christian theological tradition to let the currently fashionable dismissals of historical-critical exegesis—on the postmodern left as well as the atavistic right—go unchallenged.”

—Brent W. Sockness, Stanford University

“Here Paul Capetz makes a provocative argument about untapped resources of the Protestant Reformation and how they can be utilized by contemporary Christians to transcend trenchant liberal/conservative divides in order to proclaim the gospel. Returning to Luther's original insight that proclamation of the gospel is not synonymous with proclaiming Scripture, Capetz demonstrates, can counter anti-intellectual tendencies in contemporary American Christianity and speak in more compelling ways to the issues of our day.”

—Deanna A. Thompson, St. Olaf College

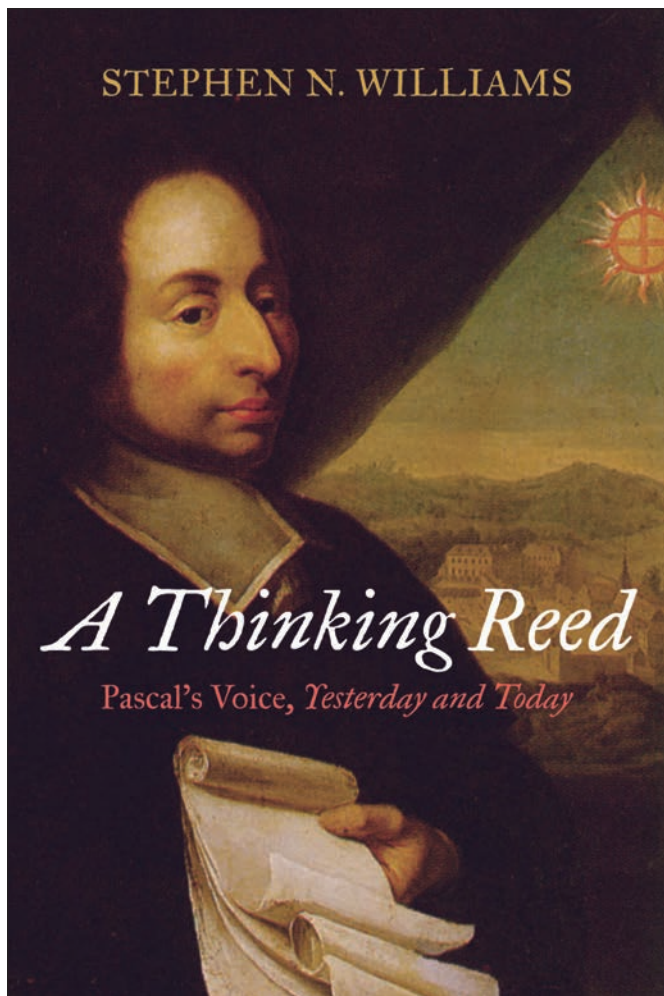
“Paul Capetz takes us on a deep journey into the theology of interpreting the Bible from Luther and Calvin to Schleiermacher, Barth, Bultmann, and the present day. Along the way, he shows why appeals to biblical authority alone are never sufficient for Christian theology and ethics, and why progressives who want to proclaim the gospel should engage the Reformation heritage. It's a trip no serious contemporary Protestant thinker should miss.”

—Douglas F. Ottati, Davidson College

“Paul Capetz argues that proclamation of the Christian message can and must be compatible with commonsense canons of reason and logic, and scientific and historical knowledge. At the center of his case is Protestantism's ‘original insight’—the distinction between the Bible and the witness within it to the ‘good news’ that Jesus is the decisive representation of God's pure, unconditional love. This insight is key to a response to both ‘evangelical’ despisers of human intellect and cultural despisers of Christianity.”

—David J. Lull, Wartburg Theological Seminary

PAUL E. CAPETZ is professor of historical theology emeritus at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities in Minnesota, and is currently minister at Christ Church by the Sea in Newport Beach, California. He is the author of *God: A Brief History* (2003) and co-editor of James Gustafson's *Moral Discernment in the Christian Life* (2007).



A Thinking Reed

Pascal's Voice, Yesterday and Today

STEPHEN N. WILLIAMS

978-1-6667-5149-9 | 196 p. | \$27

Blaise Pascal (1623–62) was a provocative and important thinker. Both the range and the influence of his work is immense. His *Pensées* (“Thoughts”), unfinished and composed of fragments, is widely regarded as a classic of Christian apologetics. In this volume, the reader is introduced to this work, with a view to both describing what Pascal says and assessing its present value. After introducing the man and his life, Pascal’s views on reason and the heart, and on human wretchedness and greatness, are discussed before asking in a final chapter, “Would you bet on God?” An appendix treats Pascal and modernity. Four hundred years on, Pascal’s voice can still be heard. Four hundred years on, we still need to heed it. Pascal does not simply speak from the mind to the mind. He speaks as a person to persons.

“Stephen Williams has offered us an engagingly written, genuinely interesting, and finely judged guide to the thought of Blaise Pascal. The book carefully and sympathetically shows how Pascal, one of the most enigmatic yet intriguing thinkers of the early modern age, offers some startlingly novel perspectives on some of our contemporary dilemmas, such as the role of reason, the nature of evil, the search for meaning, and the drama and mystery of being human.”

—Graham Tomlin, director, Centre for Cultural Witness, Lambeth Palace

“Pascal stands among the greatest Christian thinkers and advocates of all time. In this book, Stephen Williams offers a sensitive, discerning, and eloquent account of his thought. Listen to him.”

—Nigel Biggar, regius professor emeritus of moral theology, the University of Oxford

“Pascal lived centuries ago but his thoughts continue to speak to and resonate with our present human condition, even more so now thanks to Stephen Williams’s ambassadorial work. One wonders what the world would be like if Pascal rather than Descartes had had modernity’s ear. Williams thinks he knows: it would be more realistic and hearty (the operative term in Pascal’s thinking), acknowledging both the contradiction of sinful humanity and the rationality

of salvation in Christ.”

—Kevin J. Vanhoozer, research professor of systematic theology, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

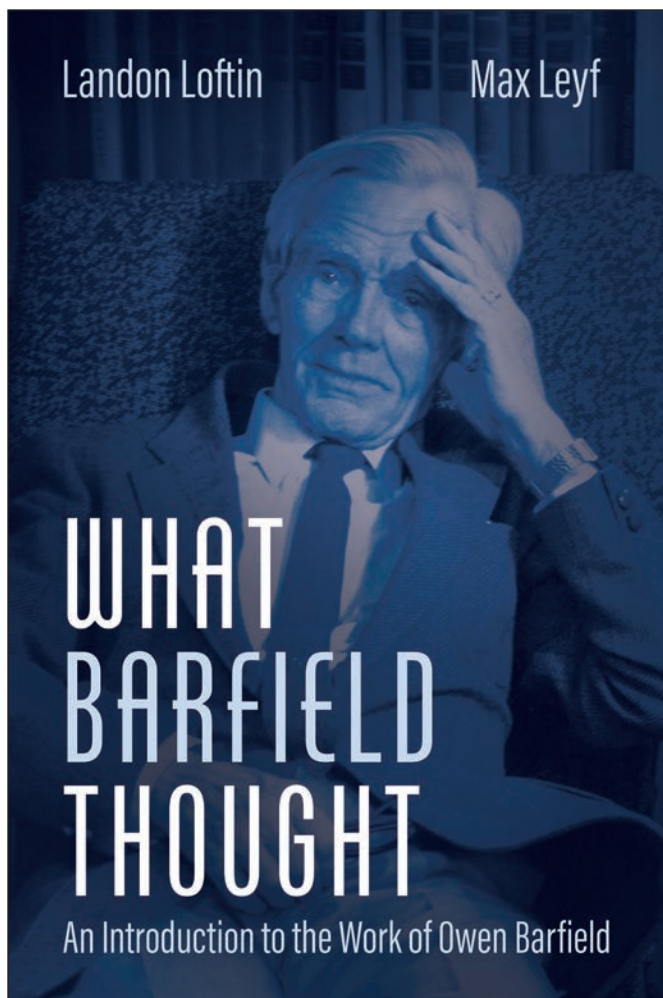
“Stephen Williams, a Welshman, has spent most of his career teaching theology in Belfast. Those acquainted with Irish history will be aware of that city’s bitter history of sectarianism. How wonderful then that a much-respected Presbyterian theologian there should engage with such clarity and sympathy with one of Catholicism’s greatest ever Christian apologists. Williams acknowledges Pascal’s indebtedness to St. Augustine’s teaching as he writes poignantly about the former’s ‘night of fire,’ powerful conversion experience, and much more.”

—Niall Coll, Catholic bishop of Ossory

“Stephen William’s mastery of Pascal’s unfinished text and its biographical, philosophical, and historical contexts produces an authoritative, comprehensive, convincing, tightly argued exposition of the wide range of Pascal’s arguments. This outstanding book, rich in reflection on issues around the birth of modernity, is a must-read for anyone involved in apologetics.”

—John Gillespie, professor emeritus of French language and literature, Ulster University

STEPHEN N. WILLIAMS is honorary professor of theology at Queen’s University, Belfast.



What Barfield Thought

An Introduction to the Work of Owen Barfield

LONDON LOFTIN AND MAX LEYF

978-1-6667-3676-2 | 126 p. | \$19

As interest in Owen Barfield grows, we aim to meet the need for a scholarly introduction to his thought. Our primary purpose is to present an overview, analysis, and synthesis of Barfield's most salient ideas in a manner that will be of interest to neophytes and initiates alike. Barfield's work can, at times, be difficult to understand; C. S. Lewis put it well when he described Barfield's style of argument as "dark, labyrinthine," and "pertinacious." But Lewis ardently promoted Barfield's work because he knew that people who willingly walk in those dim and winding corridors are, in time, richly rewarded by the bright light at their end. We offer the present work in service to those who wish to undertake this adventure. While the present book will help those readers who wish to engage Barfield for the sake of achieving a greater understanding of and appreciation for other writers who have been associated with or influenced by him, we aim first and foremost to present Barfield as a profound and original thinker in his own right.

"A quarter of a century after Owen Barfield's death, appreciation and scholarship of his important work is gaining ground and this book stands as a testament to the fact. The authors have skillfully crafted a balanced and measured response to the forthright question: What is Barfieldian philosophy teaching us?"

—Owen A. Barfield, grandson and trustee

"People who know the work of Owen Barfield—including figures such as C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien, T. S. Eliot, and W. H. Auden—affirm that it is not only remarkably interesting, but revolutionary. Wrestling with his thought changes your experience of the world, and this clearly written, thoughtful introduction will lead you to such radical possibilities."

—Mark Vernon, author of *A Secret History of Christianity: Jesus, the Last Inking, and the Evolution of Consciousness*

"Loftin and Leyf have provided us with the sort of rich but succinct introduction to Owen Barfield's thought that has been needed for some time. Barfield's seminal linguistic and poetic theories made an impact on his fellow Inklings, C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien, and although Barfield continues to be an influence today, he is too often overshadowed by the other Inklings. A useful guidebook is welcome. Here we have one."

—Addison Hodges Hart, author of *The Woman, the Hour, and the Garden: A Study of Imagery in the Gospel of John*

"Arguably one of the most important thinkers—romantic or otherwise—of the twentieth century, Owen Barfield has also been one of the most tragically and criminally forgotten. When remembered, he is nearly always an appendage to either C. S. Lewis or J. R. R. Tolkien. Yet, Barfield deserves to be remembered in his own right. Loftin and Leyf have done exactly what desperately needed to be done—they have placed Barfield at the profound center of his own intellectual story."

—Bradley J. Birzer, author of *Tolkien and the Inklings: Men of the West*

LONDON LOFTIN is a chaplain and teacher from Missouri.

MAX LEYF is a Rolfer, anthroposopher, and philosopher from Alaska.

PAUL F. BRADSHAW



REVISED EDITION

EUCCHARISTIC ORIGINS

Eucharistic Origins, Revised Edition

PAUL F. BRADSHAW

978-1-6667-5817-7 | 206 p. | \$27

Eucharistic Origins was published a number of years ago. This revised edition continues to incorporate the work of the latest liturgical scholars in establishing that the earliest Christian celebrations arose out of varied forms of their ritual meals, and not out of the Last Supper. The custom of centering Christian practice in ritual meals seems to have lasted for about one hundred and fifty years before it began to be replaced by morning meetings at which the sacrament was distributed, and subsequently by a complete celebration of the Eucharist. It is here, in the third and fourth centuries, and not in the distant Jewish past, that the forms of the classical eucharistic prayers emerged and developed. The most important of these are presented in full, and their theology discussed.

“No one who wants to do serious investigation of the origins of Christian worship and especially of the Eucharist should neglect the work of Paul Bradshaw. In this second, revised and updated edition of *Eucharistic Origins*, Bradshaw handles the data with the skill of a surgeon and judiciously weighs a considerable amount of recent scholarship. Some may not agree with his arguments or conclusions, but no one can take his work lightly. This book is indispensable for anyone seriously interested in the meaning and celebration of the early Eucharist.”

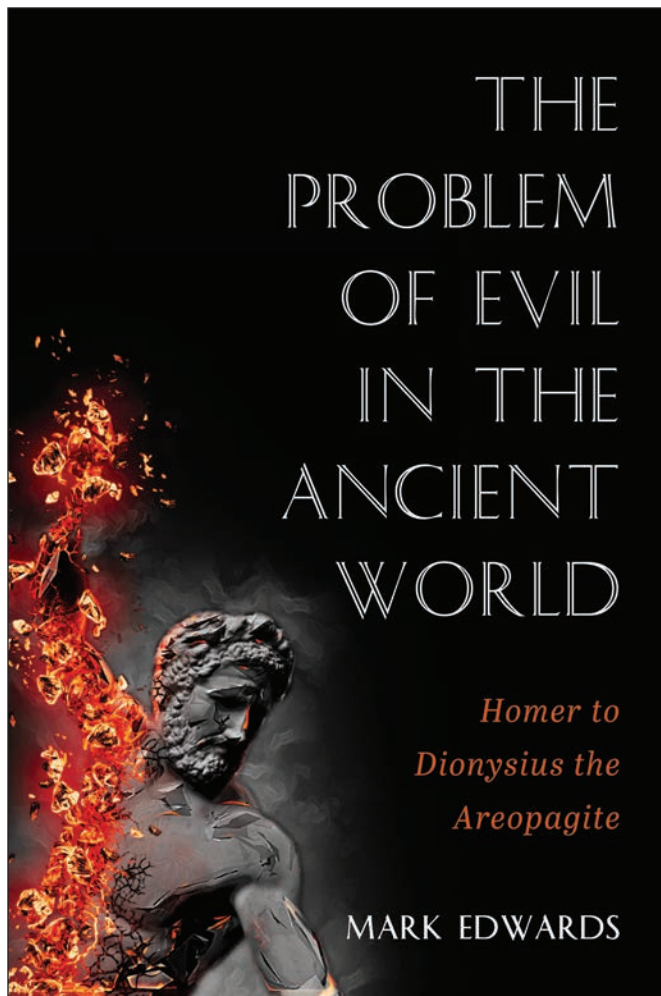
—John F. Baldwin, SJ, professor of historical and liturgical theology, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry

“In this thoroughly updated edition, Paul Bradshaw provides a masterful study of the key texts and theologies of the Eucharist in the first four centuries. This edition is notable not only for its inclusion of new secondary literature, but also the use of newly published liturgical texts that provide further evidence for the celebration of the Eucharist in the early church. This systematic and accessible study will be enormously useful to both students and scholars.”

—Nathan P. Chase, assistant professor of liturgical and sacramental theology, Aquinas Institute of Theology

PAUL F. BRADSHAW is emeritus professor of liturgical studies at the University of Notre Dame, and the author or editor of over thirty books, and more than one hundred and fifty articles. His recent titles include *The Apostolic Tradition Reconstructed* (2021) and *Ancient Church Orders* (2015).





The Problem of Evil in the Ancient World

Homer to Dionysius the Areopagite

MARK EDWARDS

978-1-7252-7163-0 | 364 p. | \$44

The aim of this book is to ascertain how ancient Greek and Latin authors, both pagan and Christian, formulated and answered what is now called the problem of evil. The survey ranges chronologically from the classical and Hellenistic eras, through the Roman era, to the end of the pagan world. Six of the twelve chapters are devoted to Christianity (including Manichaeism), as one thesis of the book is that the problem of evil takes an acute form only for Christians, since no other philosophy of antiquity posits a personal God exercising providence over individuals without having to overcome countervailing forces. None the less it will also be shown that Greek philosophies, Platonism in particular, come close to the Christian formulation. Being conscious of the affinity between Greek thought and their own, early Christians respond to the problem of evil in the same way as the philosophers, by questioning the existence of evil rather than of the divine.

“This rich book uniquely offers a splendid panorama of reflections on evil in classical antiquity, from the origins of Greek literature and philosophy to the various formulations of the problem of evil in early Christianity and in patristic literature until the fifth century. Mark Edwards, who perfectly marshals all these highly different fields, writes in a clear and sharp style, succeeding to be this rare thing: at once a philosophical and a theological historian.”

—Guy G. Stroumsa, professor emeritus, University of Oxford and Hebrew University of Jerusalem

“What counts as a believable answer to the problem of evil depends on the way our questions are framed. Mark Edwards defamiliarizes a problem we think we know by representing past approaches that challenge our understanding not only of theodicy but also of ethics in the broadest sense. With matchless fluency, he juxtaposes worldviews from within antiquity and modernity and clarifies what is at stake in them.”

—Judith Wolfe, professor of philosophical theology, University of St. Andrews

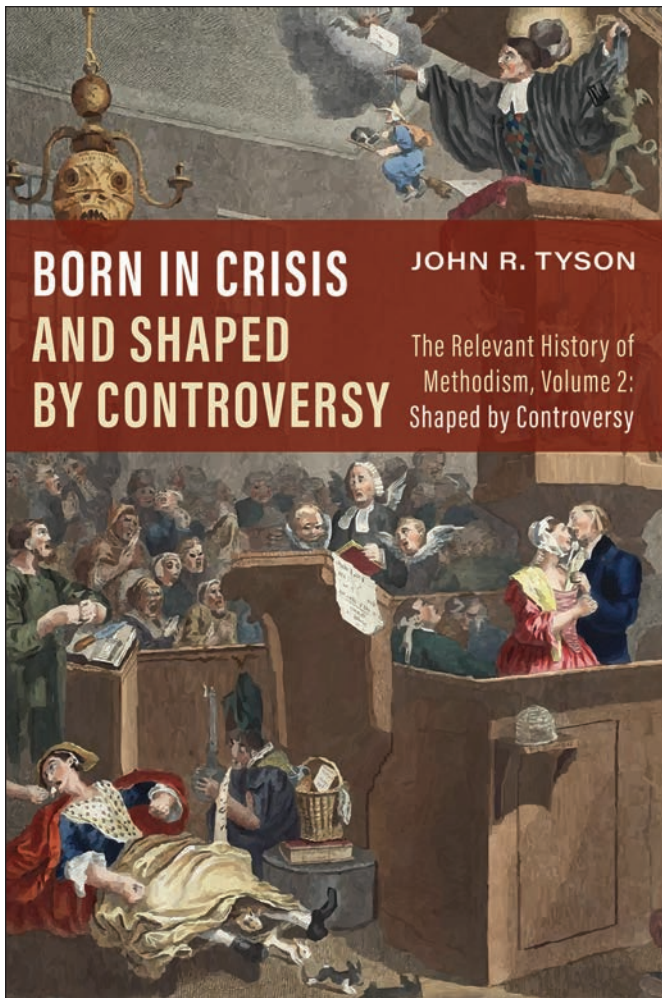
“Mark Edwards gifts his readers perhaps the first ever historical account of attitudes to the problem of evil in the ancient world. Drawing on his unparalleled erudition and argued with impeccably precise judgment, the work surveys a millennium and a half of Greek literature, philosophy, and Christian theology. As ever, antiquity emerges as a dazzling mix of the familiar and the unexpected, and the author is a brilliant guide to both.”

—Johannes Zachhuber, professor of historical and systematic theology, University of Oxford

“In this illuminating book, Mark Edwards surveys approaches to the problem of evil from Homer to Dionysios the Areopagite. With awesome knowledge of the abundant scholarly discussion and with a sharply critical—sometimes withering—intelligence, Edwards cuts through to the ancient texts themselves. In his epilogue, he wonders whether anyone in the ancient world really addressed what in modern thought passes for the ‘problem of evil.’”

—Andrew Louth, professor emeritus of patristic and Byzantine studies, Durham University

MARK EDWARDS is professor of early Christian studies at the University of Oxford, where he has taught since 1993. His books include *Origen against Plato* (2002), *Culture and Philosophy in the Age of Plotinus* (2006), *Religions of the Constantinian Empire* (2015), and *Aristotle in Early Christian Thought* (2019).



Born in Crisis and Shaped by Controversy, Volume 2

The Relevant History of Methodism:
Shaped by Controversy

JOHN R. TYSON

978-1-6667-3725-7 | 164 p. | \$23

This second installment of the Methodist story, *Shaped by Controversy*, examines eight of the major controversies that epitomize aspects of Methodism’s inter-family dialogue and trauma. These theological, ecclesial, and ethical controversies tried the values, tested the patience, and strained our familial relationships. Ultimately they divided the Methodist movement. Ironically, controversy was often rooted in something that was good and right about the Methodist movement—a commitment to addressing what had somehow gotten out of balance and become destructive. Internal struggles over matters related to class, economic status, gender, and race shook Methodism precisely because the inclusion of all people from diverse backgrounds and walks of life was a foundational aspect of the early Methodism.

Contentious controversies have revolved around matters like: 1) the nature of spiritual life, faith, and good works; 2) predestination and the nature Christian assurance of salvation; 3) the difficulties of living out Christian Perfection in a world full of imperfect people; 4) the pain and trauma of ecclesiastical separation; 5) women’s leadership in the church; 6) the debilitating effects of racism and segregation; 7) governance and shared leadership; and 8) the affirmation and full inclusion of LGBTQ people. These controversies within the church family have challenged and pained Methodists deeply. They have also forced Methodists to examine their own priorities and clarify what matters most to them. How the Methodists responded to these controversies, for good or for ill, has shaped the identity of the Methodists as people of faith. Hopefully, both guidance and encouragement can be found in this history because the past is often like a distant mirror that reflects very clearly upon lives lived today.

“In this engaging work, Tyson dives headlong into the crises that have marked Methodism since its inception, and even the crises that created the context in which this warmhearted movement took shape. . . . This is not a book about Methodist hero worship but an honest and thoughtful engagement with a diverse and varied ‘family,’ warts and all.”

—Ryan N. Danker, Director, John Wesley Institute, Washington, DC

“Numerous books have explored different facets of Methodist history. Few, however, have been able to connect past controversies with present realities better than Tyson’s book. . . . This is a must-read for anyone who cares about the future mission of the Methodist movement.”

—Christopher Evans, Boston University School of Theology

“If most history is written about victories from the perspective of the victors, then Tyson has chosen a strikingly different approach. He narrates the story of a Methodist movement forged in the crucible of crises and controversies. . . . But his analysis of trauma in the ‘Methodist family system’ does leave room for hope.”

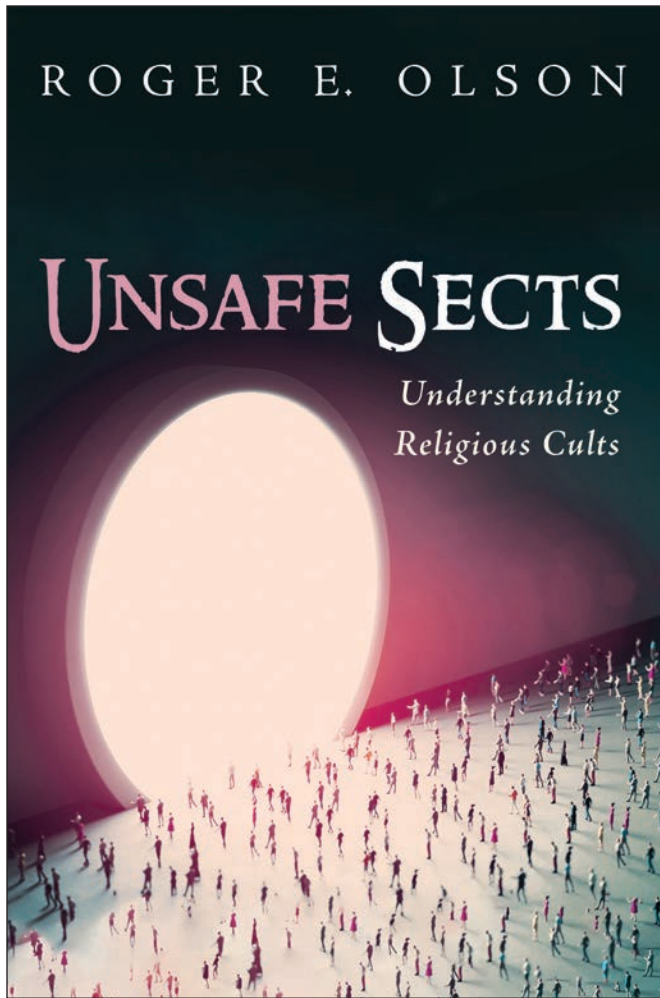
—Paul Chilcote, Director of Global Wesleyan Theology, Wesley House

“This well-researched volume traces some of the disputes that have historically threatened the witness and unity of ‘the people called Methodists.’ . . . This work will lend itself especially well to students of the history of Methodism, classes in Wesleyan social ethics, and advanced study groups in United Methodist congregations.”

—Wendy J. Deichmann, United Theological Seminary

JOHN R. TYSON is professor emeritus of church history and former director of Methodist studies at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School. He is an internationally known expert in the field of Wesleyan Studies and has drawn upon a lifetime of research and practical experience in the Methodist tradition to examine the social, cultural, theological, and political forces that gave birth to Methodism, as well as the main historical controversies that shaped, shook, and forced the tradition to define and sometimes redefine itself and its mission to a troubled world.





Unsafe Sects

Understanding Religious Cults

ROGER E. OLSON

978-1-6667-6506-9 | 124 p. | \$19

For some decades American (and other) culture has been obsessed with cults. But what does “cult” mean? How should a religious group be identified as a cult? Who joins cults and why? These and other questions are answered in this book. It provides a basic introduction to cults, “unsafe sects,” especially from an orthodox Christian perspective. Here readers will also find accounts of the author’s personal experiences of cults.

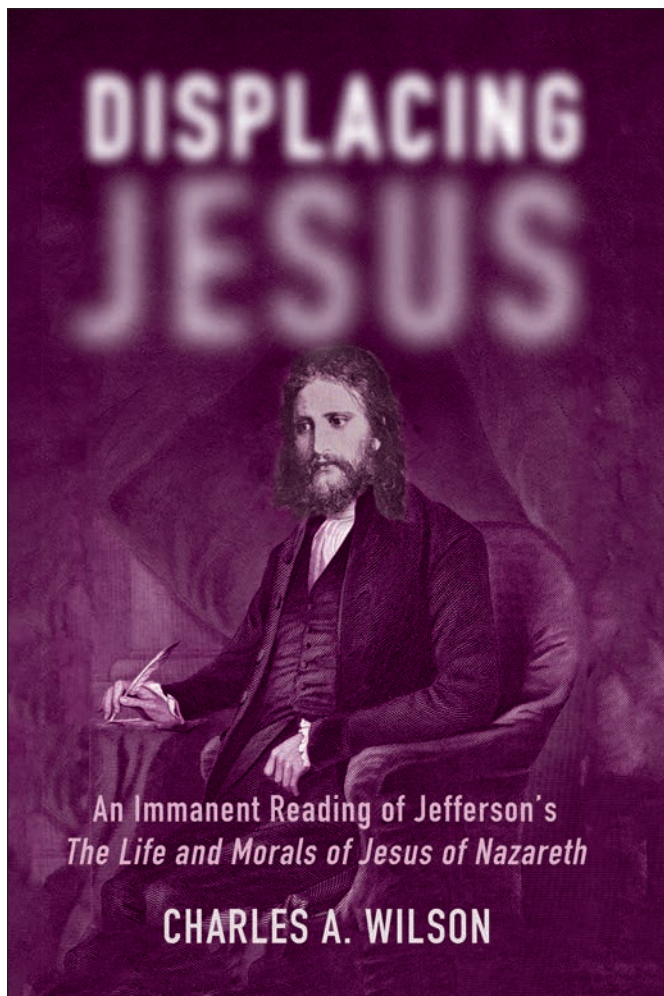
“On a subject as emotive as ‘cults,’ it is very good to find in *Unsafe Sects* an analysis that is at once shrewd and judicious, knowledgeable and wide-ranging. Particularly valuable, and powerful, are Roger Olson’s observations of a troubled and even ‘unsafe’ religious environment that he experienced first-hand. There is so much of value here.”

—Philip Jenkins, distinguished professor of history, Baylor University

“In *Unsafe Sects*, Roger Olson empowers readers to identify for themselves the ‘cult-like characteristics’ of groups they should be wary of. Olson certainly doesn’t pull any punches when it comes to critiquing cultish groups, but his treatment is always highly informed, deeply respectful, and uniformly fair. This well-written book is the most practically helpful work on ‘cults’ and ‘unsafe sects’ I’ve ever read, and I could not recommend it more strongly to all who are interested in identifying these groups.”

—Greg Boyd, author of *Letters from a Skeptic*

ROGER E. OLSON is emeritus professor of Christian theology at Baylor University’s Truett Theological Seminary. He is the author of numerous books including *The Story of Christian Theology* (1999) and *The Mosaic of Christian Beliefs* (2002). He has taught numerous courses on cults and new religions.



Displacing Jesus

An Immanent Reading of Jefferson's *The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth*

CHARLES A. WILSON

978-1-6667-6376-8 | Forthcoming

Displacing Jesus studies the inner workings of Thomas Jefferson's editing and shortening of the Gospels of the New Testament, *The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth*. It uncovers the immanent moves of his editorial project and shows how he makes judgments on what to include and exclude from the Gospels. As the book analyzes Jefferson's gospel, it reconstructs his cut-and-paste project as a displacing of the biblical story of Jesus into a war on Jewish authorities. Ignoring nearly all traditional religious themes, the new gospel reframes the story into a battle against the narrow and hypocritical morality of the leaders of Second Temple Judaism. Surprisingly, Jefferson's editing does provide a robust, if not traditional, theology and a Christology centered in the passion of the Shepherd-Sage who performs his death for Wisdom. *Displacing Jesus* ends by connecting Jefferson's creation in *The Life and Morals* with theological themes, with the history of his views on religion, and with comments on how new insights into Jefferson's gospel can inform contemporary Jefferson research.

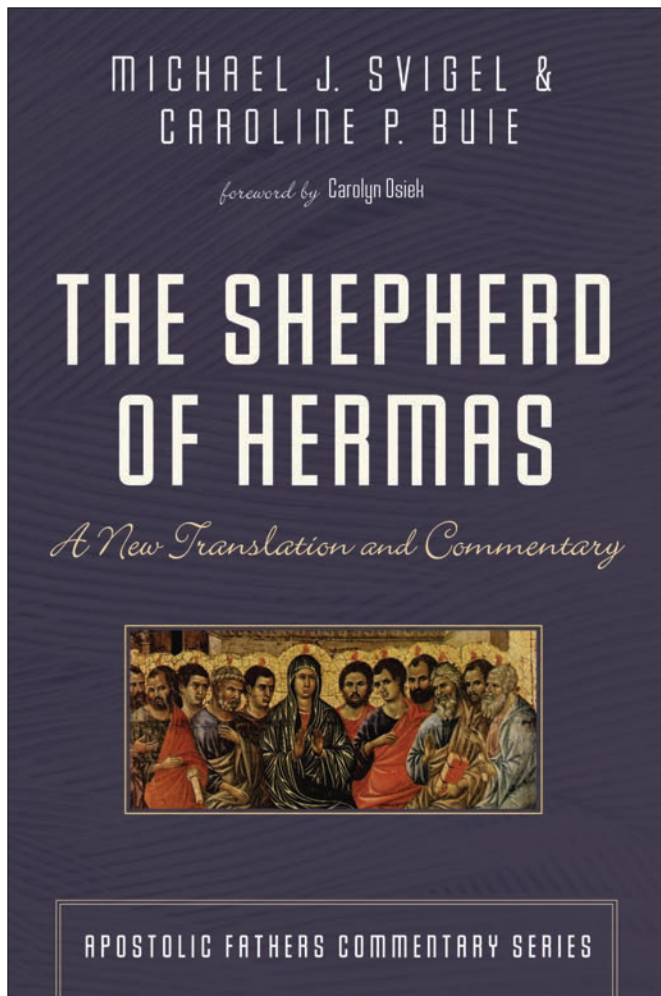
"*Displacing Jesus* is a remarkable book that calls readers to take seriously 'Jefferson's Bible,' an edited version of the Gospels that scholars have often cited only selectively. By showing in detail how Thomas Jefferson crafted a Jesus detached from context, emerging out of nowhere to initiate global moral reform, Charles Wilson sheds new light on Jefferson's faith and the very American tradition of enlisting Jesus to serve our own purposes."

—Douglas Casson, professor and chair of political science, St. Olaf College

"Charles Wilson presents an incisive, original, challenging, and skillfully organized analysis of Thomas Jefferson's reconstruction of the four Gospels and his private religious views. He convincingly explains his 'displacement' title. He exhibits complete command of the necessary primary and secondary sources as well as Scripture. Scholars will applaud and value the annotated footnotes. The chapter on Jefferson's religion is superb. Serious students of Jefferson need to read this book."

—Steven Greiert, professor emeritus of history, Missouri Western State University

CHARLES A. WILSON is Professor of Religion at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. He is the author of *Feuerbach and the Search for Otherness* (1989) and the two volumes of *Inventing Christic Jesuses* (Cascade Books, 2017, 2018).



The Shepherd of Hermas

A New Translation and Commentary

APOSTOLIC FATHERS COMMENTARY SERIES

MICHAEL J. SVIGEL AND CAROLINE P. BUIE

978-1-4982-3878-6 | 460 p. | \$55

From its original composition and wide distribution in the early second century, the Shepherd of Hermas has both puzzled and intrigued readers with its strange images, surprising language, and challenging rhetoric. Today, both critical and confessional scholars struggle with placing its message in its original historical-theological context while lay readers find the work to be riddled with countless puzzles.

To help dispel some of the mystery and misunderstandings concerning the Shepherd of Hermas, this volume offers a new lucid translation that recreates the original colloquial tone of the work. Accompanying the translation is a commentary that unpacks the meanings of the ancient text. Alongside these, a number of introductions focus on matters of date, authorship, genre, theological and practical content, and the writing's relationship to other ancient literature.

"Michael Svigel and Caroline Buie bring fresh perspective to the enigmatic Shepherd of Hermas. Their review of issues is thorough and clear; their translation is alive and captivating; their illustrations are informative and precise; their conclusions are thoughtful and considered. I welcome this commentary and highly recommend it to students new to the field and scholars of patristic literature alike!"

—Clayton N. Jefford, professor of Scripture, Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology

"The Shepherd of Hermas is a long and sometimes winding road. Michael Svigel and Caroline Buie guide us along this road with readable translation and expert commentary. Their excursions explore the intricacies of the more complicated passages and relationships of the work. If you are working with the Shepherd of Hermas, Svigel and Buie deserve to be on your list of works to consult."

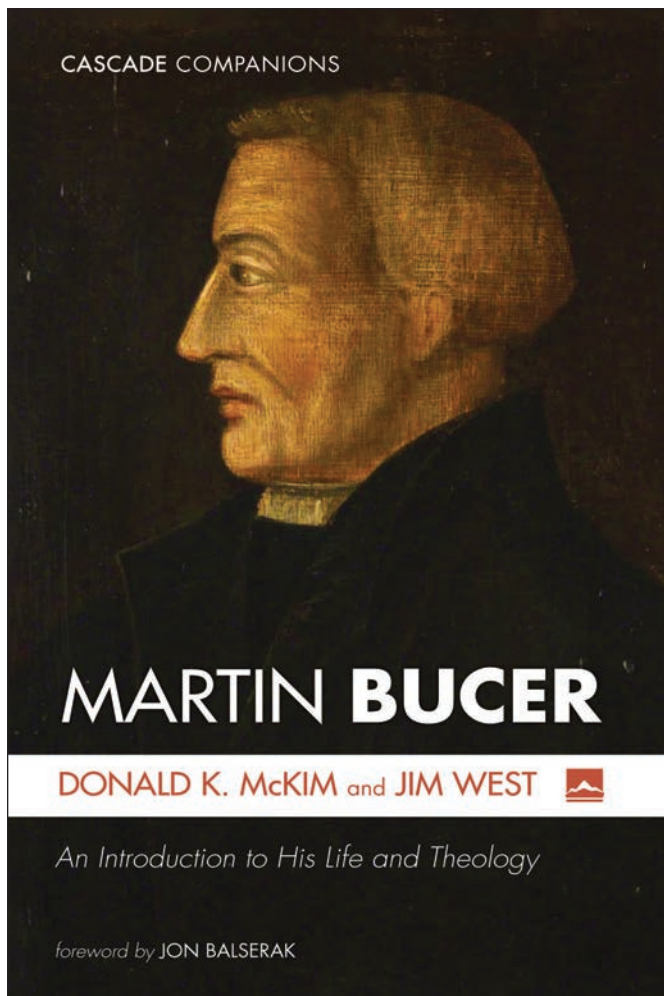
—Rick Brannan, editor of *The Apostolic Fathers: A New Translation*

"Michael Svigel and Caroline Buie prove once again that when given the respect they deserve through close reading, early Christian writings still deliver rich rewards. With a sensitive and contemporary translation paired with commentary based in exegetical, syncretical, and historical analysis, Svigel and Buie provide a theologically helpful study guide for the Shepherd of Hermas."

—D. Jeffrey Bingham, professor of historical theology, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

MICHAEL J. SVIGEL is chair and professor of theological studies at Dallas Theological Seminary. He is author of *The Center and the Source: Second Century Incarnational Christology and Early Catholic Christianity* (2016) and *Urban Legends of Church History* (2020).

CAROLINE P. BUIE is director of educational technology and adjunct professor in theological studies and church history at Criswell College.



Martin Bucer

An Introduction to His Life and Theology

CASCADE COMPANIONS

DONALD K. MCKIM AND JIM WEST

978-1-6667-3898-8 | 164 p. | \$23

This accessible book introduces the life and work of Martin Bucer (1491–1551), the significant sixteenth-century Protestant Reformer. Bucer shared theological insights with other Protestant Reformers but also provided his own unique contributions. Donald McKim and Jim West help us to understand Bucer’s thought in the historical, political, and ecclesial context of his times. They also explore its ongoing importance for the contemporary church.

“Martin Bucer has often been considered a reformer ‘in the wings,’ standing in the shadows of his contemporaries Luther, Zwingli, and Calvin. In this volume, Donald McKim and Jim West lead Bucer from the wings out onto the main stage of the Reformation, lucidly portraying him as not only a theologian and churchman of the first order but also the premier Reformed irenicist of the first half of the sixteenth century. *Tolle lege!*”

—Lyle D. Bierma, Calvin Theological Seminary

“This short book offers an engaging look at the life and teachings of the Strasbourg Reformer Martin Bucer. Donald McKim and Jim West are to be commended for their thorough yet concise study that introduces English-speaking readers to an under-appreciated central figure in the Reformation.”

—Karin Maag, Calvin University

“The richness of historical reality can never be encompassed accurately if only told from the perspectives of a few figures and their easily accessed texts. This is also true for the Reformation, a difficult time where the cradle of Reformed theology resides. We are thankful to the authors for presenting Martin Bucer, his impressive personality, and his important but often neglected contributions to the Reformation in an academic but comprehensible way.”

—Peter Opitz, University of Zurich

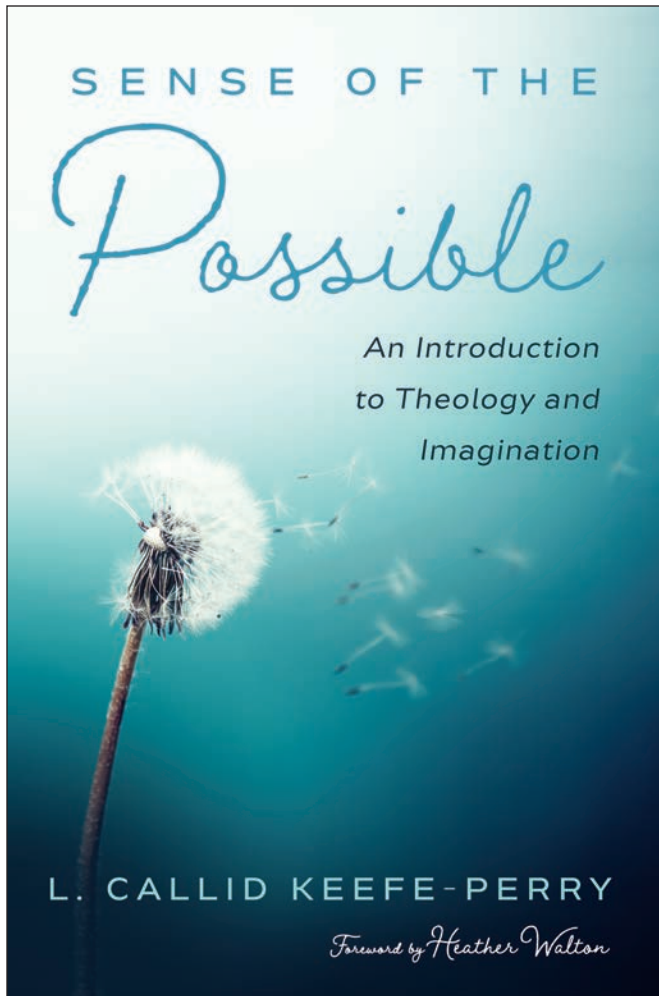
“Donald McKim and Jim West have masterfully provided an extraordinarily accessible gateway for learning about one of the most significant theologians of the Reformation, Martin Bucer. Far more straightforward than some of the more academic treatments and dealing more with his thought and its impact than a strict biography, this wonderful volume offers an accessible path that leads to greater understanding of the Reformer and of his ongoing significance for believers today.”

—R. Ward Holder, Saint Anselm College

DONALD K. MCKIM is a former seminary dean, professor of theology, and executive editor for theology for Westminster John Knox Press. He is a retired minister of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and author and editor of numerous books.

JIM WEST is lecturer in biblical studies and church history at Ming Hua Theological College, Hong Kong, and pastor of Petros Baptist Church, Petros, Tennessee. He has written and coedited several volumes.





Sense of the Possible

An Introduction to Theology and Imagination

L. CALLID KEEFE-PERRY

978-1-4982-8037-2 | 278 p. | \$35

Sense of the Possible is for those interested in learning about the intersection of Christian theology and imagination. Written from the assumption that imagination is deeply connected to the Christian work for liberation and human flourishing, this book is an energizing introduction to the ways in which theologians have thought about the powerful human capacity to envision a future that has not yet come. Containing perspectives from scripture, theology, philosophy, and congregational studies, this text is an excellent way to explore how it is that imagination can be part of a faithful Christian life. Each chapter comes with recommended readings and discussion questions that can be used in churches or classrooms.

“Keefe-Perry is a cartographer of the theological imagination. Like Dante’s Virgil (reason), Beatrice (revelation), and Saint Bernard (mysticism and perhaps even imagination itself), Keefe-Perry guides the reader through the terrain of theological imagination that religious leaders and educators need so desperately in their work today. A necessary read for those who want to know the history and potential of the Christian imagination for our world.”

—Patrick B. Reyes, senior director of learning design, Forum for Theological Exploration

“*Sense of the Possible* sparks imagination with its historical narrative and clear analytic flow, painting a vast landscape of imagination in diverse theories, contexts, and Christian practices. The book offers an excellent introduction to the philosophy of imagination, inviting readers to engage with a wide range of thinkers and their values and critical conversations. Whether you are seeking an introduction, overview, or inspiration for imagination, this book will serve you very well.”

—Mary Elizabeth Moore, dean emerita, Boston University School of Theology

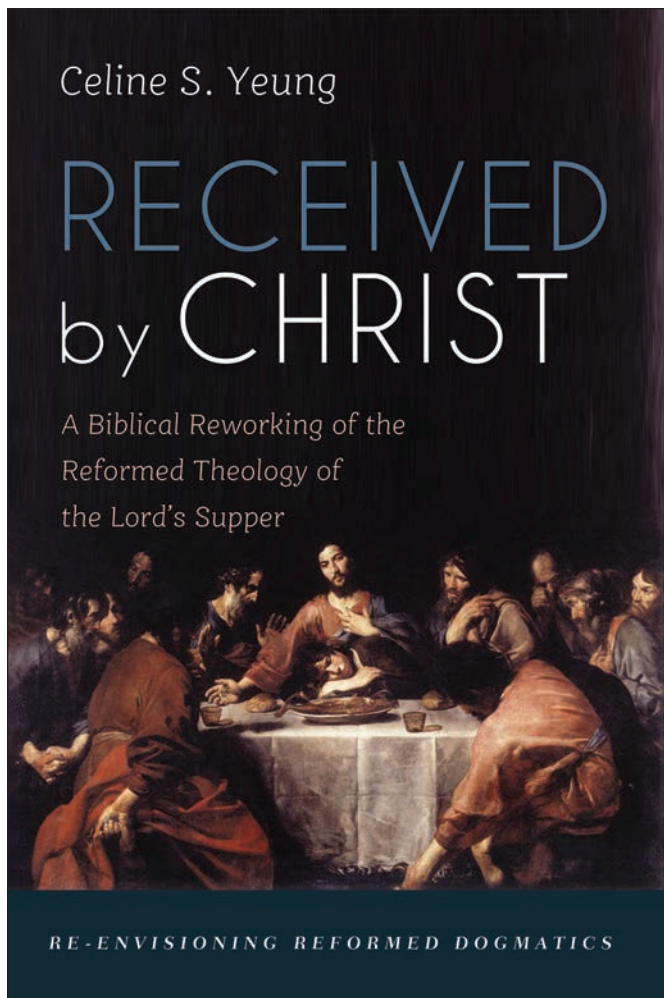
“Amidst the wonderful resurgence of interest in theology and the arts, we may be tempted to think that the imagination is the province of poets, painters, and other professional ‘creatives.’ But Keefe-Perry shows how all of us are called to nurture imagination: interpreting the world, inhabiting possibility, and even encountering the divine. Accessibly distilling the wisdom of many voices with analytic clarity and pastoral skill, Keefe-Perry offers a discerning account of how our hearts can be captivated and liberated.”

—Justin Ariel Bailey, associate professor of theology, Dordt University

“Are you thinking about imagination and faith, but are not sure where to start? Then start here. ‘Both our liberation and domination are tied to our ability to imagine.’ Keefe-Perry does a masterful job of presenting the history and present work with imagination, while making it accessible for everyone. This work is incredibly comprehensive and expansive, leaving the reader with questions for reflection as well as related readings to go deeper.”

—Lakisha R. Lockhart, assistant professor of Christian education, Union Presbyterian Seminary

CALLID KEEFE-PERRY is assistant professor of contextual education and public theology at Boston College’s School of Theology and Ministry. He is the author of *Way to Water: A Theopoetics Primer* (2014) and numerous articles and book chapters about imagination, education, and spirituality. Keefe-Perry is also a traveling minister within the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), where he mostly serves as a retreat leader and writer of adult faith formation resources.



Received by Christ

A Biblical Reworking of the Reformed
Theology of the Lord's Supper

RE-ENVISIONING REFORMED DOGMATICS

CELINE S. YEUNG

978-1-6667-4827-7 | 270 p. | \$34

Huldrych Zwingli had an idea. To the shock of both Rome and fellow Protestant Martin Luther, he argued that Christ is not physically present in the Lord's Supper. Rather, the Eucharistic elements only *represent* Christ's body and blood. However, the unique basis undergirding his theory is often overlooked, both by his contemporaries and later commentators. He specifically understood the Lord's Supper to be patterned after the Passover meal, the meal of the Old Testament. His memorialist understanding was in fact based on the memorialist nature of the Passover. By bringing in Jewish scriptures to bear on our understanding of the Lord's Supper, his approach unlocks new questions that do not necessarily presuppose Greek metaphysics or a break from traditions. This work seeks to continue to develop the method Zwingli left behind, delineating a Eucharistic theology for the church today, one that gives careful consideration to God's actions in relation to Israel and therefore sees the meal not metaphysically, but historically and relationally.

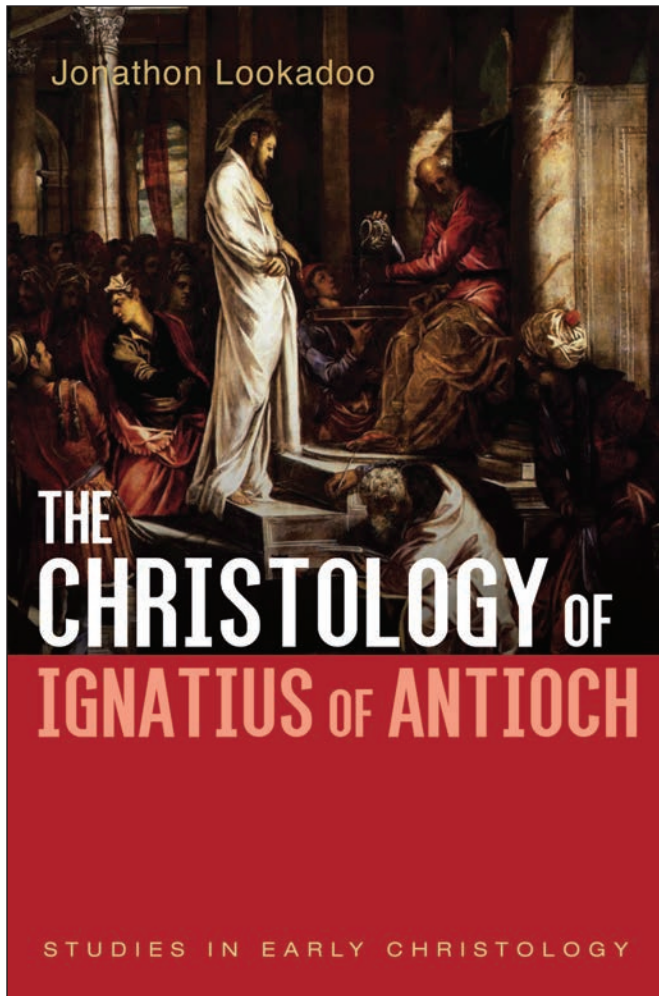
"This book presents a bold and provocative theology of the Lord's Supper and brings a fresh and constructive voice to contemporary conversation around the sacrament. Inspired by the Reformed tradition, but moving quickly to her own, scripturally informed and highly creative path, Yeung construes the Lord's Supper as a divine and human act which both instantiates corporate table-fellowship and issues a sociopolitical ethical imperative. This is intelligent and thoughtful work that deserves close attention."

—Paul T. Nimmo, University of Aberdeen

"This is, in my judgment, the most compelling case against 'sacramentology' yet to be written. Simple, elegant, and profound in style and execution, Celine Yeung shows that the meaning of the Lord's Supper is only rightly apprehended where the institution narratives are read against the background of the institution of the Passover in Exodus 12 and the covenant meal in Exodus 19–24. The result is a non-sacramental rite of inclusive forgiveness, extended to those who are being made to be God's people through obedient participation in an event with political implications. I love this book!"

—Bruce L. McCormack, Princeton Theological Seminary, emeritus

CELINE S. YEUNG is assistant professor of theology at China Graduate School of Theology in Hong Kong.



The Christology of Ignatius of Antioch

STUDIES IN EARLY CHRISTOLOGY

JONATHON LOOKADOO

978-1-6667-7068-1 | 248 p. | \$32

The letters of Ignatius of Antioch portray Jesus in terms that are both remarkably exalted and shockingly vulnerable. Jesus is identified as God and is the sole physician and teacher who truly reveals the Father. At the same time, Jesus was born of Mary, suffered, and died. Ignatius asserts both claims about Jesus with minimal attempts to reconcile how they can simultaneously be embodied in one person.

This book explores the ways in which Ignatius outlines his understanding of Jesus and the effects that these views were to have on both his immediate audience as well as some of his later readers. Ignatius utilizes stories throughout his letters, describes Jesus with designations that are at once traditional and reinvigorated with fresh meaning, and employs a dizzying array of metaphors to depict how Jesus acts. In turn, Ignatius and his audience are to respond in ways befitting their status in Christ because Jesus forms a lens through which to look at the world anew. Such a dynamic Christology was not to cease development in the second century but continued to inspire readers in creative ways through late antiquity and beyond.

“In this incisive and groundbreaking book, Jonathon Lookadoo probes the center of the theology of Ignatius—his understanding of Christ. In a sequence of tightly interlocking chapters, the christological perspectives of that towering figure, Ignatius of Antioch, are brought into sharper focus, and the theological relevance of those ideas is elucidated for modern readers. This is a brilliant treatment of the subject that will be consulted widely over the coming decades.”

—Paul Foster, professor of New Testament and early Christianity, University of Edinburgh

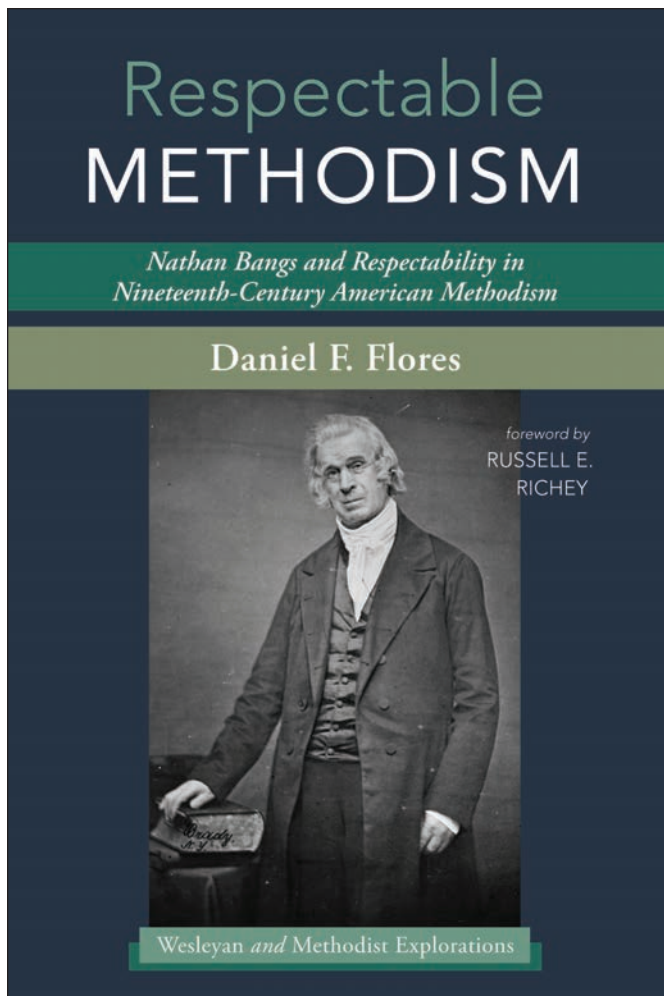
“Jonathon Lookadoo is a leading Ignatian scholar as evidenced by his many publications. The fruits of his labors are on full display in this book via his intimacy with the entire Ignatian corpus as well as his expert handling of the voluminous secondary scholarship devoted to Ignatius of Antioch. Furthermore, Lookadoo takes readers by the hand and leads us on an enthralling adventure that nearly exhausts the depths of Ignatius’s portrayal of Jesus the Christ.”

—Paul R. Gilliam III, author of *Ignatius of Antioch and the Arian Controversy*

“Formative Christology is a field of study which has expanded and altered greatly in the past decades, as we have learnt to recognize a greater subtlety and nuance in the approaches of many second-century authors than had previously been identified. In this light a guide to Ignatian Christology was overdue; Jonathon Lookadoo, who has already proved himself a reliable guide to Ignatius and his correspondence, fills this gap with a treatment from which all, from undergraduates meeting Ignatius for the first time through to the most advanced Ignatian scholars, may profit and learn.”

—Alistair C. Stewart, senior lecturer in biblical studies, Codrington College

JONATHON LOOKADOO is assistant professor at the Presbyterian University and Theological Seminary in Seoul, South Korea.



Respectable Methodism

Nathan Bangs and Respectability in
Nineteenth-Century American Methodism

WESLEYAN AND METHODIST EXPLORATIONS

DANIEL F. FLORES

978-1-6667-1396-1 | 244 p. | \$31

The Wesleyan-Methodist movement entered American history as a fragment of British Methodism. It quickly took on a new identity in the early republic and grew into a vibrant denomination in the nineteenth century. The transitions from the rugged pioneer religion modeled by Bishop Francis Asbury to the urbane religion of industrial America was by design the goal of influential leaders of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Nathan Bangs was perhaps one of the most significant of such leaders. He rose from obscurity to the ranks of power and influence by refining patterns of worship, expanding denominational publishing, and structuring ministerial education. This study is concerned with the development of respectability in American Methodism. It also explores questions on how Bangs and other leaders dealt with in-house conflicts on issues related to race, slavery, and the poor.

“Revisiting but reinterpreting the pivotal role of Nathan Bangs in Methodism’s migration into the middle class, this engaging, readable study revises our assessment of Methodism and of nineteenth-century American Protestantism as a whole.”

—Russell E. Richey, Emory University, emeritus

“Daniel Flores’ new book on Nathan Bangs is comprehensive and provocative. It interweaves the embourgeoisement of the nineteenth-century Methodist movement with the details of Bangs’ biography, cementing Bangs’ status as a major player in the drive towards greater Methodist respectability while never collapsing his motives into the purely economic. Flores gives us a well-rounded and nuanced picture of this pivotal second-generation Methodist leader, rooted in Bangs’ own theological and cultural contexts and relevant to current debates.”

—Jennifer Woodruff Tait, editor, *Christian History Magazine*

“Daniel Flores has masterfully shown the outsize influence Bangs had on Methodism’s shift to greater respectability. As a pastor, presiding elder, editor, and perennial General Conference delegate, he strongly supported clerical education, orderly worship, additional church construction, and an evolving approach to abolition consistent with the national mood. Flores has woven to-

gether little-known primary sources, helpful contextualizations, and insightful analyses in crafting a well-written, engaging, and fascinating study!”

—Philip Hardt, author of *The Soul of Methodism*

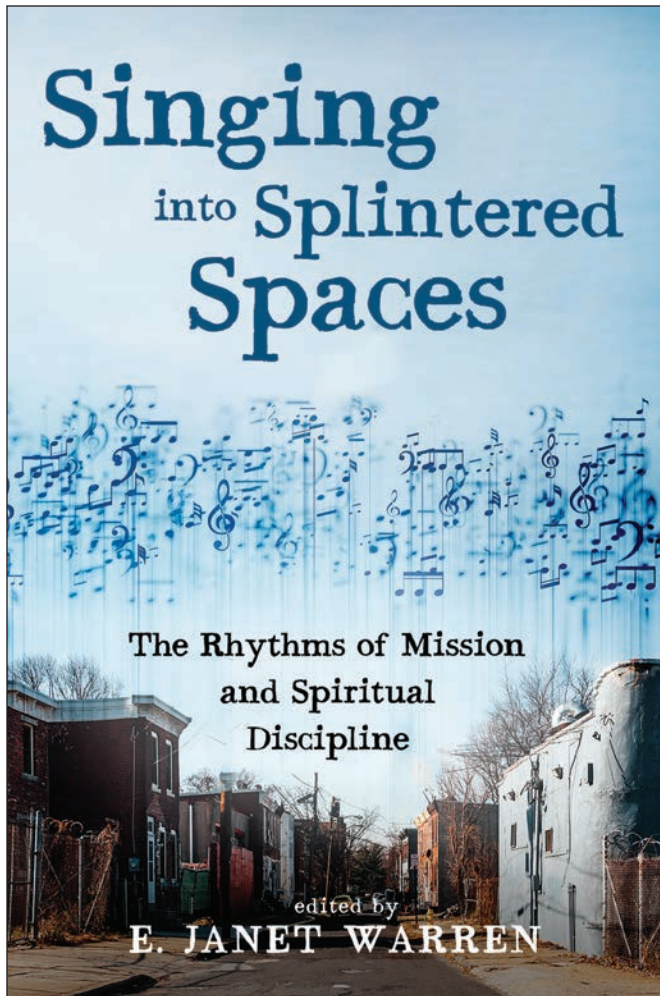
“*Respectable Methodism* is a well-researched and well-documented exposition of the efforts of Nathan Bangs that shaped an early nineteenth-century frontier phenomenon into a respected American Methodist organization. Flores demonstrates convincingly that the desire for respectability by American people and Bangs’ contributions ‘intertwined to form a double-helix relationship’ producing a ‘new genetic code for the social structure’ of American Methodist Christianity.”

—Norman A. Beck, Texas Lutheran University

“Daniel Flores has skillfully used the career of Nathan Bangs to produce a meticulously researched, eminently readable account of the transition of the Methodist Episcopal Church from a simple frontier religion into a denomination of ‘respectability’ in worship, preaching, hymnody, church order, and architecture. While covering antebellum America, its lasting impact challenges the descendants of the MEC today.”

—Donald J. Bruggink, Van Raalte Institute, emeritus

DANIEL F. FLORES is the university librarian and Sappenfield Chair of Library Science at Texas Lutheran University and an elder in the Rio Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. He served as general editor and contributor of *Los Profetas: The Prophetic Role of Hispanic Churches in America* (2022). Dr. Flores lives in Seguin with his wife Rev. Dr. Thelma Herrera Flores.



Singing into Splintered Spaces

The Rhythms of Mission and Spiritual Discipline

EDITED BY E. JANET WARREN

978-1-5326-7880-6 | 144 p. | \$22

Contemporary society can be described as splintered: busy and noisy, but also empty and in need of healing. Christians are called to sing the Lord's song anew to the world but are sometimes confused about whether to prioritize loving God or loving our neighbor. This collection of essays shows that both are needed: mission and spiritual disciplines are actually intertwined and reciprocal.

Some contributors to this volume take a theoretical perspective; others write from their experience in ministry. Disciplines discussed include classic ones like prayer and study, as well as novel ones like cruciformity, mindfulness, and neighborhood engagement.

Written in accessible language with multiple anecdotes, this book aims to inspire both the practice of spiritual disciplines and the practice of mission.

Join us as we journey from the Philippines to American nationalism to a prayer truck in inner city Hamilton, as we engage in quiet contemplation as well as compassionate action. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we dance rhythms of resting and responding, listening and leading, praying and proclaiming. Whether through solitude, discipleship groups, inviting strangers to dinner, speaking out against idolatry and injustice, or simply being present, we join Jesus as he repairs the splintered spaces of our lives.

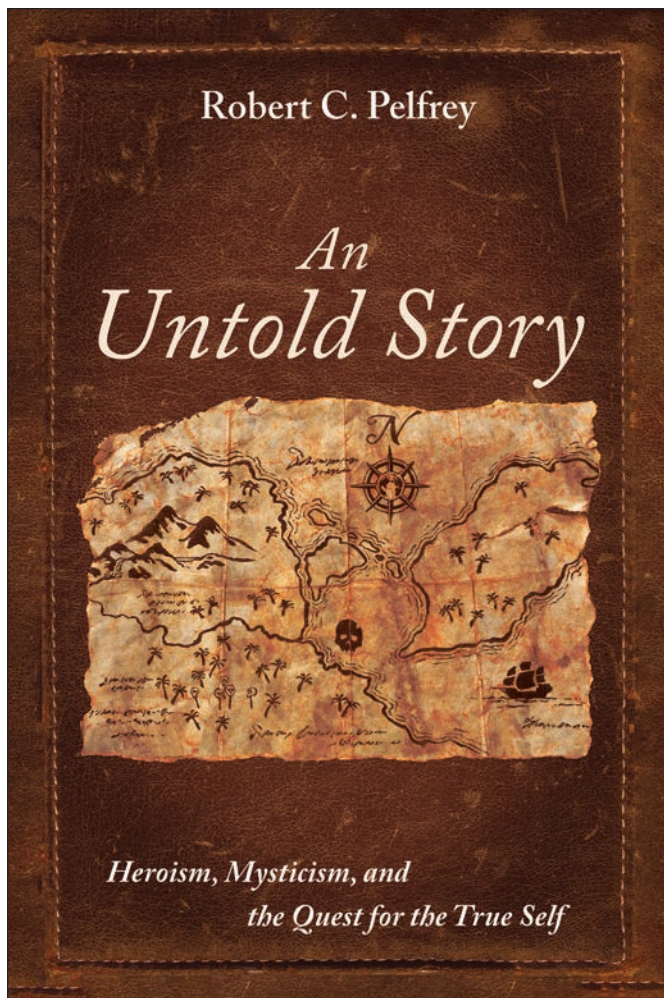
"*Singing into Splintered Spaces* is perhaps the finest collection of writing on mission as spiritual discipline I have read. A thoroughly engaging compilation of articles that combine scholarly rigor with practical reflection. Well worth your time. Well worth your investment."

—David Fitch, Northern Seminary

"If you care about mission that is rooted in real places and undertaken by real people, this book is for you. Most of the authors live, work, and pray in Hamilton, Ontario, a postindustrial city where for some years churches have done significant work together to embody the reality of God's kingdom. What they say about the spiritual disciplines needed to undergird the work of mission arises from hard-won experience. We need to hear this book's message as we discern God's mission in our own communities."

—John P. Bowen, Wycliffe College, emeritus

E. JANET WARREN is an independent, interdisciplinary scholar whose vocations include theology, medicine, and psychotherapy. She lives in Hamilton, Ontario. Her publications include *Cleansing the Cosmos* (2012) and *All Things Wise and Wonderful* (2021).



An Untold Story

Heroism, Mysticism, and the
Quest for the True Self

ROBERT C. PELFREY

978-1-6667-5133-8 | 186 p. | \$26

Is there more to life? Is there more to me? Is it all worth it? What does it mean to be one with God, and what does that have to do with the mess and challenges of everyday life? These are some of the issues addressed in *An Untold Story* as it follows the mystical-heroic quest to find our true selves.

In coming to a better understanding of what it is to be a hero and what it is to be a mystic, we come to a better understanding of what it is to be ourselves. The stories are connected. The classic hero's journey of myth and legend is at the heart of the mystical journey to life with God. And together they show the way to our true selves and our true stories.

With the guidance of mystical theologian John of Ruusbroec and other teachers, and with help from many favorite heroic stories and characters, *An Untold Story* presents a path of spiritual formation that is at once epic and everyday, fantastical and practical, otherworldly and ordinary. This is a guide for any would-be mystic-hero longing for their own wondertale to no longer be an untold story.

"John of Ruusbroec is widely considered among specialists to be one of the most important mystical writers in the Christian tradition, and he is one of the most translated authors in the history of Dutch literature. He is not as well-known as he deserves to be, which is why this book is very welcome. Written accessibly for a general readership, it takes us to the heart of Ruusbroec's thought and is often deeply insightful, at times surprising, and never dull."

—John Arblaster, director, Ruusbroec Institute

"*An Untold Story* has immediately become my go-to guide into mystical theology. The book is not only an enjoyable and substantive exploration into this little-understood tradition of Christianity, but it accomplishes this difficult task by putting a much-needed highlight on Ruusbroec's indispensable message more accessibly than previously available."

—Daniel Ethan Harris, author of *Grace That Grows*

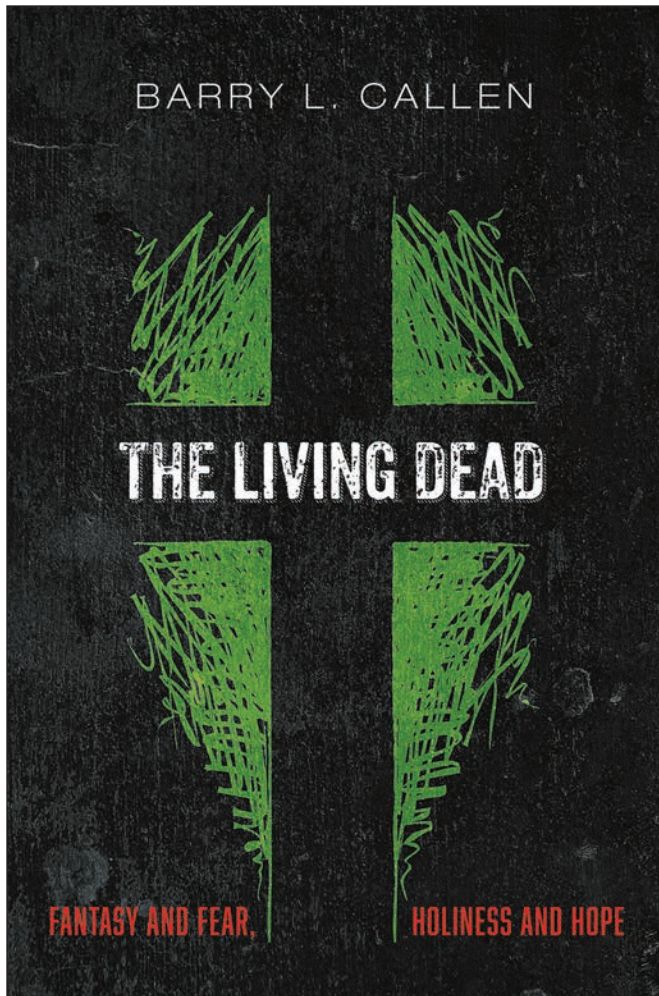
"Here's a book for those who want to know about the Flemish mystical theologian who influenced Thomas à Kempis, Evelyn Underhill, and Thomas Merton. Pelfrey further helps us understand John of Ruusbroec by employing the "hero's journey" and examples from literature and film. You will find this book a resource to return to again and again as you fan into flame your own desire to experience God and to live from your true self."

—Kevin J. Navarro, author of *Trinitarian Doxology*

"Robert Pelfrey gives an account of spiritual formation that is fresh, compelling, and winsome. He takes us on a quest for union with God, a mystical-heroic journey into the landscape of God's transforming love where we encounter our true selves and find the story that is uniquely ours to tell, to live in the everyday messiness of the world. Beautifully written, this book deserves to be read slowly and contemplatively."

—Gerard Booy, pastor, Fairview Presbyterian Church

ROBERT C. PELFREY is a theologian, pastor, and lecturer in historical theology and spiritual formation. He is the author of *Spiritual Formation as the Hero's Journey in John of Ruusbroec* (2022).



The Living Dead

Fantasy and Fear, Holiness and Hope

BARRY L. CALLEN

978-1-6667-4402-6 | 178 p. | \$25

People readily form religious beliefs out of their imaginations, fears, fantasies, and bloated egos. The paranormal is now nearly the norm in the world of popular entertainment, threatening traditional systems of belief. Are today's "walking dead" real zombies? Are the aliens actually here? What's keeping you awake at night? Are masses of overscheduled and frustrated people spiritually deceased even though still breathing? Who's lurking in the shadows, demons of destruction, a loving God seeking our highest well-being, or nothing but our twisted imaginations? How we fragile humans long for safety, ecstasy, community, meaning, and "salvation." We must beware, however. Numerous charlatans have it all for sale! By contrast, there still is the man Jesus who has paid the highest of prices and is offering all we need as a free gift. In him, insists the Christian faith, death has died and we've been set free to be "possessed" by the Spirit of Jesus, thus becoming the *living dead*. Receiving this gift takes faith, of course, but faith not contrary to reason. In fact, it may be the most reasonable and satisfying thing we could ever do.

"Barry Callen writes provocatively about dimensions of life too many people fear even discussing. He blends Scripture, church tradition, critical thinking, and relevant experience to bring hope for loving and holy lives found in being 'possessed' by the Spirit of Christ."

—Don Thorsen, Azusa Pacific University

"What a cool theology book! Barry Callen explores the paranormal and connects it with the big life questions we all ask. The result is a wild reading ride with new insights about age-old issues."

—Thomas Jay Oord, Northwind Theological Seminary

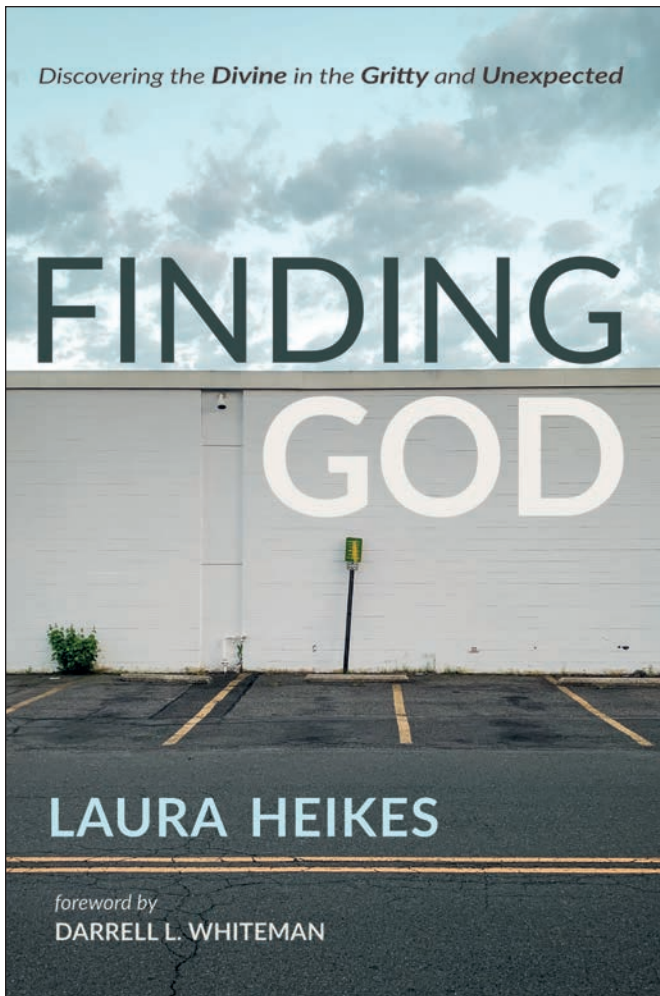
"We are 'spiritual' beings longing for the 'beyond.' Technology has detached us from the supernatural. Writers now downplay the supernatural, trying to make Christianity 'relevant.' Not Callen. His writing is a must-read for people disillusioned with much of contemporary Christianity but wanting desperately to find meaning and a life beyond this one."

—David W. Virtue, president, VirtueOnline

"For everything good God has provided, the world seems to have a counterfeit. Barry Callen has done a phenomenal job comparing and separating the reality of biblical truth from the fantasies and falsehoods of our culture, showing the path to true faith and hope for today and forever!"

—Mike Claypool, regional pastor, North and South Carolina

BARRY L. CALLEN is retired Dean and Professor of Christian Studies at Anderson University. He has authored over fifty books, including *Discerning the Divine* (2004), *Bible Stories for Strong Stomachs* (2017), *The Jagged Journey* (2018), and *God in the Shadows* (2018).



Finding God

Discovering the Divine in the Gritty and Unexpected

LAURA HEIKES

978-1-6667-3129-3 | 168 p. | \$24

Is Walmart a good place to meet God? What about a dive bar? The town dump? Does meeting God happen only in separate, “holy” places? The book of Acts says there is no place on earth without a witness to God’s love (Acts 14:16–17). God longs to meet us throughout our lives: at the bus stop, at a costume shop, even at a livestock auction. It’s time for expanded spirituality—one that is brave and fresh and all-encompassing.

Pastor Laura has been helping people meet God in their communities for two decades. Come with her. Soon you will be talking about the strange and wonderful places you found yourself and the amazing, tender, and powerful ways you met God there. You will find that the search and discovery change you, and the way you approach faith, forever.

“Laura Heikes has a gift for seeing God in the ordinary and in seemingly not religious moments of life. Read her book, and learn from her. Her stories are examples of how those least likely to be in church will experience God every day. Find ways for the marginal people in your church and community to reflect on her stories and tell their own stories. You will be surprised at what you hear.”

—Lovett H. Weems Jr., Wesley Theological Seminary, emeritus

“Laura Heikes is one of the best communicators I’ve ever met. She shows the gospel’s wisdom, pertinence, and its deep joy. I envy those congregations that have gotten to sit at her feet. With this first book we all get to. Read, devour, dog-ear, underline, and pass it on.”

—Jason Byassee, senior pastor, Timothy Eaton Memorial Church

“In a world of online worship and spotty attendance, more of us want to connect with God outside the walls of the church. In *Finding God*, Heikes gives us both inspiration and instruction for that pursuit. Through powerful stories and practical exercises, she helps us to see God at work all around us. If you’re looking for a new way to connect with God or rekindle your faith, this book is a must read.”

—Matt Miofsky, lead pastor, The Gathering

“If you are among those searching for hope and meaning in a season of disruption and anxiety, Laura Heikes invites you to join her in *Finding God*. Laura brings a seeker’s eye and a pastor’s heart in telling rich stories where she has found God—often in the most unlikely places. This is a book that is both wise and hopeful.”

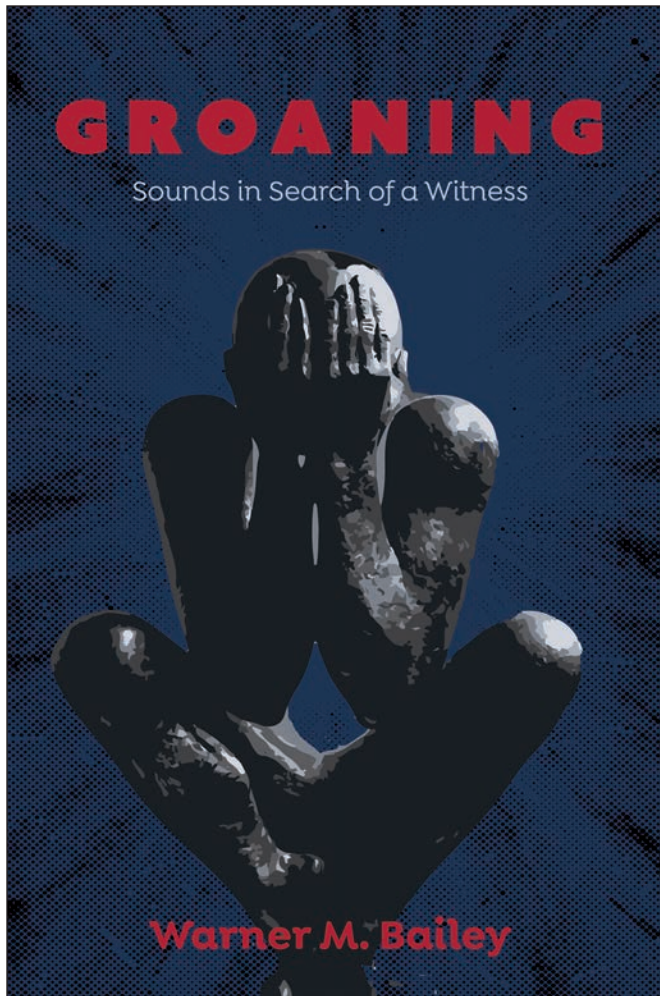
—Janice Huie, retired United Methodist bishop

“Heikes mingles humor with sharp poignancy as she recounts stories of discovering God in everyday places. Her writing makes me smile, and then makes think, and ultimately opens my eyes to God’s continuing grace in unexpected places. Treat yourself to this book.”

—Robert Schnase, United Methodist bishop

LAURA HEIKES is a United Methodist pastor who has served English- and Spanish-speaking churches. She’s currently the lead pastor at McAllen First United Methodist Church along the Texas/Mexico border.





Groaning

Sounds in Search of a Witness

WARNER M. BAILEY

978-1-6667-3775-2 | 162 p. | \$23

When a Minneapolis police officer murdered George Floyd, that cop seared on to the American consciousness a lasting symbol of the injustices that communities of color have submitted to since slavery. Many people used the word “groaning” to describe their response to this murder. This book seeks a better understanding of this visceral reaction, and its pastoral importance.

In Lamentations 1, groaning plays a pivotal role, and a witness to groaning is indispensable to relief. Groans are sounds in search of such a witness. This points up the silence of God as witness, crystallized in the symbol of the anti-shepherd. The book ends with the stark, impending reality of baleful, divine rejection. Yet, God does not intend for silence to be the final result. This book probes several openings to a cruciform model in which groaning is contextualized and transformed. Lamentations functions creatively in canonical relationship with Second Isaiah, the Gospel narrative of Jesus, and Paul’s description of the Spirit’s intercessory work. A range of Black religious thinkers—Cone, Evans, Glaude, Copeland—are analyzed for insights into addressing groaning. Finally, the indispensability of a witness challenges communities of faith to serve as witnesses to persons who struggle to flourish even as they carry their scars.

“In wrestling with multiple traumas experienced by black people over centuries of life in America, Bailey exposes the value of witnesses who respond to the cry generated by excruciating pain and persistent sorrow. Bailey does not pretend to have final answers, but, faithful to his Christian commitments, promotes a view of God’s presence in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus that can sustain life-affirming and life-transforming hope.”

—Michael Miller, executive vice president and dean, Brite Divinity School

“Warner Bailey listens attentively and compassionately to the wordless cries from people’s souls after atrocities such as George Floyd’s murder. How does a pastor respond to ‘groans too deep for words,’ especially within a system of white supremacy that destroys life? With theological rigor and in dialogue with black theologians, Bailey discerns in these groans faith and meaning that open to hope. His vision calls pastors to become wounded witnesses as well as wounded healers.”

—Karl J. Van Harn, director of pastoral services and clinical pastoral education, Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services

WARNER M. BAILEY is director of Presbyterian Studies at Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University, and theologian-in-residence at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, Fort Worth, Texas.

Returning to **Woman Wisdom** in
the Bible, Practice, and Prayer

Jesus Sophia



Sally Douglas

Jesus Sophia

Returning to Woman Wisdom in
the Bible, Practice, and Prayer

SALLY DOUGLAS

978-1-6667-3579-6 | 176 p. | \$28

In this groundbreaking book, Sally Douglas excavates biblical and early Christian understandings of Jesus as the female divine. Drawing from her expertise as a New Testament scholar and theologian, Douglas accessibly sets out the evidence for Jesus Sophia and then explores its practical implications, both for the church—often suffocated by God-as-male imagery—and for our day-to-day lives. Questions about discipleship, biblical interpretation, and theology are investigated in relation to Jesus Sophia’s hospitality, friendship, anger, non-retaliation, and care for all things. In this process understandings of the cross are revisited, female imagery for God is reclaimed and celebrated, fresh and ancient practices of faith are offered, and inclusive, exquisite liturgies are shared. With dynamism, humor, faithfulness, and creativity, Douglas encourages, unsettles, and supports readers, as they discover Jesus Sophia for themselves.

“I was comforted, unsettled, challenged, and sustained by this beautifully written and well-researched book. I was drawn into prayer, reflected on how Jesus as Woman Wisdom guides how I live, and found myself reaching for my Bible to read it with new eyes. This book will nourish the curious and committed alike, inviting all to gather at the table of Jesus the meal-maker and find life.”

—Sharon Hollis, president, Uniting Church in Australia

“With deftness, honesty, and tenderness, and with the clarity and depth of a scholar, Sally Douglas invites us to discover and experience for ourselves the ancient, neglected traditions of Jesus Sophia. In this engaging book, she guides the reader to welcome Woman Wisdom into the language of their soul and to find new ways of participating in the divine life of Holy Wisdom.”

—Vicky Balabanski, principal and professor of New Testament, Uniting College for Leadership & Theology

“In this exciting and accessible book, Sally Douglas addresses the deep-rooted gender imbalance pervasive in our understanding of Jesus. She invites the

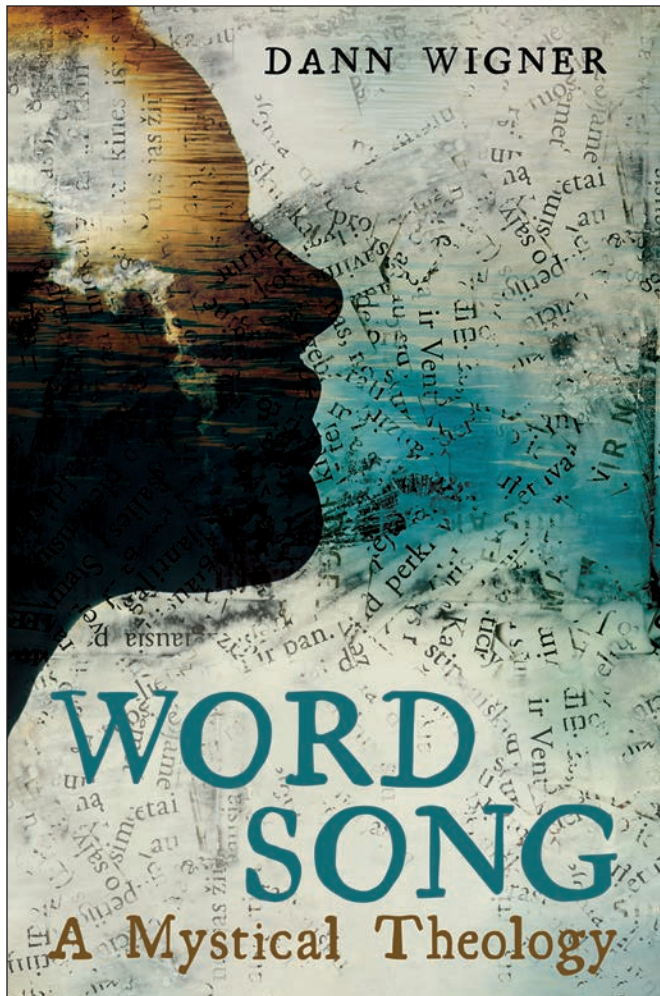
reader to be ‘brave’ and embark on an ‘wild adventure’ of discovering Jesus anew, with her scholarly, creative, and insightful reading of biblical texts on Jesus Sophia, touching prayers, and attention to the transformative, compassionate, angry, inclusive, and renewing implications of Sophia. A must-read for all seeking to expand their theological horizons!”

—Monica Jyotsna Melanchthon, academic dean and associate professor of Old Testament, Pilgrim Theological College

“If you are not acquainted with Jesus as Woman Wisdom, let Sally Douglas introduce you. Guiding through clues in the Old and New Testaments, she turns new light on things long overlooked and invites you to join in prayer and consider practices like keeping peace, harnessing anger, making friends, and more. For Douglas, Jesus as Woman Wisdom is one who prepares the feast and invites the vagabonds, ourselves included. I encourage you to sit down at her table!”

—Stephen Burns, professor of liturgical and practical theology, Pilgrim Theological College

SALLY DOUGLAS is a biblical scholar, theologian, author, and Uniting Church Minister whose work disrupts neat categories. Through attending to biblical and early church texts, Sally investigates the question ‘so what might this mean for us?’. She publishes regularly and is a Research Associate and Associate Lecturer at Pilgrim Theological College, within the University of Divinity, Melbourne. Her books include *Early Church Understandings of Jesus as the Female Divine: The Scandal of the Scandal of Particularity* (Bloomsbury T&T Clark 2016) and *The Church Triumphant as Salt: Becoming the Community Jesus Speaks About* (Coventry, 2021).



Word Song

A Mystical Theology

DANN WIGNER

978-1-6667-3934-3 | 140 p. | \$16

This collection of sayings grows directly out of the point where nondiscursive experience meets traditional, discursive theology. Christians who are interested in nondiscursive, or nondual, thought have few practical tools that exist to help them situate themselves and their experiences theologically. An old form of Christian spiritual theology, the “sayings theology,” has as its goal to cause one to pause and reflect, which opens the door to invite in nondiscursive thinking. This theology is an explicitly *mystical* theology because it is not about stating logically what Christians believe about God; it is about meeting God through reflection. As a result, these sayings raise questions more than settle them, creating an openness to meet God. It is this openness which is the most characteristic mark of a mystical theology.

“There is something so blissfully perennial in a spiritual teaching that takes you to the edge and allows you to make the jump. Dann Wigner has not created a new system, but he has tapped into an ancient root that continues to draw water to the surface. In his new book, *Word Song*, you will find a compelling and artistic rendering of a spiritual teaching that connects past to present in a luminous way.”

—Justin Gibson, rector, St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church

“Invocative, invigorating, yet relaxed, Dann Wigner’s writing is inclusive and welcoming. For anyone wanting to experience a ‘sayings theology,’ *Lectio Divina*, and mystical meditation, here awaits beautiful word space for endless reflections. As a musician and fan of Tolkien and C. S. Lewis, I appreciate *Word Song* allowing us to simply ‘be’ in the suspended moment where holy universes are sung into existence. Dann helps us meet God ‘in the middle’ where we increase our spiritual wakefulness.”

—Caroline Carson, dean of the Atlantic Convocation, Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey

DANN WIGNER is a mystical theologian and religious sociologist. He has taught at multiple universities and currently teaches for All Saints Episcopal School in Lubbock, Texas. Wigner has previously published several books, including *Thinking Spiritually in Small Groups: The Practice of Mystical Reflection*. Follow him at <http://spiritualitystepbystep.com>.

We *Believe* in the *Holy Spirit*



edited by **Henco van der Westhuizen**
foreword by **Graham Ward**

We Believe in the Holy Spirit

EDITED BY **HENCO VAN DER WESTHUIZEN**

978-1-6667-5155-0 | 282 p. | \$36

We *Believe in the Holy Spirit* is a collection of articles reflecting some of the most important ideas in pneumatology in recent years. Although the articles were not written to fit the articles of the Nicene Creed (381), linking these articles to the articles of the creed sheds imaginative light on the development of ideas in theologies of the Spirit.

“Henco van der Westhuizen’s collection of essays offers a feast of exploration by diverse authors on the person and work of the Holy Spirit. Many of the burning issues of our day call for fresh thinking about where the Spirit of God is present and to what end, and van der Westhuizen’s book is a significant addition to the growing literature seeking to meet this need.”

—Daniel Migliore, Princeton Theological Seminary

“Structured by the Nicene-Constantinopolitan creed, *We Believe in the Holy Spirit* presents preeminent contributions to pneumatology from the past thirty years to a wider audience. As it offers a rich tapestry of theological reflections on the Spirit’s ‘worlding’ through language and culture, its work in procession and inspiration, belonging and resistance, freedom and obedience, the volume itself becomes a testimony to the work of the living Spirit in the polyphonic resonances of African, European, and American voices.”

—Hanna Reichel, Princeton Theological Seminary

HENCO VAN DER WESTHUIZEN is associate professor in systematic theology at the University of the Free State, Bloemfontein. He is the editor of *Letters to a Young Theologian* (2021).





Test All Things

The Bible, Faith, and Science

GIJSBERT VAN DEN BRINK

978-1-6667-6156-6 | 140 p. | \$21

To many people, science and the Christian faith are worlds apart. As a result, those who love both the Bible and science often have something to explain. Hasn't science taken over the role of religion in our days? And what relevance can such an ancient book as the Bible possibly still have in our hypermodern times? This study attempts to elucidate the Bible's continuing appeal and significance in an age characterized by science and ever more sophisticated technology. It does so by means of ten soundings in individual biblical texts, which are applied to the thought world of contemporary science. The results are remarkable and offer a lot of food for thought.

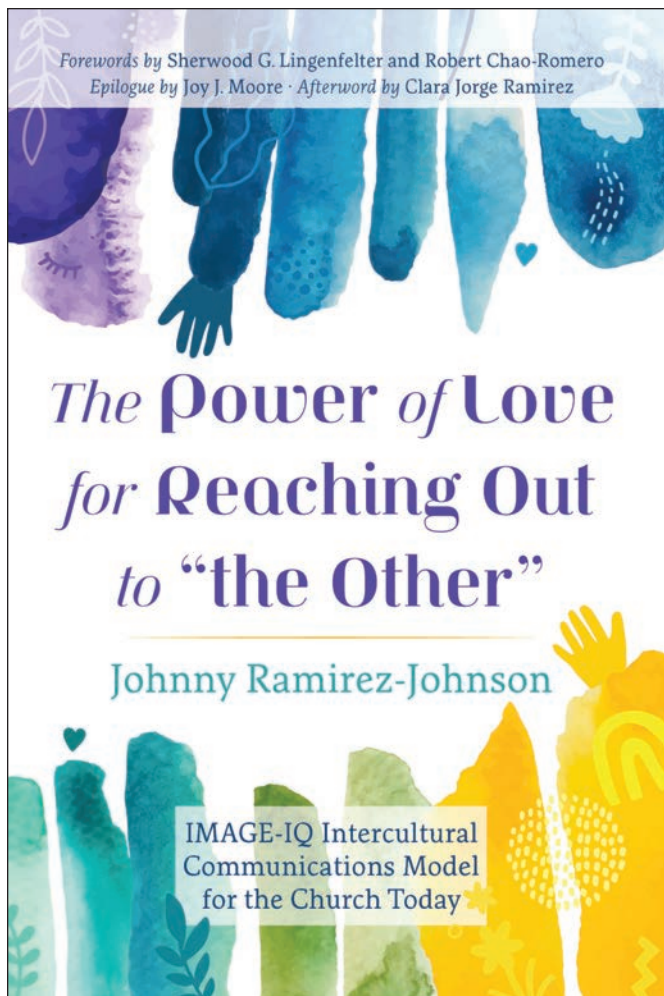
"Gijsbert van den Brink has placed us all in his debt by this effort to engage a set of controversies raised by natural science for biblical faith. With attention to the dimensions of wisdom, van den Brink takes biblical authority seriously while asking challenging questions about the genre, worldview, and true meaning of biblical texts. Even readers who disagree with some of his judgments should appreciate the biblical foundation and wise serenity of his work."

—Matthew Levering, chair of theology, Mundelein Seminary

"This book offers substantial, non-technical reflections on questions about science, faith, and Scripture by distinguishing the original meaning of a text from its lasting significance. There is attention for the possibilities and limitations of scholarship in many areas. Importantly, it models attitudes towards faith and scholarship, making it relevant for a broad range of issues. Questions for discussion are included."

—Jitse van der Meer, professor emeritus of biology, Redeemer University

GIJSBERT VAN DEN BRINK studied theology and is professor of theology and science at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. His previous publications include *Almighty God* (1994), *Understanding the Attributes of God* (1999; edited with Marcel Sarot), *Philosophy of Science for Theologians* (2009), *Christian Dogmatics* (2012; written with Cornelis van der Kooi), *Reformed Theology and Evolutionary Theory* (2020), and *Dawn: A Proton's Tale of All that Came to Be* (2021; written with Cees Dekker and Corien Oranje).



The Power of Love for Reaching Out to “the Other”

IMAGE-IQ Intercultural Communications Model for the Church Today

JOHNNY RAMIREZ-JOHNSON

978-1-6667-3412-6 | 322 p. | \$32

Race is a result of God’s design and not of sin. God loves diversity and sought it. Race biases are normal and come as a result of likes and dislikes; love of “the other” is to be learned. In this book, Bible stories and principles are combined with four intercultural communication skills to help develop love of the other. This book builds on what Sherwood Lingenfelter and Marvin K. Mayers developed for understanding cultural values and diversity of likes and dislikes. Those differences are normal. The problem comes from excluding the other. This book explores a step-wise approach to developing the love of the other. How the person, the leader, and the church see diversity defines the church’s outreach, mission, and gospel fulfillment.

AUTHOR’S OWN WORDS BOOK DESCRIPTION

The Power of Love explains how emotions and feelings were part of God’s creation design from before sin entered this world. While departing from cognitive neuropsychology and the latest learning from science this seminar furthers the idea that race relations are not to be understood by sociology and science but by Bible and Christian beliefs.

If you want to learn a non-CRT (critical race theory) approach to race relations while risking being, again, convicted of the need to reach out to the other in gospel love—enter into dialogue—with the author by reading his book and let us pray together. If you want to keep it safe and your intercultural relationships as they are—in a tongue in cheek way the author advises to—stay away from this book!

“Ramirez-Johnson’s extensive discussions in this book are questioning our value-driven assumptions in general, and value-driven assumptions about the other in particular. . . . I unite with John the Revelator and with Dr. Ramirez-Johnson calling the reader to stand down, look around, see the earth, and ‘subdue it’ in love. Only then can we claim our new birth in the biblical ways.”

—Joy J. Moore, Luther Seminary

“It is impossible for us to change unless we are willing to learn to know ourselves and others in a substantive and personal way. . . . Johnny Ramirez-Johnson has placed in your hands an offering of Scripture, insight, and experience that you may prayerfully employ to begin your personal journey of submission first to Christ and then to obedience as his healing presence for racial healing and justice in your local community and family.”

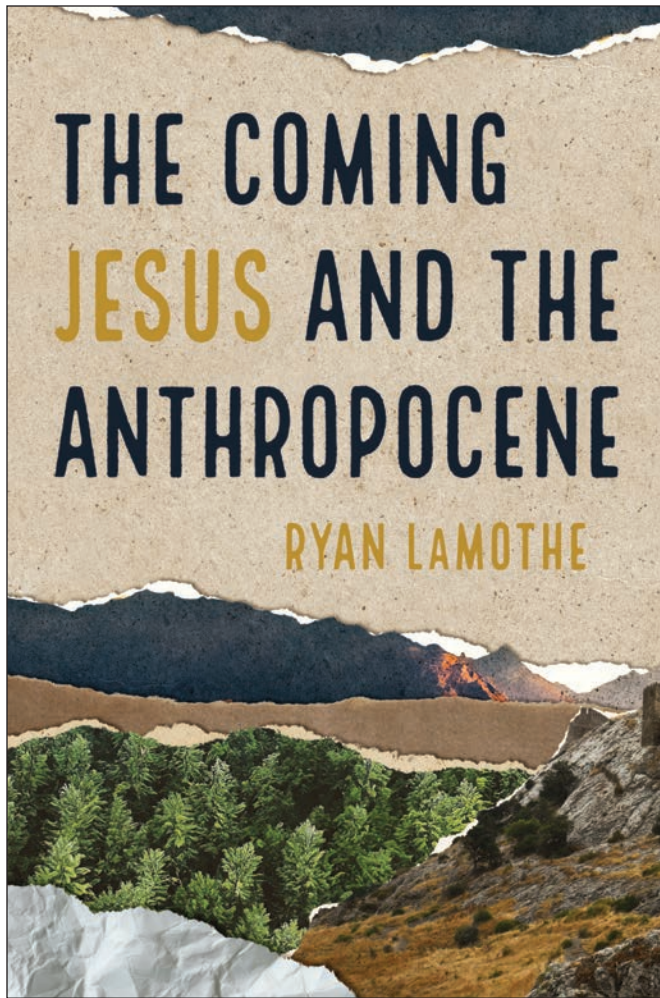
—Sherwood Lingenfelter, Fuller Theological Seminary

“In the following pages, Dr. Johnny Ramirez-Johnson supplies a compelling interdisciplinary discussion of theology, social science, and psychology which offers hope for getting past our current racial divides. As a pastor, Harvard-trained educator, and Fuller Seminary missiologist, Ramirez-Johnson presents his original IMAGE-IQ framework . . . to help us gain an understanding of the unconscious logic, values, and beliefs that limit dialogue and hinder koinonia across ethnic difference.”

—Robert Chao Romero, Fuller Theological Seminary

JOHNNY RAMÍREZ-JOHNSON is Professor of Anthropology and Centro Latino at Fuller Theological Seminary School of Mission and Theology. His doctorate in cultural psychology from Harvard University and his biblical studies masters from Andrews University and a year at the Semitic Museum at Harvard University equipped him well for the integration of social sciences and faithful biblical readings. He is co-editor of *Can “White” People Be Saved?: Triangulating Race, Theology, and Mission* (2018).





The Coming Jesus and the Anthropocene

RYAN LAMOTHE

978-1-6667-5885-6 | Forthcoming

Melting glaciers and icecaps, massive forest fires, enormous storms, extensive and prolonged flooding, and desertification of large tracts of land are realities we currently face and will continue to struggle with as a result of climate change. Our climate crisis invites, if not demands, a critical evaluation of our political, religious, economic, and cultural narratives and rituals that give rise to our ways of relating to one another, to other species, and to planet Earth. This book argues that the climate emergency exposes deep problematic roots of Western religious and political paradigms and apparatuses that undergird ideas of and methods for human flourishing. In particular, Western religious and political philosophies have produced and maintained a radical rift between human beings and other species, as well as beliefs about human dominion over other species and the earth. These ideas and practices are responsible for the colonization of Nature and for climate change. Understanding these sources invites a radical reimagining of our religious ideas and practices. Specifically, this book proposes a coming Jesus—a form of life that traverses the rift, while denying human and divine dominion for the sake of recognizing and respecting the singularities and flourishing of all species.

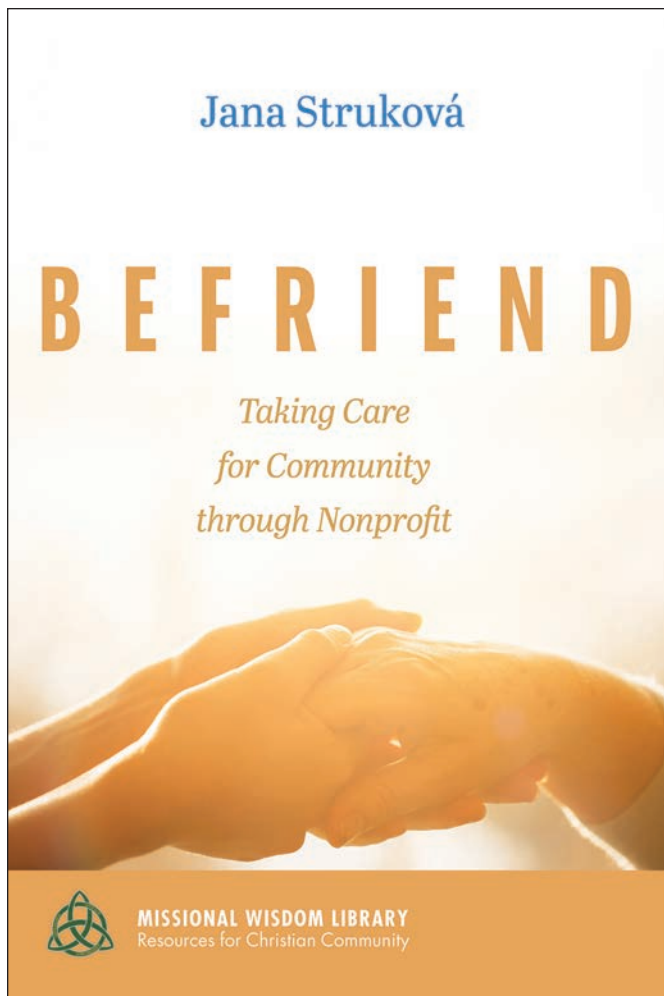
“Ryan LaMothe’s exploration of the deep history of sovereignty powerfully speaks to the reality of the margin of society where the most unsettlingly radical critiques of sovereignty arise. LaMothe’s persistent and pioneering exploration of the challenges posed by the Anthropocene has unearthed a critical insight that we must heed.”

—Hee-Kyu Heidi Park, associate professor of practical theology, Ewha Womans University

“Political pastoral theologian Ryan LaMothe resumes his unparalleled immersion into sources and effects of climate change, here calling to account Abrahamic faiths—especially age-old assertions of the divine as sovereign overlord—and finding them wanting. LaMothe’s coming Jesus is less Marvel superhero and more a subversive way of life that accepts finitude, esteems creation, and commits amid waning hope to revitalizing care. Prepare to be devastated. Prepare to be set free.”

—Robert C. Dykstra, professor of pastoral theology, Princeton Theological Seminary

RYAN LAMOTHE is professor of pastoral care and counseling at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. He is author of *A Radical Political Theology for the Anthropocene* (Cascade Books, 2021) and *Care of Souls, Care of Polis* (2017).



Befriend

Taking Care for Community through Nonprofit

MISSIONAL WISDOM LIBRARY: RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

JANA STRUKOVÁ

978-1-6667-0997-1 | Forthcoming

Befriend narrates a personal experience of the author with the formation of a faith-based nonprofit in health services. It combines real-life examples with theories from several disciplines to describe the nature and role of nonprofit in a community. The book argues that faith-based nonprofits create spaces of hospitality and inclusion for diverse humanity. They are poised to teach practices of friendship based on the friendship of Trinity and personal awareness of how mental health can either contribute to friendships in communities or inhibit it.

“Jana Struková’s heartfelt memoir and reflective analysis brims with stories, theological reflection, and life-giving spiritual practices that nurture individuals and build nonprofits and promote their thriving. This book offers a treasure trove of theoretical and practical resources for cultivating community care.”

—Michael S. Koppel, professor of pastoral theology and congregational care, Wesley Theological Seminary

“*Befriend* turns the common view of nonprofits as service providers on its head, insisting instead that nonprofits are agents of friendship—a practice that strikes at the heart of Christian discipleship. Sharing her own journey as a theologian and nonprofit leader, Jana Struková offers much practical wisdom and theological reflection on the nonprofit sector. For those who see their pastoral callings expanding beyond the church walls—and indeed, for anyone concerned about our increasingly fractured, friendless world—*Befriend* is essential reading.”

—Kenda Creasy Dean, professor of youth, church, and culture, Princeton Theological Seminary

“Jana Struková weaves together family narratives, wisdom about nonprofit development, and spiritual depth in this marvelous contribution to leadership literature. Deeply informed by trinitarian theology and the friendship of Je-

sus, the book elegantly translates these into practices for befriending others in holistic care. The vocation of restoring hope to community draws upon one’s own healing to build healing connections with others. This is what diaconal love looks like.”

—Craig L. Nesson, academic dean and professor of contextual theology and ethics, Wartburg Theological Seminary

“In *Befriend*, Jana Struková relies on the strength of her family’s history and faith in God to tell her journey of becoming a community advocate and helping others with the Mary and Martha Center. If more would follow the lessons learned in *Befriend*, the world would be a better place.”

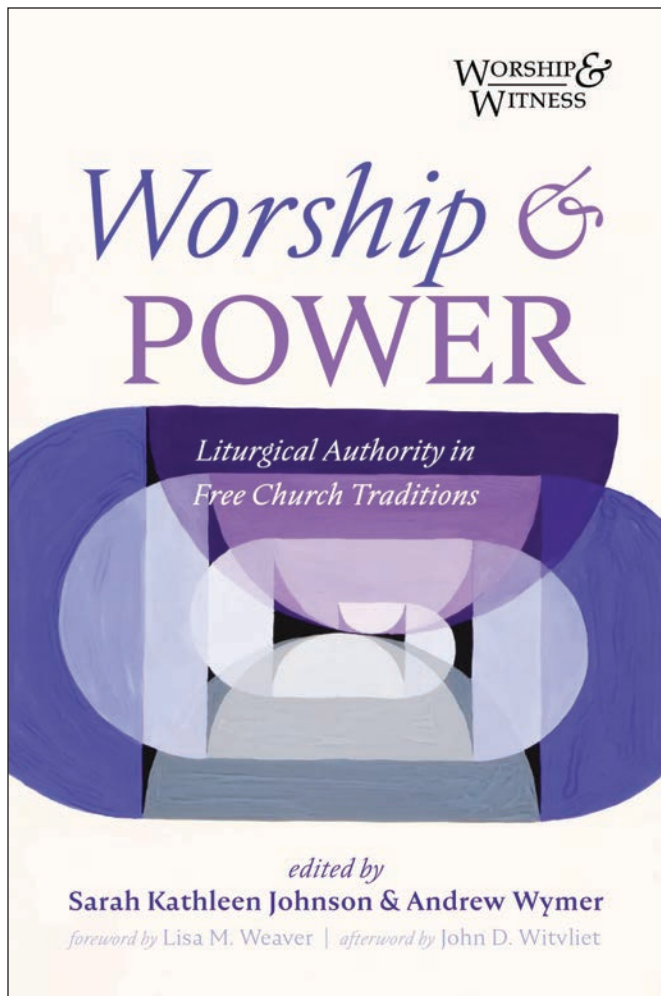
—Peter Ascitutto, Stanly County commissioner

“Jana Struková has given us the gift of bringing us into the full human presence of those we find in our lives—those we love already and can now love with more insight, empathy, and authenticity. And those we know only because they need us and need us to be competent as well as compassionate, effective as well as empathetic. She has learned these deep arts of humanity in a life empowered with both Spirit and intellect. What a gift!”

—Gary Gunderson, vice president, FaithHealth

JANA STRUKOVÁ is the founder and executive director of The Mary and Martha Center for Women and Community Care. She is a public scholar and professor of practical theology affiliated with different graduate schools. She is the author of *Kitchen Table Youth Ministry* (2010) and of the monograph *A Vocational Model of Confirmation* (2009).





Worship and Power

Liturgical Authority in Free Church Traditions

WORSHIP AND WITNESS

EDITED BY **SARAH KATHLEEN JOHNSON**
AND **ANDREW WYMER**

978-1-6667-3293-1 | 228 p. | \$29

Christian worship emerges from and speaks back into human relationships that are necessarily shaped by power and authority. Free Churches structure and negotiate power in relation to worship in ways that reflect the decentralization, local diversity, and personal agency that characterize many aspects of Free Church theology and practice. This volume models how dialogue among scholars and practitioners of Free Church worship, as well as dialogue with the wider church, can be mutually enriching as Christians strive together to worship in ways that are faithful and just.

“In Free Church traditions, the ways worship shapes us can appear confusing to some, like theological signatures written in invisible ink, only discernible to those with the means of revealing hidden text and meaning. *Worship and Power* is a bold, winsome, and insightful collection of essays that changes the ink so a wider, ecumenical community can consider the swirling flow and pathways of the Holy Spirit’s power when Christians gather in numbers small and large, in spaces closed and open.”

—Malinda Elizabeth Berry, associate professor of theology and ethics, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

“As Christianity is being de-formed by ideological intersections of nationalism, capitalism, and white supremacy, Johnson and Wymer present a provocative volume addressing problematic religious histories that helped give rise to current spiritual and political locations of Free Churches. Through the lenses of worship and liturgy, *Worship and Power* invites readers to explore how congregational practices can inform, impact, and re-form churches, communities, and a flailing society that desperately need a church who knows where her true power lies.”

—Lisa M. Allen-McLaurin, professor of church music and worship, The Interdenominational Theological Center

“Some books are germane because they cover a topic that is critical. Some books are relevant because they fill a vacuum that exists in scholarly literature. But some books are important because they are both. And so it is with *Worship and Power*. Addressing the question of authority in these very tumultuous times and helping to overcome the paucity of scholarship on Free Church worship, this book is a welcome and needed addition to liturgical studies.”

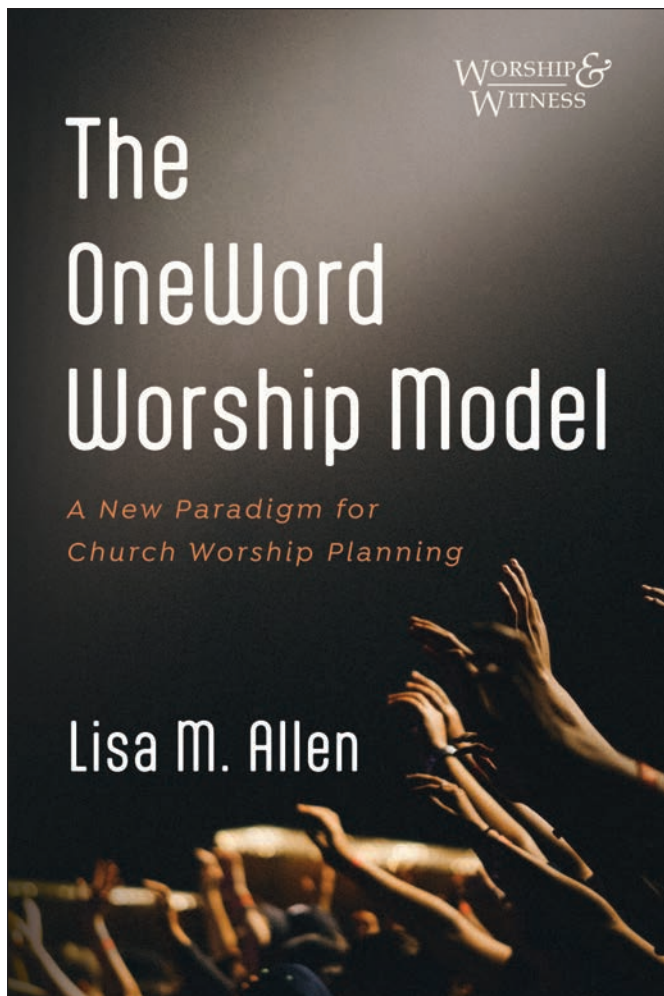
—Lester Ruth, research professor of Christian worship, Duke Divinity School

“A breakthrough work by a new generation of liturgical scholars examining the heretofore neglected Free Church traditions of worship, asking the right questions for these times and then addressing them with cutting edge scholarship, critical skill, and pastoral concern. This admirably collaborative project should prove both encouraging and challenging for the churches, as well as informative to the wider liturgical academy.”

—Bruce T. Morrill, SJ, chair of Roman Catholic studies, Vanderbilt University

SARAH KATHLEEN JOHNSON is assistant professor of liturgy and pastoral theology at Saint Paul University, Ottawa.

ANDREW WYMER is assistant professor of liturgical studies at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston.



The OneWord Worship Model

A New Paradigm for Church Worship Planning

WORSHIP AND WITNESS

LISA M. ALLEN

978-1-6667-4691-4 | 158 p. | \$22

The OneWord Worship Model: A New Paradigm for Church Worship Planning offers a clear, concise, and collaborative approach to planning congregational worship using the biblical text as its foundation. The model engages laity and clergy in the true definition of liturgy—the work or action of the people. This text serves as both invitation and instruction for pastors, worship leaders, and congregations to plan powerful, fruitful, and transformative corporate encounters with the triune God.

“The OneWord worship model invites us to intentionally plan, lead, and experience thematically and scripturally focused worship services that can facilitate rich, more fully embodied encounters with God and community. Offering an accessible and focused method for designing worship, Lisa Allen provides a hands-on encounter with worship planning through case studies, sample services, and planning worksheets. This book is a welcome resource for worship planners and pastors who seek to create holistic, dynamic worship experiences for their communities of faith.”

—Andrew Wymer, assistant professor of liturgical studies, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

“A field-tested guide for a worship planning process that invites teams into renewed intentionality, collaboration, and discipline creativity—all offered in response to God’s life-giving Word. The book challenges every preacher, musician, artist, liturgist, and worship leader to resist working as an independent contractor or lone ranger leader, and to embrace planning disciplines of mutual enrichment and supportive accountability.”

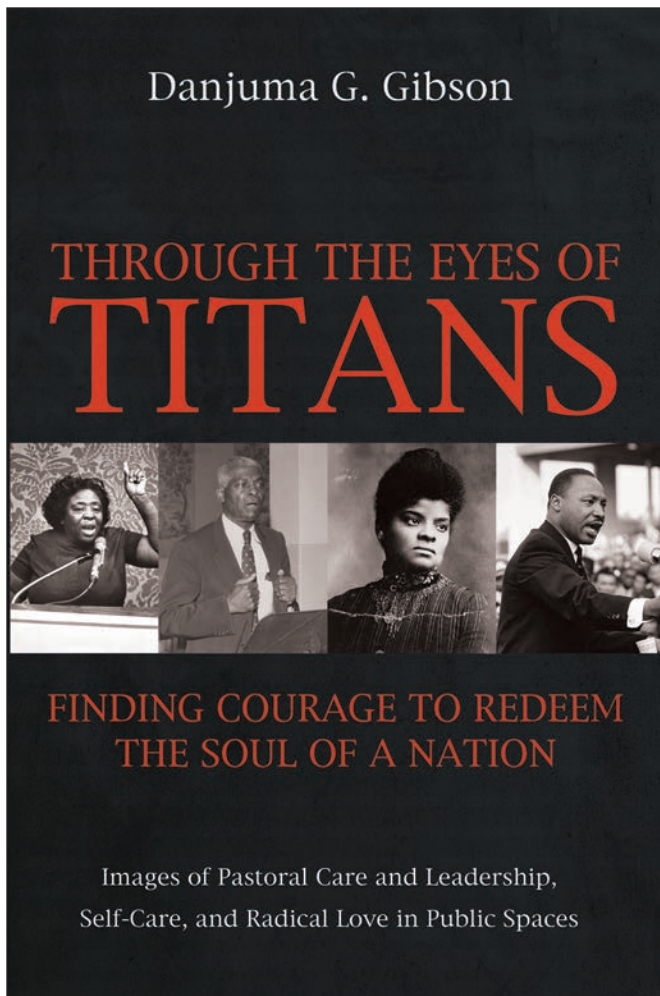
—John D. Witvliet, director, Calvin Institute of Christian Worship

“Lisa Allen’s deep love, convictions regarding worship, and excellence as an educator are evident in *The OneWord Worship Model*. This book provides pastors and practitioners with a thoughtful, thorough, theological model for worship planning. Both new and seasoned worship planners and worship planning teams should read this book as it is an invitation and an exhortation to engage, or revitalize, their practice of planning that which is the central activity of the church: worship.”

—Lisa M. Weaver, associate professor of worship, Columbia Theological Seminary

LISA M. ALLEN is an Emmy Award-winning pastor, professor, and public theologian. She is the Helmar Emil Nielsen Professor of Church Music and Worship at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia. She has over forty years of experience as an educator, liturgist, and church musician. She is the author of *A Womanist Theology of Worship: Liturgy, Justice, and Communal Righteousness* (2021).





Through the Eyes of Titans: Finding Courage to Redeem the Soul of a Nation

Images of Pastoral Care and Leadership, Self-Care, and Radical Love in Public Spaces

WORSHIP AND WITNESS

DANJUMA G. GIBSON

978-1-7252-8421-0 | Forthcoming

Human beings tend to romanticize history or idealize historical figures. This is nowhere more apparent than the civil rights era of the twentieth century. The problem is that when we idealize history, we fail to learn from it. The result is that history repeats itself along with its sins and atrocities. The January 6 Capitol insurrection and the current racial reckoning we are experiencing is unoriginal to the American experience. We have been here before. This book seeks to humanize people we have idealized. Readers are invited to challenge racial hatred and injustice in their own context by looking to the lives of historical figures who have faced the challenges we currently face. By examining the self-care practices of personalities like Ida B. Wells, Fannie Lou Hamer, Benjamin Elijah Mays, and Martin Luther King Jr., this book examines the practices of introspection and self-work these historical figures engaged in that enabled them to fulfill the body of work they are celebrated for today. By humanizing these historical titans, we can emulate similar practices of self-care and introspection in our own lives that can equip us in continuing the ongoing work of dismantling structures of racial hatred and oppression, and promoting freedom, love, equity, and justice to redeem the soul of a nation.

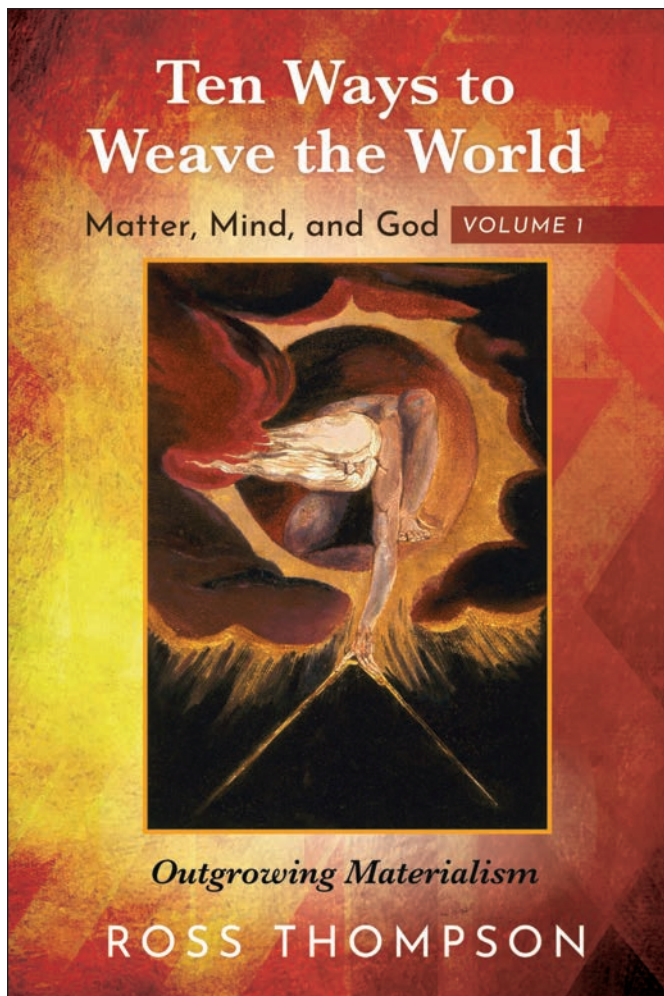
“Danjuma Gibson gives a sobering analysis of how some of this country’s most courageous and misunderstood leaders for justice held in tension their aspirations and visions with the disappointments that accompanied their pursuits. Gibson lays bare the conundrum that emerges from the realization that the support desired and needed from other black leaders was often marginal at best. This clarifying assessment will assist present day leaders in their own perspectives in racial justice work.”

—Anthony L. Bennett, lead pastor, Mount Aery Baptist Church

“In contrast to the usual, white-washed narratives idealizing civil rights titans, Danjuma Gibson offers a nuanced understanding of the ‘beautiful but arduous’ spiritual and psychological work undergirding the titans’ courageous lives. In his distinctive and poetic voice, Gibson both challenges and inspires readers to move beyond silence and complicity in the face of white supremacy. This is timely and vital reading for Christians and others who want to see ‘what love looks like.’”

—Mary Clark Moschella, professor of pastoral theology and care, Yale Divinity School

DANJUMA GIBSON is the professor of pastoral care at Calvin Theological Seminary, and a licensed psychotherapist in private practice. In addition to exploring psychological trauma, Dr. Gibson’s current research includes exploring the intersection of urbanism, black religious experience, psychoanalytic thought, and socioeconomics.



Ten Ways to Weave the World: Matter, Mind, and God, Volume 1

Outgrowing Materialism

ROSS THOMPSON

978-1-7252-7682-6 | 218 p. | \$29

The idea of an ideological war between science and religion, Thompson argues, is founded on a mistake. But this does not mean that there is nothing at stake. For behind the ill-conceived conflict lie complex issues about the nature of mind, consciousness, experience, subjectivity, quality, value, and the like, all of which need to be disentangled and assessed in their own right.

Outgrowing Materialism leads the reader through a sequence of five “Worlds,” each of which offers a distinct way of understanding (or failing to understand) these issues, and where God might belong (or not). Writing accessibly, but with a sharp eye for detail, Thompson sheds new light on the familiar territory of materialism, dualism, and structural realism, and evaluates the growing attraction of the multiverse. He argues that dualism mechanized the material world; then materialism exorcised the mental “ghost” from the machine; and finally, this machine is evaporating into pure mathematics.

Outgrowing Materialism is half of *Ten Ways to Weave the World: Matter, Mind, and God*. The sequel, *Embodying Mind*, discusses five “Worlds” that precede and follow those discussed here. However, *Outgrowing Materialism* stands in its own right as a critique of the modern science v. religion dilemma.

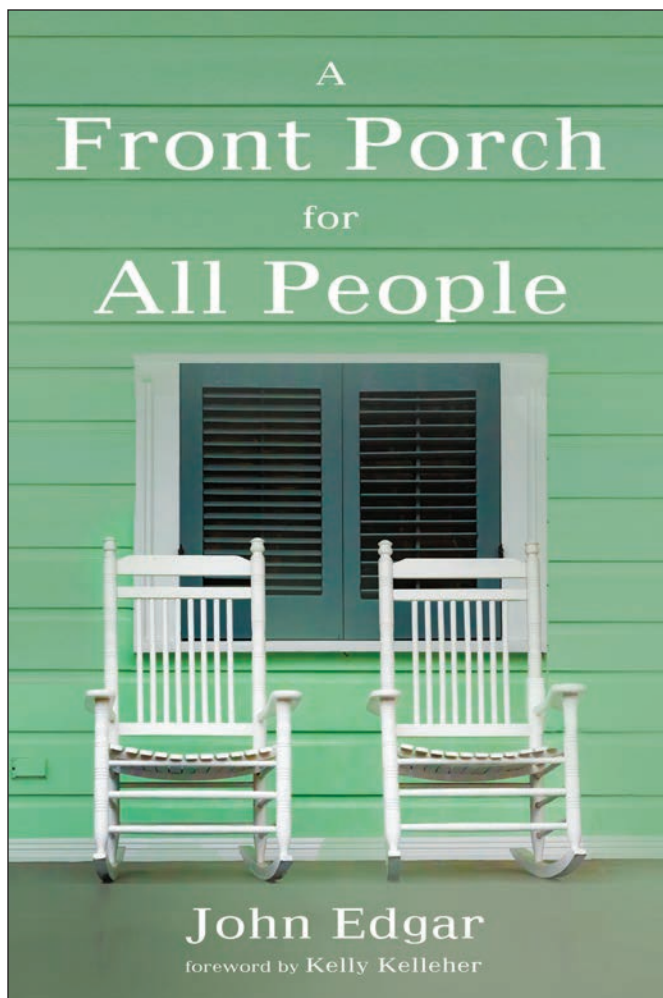
“What room is there for God, for consciousness, for value, in the world now described by scientists? Ross Thompson provides an openminded, adventurous tour of various competing answers.”

—John Leslie, author of *Infinite Minds: A Philosophical Cosmology*

“A remarkable tour de force—rare enough in a theological world of carefully policed methodological boundaries—Ross Thompson’s work offers a wide-ranging exploration of key themes, philosophical and theological. It is a model of creative theological thinking.”

—Denys Turner, author of *Faith, Reason, and the Existence of God*

ROSS THOMPSON is a retired Anglican priest and freelance author. Publications include the *SCM Studyguides to The Sacraments* (2006) and *Christian Spirituality* (2008); *Buddhist Christianity* (2010); and *The Interfaith Imperative* (2017).



A Front Porch for All People

JOHN W. EDGAR

978-1-6667-4075-2 | 160 p. | \$23

This book offers inspirational guidance for any reader who yearns to live in a sustainable mixed-income community—and cares enough to do something about it. Rev. John Edgar, the founder of the United Methodist Church for All People and Community Development for All People, tells the story of laboring alongside low-income residents across two decades to transform the South Side of Columbus into an opportunity-rich community where everyone may thrive. Starting with an outreach ministry called the Free Store, people came together and launched the Church for All People, the most diverse United Methodist congregation in the nation in terms of the intersection of race and social class. Each year, direct service ministries provide over 35,000 individuals opportunities to touch grace and experience positive transformation in their lives. Having developed over 100 million dollars of affordable housing, Church and Community Development for All People is forging a radically inclusive neighborhood, where everyone can dwell in unity on *a front porch for all people*. The chapters in this book set forth key principles which shaped this journey, beginning with the affirmation that scarcity is a myth and all of us dwell inside a divine economy of abundance.

“An amazing and moving book! Should be required reading for those engaged in urban ministries as well as social workers, neighborhood organizers, and community development professionals. Regardless of one’s own faith, John Edgar’s positive, asset-based community development approach will resonate and inspire. The book describes a dozen or more impactful initiatives, each worthy of its own case study, that meet vital community needs through creative engagement and collaboration.”

—Hal Keller, president emeritus, Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing

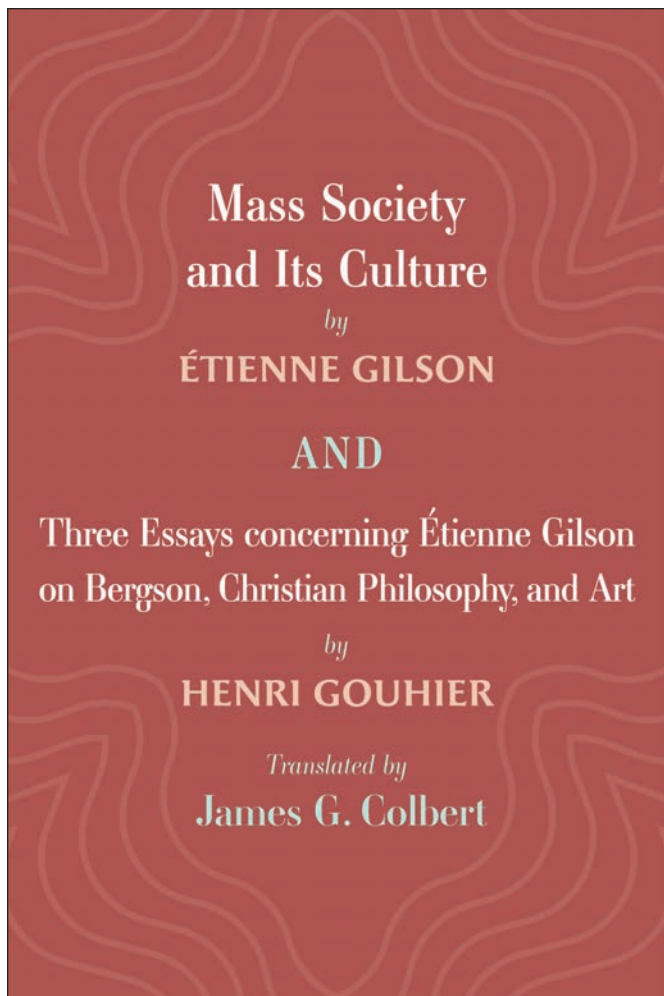
“In *A Front Porch for All People*, John Edgar has issued a clarion call for every church to fall in love with its neighborhood. I believe that call originates in the heart of God who came and settled in with us in Jesus of Nazareth. Casting our lot with communities may transform them but most assuredly will transform the church.”

—Gregory V. Palmer, resident bishop, The United Methodist Church, Ohio West Episcopal Area

“John Edgar is one of the most effective and foremost thinkers on how to connect with the people in your community. In *A Front Porch for All People*, he details from firsthand experience why and how to connect with the people in your community. This book is invaluable to congregational leaders and non-profit organizations that seek to connect with, engage, and involve the people in your community. His practical illustrations and clear strategies make this a must-read.”

—John Schol, bishop, The United Methodists of Greater New Jersey Eastern Pennsylvania

JOHN W. EDGAR is the founding pastor emeritus of the United Methodist Church for All People, as well as the founding executive director of Community Development for All People. He serves as adjunct faculty at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio.



Mass Society and Its Culture, and Three Essays concerning Étienne Gilson on Bergson, Christian Philosophy, and Art

ÉTIENNE GILSON AND HENRI GOUHIER

A medievalist and defender of the notion of Christian philosophy, Étienne Gilson had a lifelong interest in the philosophy of art. He questioned whether what is reproduced as art in contemporary society is art at all. This is not a simple issue. A cheap version of a novel is still a novel. A picture of a statue is not a statue, nor indeed is a photograph of a painting a painting. Recorded music has particular complications.

The organizer of an industrial assembly line is neither an artist nor an artisan. Yet, thanks to such mass production, a much broader population has knowledge of artworks than would otherwise be possible.

Religions must minister to mass societies and provide appropriate liturgies. But in the process, there is a danger of misrepresenting complex religious teachings.

At the end of his own life, Henri Gouhier, Gilson's first doctoral student, prepared three essays on Gilson. The first, on Bergson, gives a sense of Gilson's formation in early twentieth-century French philosophy. The second reconstructs the development of the notion of Christian philosophy and the heated controversy it provoked. Finally, Gouhier presents Gilson's general philosophy of art and gives a helpful framework to Gilson's comments on art in a mass society.

"Étienne Gilson is not only one of the greatest twentieth-century French historians of medieval scholastic philosophy but also a remarkable thinker who engaged critically with the legacy of early modern philosophy and the likes of Descartes, Heidegger, Bergson, and Sartre. James Colbert's translations familiarize the anglophone audience with two important sets of writings that showcase the breadth of Gilson's philosophical interests."

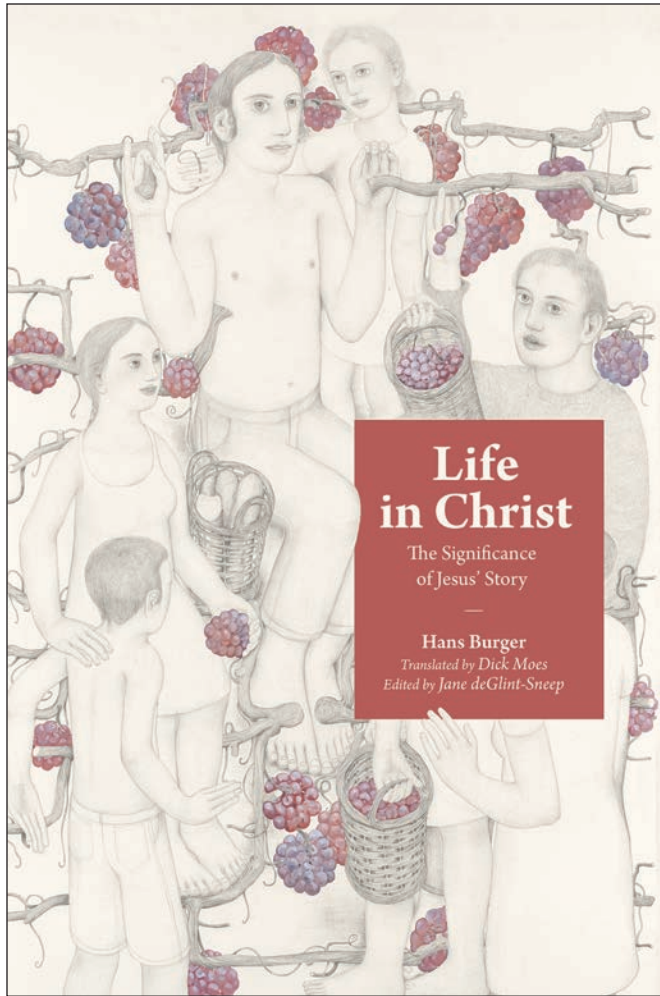
—Severin Kitanov, Salem State University

"To read James Colbert's translation is to hear Gilson's own voice. Colbert captures Gilson's style perfectly. For Gilson, in these essays, the style is the man: witty, analytical, curious, intelligent. The classical precision of Gilson's matchless thinking about art and aesthetics is once again on display. These essays by Gilson on art within mass culture are an important addition to our understanding of Gilson's aesthetics, itself the most thoughtful Christian philosophy of art in the twentieth century."

—Francesca Murphy, author of *Art and Intellect in the Philosophy of Étienne Gilson*

ÉTIENNE GILSON (1884–1974) was a medievalist who taught at various French institutions, including the Collège de France. Among his numerous works are *The Spirit of Medieval Philosophy*, his 1931 and 1932 Gifford Lectures (Cascade, 2019), and *Medieval Essays* (Cascade, 2011).





Life in Christ

The Significance of Jesus' Story

HANS BURGER

EDITED BY **JANE DEGLINT-SNEEP**

978-1-6667-4506-1 | 244 p. | \$31

Jesus rose from the dead, and that makes a difference in our lives here and now. The Christian faith is not just about the past or about the future. We are a new creation in Christ. The gospel is about reconciliation, union with Christ, and participation in Christ.

In *Life in Christ*, all aspects of the life of Christians, in the church and world, are addressed from the perspective that we are in Christ. In doing so, Burger builds bridges between different Christian traditions.

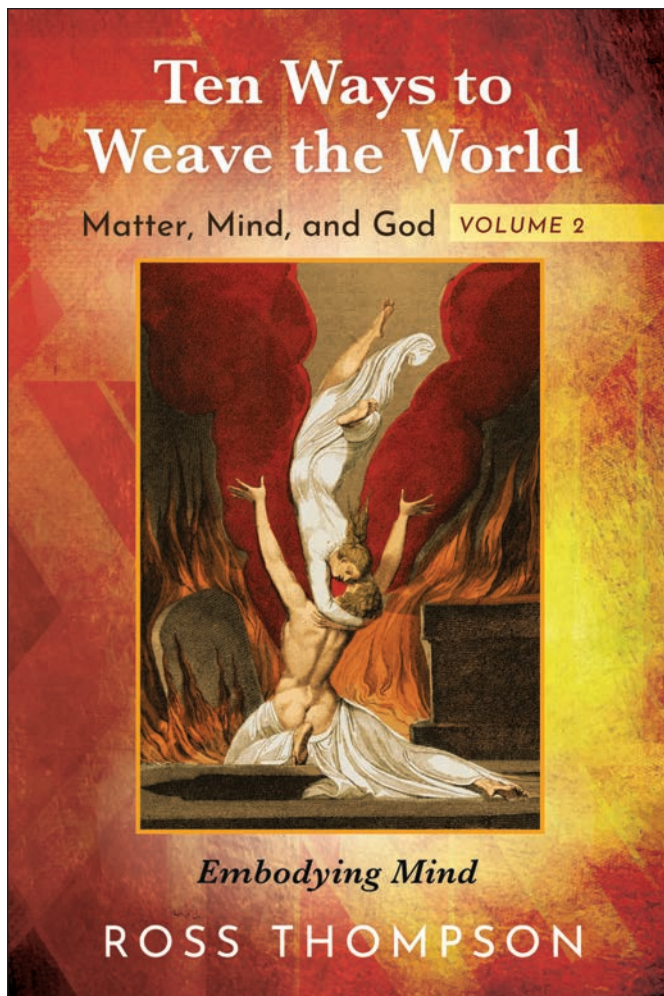
“What does it mean to find one’s identity in Christ? What does it mean to live in union with him—to be ‘in’ Christ? Hans Burger has wrestled deeply and carefully with these questions of Christ-centered identity as both a pastor and a theologian for more than a decade. I’m so grateful that his pastoral wisdom, theological precision, and historical depth are now being made available to an English-speaking audience. This book is a gift for those seeking a deeper and richer union with Christ.”

—Matthew Kaemingk, Fuller Theological Seminary

“Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s question ‘Who is Jesus Christ for us today?’ is as relevant and urgent in the twenty-first century as it was in the twentieth. The short answer is: he is our life. What the world needs now is a longer answer that would explain how a first-century Palestinian Jew is the way, truth, and flourishing life for the whole human race. Burger rightly argues that the gospel is about life in Christ, and he wisely insists on the importance of recovering the whole story, person, and work of Christ for understanding God and ourselves.”

—Kevin J. Vanhoozer, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

HANS BURGER is professor of systematic theology at Theological University Kampen/Utrecht (the Netherlands). He is the author of *Being in Christ* (2008).



Ten Ways to Weave the World: Matter, Mind, and God, Volume 2

Embodying Mind
ROSS THOMPSON

978-1-7252-9327-4 | 286 p. | \$36

In this sequel to *Outgrowing Materialism*, Thompson explores five conceptual “Worlds” that preceded the dualist v. materialist divide and shows why recent philosophy—often little-known outside of academic circles—is now giving these old ideas a new relevance.

In an approachable way, but without avoiding complexity, *Embodying Mind* leads the reader through the Worlds of panpsychism, idealism, Aristotelianism, emergence, and information theory, holism, and process theology, examining the ideas of ethics and God, and the difficult questions, accompanying each.

Thompson concludes that causal processes harmonize as in a cosmic counterpoint. The world and its beautiful contents form a seamless material whole. It is not as if Mind or God glints obscurely through ever-narrowing chinks in otherwise seamless nature. There are no chinks, but the whole is full of Mind. Overall, imperfectly, things are moving towards their sustaining good: God is becoming God, surpassing God.

Embodying Mind can be read independently from *Outgrowing Materialism*, but together the two volumes of *Ten Ways to Weave the Word* mount a robust, wide-ranging case that nobody interested in the science v. religion debate, or wishing more widely for an integrated understanding of “Matter, Mind and God,” can afford to ignore.

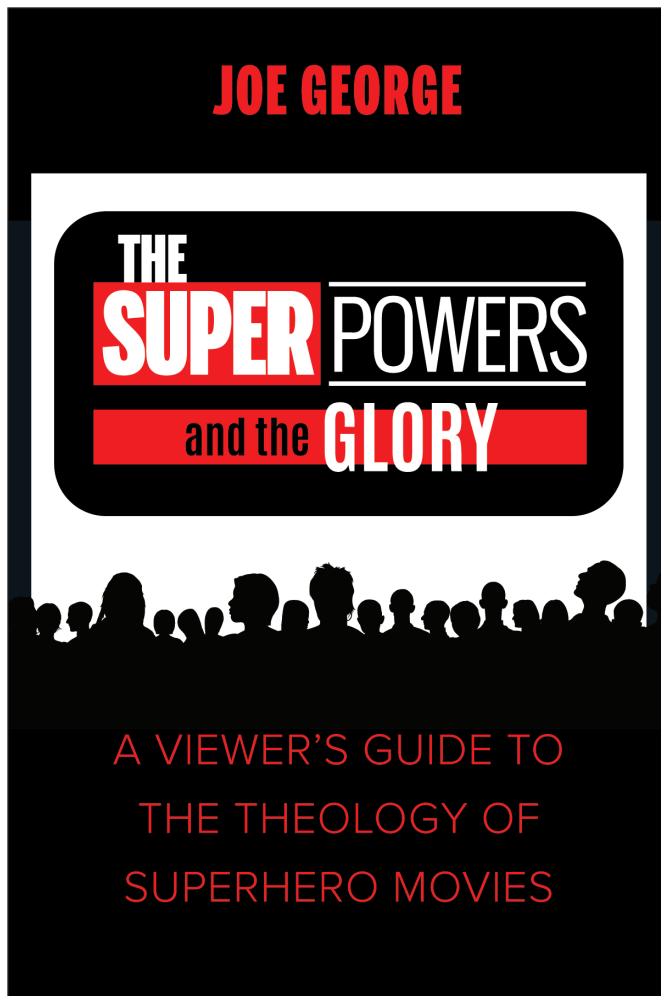
“What room is there for God, for consciousness, for value, in the world now described by scientists? Ross Thompson provides an openminded, adventurous tour of various competing answers.”

—John Leslie, author of *Infinite Minds: A Philosophical Cosmology*

“A remarkable tour de force—rare enough in a theological world of carefully policed methodological boundaries—Ross Thompson’s work offers a wide-ranging exploration of key themes, philosophical and theological. It is a model of creative theological thinking.”

—Denys Turner, author of *Faith, Reason, and the Existence of God*

ROSS THOMPSON is a retired Anglican priest and freelance author. Publications include the *SCM Studyguides to The Sacraments* (2006) and *Christian Spirituality* (2008); *Buddhist Christianity* (2010); and *The Interfaith Imperative* (2017).



"*The Superpowers and the Glory* uses the modern-day mythology of superheroes to help readers process diverse theological concepts and connect to biblical truth in an exciting, accessible way. If you're looking for a new way to enjoy these films or want to dip your toes into big ideas about faith, this is your book!"

—Abby Olcese, columnist, *Sojourners* magazine

"I'm so grateful to have *The Superpowers and the Glory*. With his signature wit and insight, George takes us deep into the mythologies of these latter-day titans, weaving in sharp theological insight to put into words why we loved these caped (and less-caped) crusaders so much. This book is a real labor of love that is a blast to read and will enrich anyone with ears to hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches."

—JR. Forasteros, teaching pastor, Catalyst Church

The Superpowers and the Glory

A Viewer's Guide to the Theology of Superhero Movies

JOE GEORGE

978-1-6667-3105-7 | 244 p. | \$31

Christians love superhero movies, just like everybody else. But should they? How do the themes in the world's most popular movies relate to Christ's teachings? How do believers reconcile superhero violence with Jesus's message of peace? How does the Sermon on the Mount relate to superhero power fantasies?

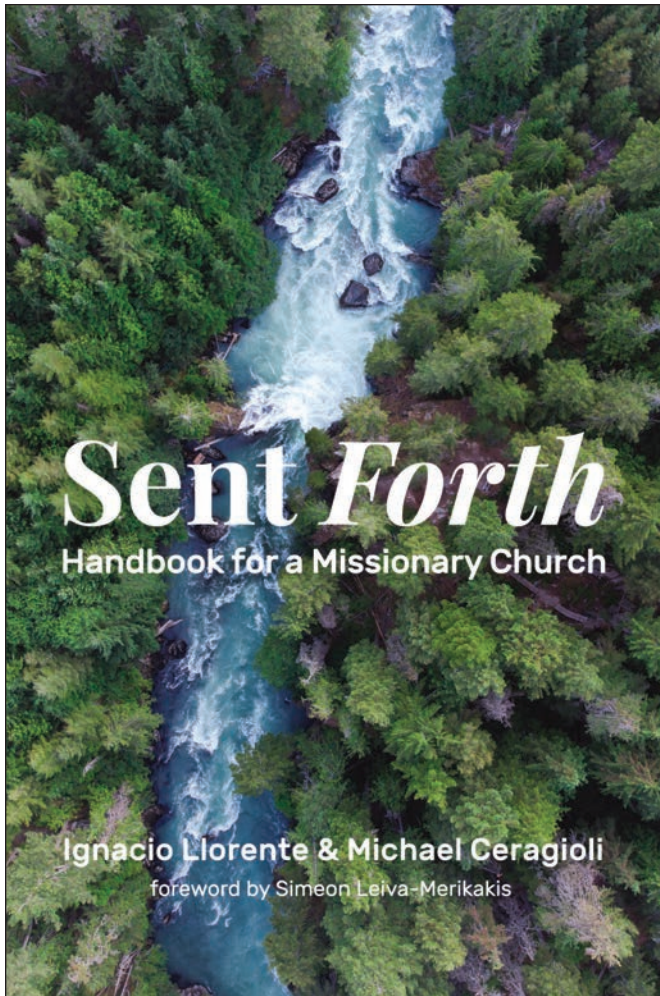
The Superpowers and the Glory helps readers answer those questions by teaching them how to identify the themes in superhero movies and examine them through Christian theology. With deep dives into nearly every superhero movie ever released, the book trains readers in understanding the worldviews behind movies such as *Iron Man*, *Spider-Man*, and *Wonder Woman*. Each chapter includes discussion questions, perfect for small groups, Sunday school classes, or personal inquiry.

From Marvel hits like *Black Panther* and *The Avengers* to DC blockbusters *Batman* and *Justice League* to indie characters *Hellboy* and *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, *The Superpowers and the Glory* is an easy-to-read guide to using superhero movies to strengthen your relationship with Christ.

"No mere catalogue of superheroic Christ figures, *The Superpowers and the Glory* brings historical context, careful criticism, astute theology, and a pertinent application of Scripture to a genre that has come to dominate our pop culture landscape. You'll come away from Joe George's book nerdier, in the best way possible."

—Josh Larsen, author of *Movies Are Prayers*

JOE GEORGE is a pop culture writer and member of the North Carolina Film Critics Association, whose work has appeared in outlets such as *Slate*, *SyFy Wire*, and *Polygon*. He is a regular contributor to outlets such as *Tor.com*, *Think Christian*, *Den of Geek*, *Plough Quarterly*, *Faithfully Magazine*, and *Living Lutheran*. He holds a PhD in English and is a lecturer in the English Department at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.



Sent Forth

Handbook for a Missionary Church

IGNACIO LLORENTE AND MICHAEL CERAGIOLI

978-1-6667-6489-5 | 170 p. | \$24

S*ent Forth* is a book for all who wish to proclaim the gospel in the world today. It is the fruit of the missionary work of the Saint John Society, a society of apostolic life dedicated to the New Evangelization in the Catholic Church. Engaged in the concrete work of evangelization in flourishing Christian communities, the authors draw together the mind of the Church and the heart of the missionary. Taking lessons from the four Gospels, the encyclicals of popes, the writings of cardinals, and the accounts of everyday Christians who have sought to communicate their faith through all kinds of joys, sorrows, and questions, this book delivers fundamental theological principles—as well as practical, down-to-earth counsel—for Christians seeking to share Christ with their families, co-workers, and neighbors. What emerges is a picture of evangelization that is eminently personal, emphasizing attunement to the heart of Jesus. Where heart speaks to heart, the word received is to “go forth,” share what you have heard, and encourage others to partake in this inmost heartbeat of the world, the New Life in Christ!

“This luminous book delivers a synthetic vision of evangelization that is both *personal* and *profound*, arising from both *education* and *experience*. *Sent Forth* radiates with the new ardor, new methods, and new expressions called for by the New Evangelization, drawing upon recent popes and St. John Henry Newman as guardians and guides. Anyone seeking to enkindle in themselves the fire of the Church’s mission to proclaim the gospel should read this book.”

—Matthew Kuhner, vice president and academic dean, St. Bernard’s School of Theology and Ministry

“The Saint John Society is one of the bright spots in a time of crisis in the world and in the Church. I am grateful that members of the Society have put into writing the ‘secrets’ that have made their life and mission so fruitful. All those interested in moving forward in confidence in response to the call for a new evangelization will find this book of great help.”

—Ralph Martin, author of *The Fulfillment of All Desire*

“I have for a long time come to believe that the Church must return to her roots, recapture her deepest identity, and recommit herself to the essential mission entrusted to her by the bridegroom, Jesus Christ our Lord. That mission is to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to the people of our time, espe-

cially in the secularized world in which we live. I am confident that *Sent Forth* will be an effective and practical resource in that great mission.”

—Alexander Sample, archbishop of Portland, Oregon

“*Sent Forth* provides an inspirational and in-depth description of what it means to be on mission today. Focusing on proclamation, the kerygma, and the process of conversion, the authors also illuminate the centrality of prayer, spiritual power, and personal influence in the work of evangelization. For those seeking to do mission today—to fulfill the commission to make disciples of all nations—this book is a treasure chest of wisdom and insight.”

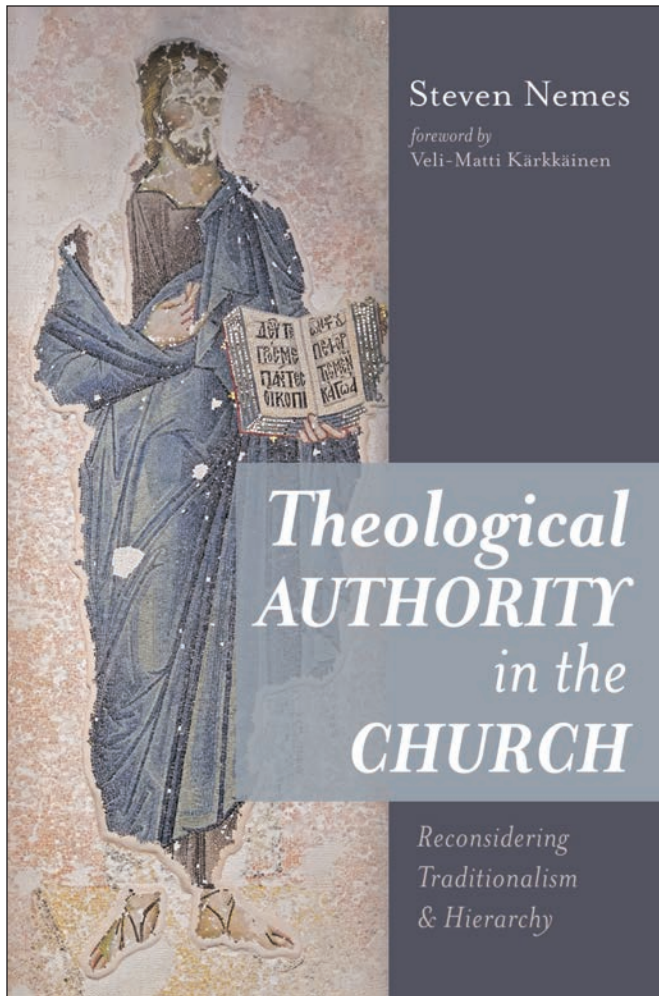
—Dan Keating, author of *The Adventure of Discipleship*

“This slender volume, as its title indicates, is a handbook mirroring one way of living the mission of the Lord Jesus in the world today. The subject of this book, then, is the missionary method of the Saint John Society. A breath of the fervor of the early church and of the Acts of the Apostles generously blows throughout this text. The freshness and vigor of its atmosphere clearly derives from the hands-on practice of the apostolate rather than from theory.”

—Simeon Leiva-Merikakis, OCSO, author of *Fire of Mercy, Heart of the Word*

IGNACIO LLORENTE is a priest for the Saint John Society, a society of apostolic life dedicated to the New Evangelization, which works in Argentina, Uruguay, Italy, and the United States. Since his ordination in 2009, Fr. Llorente has been serving in the United States leading programs of evangelization for college students, young adults, and Hispanics. Currently, he is pastor of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Portland, Oregon. Learn more about the Saint John Society at www.socsj.org.





Theological Authority in the Church

Reconsidering Traditionalism and Hierarchy

STEVEN NEMES

978-1-6667-5258-8 | 166 p. | \$23

Who in the church has the right to tell others what is to be done or believed for the sake of friendship with God? How are theological disputes and differences of opinion to be resolved? Against the recent trend toward more “traditionalist” and “hierarchical” conceptions of the church’s role in theology, this book argues from the New Testament itself for a “low” conception of ecclesial theological authority. Drawing especially from Jesus’s polemics against the Pharisees, it makes the case that no one in the church has any further authority than that of derivatively, fallibly, and in principle reversibly relating and bearing witness to the teachings of Jesus and the works of God in him. The book concludes with an extended consideration of the radical anti-dogmatic and anti-metaphysical consequences of this thesis for the future of Protestant Christian theology *vis-à-vis* the catholic tradition.

“This is not a book for bedtime reading. It is a manifesto for a distinctively Protestant account of theological authority. Nemes argues for a ‘low’ church model of tradition that eschews grand metaphysical schemes. Whether readers are delighted or confounded by his arguments, they will find much in this short work that needs to be pondered.”

—Oliver D. Crisp, University of St. Andrews

“In certain theological circles today, a sort of hyper-traditionalism has taken over the minds of different Protestant and Catholic scholars. With everyone so quick to affirm their own preferred tradition that others must submit to, it is rare to find anyone asking if this brand of traditionalism is consistent with the teachings of Jesus. Nemes offers a lucid, rigorous, and provocative argument that such traditionalism is not in fact consistent with the teachings of Christ.”

—Ryan Mullins, Palm Beach Atlantic University

“This slim volume packs a powerful punch. Nemes contends that the essential clarity of Scripture pertains more significantly to its moral and ethical imperatives than it does to speculative metaphysical claims that have often preoccupied the church. Similarly, he argues that ‘traditionalism,’ with its dubious claims to binding authority, must be rejected, even as he defends the essential role of tradition in theology. This book is a frontal challenge not only to Roman Catholics, but also to many Protestants.”

—Jerry Walls, Houston Christian University

“Although I was unconvinced by aspects of his argument, Nemes provides a great service in clearing away some fog and sharpening key issues, exegetical and theological. As such, this book is an invigorating and tightly argued conversation starter. Indeed, I make it a point to read everything this young scholar writes and, despite my remaining disagreements, know of no other book on theological authority that brings into such sharp relief the subject matter so well.”

—Chris Tilling, St Mellitus College

STEVEN NEMES is an instructor of Latin and Greek at North Phoenix Preparatory Academy in Phoenix, Arizona. He is the author of the volumes *Orthodoxy and Heresy* and *Theology of the Manifest: Christianity without Metaphysics*, and has published a number of articles on diverse subjects in Christian theology, phenomenological philosophy, and the overlap of the two.

Emerging Theologies from the Global South

EDITED BY MITRI RAHEB AND MARK A. LAMPORT

978-1-6667-1183-7 | 544 p. | \$59



EMERGING THEOLOGIES from the Global South

edited by Mitri Raheb & Mark A. Lamport

introduction by Theo Sundermeier afterword by Chloë Starr

“This may be one of the most important theological books of our time. It is important because Christian faith and theology are being nourished and renewed today by vibrant and growing churches in the Global South. The essays in this volume are far from uniform in their theological vision, but they draw to our attention the urgency and the vitality of theological inquiry around the world.”

—Murray Rae, University of Otago

“Raheb and Lamport bring together a large chorus of voices, sometimes dissonant, which testify to both the scars and the vitality of global Christian theology. We have needed a comprehensive volume like this for a long time, and I hope it will serve as a catalyst for still deeper listening, change, and connection.”

—Amy Plantinga Pauw, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary

“*Emerging Theologies from the Global South* is an in-depth and comprehensive 3D scan of theological landscapes of the Global South, both geographically and thematically. The book raises a bold statement that ‘southern theologies’ have a crucial role in shaping global theologies.”

—Wonsuk Ma, Oral Roberts University

MITRI RAHEB is the founder and president of Dar al-Kalima University in Bethlehem, Palestine, and the most widely published Palestinian theologian to date.

MARK A. LAMPORT has been a professor almost 40 years at universities in the United States and Europe. The editor and author of twenty books, he works from Grand Rapids and Fort Myers.

In recent decades there has been a seismic shift in world Christianity. Whereas formerly Christianity existed as a Caucasian Euro-American phenomenon, the majority of Christians today reside in the Southern Hemisphere, or the Global South. And what is true for the demographics of Christianity has followed lockstep for its theological developments. The era of German theologians setting the tone for global church are gone. Today, some of the loudest and most creative voices in theology speak from the emerging contingencies of the Global South, for example, promoting Latinx, Black, Caribbean, and Asian theologies and their influence often influences the conversation in the United States and Europe.

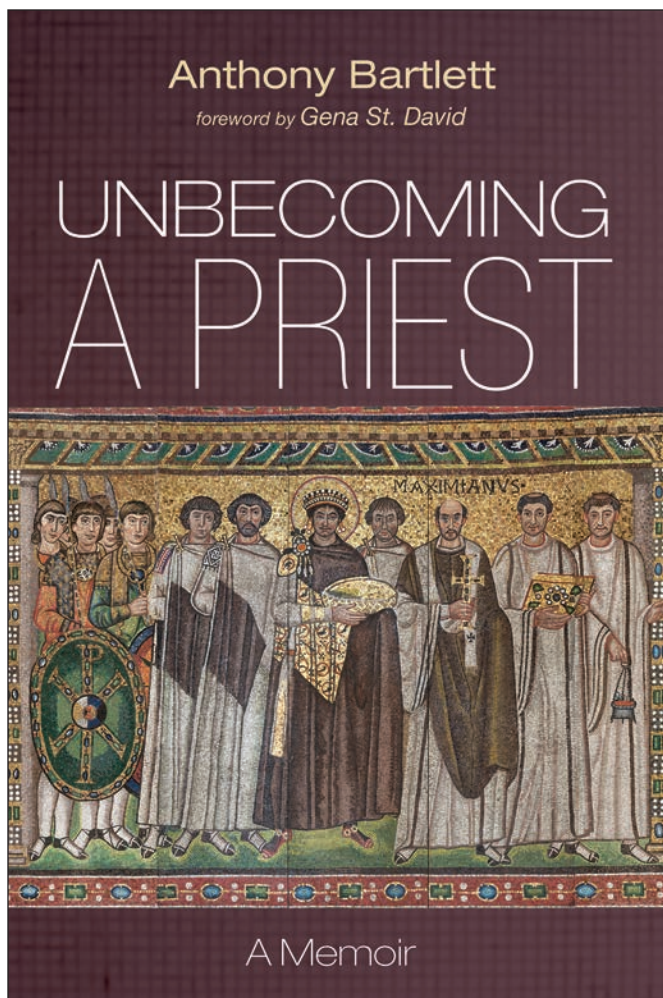
In addition, just as the center of Christianity has moved geographically from north to south, so with theological seminaries in the west, which have declined as training centers for clergy. These events coincide with new theological centers are opening in Asia, Africa, Oceania, and Latin America. The bottom line is—contemporary Christianity today looks significantly different than it did a century ago, and publications have been slow to acknowledge, let alone describe and elaborate upon, this major shift to the largest religion in the world.

These shifts guide our intentions in this book. Such a reference book, which could also be used as a textbook, therefore is very much needed. In fact, there is nothing like the contents of this single-volume book in the publishing market which allows for high-quality, interdisciplinary, and international dialogue.

“With renewed force and creatively relevant articulations, each of these essays invites us to look at the Global South as a locus of theological production. Beyond traditional theological schools, the scholars in this book remind us of the richly diverse and quickly changing composition of the global church and the contextual particularity of its plural theological cacophony.”

—Néstor Medina, Emmanuel College, University of Toronto





Unbecoming a Priest

A Memoir

ANTHONY BARTLETT

978-1-6667-5481-0 | 246 p. | \$26

Tony Bartlett's story is thrillingly upside-down. Rather than the classic conversion narrative of escaping the world to dedicate your life to God, it is about escaping a collapsing institutional order to discover a different self and learning to be in the world. An extraordinary account with pivotal themes of sexuality, trauma, revolution, and relationship, *Unbecoming a Priest* spans eras, classes, continents, cities, wars, iconic figures, spiritualities, and above all divergent modes of Christian-being-in-the-world. From London to Rome, from Europe to Latin America, journeying with exceptional fellow pilgrims like Mother Teresa, Pedro Casaldáliga, Carlo Carretto, it is a story of pain and messiness becoming ultimately one of joy, life, and meaning. Subtly but surely, the journey is also gospel-inspired, where the figure of Jesus takes on a provocative, anarchic role, helping in the overturning of sacrificial clichés and systems. Inevitably at stake is the meaning of priesthood itself, either propping up an eternal order amidst history's escalating crisis, or seeking with others the germ of authentic new human becoming and hope. Here is the inescapable drama and contemporary truth of *unbecoming a priest*.

"Admirers of Anthony Bartlett's theology will find here the roots of his liking for Heidegger (contra Platonic escapism), Girard (on scapegoating), and semiosis (on narrative shaping reality). But most of all he offers profoundly humane testimony to how Christ liberated him from a toxic family system and a chimeric religious quest."

—Scott Cowdell, canon theologian, Canberra-Goulburn Anglican Diocese

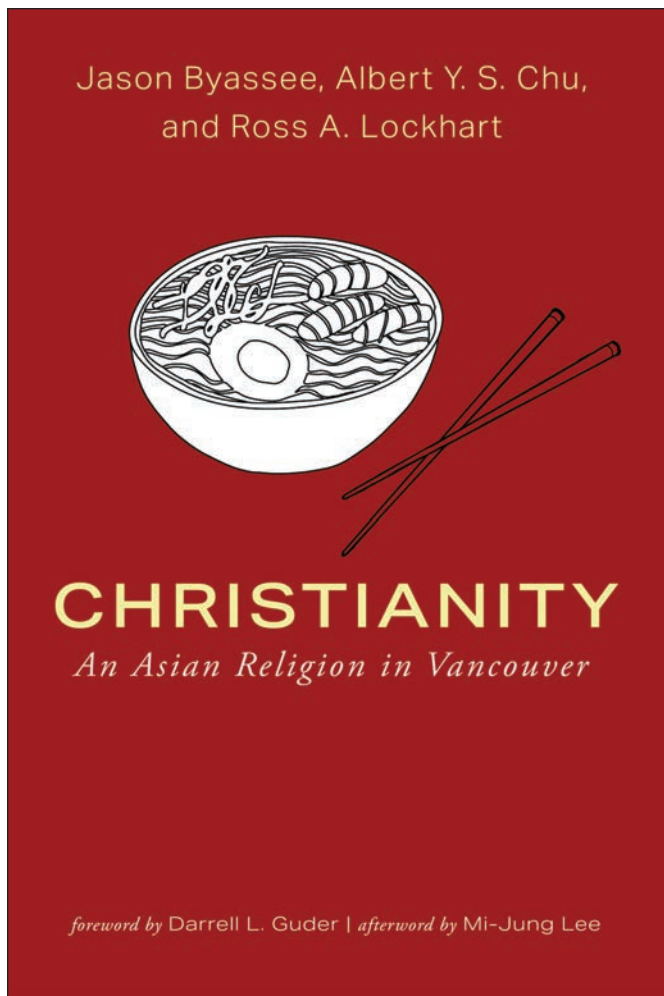
"The well-known theologian Anthony Bartlett has written an honest, readable autobiographical account of his becoming and unbecoming a Catholic priest. Without a trace of false self-dramatization, his careful writing has given us a believable and heartening narrative of a religious life recognizable to many who have followed similar paths in different confessions."

—William A. Johnsen, editor of *Contagion: The Journal of The Colloquium on Violence and Religion*

"*Unbecoming a Priest* is the story of how Anthony Bartlett's love for Jesus becomes the light by which he painfully and slowly finds his way to liberation from soul-emaciating religious delusion, dogmatism, and dysfunction. His example will inspire you to keep seeking your own further liberation and will point you to the door that will always open to the persistence of faith. This book shows what faith really is, and I'm grateful Bartlett has shared the hard-won riches of his life's journey with us all"

—James Warren, author of *Compassion or Apocalypse? A Comprehensible Guide to the Thought of René Girard*

ANTHONY BARTLETT studied at Heythrop College, London, and then in Rome. After resigning the priesthood, he ran a London homeless shelter, and in 1993 he emigrated with his family to the US, gaining his PhD at Syracuse University. With his wife, he leads The Bethany Center for Nonviolent Theology and Spirituality. He has written several books in Christian hermeneutics; his latest is *Signs of Change: The Bible's Evolution of Divine Nonviolence*.



Christianity

An Asian Religion in Vancouver

**JASON BYASSEE, ALBERT Y. S. CHU,
AND ROSS A. LOCKHART**

978-1-6667-5252-6 | 92 p. | \$17

Is God changing the face of the church in North America today? The secularization thesis makes it appear that churches are inevitably declining in membership and influence. Too often, however, this assumption of decline is based on only watching the denominations that were “church plants of Western Christendom” in North America. *Christianity: An Asian Religion in Vancouver* focuses on the context of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, and notes through a mixed-methods study including interviews and participant observation that many churches in Vancouver with predominantly Asian composition are growing both in size and influence. What might we learn about God’s transforming power by looking to Asia rather than Europe to predict the future of Christian witness in the Pacific Northwest of North America?

“In *Christianity*, Jason Byassee, Albert Chu, and Ross Lockhart share stories of the Asian immigrant Christian experience—part of the migration reshaping the narrative of global Christianity. As a denominational leader, the story of a thriving, growing, and evolving Christian witness is a much-needed corrective to narratives of fatigue and decline. May the faith and hope chronicled in these stories provoke our churches to newness of both imagination and witness.”

—Victor S. J. Kim, principal clerk, The Presbyterian Church in Canada

“*Christianity* provides a much-needed glimpse into an often-overlooked facet of the Canadian church. The authors give voice to Asian Christians and provide a convincing depiction of how Christianity in Vancouver has become an Asian religion. This is a refreshing book that speaks to a faith world that frequently goes unnoticed, and it is a must-read for anyone serious about engaging Canadian ecclesiology.”

—Sarah Han, assistant professor of pastoral ministry, Tyndale Seminary

“This book makes a unique contribution to the understanding of faith within the Asian-Canadian community. Told from the vantage point of Christian Asian-Canadians, it is an important contribution to understanding Asian migration to North America and how faith plays a critical role in supporting such migration and integration into Canada. This book is well worth the read.”

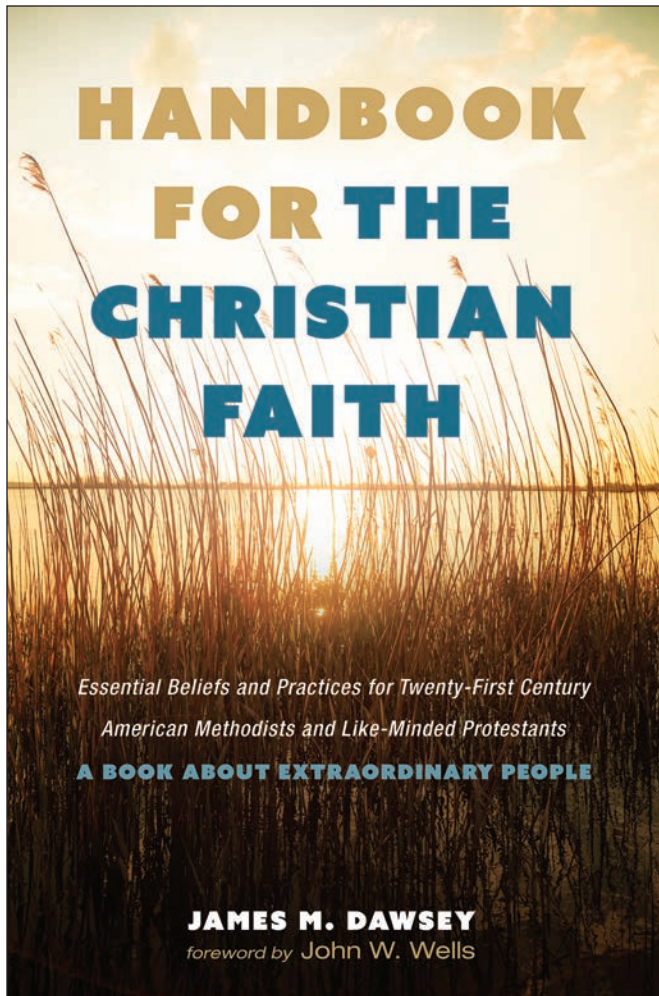
—Santa J. Ono, president, University of Michigan and former president, University of British Columbia

JASON BYASSEE is the senior minister of Eaton Memorial Church, Toronto, and the former Butler Chair in Homiletics and Biblical Hermeneutics at Vancouver School of Theology.

ALBERT Y. S. CHU is the director of the Centre for Missional Leadership at St. Andrew’s Hall and the lead pastor of The Tapestry Church in Richmond, British Columbia.

ROSS A. LOCKHART is dean of St. Andrew’s Hall and professor of Mission Studies at Vancouver School of Theology.





Handbook for the Christian Faith

Essential Beliefs and Practices for Twenty-First-Century American Methodists and Like-Minded Protestants. A Book about Extraordinary People
JAMES M. DAWSEY

978-1-6667-3808-7 | 426 p. | \$45

Is religion disappearing from American life? Less than 50 percent of Americans now hold membership in any religious institution, and even fewer attend worship services. The decline in Christian churches is especially pronounced among the young and cuts across all denominations.

But for Methodists and like-minded Protestants, concerns are deeper than shrinking denominational membership. Polls show disconcerting ignorance about religious and spiritual matters even among churchgoers. Our values as a society are in large measure molded by religion. What shape will Protestant Christianity take in the twenty-first century? And of Methodism? And beyond that, what kind of community will we be?

Dawsey proposes returning to the roots of Christianity. And with anecdotes and stories and a sweeping grasp of church history, he examines those essential practices and beliefs necessary to revitalize American churches. Key, he argues, is rediscovering Christianity as a philosophy of living. John Wesley characterized the practice of religion as first, doing no harm; second, doing good; and third, keeping the ordinances of faith. Loving God and God's creation—the doing of Christianity—marks the path for becoming the churches and individuals Christians were called to be.

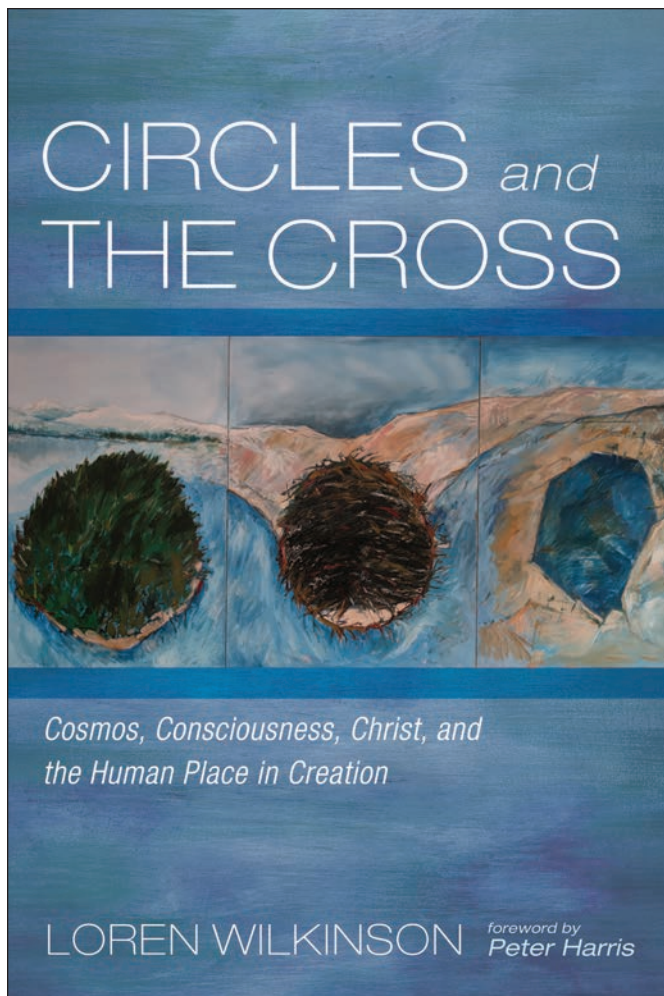
“James Dawsey’s *Handbook for the Christian Faith* reflects his lifetime of experience as pastor, teacher, and faithful follower of Jesus, and invites United Methodists and like-minded Protestants to reflect deeply on the church’s history and theology as they struggle to understand their calling as communities of faith and individual Christians in the present day. Laity and clergy will find profound insight and inspiration in this book.”

—Joseph T. Reiff, Emory & Henry College, emeritus

“James Dawsey has an encyclopedic knowledge of the Methodist Church. This book is suitable for church groups and all Christians who desire to tune up their spiritual lives in order to come closer to God. This book is erudite, well-written, and creative, understood as the ability to transcend the confines of convention. In sum, this book took my breath away.”

—Richard Penaskovic, Auburn University, emeritus

JAMES M. DAWSEY is professor and Wolfe Chair of Religious Studies at Emory and Henry College, Virginia. He is an ordained United Methodist minister and author of *The Lukan Voice: Confusion and Irony in the Gospel of Luke* (1986), *Peter’s Last Sermon: Identity and Discipleship in the Gospel of Mark* (2010), *From Wasteland to Promised Land: Liberation Theology for a Post-Marxist World* (1992), and more than eighty other monographs, novels, and articles in English, Portuguese, and Spanish.



Circles and the Cross

Cosmos, Consciousness, Christ, and
the Human Place in Creation

LOREN WILKINSON

978-1-6667-4634-1 | 354 p. | \$36

Circles and the Cross is an invitation to explore two mysteries. One is the miracle of the cosmos: why is there something and not nothing? The other is the miracle of consciousness: why should this collection of stardust be an *I* and not just an *it*? Our basic response to those mysteries is wonder, and from wonder have grown the three great trees of human culture: religion, art, and science. This exploration is undertaken in the light of a third mystery: the cross of Christ is the clearest picture we have of the triune Creator of both cosmos and consciousness. That self-emptying of the Creator out of love for the creation helps us understand the pleasures, paradoxes, and pains of science; it helps us understand how “evolution” can be another name for creation; it casts light on the Enlightenment and Romanticism. In particular, it illuminates the environmental movement: an ethic in search of a religion. Loren Wilkinson, drawing on fifty years of teaching and writing about our relationship to creation, invites you to join this journey into understanding how the cross of Christ sheds light on the mysteries that surround us—and gives us hope in a difficult age.

“A beautiful and deeply personal exploration of the meaning of the circle and the cross, bringing together the message of Christianity with one of hope for those engaged with the crisis of our mother earth.”

—Iain McGilchrist, author of *The Master and His Emissary*

“This is a wonderful, beautifully written book about ‘Life, the Universe, and Everything’ (as the fictional *Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy* once called it). As Loren Wilkinson himself opines (quoting Lewis), “Everything” is a subject on which there is not much to be said. In this book he manages nevertheless to say a considerable amount about it—discourse that is rich, suggestive, and inspiring, providing a substantial outline of a Christocentric Theory of Everything.”

—Iain Provan, founder, The Cuckoos Consultancy

“Loren Wilkinson is a capacious thinker, exploring the immensity and complexity of the cosmos and the human role in it, while digging down deep to the roots of his Christian faith. This book is the fruit of a lifetime of honest reflection, teaching, and (more importantly) living an incarnational, cross-shaped, hope-filled life in the midst of a cosmos of pain and beauty.”

—J. Richard Middleton, professor of biblical worldview and exegesis, Northeastern Seminary

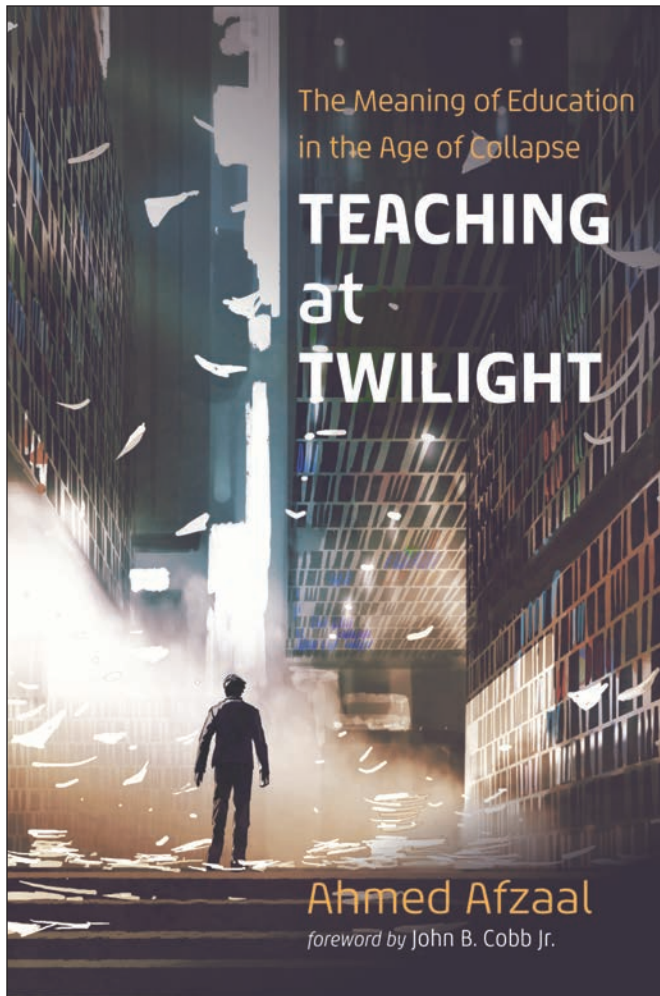
“This is a masterful book. Loren Wilkinson skillfully interweaves history, philosophy, science, poetry, and theology with a deeply personal story about lifelong discovery and care for the wonders around and within us. It manages to be both panoramic in scope while remaining deeply grounded in the particulars of place and of a Christian imagination. I will return to this book again and again and encourage others to do the same.”

—Bethany Sollereeder, lecturer in science and religion, University of Edinburgh

“This book is superb. Rooted in a careful reading of the Bible and a deep understanding of the Christian tradition and informed by a lifetime of living the gospel on Galiano Island, this beautifully written book is full of insight and wisdom. Ranging widely from ancient philosophy to contemporary neuroscience, the book dives deeply into the mysteries of cosmos, human consciousness, and Christ. Truly a gem. Take up and read.”

—Steven Bouma-Prediger, professor of reformed theology, Hope College

LOREN WILKINSON is professor emeritus of philosophy and interdisciplinary studies at Regent College in Vancouver, BC. For more than fifty years, he and his wife, Mary Ruth, have been teaching and writing about our relation to the created world.



Teaching at Twilight

The Meaning of Education in the Age of Collapse

AHMED AFZAAL

978-1-6667-3599-4 | 244 p. | \$31

This book delivers an unsettling but urgent message to all educators . . .

Today, humanity finds itself on the cusp of a long period of inexorable decline and disruption, the likes of which no previous generation has experienced. Large-scale behavioral changes are imperative, not necessarily to “save the planet” but to reduce unnecessary pain and suffering. Yet, the vast majority of educators are still functioning in the “normal” mode, teaching the same subjects and skills, year after year, even as the nature of the challenges our students will face is undergoing dramatic changes. This mismatch is causing a moral and spiritual crisis that is threatening to make our lives and our work meaningless.

Teaching at Twilight invites all educators to take an unflinching look at the rapidly deteriorating state of the earth’s life-support system, become aware of its implications for human civilization, and rethink their responsibility in light of that awareness. The book attempts to answer, from an educator’s viewpoint, the practical but challenging question that Roy Scranton posed a few years ago: “We Are Doomed. Now What?”

book is mandatory reading if future generations are to be intellectually and psychologically equipped to live on the rapidly changing Earth.”

—Dahr Jamail, author of *The End of Ice*

“Colleges and universities operate on the assumption that the future will be better than the present and that the job of the professor is to prepare students for this future by teaching them certain skills and value-free information. *Teaching at Twilight* rejects this unwarranted assumption and explores what it means to teach young people knowing that the future will be extremely difficult. I urge you to read it.”

—Marcus Ford, author of *Beyond the Modern University*

“Young people already know how difficult the future is becoming. Rather than gaslighting them, educators can meet them with the honesty, humility, compassion, and usefulness that Ahmed Afzaal demonstrates in this book. *Teaching at Twilight* will help you with an incredibly challenging but deeply meaningful engagement with young people as they seek out the glimmering lights of living beyond a society that caused such carnage.”

—Jem Bendell, author of *Breaking Together*

“*Teaching at Twilight* offers an unflinching account of today’s chaos and the unfolding collapse, yet there’s a loving kindness in Ahmed Afzaal’s reflections on how to teach with meaning and how to help students find meaning. The book is intense but calming, bold, and careful, acknowledging the urgency but with patience for the struggles that we all go through in coming to terms with harsh realities.”

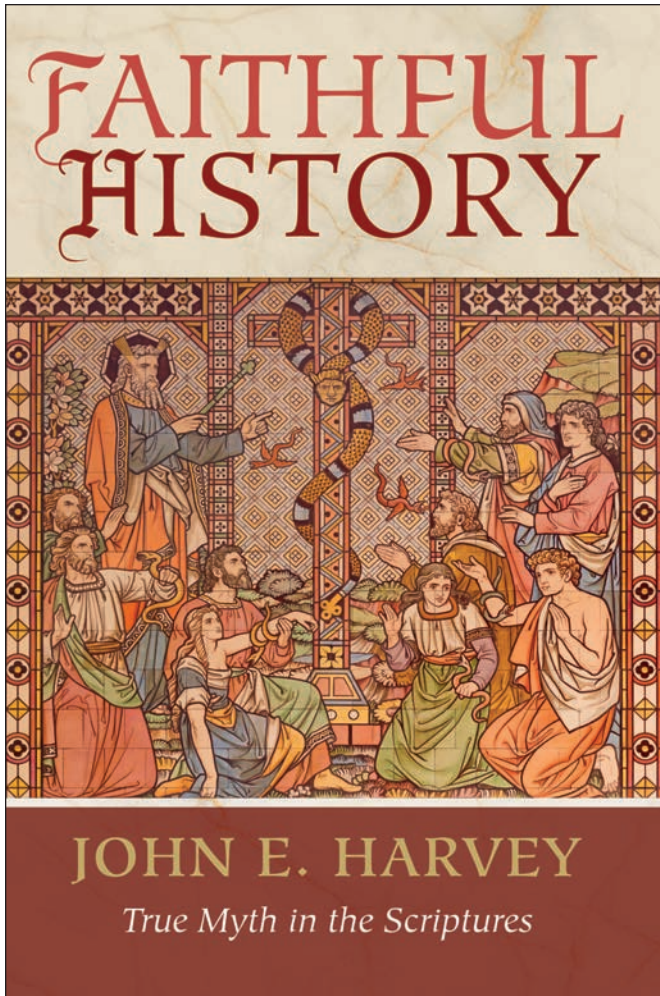
—Robert Jensen, professor emeritus of journalism and media, University of Texas at Austin

“Combining wisdom and compassion, Ahmed Afzaal digs deep to the roots of our civilization’s predicament, pulling no punches while managing to supply gentle support for the reader on a difficult but crucial journey. While written for educators, anyone would benefit from this highly accessible, conversational exposition that helps us make sense of the unravelling around us and find meaningful ways to confront the challenges ahead.”

—Tom Murphy, professor of physics, University of California, San Diego

“In this groundbreaking work, Ahmed Afzaal makes the case for both the necessity of and moral obligation for teachers to question why we educate, how we educate, and what education is for in this time of collapse. The edifice upon which our education system was built, as a part of modern fossil-fueled civilization, is crumbling beneath our feet. For educators and students alike, this

AHMED AFZAAL is associate professor of religion at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota.



Faithful History

True Myth in the Scriptures

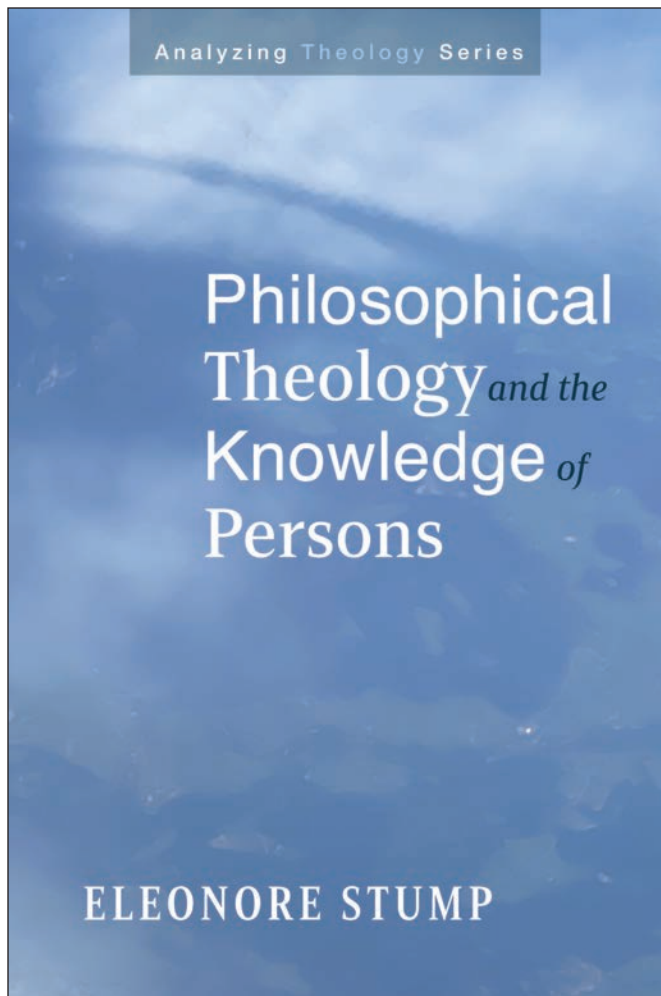
JOHN E. HARVEY

978-1-6667-5314-1 | 118 p. | \$19

History writing is as much the recording of objective facts as it is the product of subjective worldview. Following their ancient Israelite forbearers, but so unlike historicists, the worldview of early Christians involved the faithful melding of objective fact and subjective worldview. Basic Christian teachings were, similarly, on trajectories that originated in various ancient Israelite myths (which were as trans-historical as they were true). It was such true myths that produced life-giving faith in early Christians. As the faithful “participated in” their sacred stories, they became one with the ongoing work of God. This book concludes with an overview of how Christians might recapture such experience.

JOHN E. HARVEY has been a missionary, pastor, and professor in Canada, Africa, and China. He has authored both academic and pastoral books, including *Born Again and Beyond* (2013).





Philosophical Theology and the Knowledge of Persons

ANALYZING THEOLOGY

ELEONORE STUMP

978-1-6667-0054-1 | 286 p. | \$36

In the series of essays collected in this book, Eleonore Stump offers reflections that illustrate the nature and importance of learning from the Christian heritage in its development over the ages of the Christian tradition and its continued development in interaction with contemporary philosophy, theology, and science. The essays show the power of this heritage in philosophical theology and in philosophical biblical exegesis. Central to the concerns they address is the Christian conviction that at the foundation of all reality is a God, who is love in a welcoming personal relationship offered to all human beings. The essays explore the nature of God and some puzzles about God's interactions with human beings; they also examine the nature of human knowledge of God and argue that it can be achieved not only through propositional truths but also through knowledge of persons, and even through apprehension of beauty in nature or the arts. The book closes with an examination of what it is to will in accordance with the will of God for those who long for him.

“No one is doing more important work in analytic theology and philosophy of religion than Eleonore Stump. These essays of hers, written over the span of her career but gathered here for the first time, are just as needful and insightful now as they were when first published. We should receive them with gratitude. We all have something to learn from Stump's depths of wisdom.”

—Timothy J. Pawl, University of St. Thomas

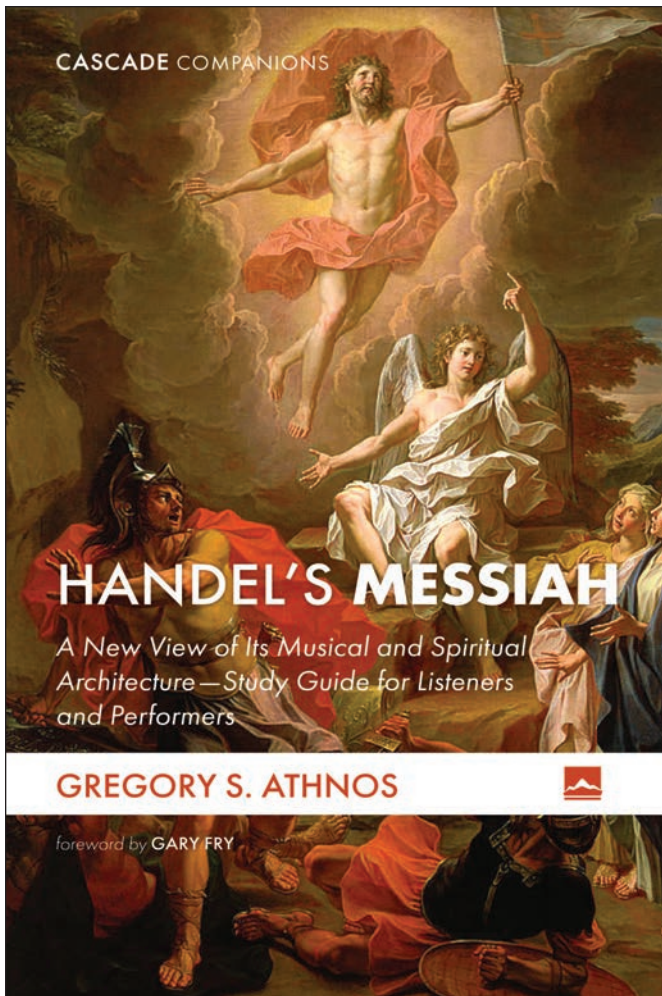
“This collection of essays by Eleonore Stump is an example of analytic and philosophical theology at its finest. For students, this is an invaluable introduction to the creative potential of philosophical theology. Even at the points where I disagree with her, Stump's work continues to inspire me to drink more deeply of the wells of Christian intellectual history, biblical exegesis, art, and contemporary philosophy.”

—Joanna Leidenhag, University of Leeds

“Eleonore Stump's work in philosophical and analytic theology is among the most influential, and for good reason. This excellent collection not only discusses the methodology of philosophical theology, but also illustrates the methodological richness that comes from careful engagement with biblical texts, historical theology, and direct knowledge of other people. Stump's insight, engagement with Christian tradition, and breadth of scholarly mastery are on full display.”

—Kevin Timpe, Calvin University

ELEONORE STUMP is the Robert J. Henle Professor of Philosophy at Saint Louis University. She has published extensively in philosophy of religion, contemporary metaphysics, and medieval philosophy. Her books include *Aquinas* (2003), *Wandering in Darkness: Narrative and the Problem of Suffering* (2010), *Atonement* (2018), and *The Image of God: The Problem of Evil and the Problem of Mourning* (2022). She has given the Gifford Lectures (Aberdeen, 2003), the Wilde lectures (Oxford, 2006), the Stewart lectures (Princeton, 2009), and the Stanton lectures (Cambridge, 2018). She is past president of the American Philosophical Association, Central Division; and she is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.



Handel's Messiah

A New View of Its Musical and Spiritual Architecture—Study Guide for Listeners and Performers

CASCADE COMPANIONS

GREGORY S. ATHNOS

We think we know Handel's *Messiah*, having heard it or performed it so many times. But is there another way to look at this masterpiece? Who assembled the texts? Why? How did Handel incorporate his own spiritual understanding of the texts? In this treatise, we view the composition from the same Baroque aesthetic perspective the composer used: the Doctrine of Affections—an approach heretofore unexplored in relationship to Handel's *Messiah*—which held that every major and minor key prompted a particular, *very specific*, and involuntary emotional and spiritual response in the listener. When facing a choice between following the accepted rules of musical composition or using the *Affect* best suited to the scriptural text, Handel almost exclusively chose the *Affect*; in other words, he chose spiritual insight over compositional tradition. Overlaying the various *Affects* on each movement of Handel's composition, we discover the true heart and spiritual depth of the composer's *magnum opus*.

"A fascinating and deeply researched analysis, Athnos' presentation of the underpinnings of this well-known masterwork rings true to me as a composer and conductor. His grasp of the organizational arc of *Messiah* as he lays out connections between its disparate internal components shows that he can view it all with not only a musical eye, but a spiritual one as well. I recommend this to anyone seeking a fresh and deeper understanding of Handel's timeless magnum opus."

—Gary Fry, Emmy-winning composer

"*Handel's Messiah* is a treasure trove of information for anyone interested in researching, performing, or just listening to this magnificent oratorio. This book connects all the dots as to how *Messiah* is put together with regards to the text and the music. I have had the privilege of conducting *Messiah* several times in my career, and I sure could have used this guide in my own preparation!"

—Michael Duff, musical director

"As a lover of Handel's *Messiah*, I have always been intrigued by the wide appeal of a work that is so overtly Christian. Athnos' book helped me to understand how Handel deployed musical forms, often subversively, to engage the human heart (or to use the Baroque term, our 'affects') and even bypass our cognitive 'defenses.' More importantly, Athnos' book has helped me better *experience* something I already enjoyed. It can do the same for you."

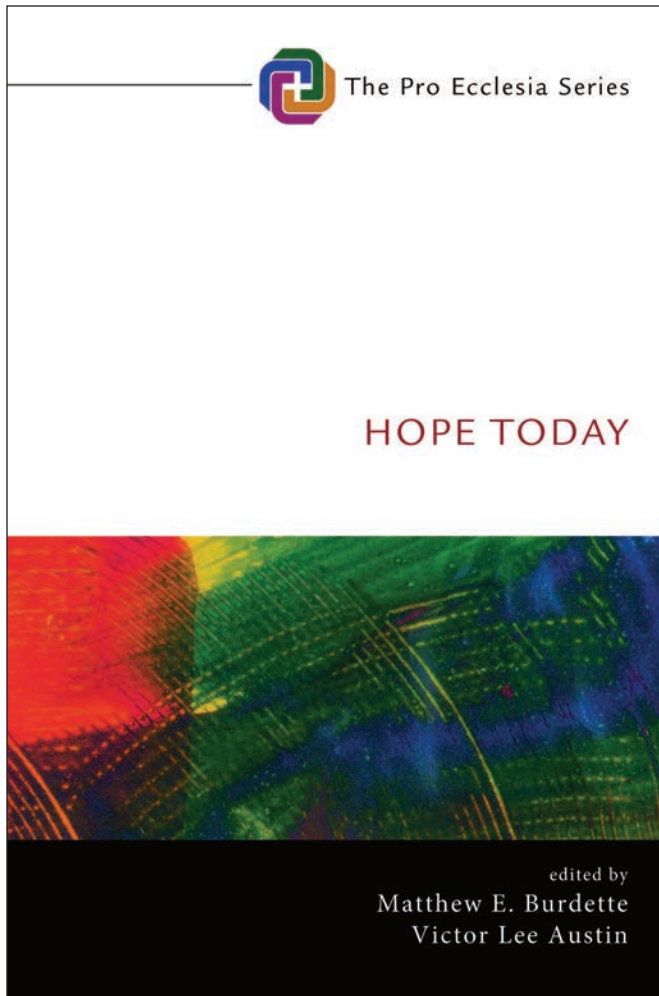
—Marshall Brown, senior pastor, Grace Presbyterian Church of the North Shore

"How is it that *Messiah*, which took Handel only about three weeks to compose, continues to captivate audiences nearly three centuries on? Athnos' book gives us an intriguing basis on which we might begin to answer that question, showing that there is a lot more going on here than inspiring words and pretty notes. I highly recommend this book to anyone, performer or listener, who wishes to enhance their understanding of Handel's spiritual intent."

—Jim Vogler, partner, Barack Ferrazzano

GREGORY S. ATHNOS is emeritus professor of music from North Park University in Chicago, where he served for thirty-two years as conductor and lecturer in music history and literature. He conducted numerous *Messiahs*, including the first performances in Russia and Estonia since the Bolshevik Revolution. Athnos is the author of three books: *The Art of the Roman Catacombs* (2011), *The Easter Jesus and the Good Friday Church* (2011), and his autobiography *Eat In Harmony* (2016).





Hope Today

PRO ECCLESIA SERIES

EDITED BY **MATTHEW E. BURDETTE** AND **VICTOR LEE AUSTIN**

978-1-7252-7110-4 | 92 p. | \$17

Hope is not about uncertain possibility. There is a robust sense of hope: something has happened, and it has happened in a certain way. This volume addresses the question: What is the way of Christian hope? What does it mean to act with hope? And in particular, what does it mean to act, to live, with hope in our churches and in society today?

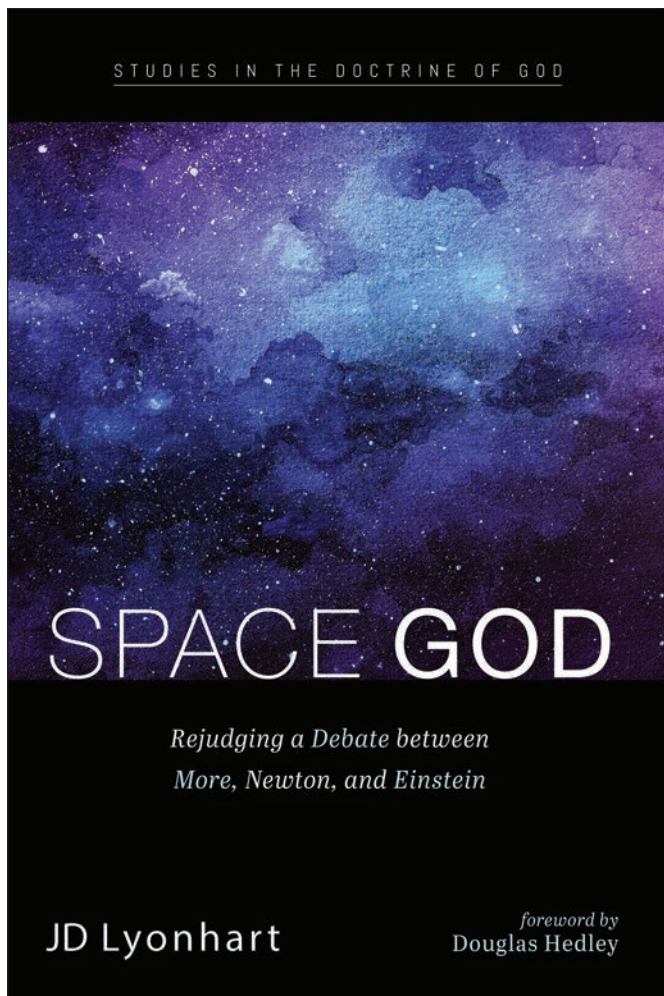
“Five decades ago, the ‘theology of hope’ was featured as the ‘new frontier’ in theology. This multiauthored book, *Hope Today*, is a welcome assurance that theological focus on Christian hope is not a passing fad. Each of the essays makes a distinctive contribution to the ethical implications of the living hope given the church by the gospel of Christ. I do not know of any book that deals in depth with such a wide swath of the ethics of hope for today.”

—Carl E. Braaten, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, emeritus

“Paul encourages Christians to cling to the hope we have in Christ, for ‘hope does not disappoint’ (Rom 5:5). But in a world ever afflicted by evil and injustice, hope remains elusive and hard won. These outstanding essays consider different theological dimensions of hope, showing how hope informs our understanding of Christian living, ecumenism, the sacraments, and the church’s engagement with the world. At once instructive and inspiring, this collection is a must-read for Christians pining for hope in these troubled times.”

—R. David Nelson, Baylor University

MATTHEW E. BURDETTE is a theologian and an editor at Convergent Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House. He holds a PhD in theology from the University of Aberdeen, having researched the theology of Robert W. Jenson and James H. Cone. Victor Lee Austin is the theologian-in-residence for the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas and is the author of several books, including *Losing Susan: Brain Disease, the Priest’s Wife, and the God Who Gives and Takes Away* (2016).



Space God

Rejudging a Debate between More, Newton, and Einstein

STUDIES IN THE DOCTRINE OF GOD

JD LYONHART

978-1-6667-5704-0 | 228 p. | \$30

Henry More had an odd idea. Thinking about space, he realized it was invisible, for we see things *in* space but not space itself. It's also immaterial, for matter exists in space but space is not itself material—try to grab it and it slips through your fingers. Space was also infinite and transcendent yet nonetheless omnipresent, for we cannot go anywhere except *in* and *through* space. But this was exactly how More saw God; God is invisible, immaterial, infinite, and transcendent, yet also omnipresent above, beyond, and within us. If God was somehow linked to space, he could be truly present while remaining immaterial, upholding the creator-creature distinction. He'd be near *to us* but would not be identical *with us*, just as space is distinct from the objects occupying it while remaining intimately close to those objects. What if space was, in some sense, *divine*?

Odder still, Newton soon erected his new physics upon More's idea. Indeed, there's real evidence that the modern scientific world was unwittingly grounded upon this theistic metaphysic. Of course, modern physics shed these underpinnings in the nineteenth century, and was itself relativized by Einstein in the twentieth. Yet this book seeks to reappraise More's odd idea. Is divine space theologically orthodox? Can it provide a new argument for the existence of God? And does it have any philosophical merit for us post-Einstein—a Space God for a Space Age?

"There has been a remarkable renaissance of interest in the Cambridge Platonists, and Henry More in particular, in recent years. JD Lyonhart's splendid book on the metaphysics and theology of space in Henry More marks a significant contribution to the literature on the Cambridge Platonists, and at the same time constitutes a fine contribution to the enigmatic and pivotal question of divine omnipresence."

—Douglas Hedley, director, Cambridge Centre for the Study of Platonism

"JD Lyonhart's *Space God* is a must-read for anyone interested in cutting-edge research on the nature of God and God's relation to the world. It brings Henry More and Cambridge Platonism back to the stage of contemporary philosophy."

—Benedikt Paul Göcke, professor of philosophy of religion and philosophy of science, Ruhr University Bochum

"JD Lyonhart has written a brilliant book on God and space, reconstructing the metaphysics of seventeenth-century Henry More and engaging contemporary philosophy of space and time and philosophy of religion. This is an important contribution to the history of ideas and philosophical theology."

—Charles Taliaferro, professor emeritus of philosophy, St. Olaf College

"JD Lyonhart modernizes a seventeenth-century theological proposal of philosopher Henry More (1614–87) for twenty-first-century consideration. Lyonhart's work is both stimulating and provocative. One's perception of space will definitely be expanded."

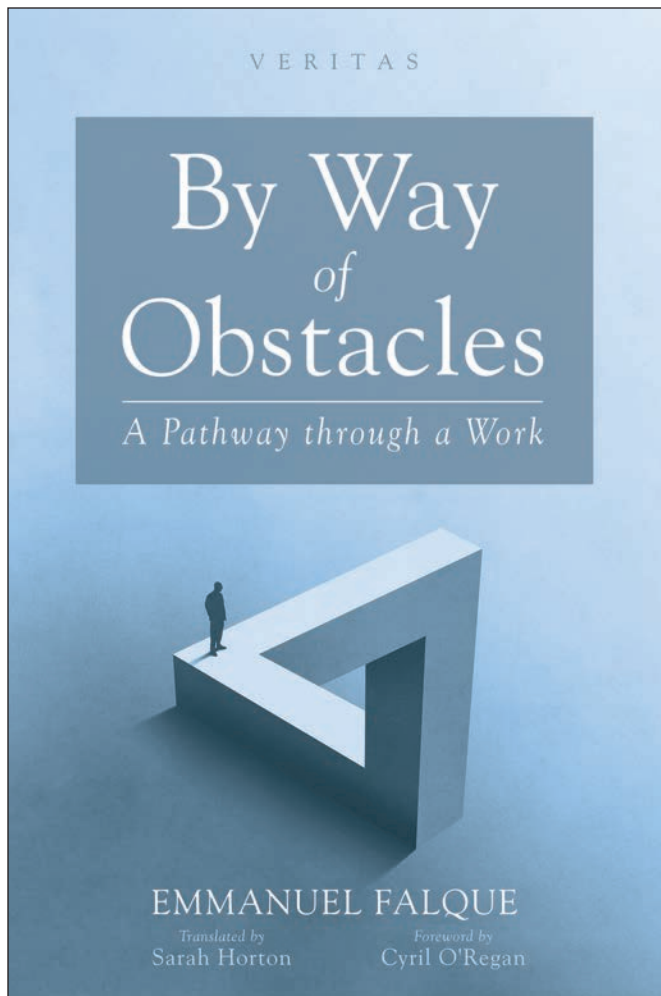
—Gerald Cleaver, professor of physics, Baylor University

"I have hugely enjoyed reading this wonderful book! It asks deep questions about God and space through the lenses of theology, philosophy, and science. The book takes us on a journey from the insights of the little-known More, then on to Newton, to Einstein, and finally to post-Einstein, with the author injecting his own perceptive comments and interpretations. This is a superb book in every way. Buy it for yourself or give it as a present!"

—Sir Colin Humphrey, professor of material science, Queen Mary University

JD LYONHART is an assistant professor of theology and philosophy at LCU, a fellow at the Cambridge Centre for the Study of Platonism at Cambridge University, and a co-host of the Spiritually Incorrect Podcast (spirituallyincorrectpodcast.com). He is also the author of *MonoTheism: An Absurdly Arrogant Attempt to Answer All the Problems of the Last 2000 Years in One Night at a Pub* (Cascade, 2021). For more information, see jdlyonhart.com.





By Way of Obstacles

A Pathway through a Work

VERITAS

EMMANUEL FALQUE

978-1-6667-3414-0 | 222 p. | \$27

In *By Way of Obstacles*, Emmanuel Falque revisits the major themes of his work—finitude, the body, and the call for philosophers and theologians to “cross the Rubicon” by entering into dialogue—in light of objections that have been offered. In so doing, he offers a *pathway through a work* that will offer valuable insights both to newcomers to his thought and to those who are already familiar with it. For it is only after one has carved out one’s pathway that one may see more clearly where one has been and where one might be going.

Here readers will discover the profound relation between Falque’s emphasis on the human experience of the world and his desire for philosophy and Christian theology to enter into conversation. For only by speaking within the human horizon of finitude can Christianity be credible for human beings, and it is because Christian theology teaches that God entered into our finitude that it can also teach us something of what it is to be human. Contemporary phenomenology, Falque warns, over-privileges an encounter with the infinite that cannot be originary. Calling us back to finitude, he calls us to a deeper understanding of our humanity.

“Complementing the earlier lovers’ quarrel with his mentors and French predecessors, in this new book, Emmanuel Falque responds instead to some of his contemporary critics. Writing ‘as an act of life,’ he forges for readers a pathway through his rich and extensive work, showing us ‘how things stand’ at the crossroads between phenomenology and theology.”

—Christina M. Gschwandtner, Fordham University

“Emmanuel Falque gives us in *By Way of Obstacles* a way of negotiating his prolific work. Here, we see Falque being formed as a thinker by Miguel de Unamuno on the one hand, and by Mikhail Bulgakov and Nikolai Berdyaev on the other. Always, too, we find him meditating on the meaning of *experience*, the exposure to peril that marks all genuine philosophical and theological thought.”

—Kevin Hart, The University of Virginia

“Anyone interested in French phenomenology and theology must read the work of Emmanuel Falque, and *By Way of Obstacles* is the place to begin. Sum-

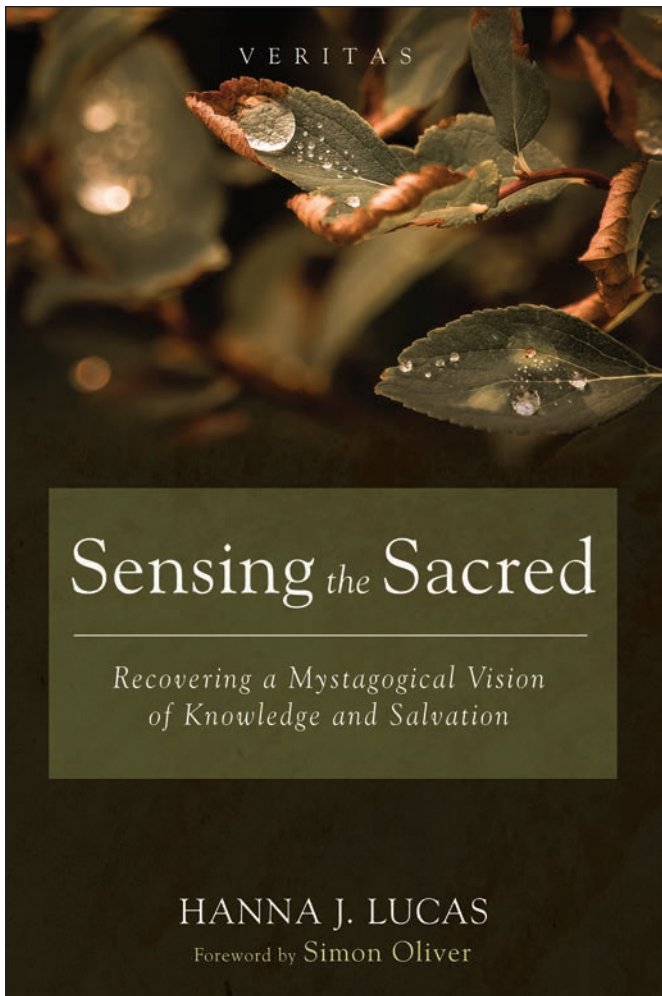
marizing and explicating Falque’s key questions, motivations, and innovations, *By Way of Obstacles* enables readers to come to grips with the dimensions of his project and his responses to aspects of critique. Sarah Horton’s translation remains faithful to Falque’s struggle while bringing its diverse resonances to light in English.”

—Robyn Horner, Australian Catholic University

“With his characteristic intellectual bounty and passion, Falque demonstrates the generativity of the art of disputatio, shaping and sharpening his thought through debate and confrontation with a broad gathering of thinkers and methodologies—philosophical, theological, and psychoanalytic—across history. The resulting essay captures the dynamic vitality and orality of a raucous symposium; it bears witness to thinking in motion while also clarifying the ground from where Falque speaks.”

—Tamsin Jones, Trinity College

EMMANUEL FALQUE is Professor and Honorary Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy of the Catholic University of Paris. He is the founder of the International Network in Philosophy of Religion (INPR).



Sensing the Sacred

Recovering a Mystagogical Vision
of Knowledge and Salvation

VERITAS

HANNA J. LUCAS

978-1-6667-5805-4 | 278 p. | \$35

This book offers a theological vision of learning informed by the mystagogical homilies of Ambrose of Milan, Cyril of Jerusalem, John Chrysostom, and Theodore of Mopsuestia. In dialogue with these four mystagogues, Hanna Lucas walks through the rites and liturgy surrounding baptism and the eucharist in order to establish a theological epistemology that sees knowledge as part of the “capacitation” of our nature for heavenly mysteries and union with God. The sacraments of initiation teach us that even the mundane aspects of knowledge, including the rudiments of matter and sensation, fit into a larger divine gift of capacitation. This book offers a holistic and integrated theory of knowledge that envisions one all-encompassing divine pedagogy that orients toward union with God. This union is experienced fully in the eschaton, but it breaks into time through the sacraments of the church, and it echoes down through the ordinary modes of knowing we encounter in daily life. Mundane knowledge beckons the knower to become capable of a sublime intelligence: to become capable of union with the divine. This integrative, unitive, and eschatologically oriented vision of knowledge stands in stark contrast to modern and postmodern epistemologies. *Sensing the Sacred* positions mystagogy as a timely remedy for the “incapacitations” that modernity offers us.

“Hanna Lucas combines deep engagement with Latin, Greek, and Syriac mystagogical texts with a broad, enthusiastic, and constructive theological vision. What she develops in this volume is both a rich retrieval and a bold development of a theology of learning.”

—Karen Kilby, professor of Catholic theology, University of Durham

“Deeply rooted in patristic mystagogy, Hanna Lucas constructs a theology of learning that guides our faculties to receive God. *Sensing the Sacred* wisely counsels a return to an approach that integrates all learning—sensible, rational, and spiritual—into a unified process of capacitation for union with God. Teachers in every discipline, therefore, do well to heed Lucas’s salutary appeal for a return to mystery.”

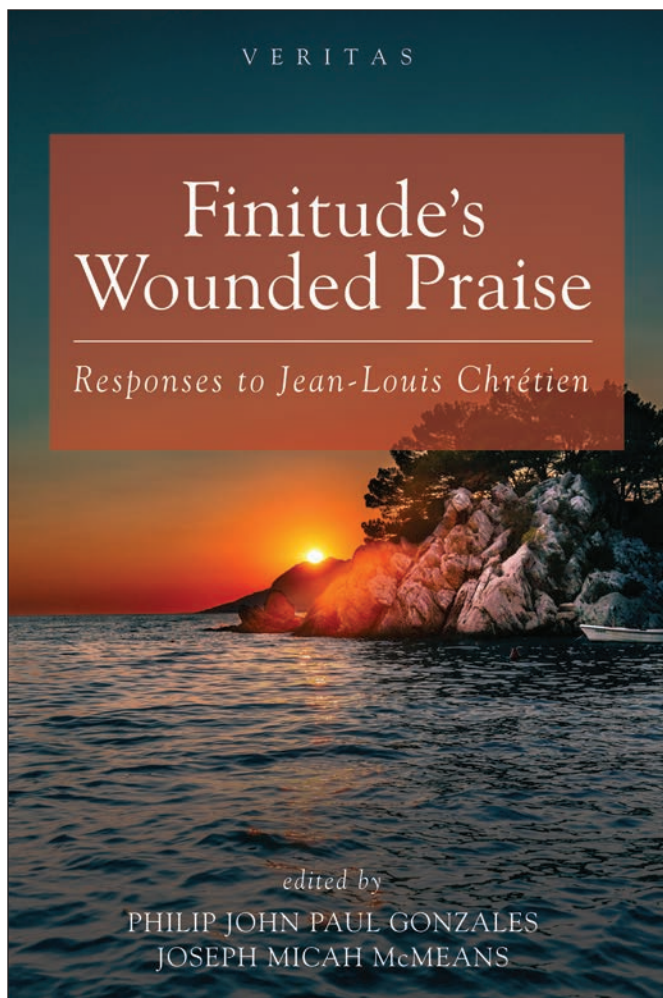
—Hans Boersma, chair in ascetical theology, Nashotah House Theological Seminary

“I have sitting before me the classic beauty on love and learning by Jean Leclercq, *The Love of Learning and the Desire for God*. This bounty of a book by Hanna Lucas, *Sensing the Sacred*, walks Leclercq to yet deeper and fuller places, a vision of the mystagogical tradition at the core of salvation knowledge. Lucas has made deep dives and recovered many a priceless pearl—do read and inwardly digest soul nourishment of the highest level.”

—Ron Dart, associate professor of political science, University of the Fraser Valley

HANNA J. LUCAS is a Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellow and an adjunct lecturer in theology at Durham University. She is also tutor in theology and ethics at College of the Resurrection in Mirfield, UK, and a research fellow of the Institute for the Renewal of Christian Catechesis.





Finitude's Wounded Praise

Responses to Jean-Louis Chrétien

VERITAS

EDITED BY **PHILIP JOHN PAUL GONZALES** AND **JOSEPH MICAH MCMEANS**

978-1-6667-1048-9 | 266 p. | \$35

The late Jean-Louis Chrétien's responsorial and polyphonic style of thinking is nothing less than a performance of gratitude, which manifests the many ways and manners that our wounded finitude is graced and blessed along the peregrine path of human existence. *Finitude's Wounded Praise: Responses to Jean-Louis Chrétien* is a receptive celebratory response to the immense fecundity and potential of Chrétien's "thank you" of gratitude. This volume gathers leading Chrétien scholars and thinkers to explicate, explore, think with, and commemorate his thought. The essays in the volume engage Chrétien's work from three primary fields: phenomenological, literary/poetic, and theological. *Finitude's Wounded Praise* is a diverse, exploratory, and impressive testament to the expansive and enduring richness of Chrétien's oeuvre.

"Jean-Louis Chrétien is a uniquely important Catholic philosopher whose work is a profound response to the giftedness of the world. This collection of essays leads us into the great fecundity of Chrétien's Christian phenomenology and poetry—an outstanding and original set of meditations on a philosopher of prayer, gratitude, and contemplation."

—Simon Oliver, professor of divinity, Durham University

"The voice of Jean-Louis Chrétien resounds unceasingly and still awaits its response. *Finitude's Wounded Praise* pays homage to the man who left us too soon and whose work remains at once phenomenological, poetic, and literary, as well as theological. There is a particular way of thinking and speaking in line with Chrétien. Each contribution included here bears witness to it, with the word 'gratitude' as the right attitude and key to the understanding."

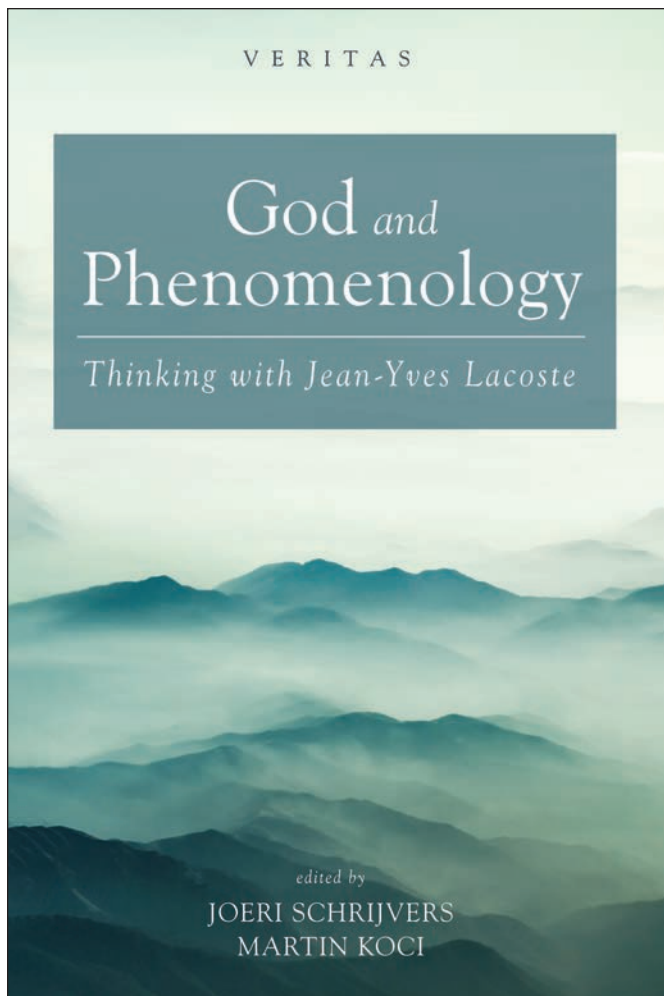
—Emmanuel Falque, honorary dean, Catholic University of Paris

"I have always respected Jean-Louis Chrétien as a man and scholar. Later, I could admire the philosopher and poet. Recently, I noticed that he had said many things I too have tried to say, though he had said them earlier and better. This book is a fitting tribute to his memory and a testimony to his presence."

—Jean-Yves Lacoste, life member, Clare Hall

PHILIP JOHN PAUL GONZALES is a permanent lecturer in philosophy at St. Patrick's Pontifical University, Ireland. He is author of *Reimagining the Analogia Entis: The Future of Erich Przywara's Christian Vision* and editor of *Exorcising Philosophical Modernity: Cyril O'Regan and Christian Discourse after Modernity*. He is currently one of the twelve recipients of the major Widening Horizons in Philosophical Theology grant, St. Andrews, funded by Templeton Religion Trust.

JOSEPH MICAH MCMEANS is a doctoral student at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth. His research and publications center on the emerging field of continental philosophy of religion, with special attention given to the intersection between contemporary ontological research in the Eastern Orthodox tradition (Christos Yannaras) and the "theological turn" in French phenomenology.



God and Phenomenology

Thinking with Jean-Yves Lacoste

VERITAS

EDITED BY **MARTIN KOCI** AND **JOERI SCHRIJVERS**

978-1-6667-0959-9 | 330 p. | \$41

God and Phenomenology: Thinking with Jean-Yves Lacoste provides a starting point for scholars who seek to familiarize themselves with the work of this French phenomenologist and theologian. Thirteen international scholars comment on Lacoste's work. In conclusion the volume offers an unpublished essay by Lacoste on the topic of eschatology.

"While Jean-Yves Lacoste is a thinker of great erudition in the fields of both philosophy and theology, his work has received far less attention than it deserves. This is the first collection of essays on his thought, and it will no doubt lead to further ones. Although this volume is not intended as an introduction to Lacoste, anyone familiar with the interactions between the phenomenological and theological traditions will find this volume immensely helpful and will soon want to read Lacoste for themselves."

—Bruce Ellis Benson, executive director, Society for Continental Philosophy and Theology

"Jean-Yves Lacoste has blended phenomenology and theology with a special degree of subtlety, based upon his remarkable scholarly acquaintance with both. He has also further extended the legacy of the *nouvelle théologie* by questioning the division between theology and philosophy more radically than anyone else. These excellent essays do justice to both aspects of his enterprise and subject them to critical questioning and development. They make a vital contribution to the emerging Christian thinking of the twenty-first century."

—Catherine Pickstock, professor of divinity, University of Cambridge

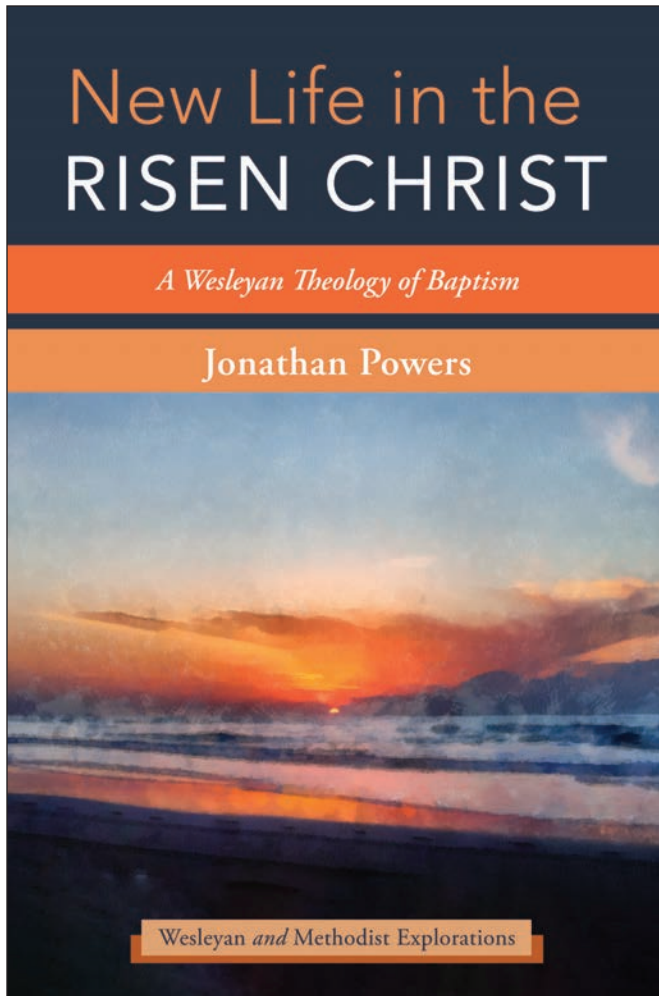
"Few thinkers who truly have something to say to us are as demanding as Jean-Yves Lacoste. Martin Koci and Joeri Schrijvers have certainly understood this, for this collection, the first of its kind in English, does not pretend to be anything at all of the sort of summary that always ends in oversimplification. Instead, we are given a series of points of entry, and by some of Lacoste's most accomplished readers, that manage, each in its own way, to summon both the spirit and the concerns of his thinking. *God and Phenomenology* is long overdue and promises to be immensely helpful."

—Jeffrey Bloechl, associate professor of philosophy, Boston College

JOERI SCHRIJVERS is Extraordinary Professor at the School of Philosophy of North-West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa.

MARTIN KOCI is Assistant Professor at the Institute for Fundamental Theology and Dogmatics of KU Linz, Austria.





New Life in the Risen Christ

A Wesleyan Theology of Baptism

WESLEYAN AND METHODIST EXPLORATIONS

EDITED BY **JONATHAN A. POWERS**

978-1-6667-3597-0 | 332 p. | \$39

Baptism is a foundational rite and sacrament of the church. Over the centuries, the significance of baptism for Christian life and faith has been confirmed by the church, but baptism remains a highly controversial topic. Numerous disagreements exist between denominations and faith traditions—including the various descendants of the original Methodist movement—over the doctrine and practice of baptism. Who can be baptized? Why is baptism done? What does the rite mean?

New Life in the Risen Christ: A Wesleyan Theology of Baptism seeks to address confusion over baptism and offer a coherent treatment of the sacrament from a Wesleyan theological perspective. Distinguished scholars from around the world are brought together in this volume to examine the writings of John Wesley and offer scholarly reflections on topics related to the sacrament of baptism. Their work is an invitation to remember and be thankful for baptism as the sign of divine grace that initiates Christians into a new reality: life in the risen Christ.

“Baptism has often been a theological Achilles heel for the descendants of Charles and John Wesley. But this excellent volume of insightful essays shows that they need not be vulnerable at this sacramental spot. Come, read, and be instructed by excellent reflections on this essential sacrament. I know no better collection of essays looking at the various facets of baptismal theology from a Wesleyan perspective.”

—Lester Ruth, Duke Divinity School

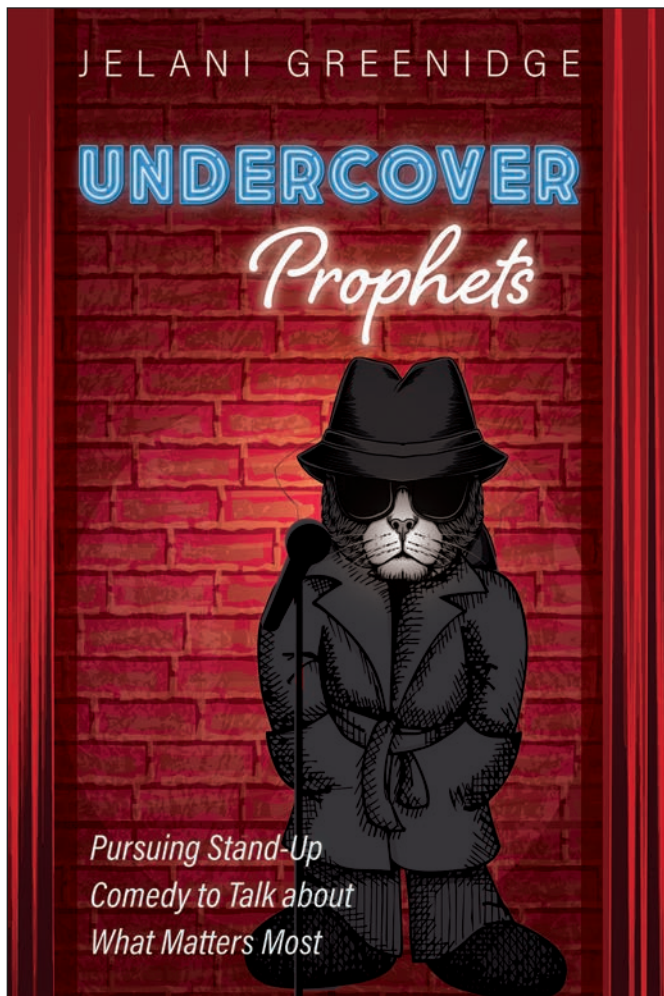
“*New Life in the Risen Christ* is a feast! It rightly locates baptism within the wider horizon of God’s redemptive work in Christ and in the Spirit. Along the way, it clears up many confusions and casts a vision of baptism that inspires both gratitude and generosity. Scholarly but accessible, it is a must-read for Wesleyans who long for the renewal of the church and the healing of the world.”

—Jason E. Vickers, Baylor University

“Methodists have tended to get confused about baptism, both theologically and pastorally. They will be less confused if they read this book. It is comprehensive, learned, rooted in careful exegesis and responsible history, and eminently readable as it relates baptism to themes dear to Wesleyan theology such as salvation, holiness, evangelism, the Holy Spirit, justice, works of mercy, and the means of grace. Every pastor in any stream of the Methodist tradition ought to have it on his or her shelf.”

—Jennifer Woodruff Tait, editor, *Christian History Magazine*

JONATHAN POWERS is the assistant professor of worship studies at Asbury Theological Seminary.



Undercover Prophets

Pursuing Stand-Up Comedy
to Talk about What Matters Most

JELANI GREENIDGE

978-1-6667-3498-0 | 152 p. | \$22

Are you looking for a way to overhaul your communication style? Do you struggle to connect with people outside of church? Do you need more practice delivering hard truths? Or do you need more joy in your life? If you're answered yes to any of these questions, you might be a candidate to join the ranks of the Undercover Prophets. Go on a journey of self-discovery and comedic innovation as you learn to grab ahold of your story and transform it into a tool you can use to connect with people, both onstage and off. This book is one part cultural diagnostic, one part memoir, and one part instructional manual. With accessible, funny prose, Jelani Greenidge does a deep dive into an obvious truth hidden in plain sight—that pastors and other Christian leaders need help in connecting with unchurched audiences, and that stand-up comedy can be a great way to do just that.

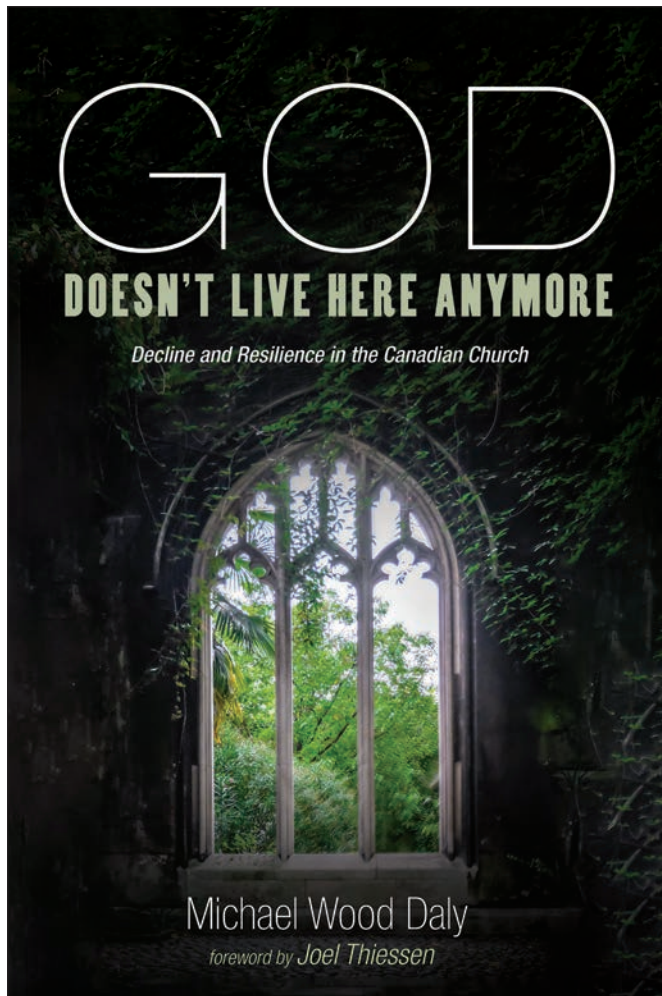
“What a wonderful and refreshing read. Jelani Greenidge presents the role of a Christian comic as both a calling and an opportunity to engage culture as a new kind of evangelist and prophet. Pastors should read this book not simply for its invitation into comedy, but also to gain insights that will take their preaching from the sanctuary to the streets.”

—Efreem Smith, co-lead pastor, Midtown Church

“With a direct, and obviously humorous style, Jelani Greenidge’s writing captures the mystery of comedy as it connects us to the divine, one another, and our own stories. Greenidge claims that the world needs more laughter and random silliness. If you agree, this book should be at the top of your reading list! It is truly an excellent read.”

—Michelle A. Clifton, director of prison education, Lewis University

JELANI GREENIDGE is a versatile communicator with a passion to inform, inflame, and inspire. In his decades of experience connecting with audiences, congregants, and readers in the Pacific Northwest and around the nation, he’s spent time as a pastor, worship leader, gospel vocalist, hip-hop emcee/producer, DJ, and stand-up comic. He and his wife Holly live in leafy Portland, Oregon, with an Xbox, no pets, a dead plant or two, and too many throw pillows.



God Doesn't Live Here Anymore

Decline and Resilience in the Canadian Church

MICHAEL WOOD DALY

978-1-6667-3205-4 | 256 p. | \$33

The church in Canada is in trouble. Media reports suggest that nine thousand churches are likely to close over the next ten years. The United Church of Canada reports closing a congregation a week. The Anglican Church of Canada anticipates closing its last congregation by 2040, and the Roman Catholic Church, Canada's largest religious denomination, reports having closed one-fifth of the tradition's 2,500 congregations.

God Doesn't Live Here Anymore traces the story of the church in Canada from its far off historical roots in biblical times, rise to dominance in medieval Europe, role in the colonization of Canada, strained relations with Canada's First Nations, twentieth-century prominence, and the church's dramatic decline and loss of influence entering the twenty-first century.

Wood Daly pulls no punches in calling the church to accept responsibility for its own decline, while maintaining hope that resurrection is still possible. The church, as Canadians may know it, might disappear, but for Christians death has never been the end of the story.

"Despite the ominous title, Michael Wood Daly offers hope—that rather than leaving Canada, God is living in different places and people than a century ago. Amidst the loss of church buildings and other places of worship because dwindling faith communities are no longer able to support them, this book may be ushering in a new, more diverse movement across Canada of dynamic spiritual life for the twenty-first century."

—Brian Grim, President, Religious Freedom & Business Foundation

"In this innovative and timely book, Wood Daly correctly observes that for many, the church as we know it has simply lost its relevance. . . . Historically, institutional religion faced many crises and managed to rebound. Our generationally needed rebound is yet unclear. While the focus is on Canada, every student of religion in all Western countries should be assigned this book."

—Ram A. Cnaan, University of Pennsylvania

"Brave, credible, necessary, and urgent. Every congregation, adjudicatory, municipality, activist, or fund looking at the future of Canada's places of faith must read this carefully. Wood Daly's skill, experience, and love for the Canadian church all combine for this essential diagnosis and prescription."

—Graham Singh, CEO, Trinity Centres Foundation

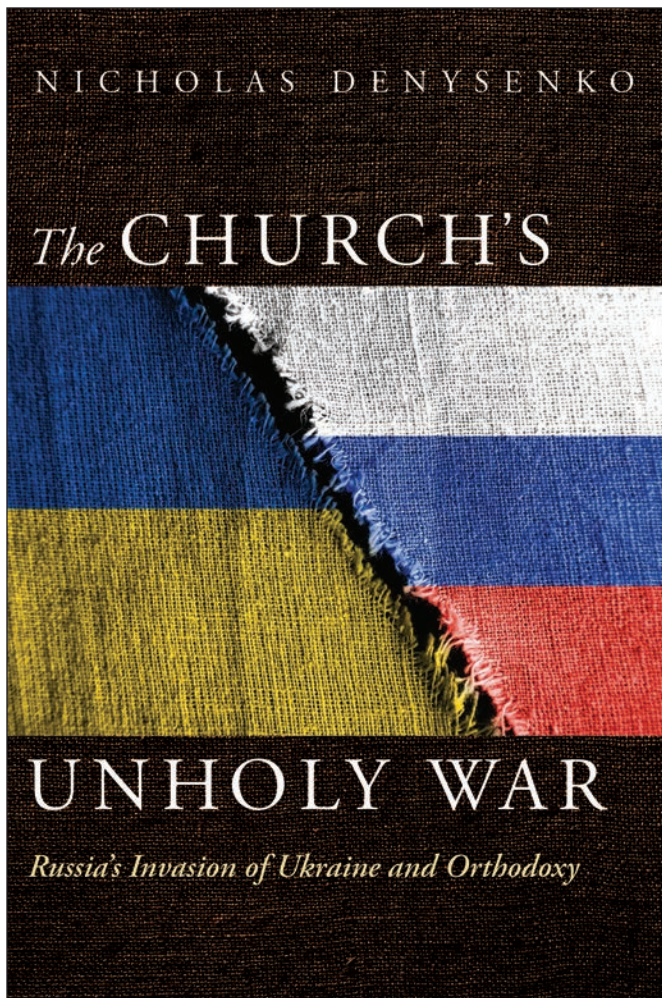
"Michael Wood Daly weaves together his personal experience of church life and mission in Canada with an integrated and engaging discussion of Canadian church history and the latest research on the health and life of the church. In addition, he makes an important contribution by critically engaging the dark history of the mission of Christian churches in Canada in relation to indigenous people on Turtle Island."

—Charles Fensham, Knox College

"A stimulating, richly documented, and well-written contribution to an understanding of the origins of the Christian church and its rise and fall in Europe and Canada. Wood Daly sees the current situation as a place from which resurrection is possible—a place from which the church in Canada can start again and God can live again. This provocative book warrants a wide reading and a significant response."

—Reginald W. Bibby, University of Lethbridge

MICHAEL WOOD DALY is president of Sphaera Research, an associate at the Trinity Centres Foundation and currently serves as research director for the Halo Canada Project.



The Church's Unholy War

Russia's Invasion of Ukraine and Orthodoxy

NICHOLAS DENYSENKO

978-1-6667-4815-4 | 178 p. | \$25

How did religion contribute to Russia's invasion of Ukraine? Heated disputes and alienation among Orthodox Christians in Ukraine and Russia contributed to Russian aggression in Crimea and Donbas in 2014, and the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022. This book examines attempts from the early twentieth century to the present day to liberate the Ukrainian Orthodox Church from Russian control. It explores the causes of bitter alienation, Russia's use of soft power to maintain control, the development of hate speech used to discriminate against independent-minded Ukrainians, and the transition from soft to hard power from 2014 to the present.

"Nicholas Denysenko, a world-class expert on Ukraine and its churches, demonstrates in his new book how these churches evolved and became involved in Russia's war against Ukraine. It is a 101 reading for everyone who wants to better understand Ukraine and the nature of its centuries-long conflicts with Russia. It offers an outlook through the prism of the church's history that sheds light on many spots which otherwise remain blind."

—Cyril Hovorun, professor of ecclesiology, international relations, and ecumenism, Sankt Ignatios College

"This book is a *tour de force* analysis of the struggle to establish an independent Orthodox Church of Ukraine over time written by one of the foremost experts on Orthodoxy. With sophistication and vision, Nicholas Denysenko systematically lays out the historical roots and future prospects for intra-Orthodox conflict, not just between Ukraine and Russia, but also in global Orthodoxy more broadly. This book is a must-read for anyone interested in Eastern Christianity."

—Catherine Wanner, professor of history, anthropology, and religious studies, Rock Ethics Institute, Penn State University

"Readers in search of a guide to the role of religion in the Russian-Ukrainian war and the impact of that conflict on the Ukrainian churches will find it here."

Nicholas Denysenko draws on deep expertise and years of close observation of Ukrainian religious affairs to explain the origins of conflict about and within Ukrainian Orthodox Christianity—and to chart a path for global Orthodoxy to work towards peace and reconciliation. Warmly recommended."

—Heather J. Coleman, director, Program on Religion and Culture, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies

"In *The Church's Unholy War*, Nicholas Denysenko offers a compelling account of the ways in which a growing movement among Ukrainian Orthodox Christians for their own self-governing church, a movement symbolically if not practically achieved in the creation of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, contributed to the current conflict. This is a must-read for anyone interested in the shifting religious dimensions of national politics in Eastern Europe."

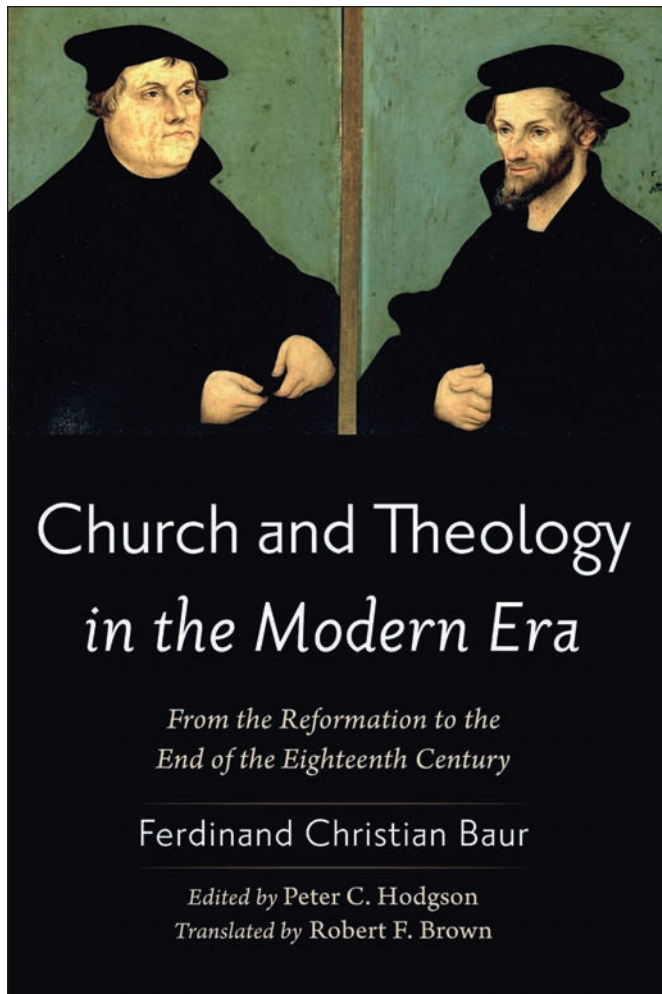
—George E. Demacopoulos, co-founding director, Orthodox Christian Studies Center, Fordham University

"The definitive account to understand the religious dimensions of the war on Ukraine and the divisions within global Orthodoxy. Balanced, clear, authoritative."

—Jose Casanova, professor emeritus of sociology, theology, and religious studies, Georgetown University

NICHOLAS E. DENYSENKO is Emil and Elfriede Jochum Professor and Chair at Valparaiso University. He is the author of *The Orthodox Church in Ukraine: A Century of Separation* (2018).





Church and Theology in the Modern Era

From the Reformation to the End of the Eighteenth Century

FERDINAND CHRISTIAN BAUR

EDITED BY **PETER C. HODGSON**

978-1-6667-6838-1 | 834 p. | \$79

Church and Theology in the Modern Era covers the period from the Reformation to the end of the eighteenth century and is based on lectures delivered by Baur in the 1840s and 1850s. It was published after his death as the fourth volume of his church history. The first and last volumes (*Christianity and the Christian Church of the First Three Centuries* and *Church and Theology in the Nineteenth Century*) have appeared in English translation from Wipf and Stock. This book contains a wealth of information, not only about the well-known figures of the Reformation and its aftermath, but also about other important persons who are often overlooked. It attends to both Protestant and Catholic history and shows that this is the most turbulent period in church history since the early years of Christianity. Ecclesiastical and political controversies are often intertwined, and momentous decisions are made that affect the modern world.

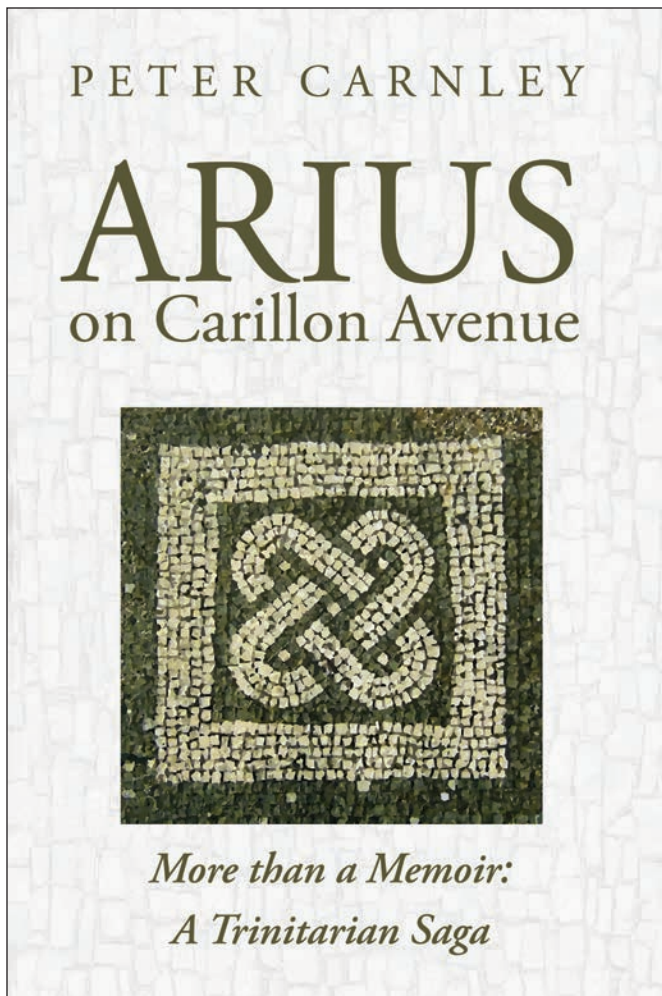
“This fourth of F. C. Baur’s classic five-volume history of Christianity up to 1850 provides non-German readers with a less familiar Lutheran perspective on the Reformation(s) and the subsequent shaping of European Christianities. Translated and annotated for the first time, its historical analyses and theological evaluations offer a fresh and optimistic vision of Protestantism as a new birth of freedom in the evolution of Western culture. As the architect and greatest practitioner of historical theology, Baur is always suggestive and often provocative, but this account of a most formative period of Christian history is more accessible to the general reader than any other of his twenty thousand pages. It deserves to be widely read.”

—Robert Morgan, fellow, Linacre College, University of Oxford

“F. C. Baur’s posthumously published *Church History in the Modern Period* is testimony to the encyclopedic range of his scholarship. Peter Hodgson and Robert Brown are to be thanked for making this erudite work more accessible in an impeccable English translation.”

—Johannes Zachhuber, professor of historical and systematic theology, University of Oxford

FERDINAND CHRISTIAN BAUR (1792–1860) was professor of theology at the University of Tübingen from 1826 until his death. He was a prolific author and original thinker whose works have an impact still today. Robert F. Brown is professor of philosophy emeritus at the University of Delaware. He has specialized in the history of philosophy and the philosophy of religion, with a focus on German idealism. Peter C. Hodgson is Charles G. Finney Professor of Theology Emeritus at the Divinity School of Vanderbilt University. He has specialized in works by Baur and Hegel, as well as in contemporary issues of constructive theology.



Arius on Carillon Avenue

More than a Memoir: A Trinitarian Saga

PETER CARNLEY

978-1-6667-6518-2 | Forthcoming

In this book and its companion volume, *The Subordinate Substitute*, Peter Carnley unpicks logical knots and entanglements of argument found today in contemporary expressions of belief in the “eternal functional submissiveness” of the Son to the Father. “Trinitarian subordinationism” and “complementarianism” is characteristically found, along with associated conservative evangelical beliefs in the subordination of women to men, and the theology of redemption known as the “penal substitutionary theory” of the atonement.

This theological package is energetically promoted amongst conservative evangelical Christians—most notably members of the Southern Baptist Church, and Presbyterians of the Westminster Tradition in the United States and Britain, and very significantly, amongst conservatively minded Anglicans of the Diocese of Sydney and elsewhere across Australia.

All the while the argument of this book is driven by the question of whether this popular phenomenon of contemporary evangelical Christianity is fairly and legitimately categorized as a modern form of the ancient heresy of Arianism.

“With characteristic learning and insight, Peter Carnley explores the curious and problematic rise of a tendency in evangelical theology to foreground power and hierarchy, heavenly and ecclesial, in a way that threatens the very integrity of Christian witness to the God of self-giving love. Provocative as well as circumspect, this book amounts to a whistle-blowing exercise on the subversion of the doctrine of the Trinity going on behind the smoke machines and praise bands of contemporary evangelical Anglicanism.”

—Andrew McGowan, dean and president, Berkeley Divinity School

“Peter Carnley reflects on a theological controversy that started in the early 2000s. He brings a characteristic rigor to his analysis that is only assisted by his reflections over the intervening two decades. As a witness to some of the debate at the time I am grateful for the debate to be explored so systematically. As Carnley says, ‘We cannot fail to grasp a clearer definition of what is to be believed than by discerning what is certainly *not* to be believed.’”

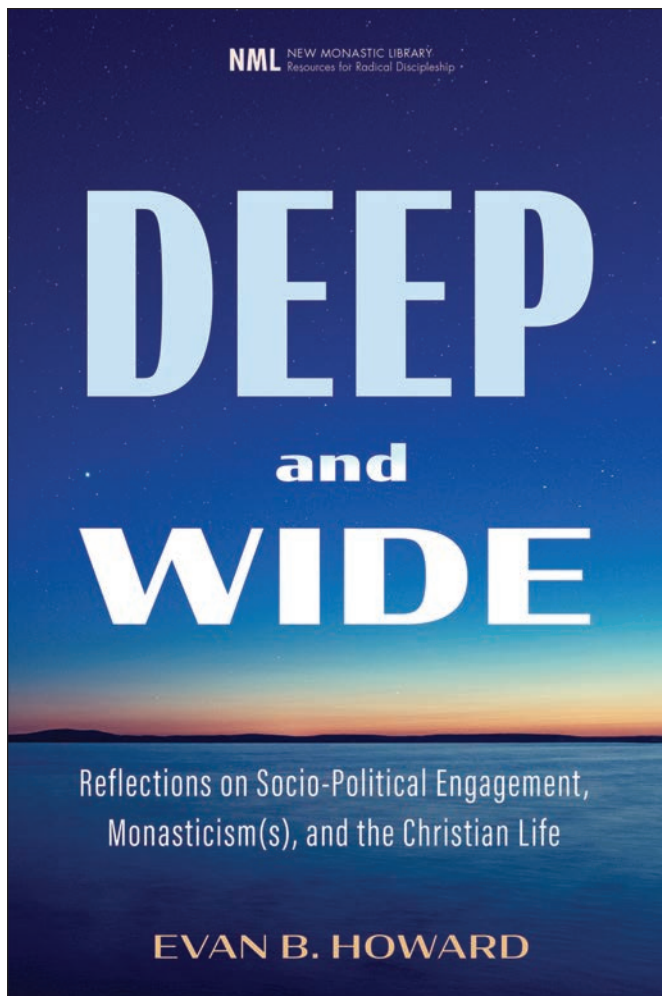
—Philip Freier, Anglican archbishop of Melbourne

“This learned work of Peter Carnley has proven immensely helpful to me. He has introduced me to the intricacies of the Australian debate on eternal submission and provided a compelling and expansive study of why divine monarchy does not entail eternal submission. Even where he criticizes my own work, his charitable pushback prompts me to improve my own thinking and communication. I am thankful for this engaging contribution to an ongoing and important debate.”

—D. Glenn Butner Jr., associate professor of theology and Christian ministry, Sterling College

PETER CARNLEY was Anglican archbishop of Perth from 1981 to 2005 and primate of Australia for the last five of those years. He is an honorary fellow of St. John’s College, Cambridge, Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and Trinity College, Melbourne, and holds a first degree from the University of Melbourne, a research degree from Cambridge UK, a Lambeth DD, and a number of honorary doctorates. He is author of *The Structure of Resurrection Belief* (1987), *Reflections in Glass* (2004), and the companion volumes *Resurrection in Retrospect* and *The Reconstruction of Resurrection Belief* (2019). He and his wife Ann now live in Fremantle, Western Australia.





Deep and Wide

Reflections on Socio-Political Engagement,
Monasticism(s), and the Christian Life

NEW MONASTIC LIBRARY: RESOURCES FOR RADICAL DISCIPLESHIP

EVAN B. HOWARD

978-1-5326-8281-0 | 252 p. | \$29

Commitment to a life of prayer and community can prove to be a great help for those involved in politics. Rather than being distracted away from action, Evan B. Howard argues that committed Christians often find both freedom and empowerment to contribute to the greater good of the world. A review of the history of committed Christian life (monasticism) shows that devout communities have engaged in a wide range of socio-political arenas. We can explore today what nuns and monks have accomplished in the past. We can speak into political conversations. We can care for those in need. We can model new ways of ordering life together. We can take concrete political action in governmental process. We can pray. This book blends examination of history with musings about the Christian life and politics generally. It also offers a collection of monastic practices to equip communities and individuals to embody an appropriate blend of “deep” and “wide” for themselves.

“If, like me, you are searching for a way to remove yourself from the woke/anti-woke echo chamber, and if you are looking for a thoughtful, mature way to think about Christian participation in society, read *Deep and Wide*. Evan Howard’s exploration of monasticism as a model for socio-political engagement will indeed deepen your understanding and give you an imagination for godly and effective social action.”

—Todd Hunter, author of *Deep Peace*

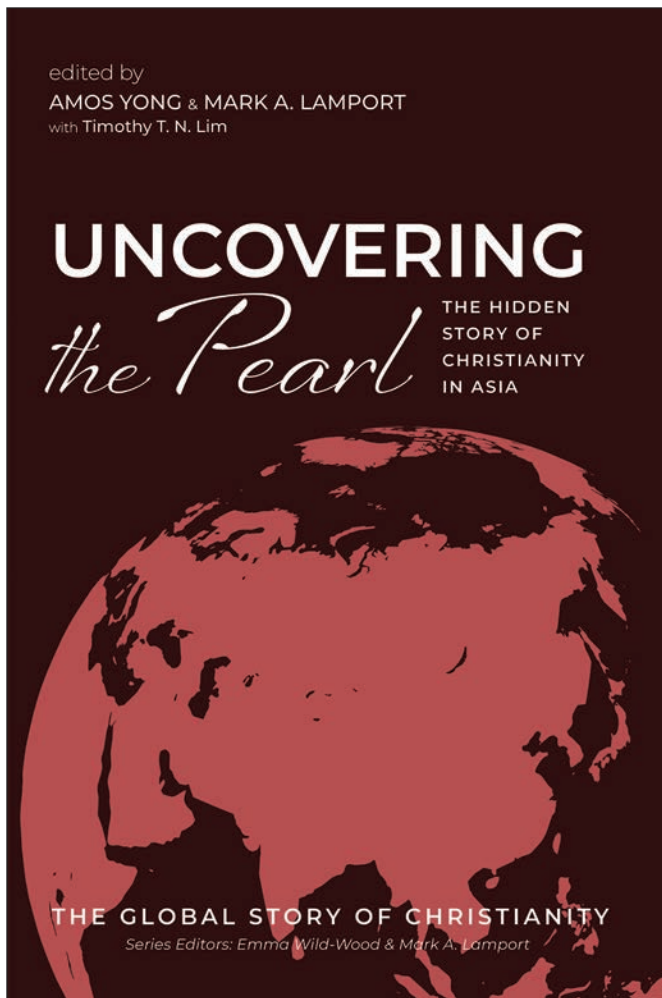
“A heartfelt challenge to merge deep contemplative prayer with effective political action through pertinent philosophical musings, thoughtful biblical insights, and ancient and contemporary spiritual wisdom woven together with stories and examples—a message for our times.”

—Elizabeth Liebert, author of *The Soul of Discernment*

“The political arena attracts corrupt power seekers and sensational headline grabbers more often than people who genuinely seek truth and the common good. By contrast, I heartily commend Evan Howard’s inspiring stories of public witness for social justice and moral integrity from both ancient and contemporary Christian communities. Their witness reaches far beyond their numbers and subsequent generations continue to draw strength from their fidelity.”

—David Janzen, author of *Seven Radical Elders*

EVAN B. HOWARD is adjunct professor of Christian spirituality at Fuller Theological Seminary and the founder and director of Spirituality Shoppe: A Center for the Study of Christian Spirituality. He is the author of the *Brazos Introduction to Christian Spirituality* (2008) and other works.



Uncovering the Pearl

The Hidden Story of Christianity in Asia

THE GLOBAL STORY OF CHRISTIANITY

**EDITED BY AMOS YONG, MARK A. LAMPOR,
AND TIMOTHY T. N. LIM**

978-1-6667-2899-6 | 360 p. | \$40

Asia is by far the largest continent in the world. The global expansion of the church, which emanated from the Middle East (as explored in the first book in the series) moved along various routes to take root in Asia proper. Christianity in Asia is extraordinarily diverse, with very ancient forms of the faith dating to the time of the apostles. The western church will be enlightened by the dynamic, multi-pronged Asian story of Christianity. Asian Christianity is also distinct due to the numerous non-traditional, house, or cell movements found throughout the region. The diversity of Christianity in Asia makes Christians in this region critical for the future of global Christianity.

“*Uncovering the Pearl* brings home a unique excavation of Asian Christianity as the center of Christian gravity makes an inexorable shift to the Global South. Through history, context, and community, the authors tell us the incredibly vivacious, diverse, and complex story. I highly recommend this resource for anyone contemplating church, missions, and theological education and wish to see it inciting newer stories from this infinite region to inform and inspire the rest of the world.”

—Jessy Jaison, regional director for South Asia, United World Mission and Overseas Council

“This watershed resource volume fills the gaping information gap on Asian Christianity with the content of both the historical wealth and future possibilities of these various and vibrant forms of the faith. With better knowledge of global interactions and exchanges, we can reconsider our understanding of Christianity through an Asian lens and more faithfully attend to what it has meant to be a Jesus follower engaging our world through the ages to today.”

—Tanya Riches, coordinator, Masters of Transformational Development, Eastern College Australia

AMOS YONG is professor of theology and mission at Fuller Theological Seminary and dean of the School of Mission and Theology.

MARK A. LAMPOR has for thirty-five years been a professor at graduate theological schools in the United States and Europe.

TIMOTHY T. N. LIM is visiting lecturer at London School of Theology.



Compelling LIVES

*Five Methodist Abolitionists
and the Ideas That Inspired Them*

Christopher P. Momany



Wesleyan and Methodist Explorations

“Christopher Momany inspires us through the stories of these complex, diverse, and faithful heirs of John Wesley—people who witnessed to and embodied love, power, and justice. Through their witness we see that these core values are still needed to keep us ‘upright’ in a ‘world that is downright lost.’”

—M. Kathryn Armistead, managing editor, *Methodist Review*

“Remembering that history is story, *Compelling Lives* weaves together overlooked narratives of the American Methodist movement. In this telling, a biblical strand of life and faith is knotted with the impact of the Wesleyan revival on five individuals. Christopher Momany points readers to practices of holiness that call us to a new life in Christ, bringing reconciliation across still-existing human social divides.”

—Joy J. Moore, professor of biblical preaching, Luther Seminary

“We find here the stories of five compelling lives, compelling not only for the courageous advocacy displayed but also for the ideas which grounded and motivated their abolitionist activity, ideas rooted in faith and philosophy. These lives not only draw us in and hold our attention; they invite self-reflection. How might we embody ideas about human dignity in our own time? This book about compelling lives is itself compelling.”

—David A. Bard, bishop, Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church

CHRISTOPHER P. MOMANY is a former chaplain and professor at Adrian College in Michigan and an ordained United Methodist pastor. He is the author of *For Each and All: The Moral Witness of Asa Mahan* (2018).

Compelling Lives

Five Methodist Abolitionists and
the Ideas That Inspired Them

WESLEYAN AND METHODIST EXPLORATIONS

CHRISTOPHER P. MOMANY

978-1-6667-4462-0 | 162 p. | \$24

What motivates people to work for justice? Recent studies have moved away from an emphasis on specific principles and toward an understanding of social and cultural forces. But what about times in history when distinct ideas were critical for positive change?

The pre-Civil War abolitionist movement represents one such time. During an era when race-based slavery was buttressed by the machinery of civil law, many people developed arguments for freedom and equity that were grounded in divine law. There were Methodist witnesses for justice who lived by this distinction between civil and godly authority. While Methodism, as an institution, betrayed its founding opposition to slavery, many within the movement expressed a prophetic vision. A vibrant counterculture borrowed from Scripture and modern philosophy to argue for a “higher law” of justice.

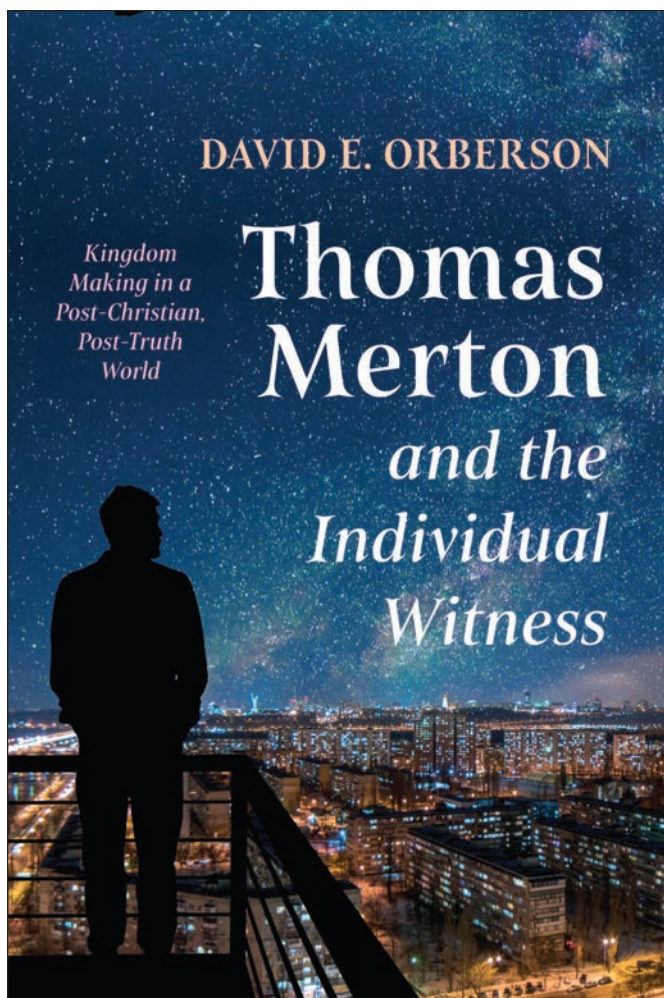
The world-changing ideas that overcame slavery in America were not disembodied and ethereal. They were mediated through the lives of multidimensional individuals. Sojourner Truth, Luther Lee, Laura Haviland, Henry Bibb, and Gilbert Haven were very different from one another. Yet they were animated by similar ideas, grounded in faith, and shaped by a common commitment to human rights.

“A must-read for ministers, religious scholars, students of history, and others genuinely interested in studying models of effective antiracist work. Christopher Momany uses the lives of five Methodist abolitionists to demonstrate how they lived and *practiced* biblical ideals about higher law and natural rights and made them a centerpiece of their antislavery activism. At a time when so many are using Christianity to justify and reinforce division and hate, this is a timely message about its capacity to positively transform humanity.”

—Nikki Taylor, professor of history, Howard University

“In an evangelical Christian world that is running away from the idea of woke-ness, particularly in the context of the twenty-first-century rise of white Christian nationalism, it is refreshing to read Christopher Momany’s interpretation of the lives of five nineteenth-century radical abolitionists of the Methodist persuasion. Momany skillfully weaves the theological, philosophical, and biblical ideas that lead each of these individuals to ‘think, feel and act’ in sacrificial ways as advocates of both Christ’s freedom and also his attendant temporal freedom.”

—Albert G. Miller, associate professor emeritus of religion and Africana studies, Oberlin College



Thomas Merton and the Individual Witness

Kingdom Making in a Post-Christian, Post-Truth World

DAVID E. ORBERSON

978-1-5326-7648-2 | 138 p. | \$21

Over sixty years ago, Thomas Merton—monk, mystic, and writer—proclaimed that we are living in a post-Christian world. That is, the influence of the institutional church is in decline and the popular version of Christianity presented to society has in many ways become a caricature of itself. Since that time, the religious landscape has continued to change. Today the number of people who identify as “None,” someone with no particular religious affiliation, outnumbers the combined total of all Mainline Protestants. In addition, many popular Christian responses to our secular world are divisive and focused on fighting the culture war instead of finding ways to live the gospel. All of these religious changes are occurring in a broader post-truth culture in which facts matter less and less, and our society is increasingly divided. This book delves into these issues and introduces the life and writings of Thomas Merton, showing how he can guide Christians working to build God’s kingdom in the world today.

“At a time of increasing political and religious polarization, David Orberson rightly points us to the witness of Thomas Merton, a contemplative monk and writer whose voice is needed today. Orberson shows how Merton’s focus on dialogue rooted in genuine encounter provides a convicting message of hope that can steer us through our own tumultuous times.”

—Gregory K. Hillis, author of *Man of Dialogue: Thomas Merton’s Catholic Vision*

“Orberson contextualizes Merton for the modern-day Christian, allowing Merton to join the conversation about what it means to live in a post-truth culture. Acknowledging Christian complicity, Orberson and Merton remind the reader of the ways we’ve become distracted from the injustices which require our action.”

—Cassidy Hall, director of *Days of a Stranger*

“Orberson paints a comprehensive and compelling portrait of contemporary religious life and the trends, beliefs, and insights influencing people of faith as well as the prodigious number who describe themselves as spiritual seekers. Into this picture Orberson inserts the timeless wisdom of Thomas Merton, whose reflections on technology, consumerism, racial justice, war, peace, non-violence, and true communion with God and with others is as relevant today as when he first wrote on those subjects decades ago.”

—Judith Valente, co-author of *How to Be: A Monk and a Journalist Reflect on Living & Dying, Purpose & Prayer, Forgiveness & Friendship*

DAVID E. ORBERSON earned an MTS from Saint Meinrad School of Theology and a PhD from the University of Louisville’s comparative humanities program. He has taught theology part-time at Bellarmine University in Louisville since 2007 and worked in the insurance and risk management industry for three decades. He is author of *Thomas Merton—Evil and Why We Suffer* (Cascade, 2018).



Resonate

How to Preach for Deep Connection

LISA WASHINGTON LAMB

978-1-6667-3557-4 | 162 p. | \$23

We need good news now more than ever. We are hungry to connect—with God and with each other. Whether you preach from a pulpit or simply want to communicate more effectively as a leader, this book will empower you to bring that good news with fresh boldness. It teaches a simple, practical method of testing the crucial connection points that too often go missing in our preaching. It invites you to pay attention to the verbs of your sermons, so that you will be better able to lament painful struggles with empathy, awaken joyful hope for the future, and catalyze faithful discipleship in the present.

“Grounded in decades of honing her teaching craft, *Resonate* is not just a primer for preaching but also a paradigm for ministering to the heart. Lamb offers insightful strategies, powerful reflection, and practical application which come together to foster a deeper connection with one’s audience. A must-read for any Bible teacher!”

—Tom Lin, president and CEO, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

“*Resonate* is a rare preaching book that shows, rather than simply tells, preachers how to write sermons that reverberate the Bible’s good news into the world. Lisa Lamb extracts the best insights from her years of analyzing the patterns of strong sermons as a preacher and teacher of homiletics and presents her findings as actionable goals that are sure to improve our sermons.”

—Ahmi Lee, chief partnerships officer, Resource Global

“Every native speaker knows, almost by instinct, how to use verb forms in their speech to express themselves with clarity. Those native skills are usually examined and reinforced in grammar school. Lisa Lamb paid closer attention to these matters than most of us, and because of that, has learned the power of language and its capacity to move us. This is what she now teaches us in *Resonate*.”

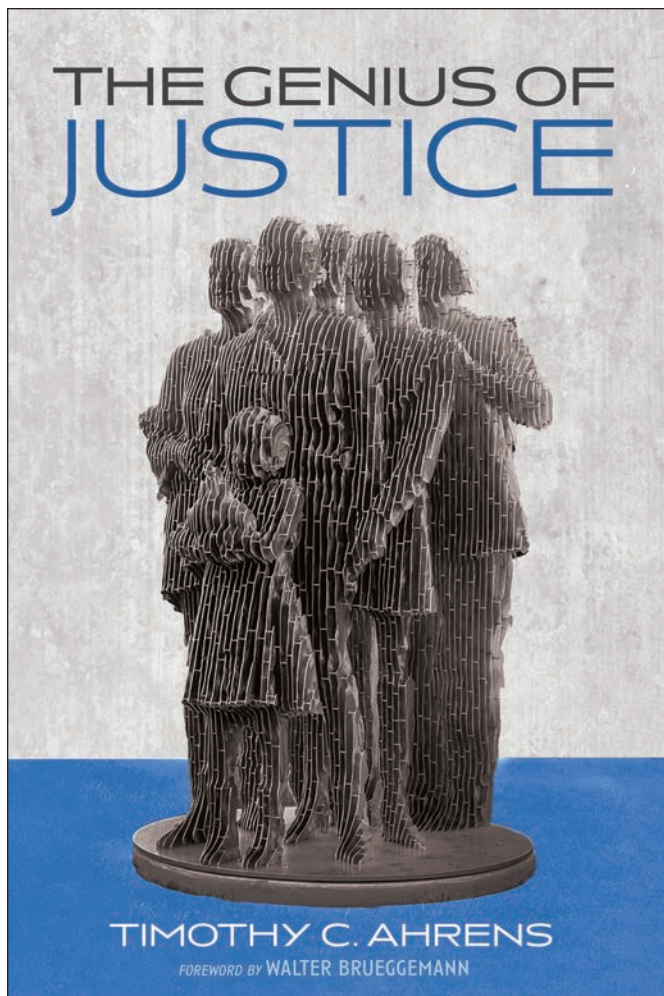
—Clayton J. Schmit, Emmanuel Academies

“Lamb makes here such a compelling case that within the preacher and the sermon lies one of the most important, if underappreciated, ingredients for deepest resonance: verbs. No doubt all the other elements contribute to strong preaching, but verbs resonate with our being and our doing in the presence of the Living God. Faith is a verb. Love is a verb. Obedience is a verb. Confession and lament are verbs. Thanks, praise, serve, and sacrifice—all verbs.”

—Mark Labberton, president, Fuller Theological Seminary

LISA WASHINGTON LAMB is affiliate faculty at Fuller Theological Seminary and at St. Paul’s Theological College in Malaysia. She is an ordained minister with the Presbyterian Church (USA) and a mission associate with Paraclete Mission Group.





The Genius of Justice

TIMOTHY C. AHRENS

978-1-6667-3860-5 | 196 p. | \$27

There are geniuses in every field of work and all walks of life. Throughout my life, I have seen the geniuses of justice at work in this nation and in faith communities. This book tells the stories of fifty-three “geniuses of justice.” They are Conservative and Reform Jews, Mainline, Pentecostal, Evangelical and Catholic Christians, “spiritual but not religious,” women, men; Black, brown, white, gay and straight, young and old.

Each is a powerful witness for justice. Each has the “IT” factor of justice burning in their bones. How did they become who they are? What drives them to “do the right thing” on behalf of others that is translatable to anyone, anywhere?

These geniuses of justice are “just folks” who are justice folk. They can empower and teach each of us to change the world right where we are. This book passes on their genius for justice to you to strengthen and empower you for “bending the moral arc of the universe” to justice.

This book is for everyone to learn something that will empower them to change the world – in the place where they live and have power to make a difference.

“The Genius of Justice is a tour de force of faith leadership at this pivotal moment in our nation’s history as Christian Nationalists seek to use false religion to justify anti-democratic and violent behavior, threatening God’s vision of human dignity. Investing in strong multi-faith, multi-racial leadership could not be more important for such a time as this.”

—Jennifer Butler, author of *Who Stole My Bible? Reclaiming Scripture as a Handbook for Resisting Tyranny*

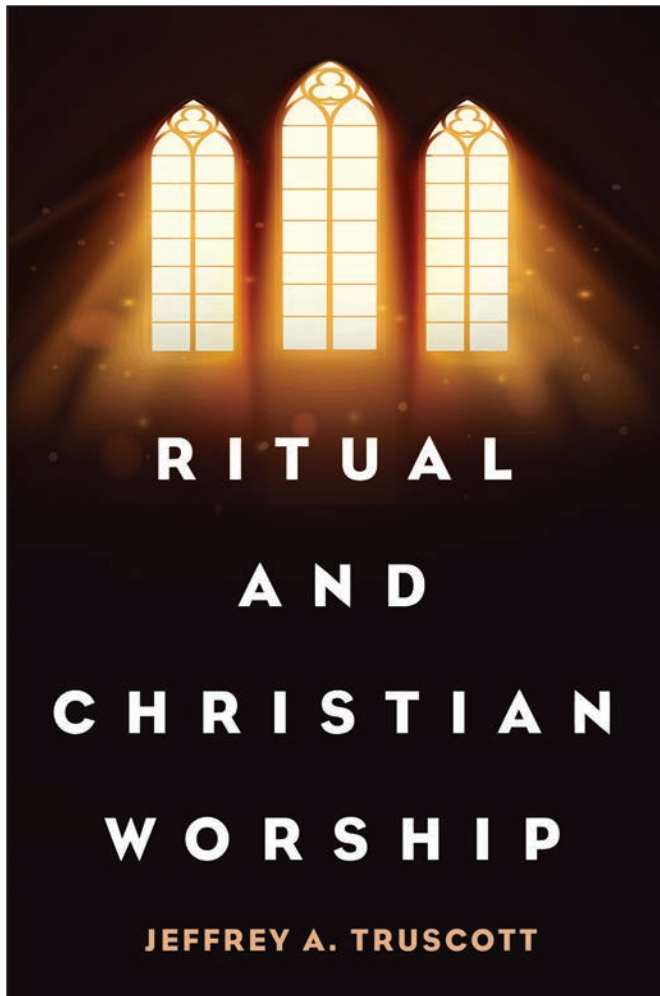
“In my Catholic tradition we might call this book a litany! A litany of contemporary people whose passion is faith-rooted justice seeking! What glorious nourishment for these challenging times. Let us walk this path together seeking justice and joy.”

—Simone Campbell, SSS, 2022 Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient

“In an era where conversations of faith, justice, compassion, and civility are marginalized, and in some cases demonized as unpatriotic, Tim Ahrens has offered a precious literary balm to the wounded soul of a nation. We must listen and learn from prophetic voices demanding we reshape our civic discourse on principles of compassion and just action.”

—Otis Moss III, senior pastor, Trinity United Church of Christ

TIMOTHY C. AHRENS is Senior Minister of First Congregational UCC, Columbus, Ohio where he has served since 2000. He serves an abolitionist and Social Gospel church in the heart of Columbus who opened the first Social Justice Park in America in 2018. He has spent his life as a local church pastor and justice activist. He has organized, preached, and written extensively in Ohio and across the nation.



Ritual and Christian Worship

JEFFREY A. TRUSCOTT

978-1-5326-8689-4 | 170 p. | \$24

What exactly is “ritual” and why is it inherently a part of Christian public worship? Could we worship without ritual? Does the Christian tradition offer us any perspectives on ritual? These are the questions explored in this book, whose purpose is to serve as a “user’s guide” to ritual for leaders and planners of Christian worship. With the help of various perspectives—the life sciences, the Bible, and Reformation theologians—it seeks to explain ritual objectively, winsomely, and sympathetically. Written by a scholar with many years of experience in teaching liturgics, this book will help readers to appreciate ritual and become comfortable with themselves as participants in ritual.

“Truscott leads presiders, practitioners, and explorers of ritual through social and scientific theory, scriptural warrant, Reformed rationale, and codes to guide liturgical action in service to God, neighbor, and Christian assemblies, wherever and however they gather. Who knew that ethology (the study of animal behavior), 2 Kings, and Luther and Calvin could all work together for understanding and enacting ritual unity? His rigor makes the abstraction of Christian ritual more theologically real.”

—Gerald Liu, author of *Music and the Generosity of God*

“Truscott shows how ritual is an embodied part of human life that is studied by life sciences. The insights of brain science, musicology, cultural anthropology, and performance theory are applied to liturgical practice to deepen our awareness that what we are doing with our bodies in worship impacts our beliefs. . . . This is a must-read for pastors and laypeople in all Christian traditions as we come to terms with new insights about our human creatureliness.”

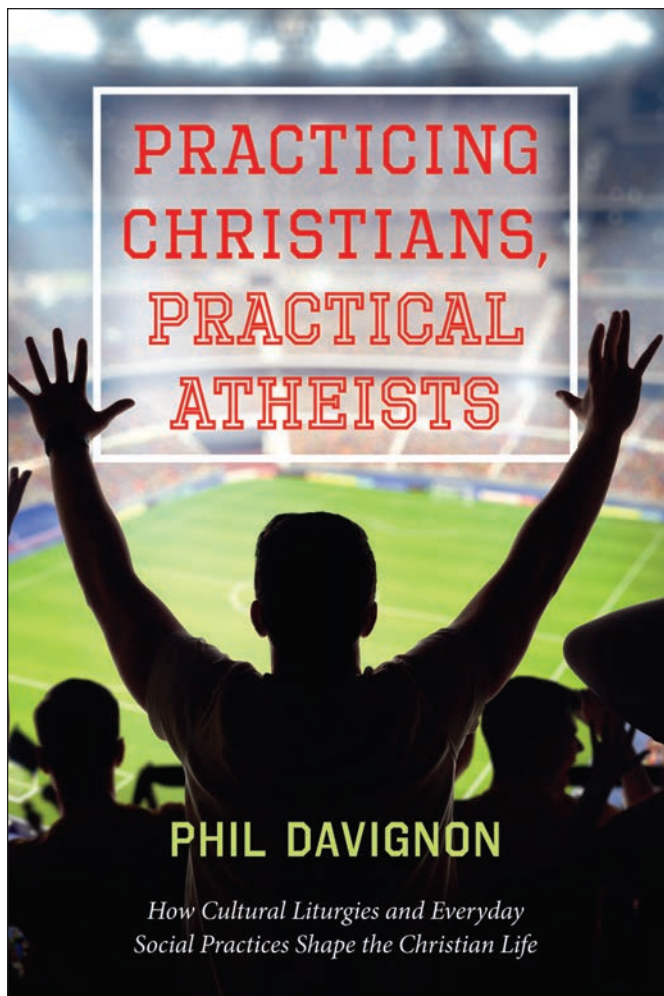
—Frank C. Senn, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

“Worshippers seek a cohesive and meaningful worship experience. Jeffrey Truscott helps us appreciate the rituals we practice and why we do them. He writes about how rituals enhance and enliven our worship expressions as well as deepen our spiritual formation. For students, worship leaders, and pastors, this book is definitely worth your time!”

—Judith Laoyan-Mosomos, Methodist School of Music, Singapore

JEFFREY A. TRUSCOTT has taught liturgics and homiletics at seminaries in Asia for over twenty years. He is the author of three previous books on Christian worship: *Twelve Whys of Worship*, *Worship: A Practical Guide*, and *Sacraments: A Practical Guide*.





Practicing Christians, Practical Atheists

How Cultural Liturgies and Everyday Social Practices Shape the Christian Life

PHIL DAVIGNON

978-1-6667-3736-3 | 158 p. | \$22

The task of living faithfully within today's secular culture is one of the most important issues facing Christians. Yet many misunderstand what culture is and how it shapes their hearts, minds, and souls. This book extends the work of James K. A. Smith by revealing how the secularizing influence of modern culture is not only transmitted through "cultural liturgies," but has become embedded within the seemingly harmless practices everyday practices of education, work, consumption, and leisure. As a result, even practicing Christians may become practical atheists who have thoroughly internalized secular dispositions of mind and heart. This deeper understanding of cultural formation calls into question many of the dominant approaches to ministry and formation. Rather than merely offering information and inspiration, congregations must become sites of counter-formation that enable their members to fully embody the Christian faith within everyday life.

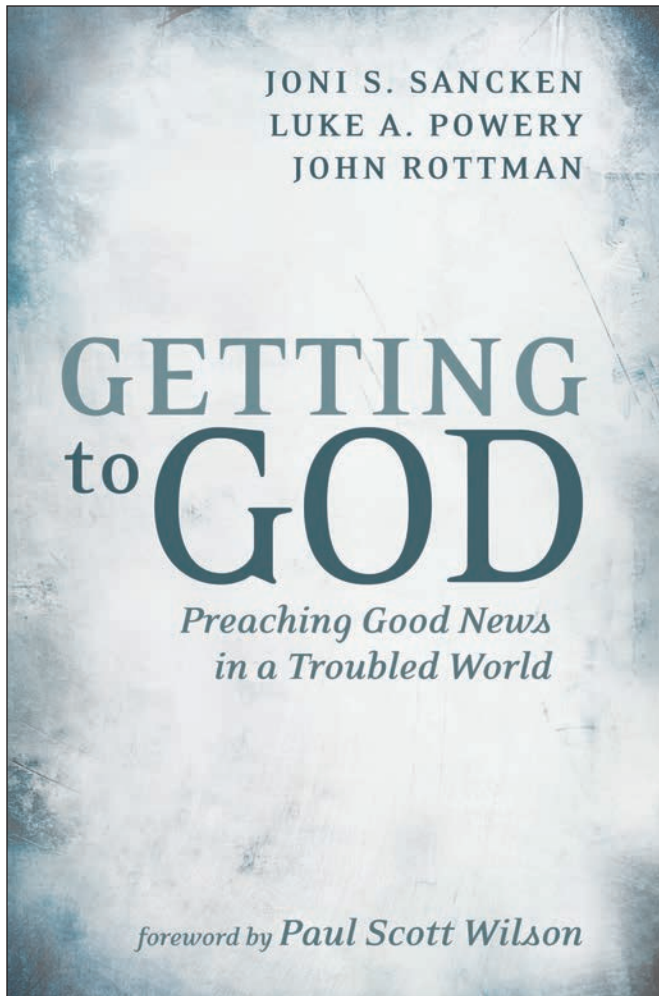
"Skillfully blending sociology, philosophy, and theology, Phil Davignon brings readers timely new insights into the relationship between Christianity and culture. He reveals the power of the ordinary, secularly defined rhythms of daily life to form many Christians into practical atheists. To meet this challenge, Davignon sets forth the ways intentional Christian community, and the practices that comprise it, can serve as a compelling basis for Christian counter-formation—a counter-formation capable of meeting the challenges of our current context."

—Perry L. Glanzer, editor-in-chief, *Christian Scholar's Review*

"Phil Davignon's work insightfully argues for the purposeful cultivation of the culture embedded in institutions and everyday practices. He sees this as a necessary complement of efforts in catechetical and intellectual formation for equipping Christian communities to thrive and evangelize in late modern times. Thought-provoking. An indispensable book for Christian religious leaders, educators, ministers, and parents."

—Germain McKenzie, St. Mark's College, Vancouver

PHIL DAVIGNON is associate professor of sociology at Union University in Jackson, TN. His scholarship explores the formative power of secular culture and intentional Christian community.



“Paul Scott Wilson has done more than any other recent scholar to insist on the theological character of preaching through his four-pages approach to the sermon, attention to the evocative possibilities of language, and emphasis on preaching Christian doctrine. This book, written in his honor by three of his most talented students, opens even more windows on how preachers can bring the good news of a gracious and redeeming God to an increasingly troubled world.”

—Ronald J. Allen, Christian Theological Seminary

Getting to God

Preaching Good News in a Troubled World

**JONI S. SANCKEN, LUKE A. POWERY,
AND JOHN ROTTMAN**

978-1-6667-3749-3 | 140 p. | \$21

During times of deep trouble, God generates new and creative ways to break through the fear and pain to get to us even as we seek to get to God. Recent crises are unparalleled and world-changing. Life is a terminal condition. What we say on Sunday morning matters. Nothing is more important than communicating the power and presence of the living God, who for us and our broken dying world is strength, hope, healing, and salvation. And yet, the age-old challenge of how to name God in our world looms large.

Amidst the immense challenges of preaching today, three preachers and teachers of preaching show a way forward by walking readers through a sermon-creation process for specific challenging circumstances that gets to God.

This book demonstrates how preachers can proclaim God’s grace in our world today by building on the theological grammar and preaching method proposed by Paul Scott Wilson. Sancken, Powery, and Rottman lead by example, showing preachers how to contextualize a theologically rich approach to preaching, expand the horizon of ministry, and equip preachers with a vital practice, that of learning to look for and name God’s active presence in our world.

“*Getting to God* reminds us that sermons fail if they do not first ‘get to God,’ that is, point boldly to God’s action in life. Since God’s action is never abstract, the authors also sharpen our attention to the very particular contexts of preaching. Thus, by guiding those of us who preach to ‘get to God,’ they free us to preach in ways that show how ‘God gets to us.’ A stimulating and much-needed volume!”

—Thomas G. Long, Candler School of Theology

JONI S. SANCKEN is associate professor of homiletics at United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio. She is an ordained pastor in the Mennonite Church USA and is the author of several books, including *Words That Heal*, and *All Our Grievs to Bear*.

LUKE A. POWERY is the dean of Duke University Chapel and associate professor of homiletics at Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina. He is an ordained Baptist minister (Progressive National Baptist) and the author and editor of several books, including co-author of *Ways of the Word: Learning to Preach for Your Time and Place* and a general editor of the nine-volume lectionary commentary series for preaching and worship, *Connections: A Lectionary Commentary for Preaching and Worship*.

JOHN M. ROTTMAN is the professor of preaching at Calvin Theological Seminary in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He was ordained in the Christian Reformed Church and served two congregations in the Toronto (Canada) area. Most recently, he has become passionate about prison theological education and what God is doing in prisons.



Church of Our Granddaughters



Carrie Frederick Frost

Foreword by
Vigen Guroian

Church of Our Granddaughters

CARRIE FREDERICK FROST

978-1-6667-4485-9 | 130 p. | \$20

Church of Our Granddaughters is a visionary work of theology and ethics that looks hopefully and lovingly two generations into the future, imagining the Orthodox Church's practices and realities rightfully aligned with its core theological teachings and truths regarding women. This reverent but bold work offers the necessary insight and inspiration to create a community that welcomes all its members, our granddaughters as well as our grandsons, thus allowing the Orthodox Church to better incarnate its mission of service and transfiguration.

"Nuanced, humane, and above all culturally and theologically literate, this is a wonderful contribution to Christian reflection both within and beyond the Orthodox Church. It is not some indiscriminate plea for Enlightenment ethics to take over from theology, but a fresh, careful sifting and highlighting of the tradition itself, manifestly seeking the integrity and spiritual health of the body of Christ."

—Rowan Williams, former archbishop of Canterbury

"Carrie Frederick Frost makes a dire claim: the Orthodox Church is already in a state of schism over women. But Frost also knows that God excels in reconciling the estranged. In this brief, beautiful study, Frost courageously names where Orthodox practice has betrayed the gospel, proposes solutions of theological and spiritual integrity, and envisions a church that any woman, of any tradition, would be pleased and proud for her granddaughter to call home."

—Sarah Hinlicky Wilson, author of *Woman, Women, and the Priesthood in the Trinitarian Theology of Elisabeth Behr-Sigel*

"A thoughtfully compiled and deeply personal contemplation on the complexity of being a practicing Orthodox Christian woman today. This book is a helpful tool for both men and women navigating their personal and spiritual path within the complexity of orthodoxy with its incredible theology and its distinct cultural heritage bearing a lingering problematic of twenty centuries

of patriarchal legacy."

—Elena Narinskaya, co-editor of *Women and Ordination in the Orthodox Church*

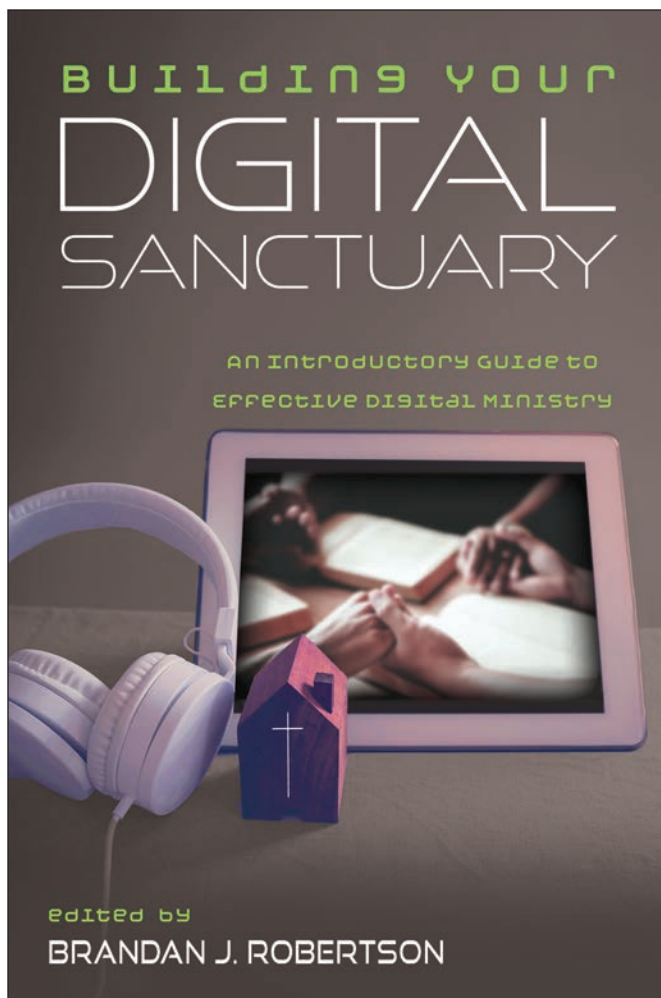
"Carrie Frederick Frost's excellent review of the ways Eastern and Oriental Orthodox Churches can move to a revitalized future brings encouragement to all who recognize the resurrection in every living person. Her careful review of customs regarding women is rooted in the gospel teachings of the dignity and value of all. *Church of Our Granddaughters* is required reading for anyone who hopes the tradition of women deacons can be recovered throughout all Christianity."

—Phyllis Zagano, Hofstra University

"Carrie Frederick Frost's work is convicting and compelling, heartbreaking, and heartening. To read it is to hear a prophetic voice, fueled by *agape*, calling the Orthodox Church to repentance. Blending incisive arguments, historical evidence, and personal experiences, *Church of Our Granddaughters* invites readers to restore and release the vibrancy of Orthodoxy's tradition on pastoral care for women and female leadership and ministry. It should be read by every hierarch, priest, deacon, and lay person who cares about Orthodox Christianity's present—and future."

—Perry T. Hamalis, North Central College

CARRIE FREDERICK FROST is an Orthodox theologian, a professor at Western Washington University and Saint Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Seminary, and the author of *Maternal Body: A Theology of Incarnation from the Christian East* (2019). She is the mother of five and lives in Washington State.



Building Your Digital Sanctuary

An Introductory Guide to
Effective Digital Ministry

EDITED BY **BRANDAN J. ROBERTSON**

978-1-6667-1899-7 | 148 p. | \$22

The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the digital revolution faster than anyone expected. In a few weeks, faith communities around the world were thrust into developing fully digital ministries—some doing it well, and others struggling along the way. However, this moment of crisis opened the opportunity for all faith communities to reach unprecedented numbers of people and truly become ministries without walls.

Yet many churches have failed to fully incorporate a digital vision into their long-term plan for ministry and have largely reverted to “in-person” programs and services because of a lack of direction on how to build high quality and sustainable digital ministries.

Building Your Digital Sanctuary is an introductory guide for pastors and communications teams on how to lay the foundation of an impactful and sustainable digital sanctuary alongside your “in-person” ministries. Drawing on the wisdom of some of digital ministry experts, this practical guide will provide the inspiration and insight churches need to minister in the emerging digital age.

“This book should be required for every seminary student and anyone in ministry today. It offers a long overdue glimpse at a way forward for faith leaders in our inevitably digital world.”

—Jim Keat, digital minister, The Riverside Church

“*Building Your Digital Sanctuary* is a book whose time has clearly come. Brandon Robertson has assembled an ecumenical cornucopia of authors whose experiences point to both the theological and practical importance of digital ministry in this age. The lessons learned, best practices, and hands-on advice makes this compilation a tremendously useful resource for church leaders now. This book is both a gift and a charge to the church for its future.”

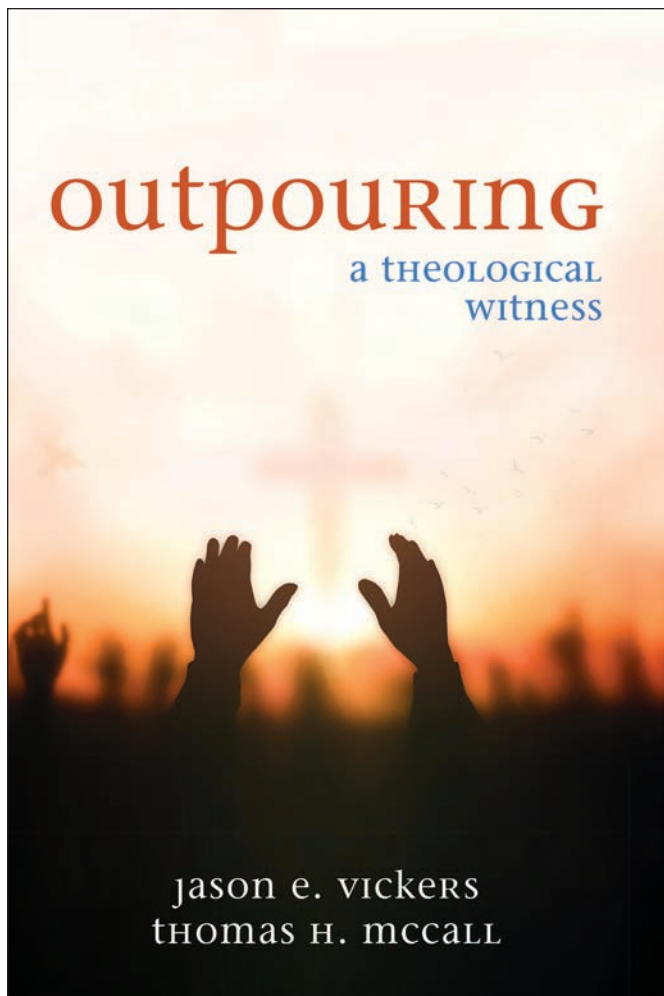
—Freeman L. Palmer, conference minister, Central Atlantic Conference United Church of Christ

“If your call to ministry includes encountering people where they are, then it’s time to start engaging the billions of humans who are spending much of their days online. Consider *Building Your Digital Sanctuary* as a friendly ‘how to’ guide to bringing your call to ministry online. Written by other ministers who use language you will understand, *Building Your Digital Sanctuary* will give you practical tools as well as spiritual reflection on why and how the internet plays a critical role in ministry today.”

—Paul Raushenbush, president, Interfaith Alliance

BRANDAN J. ROBERTSON is a noted author, activist, and public theologian working at the intersections of spirituality, sexuality, and social renewal. He is the author of seven books on spirituality, justice, and theology. Robertson received his Bachelor of Arts in Pastoral Ministry and Theology from Moody Bible Institute, his Master of Theological Studies from Iliff School of Theology, and his Master of Arts in Political Science and Public Administration from Eastern Illinois University. He is currently pursuing his PhD in Religion from Drew University. He currently resides in New York City.





Outpouring

A Theological Witness

JASON E. VICKERS AND THOMAS H. MCCALL

978-1-6667-7614-0 | 132 p. | \$17

Outpouring is a theological exploration of religious revivals and awakenings. The authors reflect on God's pursuit of human persons in the light of Scripture and classical Christian doctrine. They also take seriously eyewitness testimonies to God's presence and power in events like the Great Awakenings and the Asbury Outpouring of 2023, allowing such events to raise fresh questions and to enliven theology. Inspired by their participation in the Asbury Outpouring, they bear witness to the ancient conviction that theology, prayer, and praise belong together.

"When the Asbury Outpouring began, many people—inside and outside the church—began asking: Is this good? Is it true? Is it real? Vickers and McCall set their personal experience of the Outpouring within the context of two thousand years of Christian reflection on who God is and how God's grace saves us. While these authors remind us to always be faithful in the ordinary means of grace, their answer to the question of whether God can act through such extraordinary means is a resounding *yes*."

—Jennifer Woodruff Tait, managing editor, *Christian History*

"Avoiding both gullibility and cynicism, Vickers and McCall guide us through what happened at the Asbury Outpouring. Along the way, they show us what revival can and ought to be. This book will leave you hopeful and maybe even praying in ways you never thought you could."

—Russell Moore, editor-in-chief, *Christianity Today*

"If Christianity is going to live, the way forward will be exactly what God has in fact provided in the Asbury Outpouring—analyzed with sure-handed profundity by seasoned Wesleyan theologians Vickers and McCall. May this Outpouring, filled with the peace of Christ and giving glory to God, spread to all Christians!"

—Matthew Levering, chair of theology, Mundelein Seminary

JASON E. VICKERS is the William J. Abraham Professor of Theology and Wesleyan Studies at George W. Truett Seminary, Baylor University, in Waco, Texas.

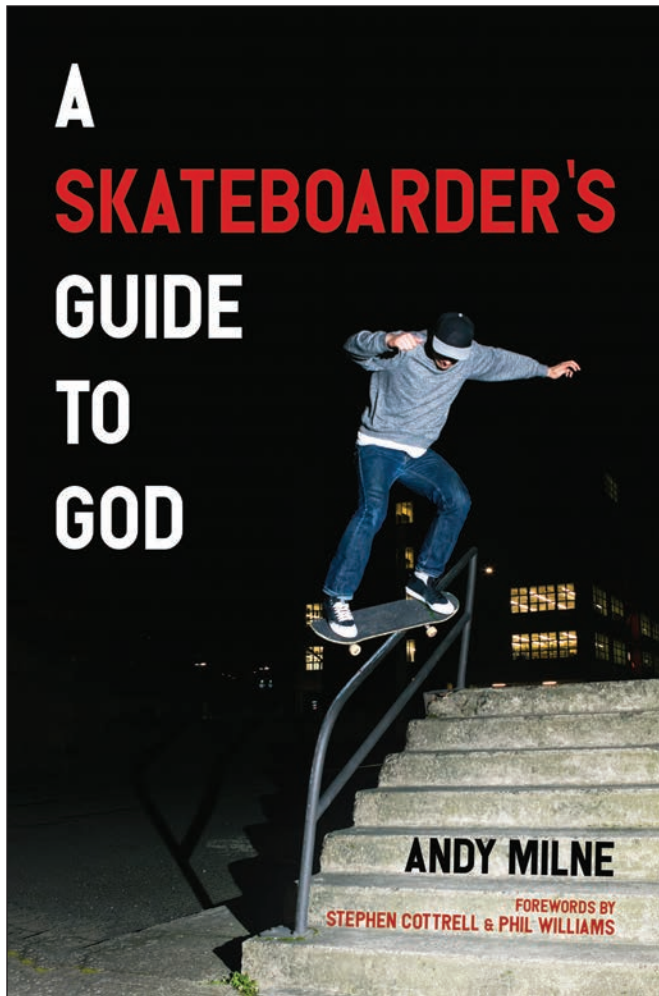
THOMAS H. MCCALL is Timothy C. and Julie M. Tennent Chair of Theology at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky.

This book begins with Vickers' and McCall's eyewitness testimonies to the 'Asbury Awakening' and then moves on to theological reflection. The result is a calm, clear, and compelling meditation on God's presence and activity in the world. Here is a theologically informed testimony that, like the Asbury Outpouring itself, leads to repentance and deep joy at God's life-changing forgiveness and grace."

—Kevin J. Vanhoozer, research professor of systematic theology, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

"Vickers and McCall offer us an eyewitness window into the Asbury Outpouring, combined with deep reflection on how the events there might apply to and impact all of God's people. This book is a chance for us to consider how all Christians might look for and experience the work of the Holy Spirit not only in extraordinary movements but in our ordinary moments as well."

—Jessica LaGrone, dean of chapel, Asbury Theological Seminary



A Skateboarder's Guide to God

ANDY MILNE

978-1-6667-3185-9 | 140 p. | \$19

This book explores God through the eyes of a skateboarder, using stories from the world of skateboarding to explain who God is and what God's like.

When a skater first learns to street skate, pop an ollie, or ride a ramp, there is a buzz of excitement! It's the thrill of riding a skateboard joined with the fun of learning a new trick. There's a similar thrill when someone begins a relationship with God. Each step into faith can bring fun and joy, like learning a new trick.

Life's journey is a bit like skating through a town. There may be high ledges and the ideal double-set but is there a purpose for it all? Is there a God who created us? What happens at the end of our lives? By exploring core issue (a skater's identity, when a skate park feels so good it's almost like heaven, the near miraculous nature of some skate tricks, the dark "slide" of life, and whether we worship) this book aims to help skaters and non-skaters alike take a fresh look at the God who is totally *for* all people, who calls us to come just as we are.

"I have known Andy Milne for over fifteen years and have always been inspired by his ability to communicate God's love to people on the edges of church. This exciting new book brings this gift together with one of the other loves of his life: skating! I am confident this book will help many skateboarders know that God thinks they are fantastic!"

—Mark Russell, chief executive, The Children's Society

"This book eloquently intertwines skateboarding and faith, bringing to life some of the most important foundations of Christianity through the power of skateboarding. A fantastic read for people of all ages!"

—Joe Williams, regional co-ordinator, Christian Skaters UK

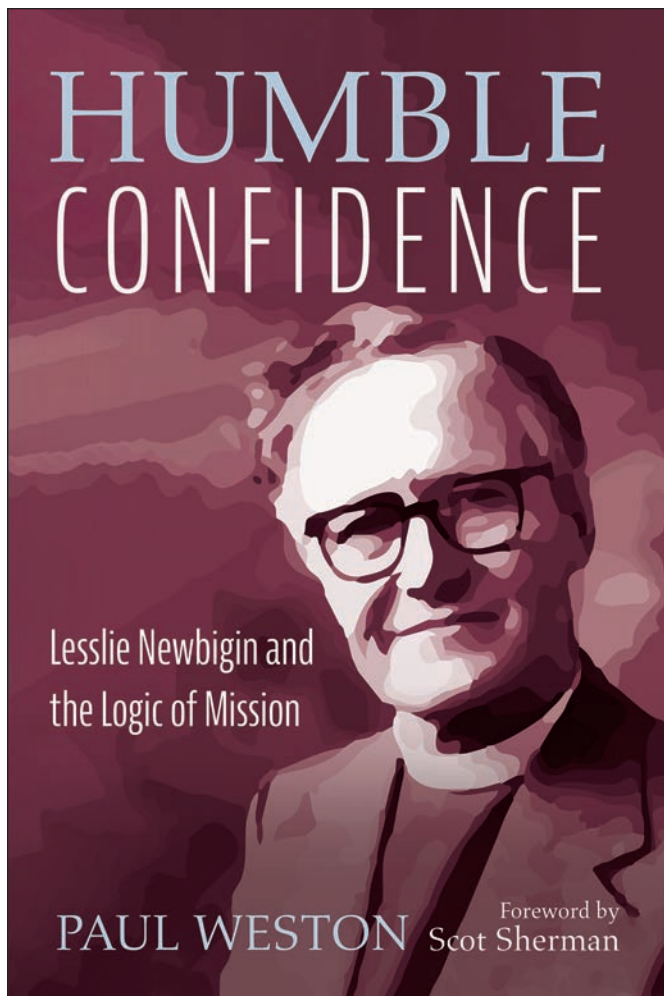
"Looking back as an impressionable and curious youth, I can only imagine how my life may have been different had I stumbled across this book as a teen. Within these pages, Andy Milne is not only sharing both his and our love for skating, he is unpacking truths about the one who created it all."

—Brian Sumner, pro skater and evangelist

"Andy Milne's story of falling in love with both skateboarding and Jesus as a teenager is very compelling. His familiarity with skate culture lends itself to illustrations of biblical truth that will resonate with fellow skaters and other action sports devotees alike. The use of accessible, contemporary language while staying true to the heart of the gospel makes for a refreshing and captivating read."

—Dave Smit, ministry & development director, Skatechurch

ANDY MILNE has been a keen skateboarder since he was a teenager. He directs Missional Youth Church Network (MYCN) in the UK as a Church Army evangelist and is author of *The DNA of Pioneer Ministry* (2016).



Humble Confidence

Lesslie Newbigin and the Logic of Mission

PAUL WESTON

978-1-6667-5472-8 | 302 p. | \$32

Lesslie Newbigin remains one of the most important missionary theologians of the twentieth century. In responding to the challenges of late modernity, he developed a fresh paradigm of missionary theology and cultural engagement that continues to be compelling and prophetic. This book also explores the way in which Michael Polanyi's understanding of "personal knowledge" helps to give language and metaphor to Newbigin's convictions about cultural engagement and responsive witness and suggests vibrant insights and applications for mission today.

"In an age when the 'acids of modernity' and post-modernity have challenged Western Christianity as it has never been challenged before, Lesslie Newbigin's thought offers a powerful, inspiring, cogent, and joyful 'logic' of Christian mission. In this lucid, rich, and deeply engaging book, Newbigin's friend and disciple Paul Weston explains his vision in ways that not only reveal Newbigin's genius but also his faith-filled 'humble confidence' in the revolutionary meaning of Jesus Christ. It is one of the best books I have read in the past year."

—Stephen Bevans, SVD, Catholic Theological Union

"Many books skate over the surface of their subject matter. Not this one. It is the fruit of many years of deep engagement with the thought of one of the most significant recent thinkers in missiology, and it is written by someone who doesn't just think about mission but engages with it on the streets as well. This will be an essential guide to the work of Lesslie Newbigin for many years to come."

—Graham Tomlin, director, Centre for Cultural Witness

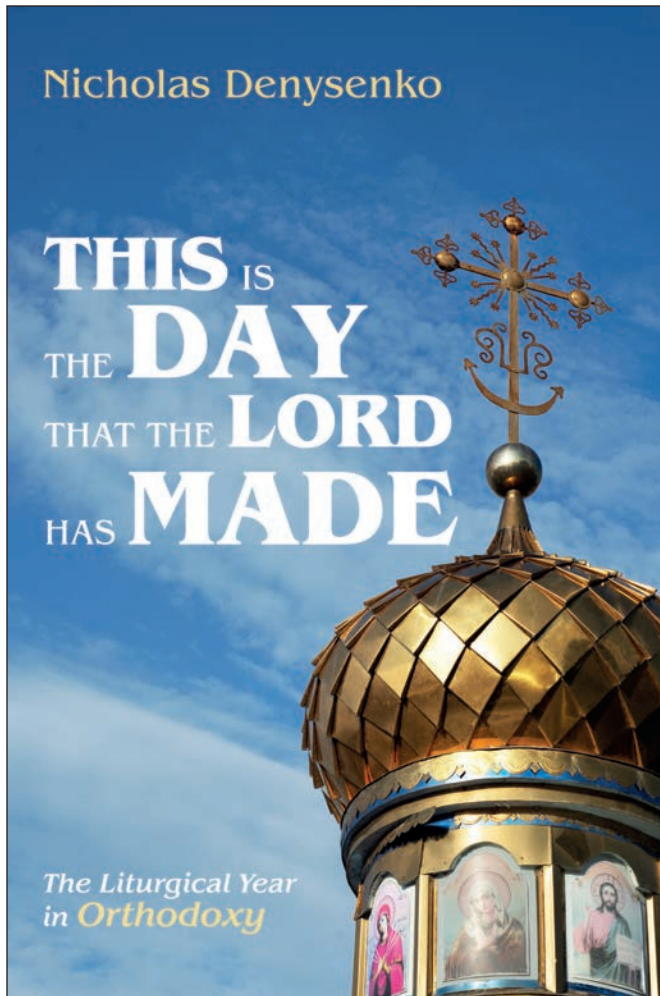
"*Humble Confidence* is the fruit of decades of sustained reflection and engagement with the thought of Lesslie Newbigin. Paul Weston writes with the skill of a missiologist and the heart of an evangelist. By exploring the interplay between revelation, knowing, and story, he gets at the inner logic of Newbigin's vision, and finds dynamic insight for what Newbigin called the 'missionary encounter' between the gospel and our culture. This is a must-read book for those who care about that encounter in the twenty-first century."

—Scot Sherman, executive director, The Center for Church Innovation

"A fine study of the remarkable vision of twentieth-century churchman Lesslie Newbigin, with careful attention to its critical intersection with the era-healing philosophy of scientific discoverer and public intellectual, Michael Polanyi. Essential reading for the rehabilitation of the Christian church in our time."

—Esther Lightcap Meek, author of *Contact with Reality: Michael Polanyi's Realism and Why it Matters*

PAUL WESTON is director of the Newbigin Centre for Gospel and Western Culture, Ridley Hall, Cambridge. He lectures in mission studies in the Cambridge Theological Federation and is an affiliated lecturer in the Cambridge University Divinity Faculty. His PhD was on Lesslie Newbigin's missionary engagement with Western culture, and he has written widely on his work. He is editor of *Lesslie Newbigin, Missionary Theologian: A Reader* (2006), and co-editor of *Theology in Missionary Perspective: Lesslie Newbigin's Legacy* (2012).



This Is the Day That the Lord Has Made

The Liturgical Year in Orthodoxy
NICHOLAS DENYSENKO

978-1-6667-1775-4 | 176 p. | \$25

How do Orthodox Christians celebrate Pascha (Easter) and Christmas? What is the purpose of the blessing of waters? How does the Orthodox liturgical year compare with Western Christianity? This book explores the meaning of the Orthodox liturgical year by analyzing the rituals, Bible readings, and hymns of the feasts. In addition to the main seasons and feasts—Lent, Holy Week, Pascha, Christmas, and feasts of Mary—the book discusses other feasts particular to Orthodox Christianity. Readers will learn about special themes on occasions like the Exaltation of the Cross and the Baptism of Rus', and will discover the importance of domestic traditions like the Vasilopita and the *Sviata Vechera* (Holy Supper). This new book is an ideal guide for college-level readers and above seeking to understand the meaning of Orthodox liturgy.

“The liturgical year in the Eastern Orthodox Church is a wonderful and many-sided thing, a jewel that often lies hidden under the cover of layers of complicated rules, books, and customs. Nicholas Denysenko has done a great service in uncovering it and polishing it off, revealing not only the brilliance of its many facets but also how it has shaped the lives and prayers of believers both in the past and today.”

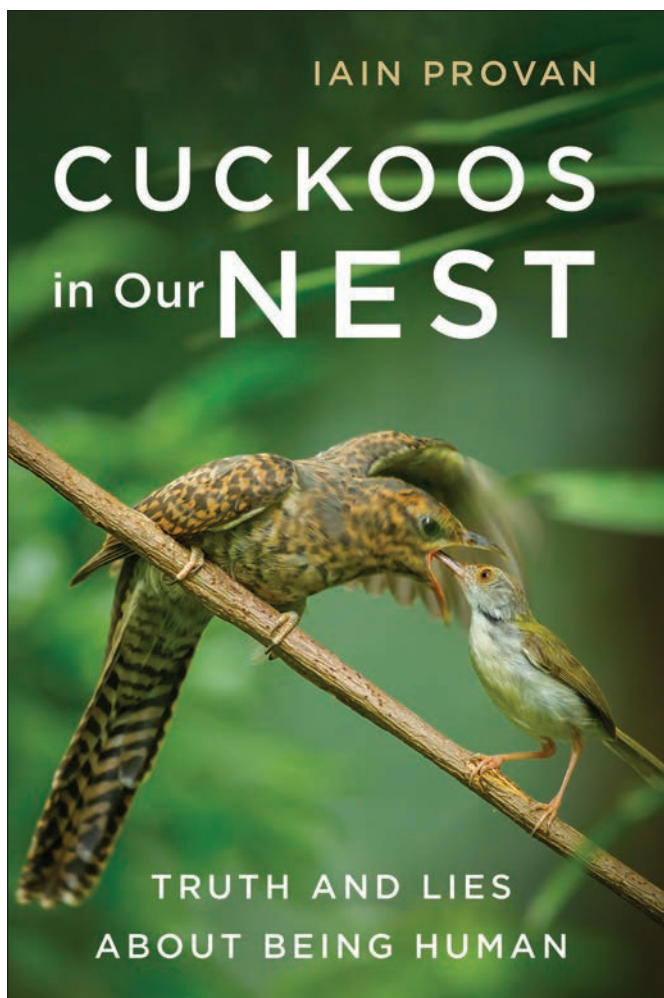
—Mark Roosien, lecturer in liturgical studies, Yale Institute of Sacred Music and Yale Divinity School

“Rooted in the scholarship of Byzantine liturgical history, *This Is the Day That the Lord Has Made* is a much needed comprehensive, detailed, and accessible survey of the Orthodox liturgical year and its meanings. With reliable clarity, Nicholas Denysenko invites pastoral engagement as he assesses present realities of liturgical celebrations and discusses problems and opportunities for liturgical practice. This exceptional book merits ecumenical attention. It is for all of us who yearn to ‘keep the feast.’”

—Jennifer Lord, professor of homiletics and liturgical studies, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

NICHOLAS DENYSENKO is Emil and Elfriede Jochum University Professor and Chair at Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Indiana. He is the author of *The Orthodox Church in Ukraine: A Century of Separation* (2018).





Cuckoos in Our Nest

Truth and Lies about Being Human

IAIN PROVAN

978-1-6667-6870-1 | 258 p. | \$27

Throughout the history of the Christian church there have been moments of significant theological crisis, and we are currently in the midst of another. But our pressing question is not “Who is Jesus?” (as it was in the fourth century) nor “How can we be saved?” (as it was in the sixteenth). Now it is, “*What is a human being?*” In many communities that claim the name “Christian,” even people who can provide correct answers to the first two questions are currently confused when it comes to the third. This book is intended to help all such readers understand how they should, as faithful Christians, respond to this crucially important question, and how they should live as a result. At the same time, it seeks to equip these serious Christians to recognize the non-Christian roots of the powerful, competing ideas of “the human” that they encounter every day, both in contemporary society and in contemporary churches, and to have the courage to reject them. For these unbiblical ideas, when embedded in a church, do damage to Christian faith and life. They are destructive cuckoos in the Christian nest.

“The most challenging question facing the church today is not ‘Does God exist?’ or ‘Who do you say Jesus is?’ but rather ‘Who are you and what does it mean to be human?’ Iain Provan’s book is no joy ride over the cuckoo’s nest (his metaphor for unbiblical ideas that have crept into the church) but a surgical air strike. Here is sound biblical and Christian thinking about what it is to be human, and about the practical implications for all areas of life.”

—Kevin J. Vanhoozer, research professor of systematic theology, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

“Iain Provan is a trusted guide for thinking biblically about all of life and about the most pressing issues of our time. The short topical essays presented in this book are accessible, but they pack a real punch. They may be read individually in bit-size pieces and digested at leisure, but cumulatively they will provoke the reader to consider deeply how Scripture ought to inform our minds and hearts today.”

—Bruce Hindmarsh, professor of spiritual theology and history of Christianity, Regent College

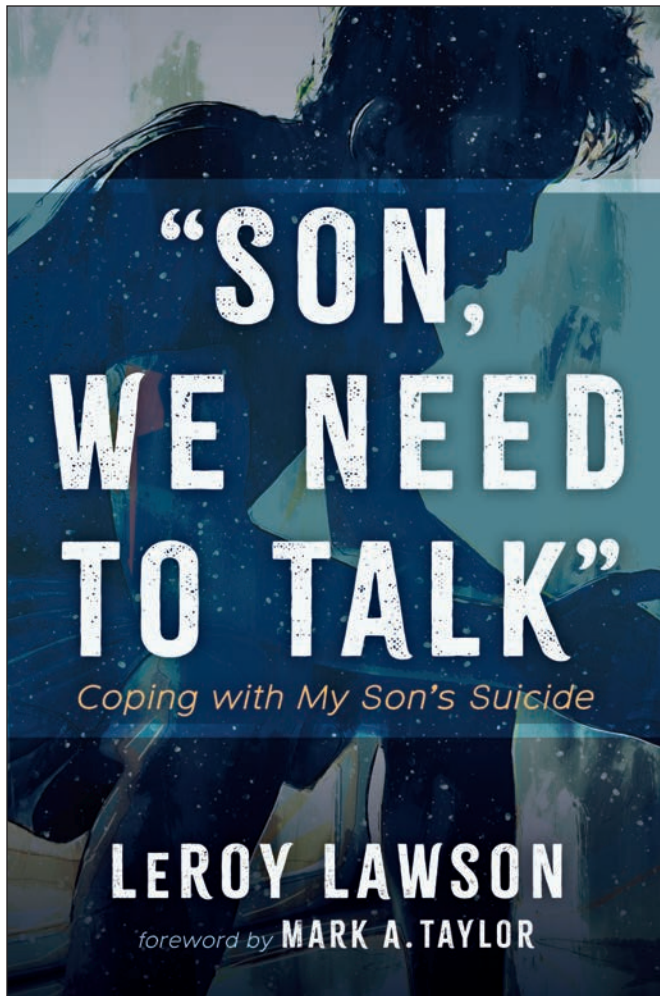
IAIN PROVAN was the Marshall Sheppard Professor of Biblical Studies at Regent College in Vancouver, Canada, from 1997 until 2022, when he retired and founded The Cuckoos Consultancy. He and his wife Lynette have four grown-up children, and numerous grandchildren. Iain was born and educated in the U.K., completing his final degree (PhD) at the University of Cambridge in 1987. His subsequent academic teaching career prior to emigrating to Canada took him to King’s College London, the University of Wales, and the University of Edinburgh. Iain has written numerous books, essays and articles. He is an ordained minister of the Church of Scotland; a Life Member of Clare Hall, Cambridge (since 1993); and the recipient of an Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship in Germany (ongoing since 1996). He is also a qualified Provincial B Licence soccer coach (in British Columbia) and an ARA rowing coach (in the UK). His main hobby is fly-fishing. You can find out more about him – and also about the Cuckoos Consultancy – at his website, iainprovan.ca.

“In the moral and ethical maze of our time, this gathering of Iain Provan’s insights will help to upend assumed and cherished cultural narratives and ground the thinking of the church in biblical and theological narratives instead. His insight that the primary theological question of our time is ‘What does it mean to be human?’ is, I believe, correct. The core answer to this question lies in Christian humanism grounded in the biblical texts and the incarnation. This kind of work will hopefully curb the descent of the West into dystopia.”

—Ross Hastings, chair of theology, Regent College

“The most pressing question of our day—which we find posed in news, in print, and in social media—is ‘What does it mean to be human? Are we really just spirits “merely clothed in physicality” that can be discarded? Or is there more to being human?’ Iain Provan answers this question with great insight into the biblical witness but also with profound engagement with contemporary issues. This book is a treasury of wisdom and insight. You will not want to be without it.”

—Ian Paul, author of *Revelation: An Introduction and Commentary*



Son, We Need to Talk

Coping with My Son's Suicide

LEROY LAWSON

978-1-6667-6138-2 | 110 p. | \$18

“*Son, We Need to Talk*” candidly confronts the tough topic of suicide—not an easy assignment for a pastor father. Could he have done anything to save his son’s life? How did he miss the signs? And what about his prayers asking God to protect all his children?

“*Son, We Need to Talk*” reveals one’s father’s struggle to regain his balance when his almost twenty-seven-year-old son, brilliant and full of promise, at last gives in to the bouts of depression that had haunted him for so long. In a loving suicide letter, he explains himself, but the reasons he writes down as carbon monoxide fills his vehicle do little to ease the family’s pain. His father pleads for him not to kill himself, but of course he’s too late. The author can’t save the young man, but he does at long last fight his way back to peace.

In “*Son, We Need to Talk*,” the author confesses his sense of a loss beyond calculation, of a faith unafraid to ask questions (even of God), of a love that will not let go, and of the ultimate triumph of hope.

“Don’t read this book if you are too proud to cry, because it will soften your heart and make you weep. Don’t read this book if someone you love took their own life and you prefer to grieve alone, because LeRoy Lawson, who has been there, will come alongside to comfort you. Don’t read this book if you have put God in a box, because this book will expand your concept of God’s amazing grace and healing power.”

—Bob Russell, retired senior pastor, Southeast Christian Church

“LeRoy Lawson’s poignant conversation with his late son, Lane, is among the most moving sagas I’ve ever read. Somehow, he manages to write in a way that one feels pain, hope, joy, and struggle in nearly every single sentence. If you are a parent or find yourself engaged in the lives of young adults, you will find this conversation to be one where you rejoice that Lawson had the courage to write and you had the opportunity to read.”

—Wye Huxford, dean of the college of biblical studies and ministry, Point University

DURING LEROY LAWSON’S long ministerial career in higher education and pastoral ministry, he served as senior pastor of Central Christian Church in Mesa, Arizona, and president of Hope International University in Fullerton, California. He also taught undergraduates and seminarians at Milligan University and pastored in Tennessee, Indiana, Oregon, and Hawaii. He is currently active as a guest speaker, consultant, and author. He has authored over thirty books. Joy and Roy have been married for sixty-two years.



Al investigar el misterio de la Iglesia

Nostra aetate, el pueblo judío y la identidad de la Iglesia

MARK S. KINZER

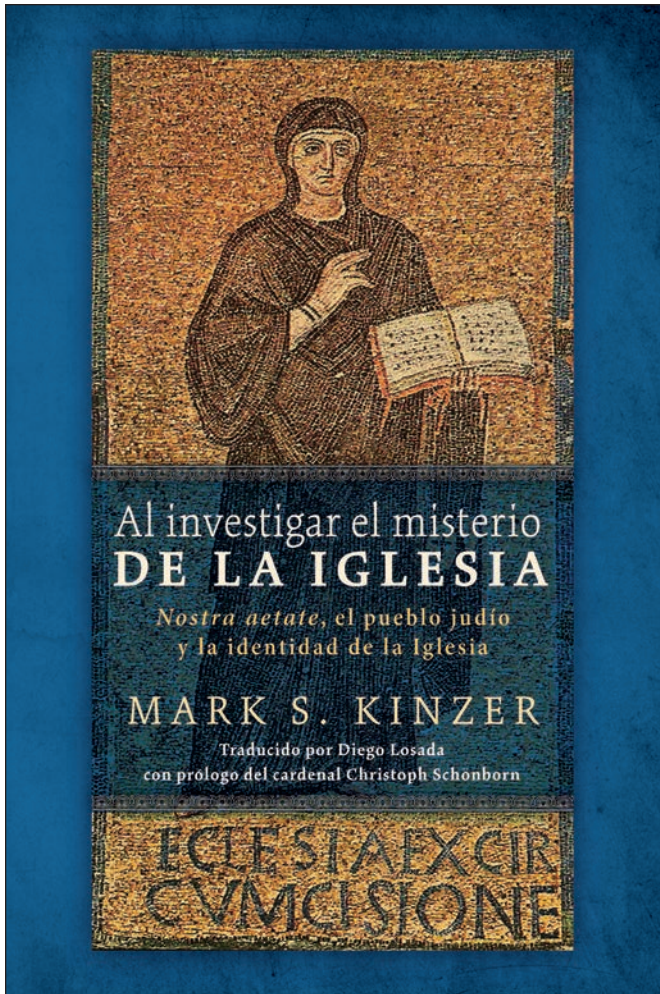
978-1-6667-7272-2 | 292 p. | \$37

La Declaración del Concilio Vaticano II sobre las relaciones de la Iglesia con las religiones no cristianas (*Nostra aetate*) transformó la visión católica del pueblo judío y la tradición religiosa judía. Afirmando que «al investigar su propio misterio» la Iglesia descubre su vínculo con la «estirpe de Abraham», este documento daba a entender que el misterio de Israel es inseparable del misterio de la Iglesia. Como misterios entrelazados, cada comunidad necesita de la otra para comprenderse a sí misma.

En *Al investigar el misterio de la Iglesia*, el destacado teólogo judío mesiánico Mark S. Kinzer sostiene que la Iglesia todavía tiene que explorar adecuadamente las implicaciones de *Nostra aetate* para mejor comprenderse a sí misma. La nueva enseñanza católica acerca de Israel debe dar lugar a nuevas perspectivas en diversos campos de la teología cristiana, como la cristología, la eclesiología y la teología de los sacramentos. Con este propósito, Kinzer propone una eclesiología de Israel arraigada en la cristología de Israel, en la que una restaurada *ecclesia ex circumcissione* (la iglesia procedente de la circuncisión) asuma un papel crucial como signo sacramental del vínculo de la Iglesia con el pueblo judío y de la elección irrevocable del Israel genealógico.

“Mark Kinzer ha escrito un libro profundamente sugerente y significativo para el avance de la comunión entre judíos mesiánicos e Iglesia católica. Presenta de forma clara y creativa sus argumentos bíblicos y teológicos, y el entrecruzamiento de su peregrinación personal hasta la fe en Jesús. Su viaje posterior en esa fe conmueva y añade elocuencia a su proyecto teológico. La academia teológica, y especialmente los eruditos católicos dentro de ella, deberían ocuparse seriamente de este libro, y los obispos católicos deberían leerlo con mirada comprensiva y espíritu perceptivo.”

—Thomas G. Weinandy, Dominican House of Studies



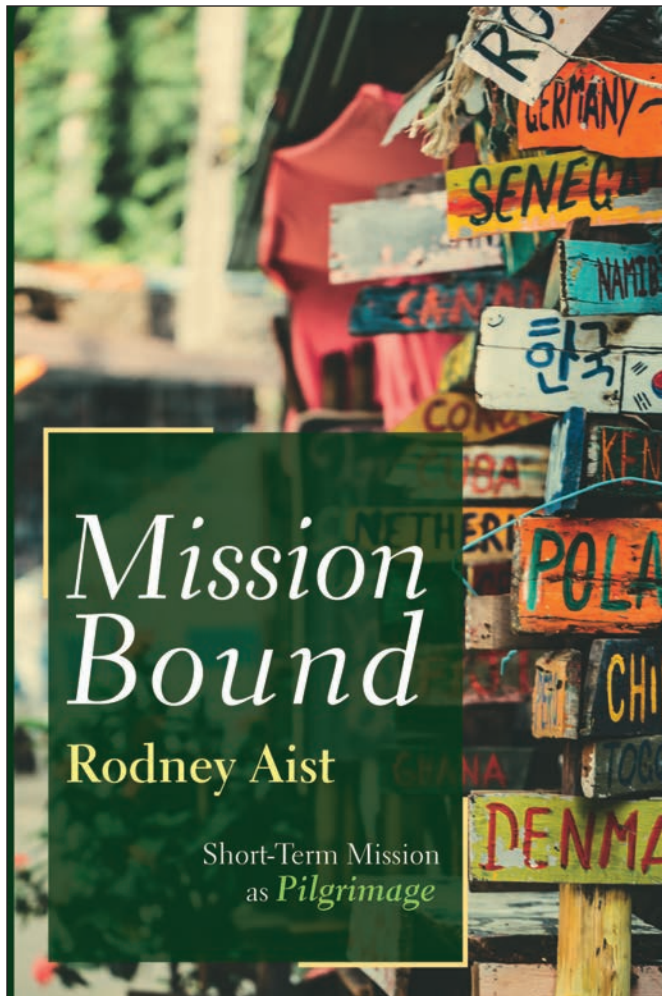
“Las implicaciones de *Nostra Aetate* permanecieron latentes durante aproximadamente una década, hasta el pontificado de Juan Pablo II. Desde entonces, los pensadores católicos han comenzado a indagar más profundamente cómo se relaciona el misterio de Israel con el de la Iglesia. Mark Kinzer ha reflexionado mucho sobre estas cuestiones y el lector se beneficiará de lo que él ha aprendido sobre este tema tan importante.”

—Gary A. Anderson, University of Notre Dame

“Esta es otra obra teológica, muy bien escrita y con mucho vigor, del destacado teólogo judío mesiánico Mark Kinzer. Kinzer, que no es católico, pero cuya vida ha estado marcada por un enriquecedor diálogo con católicos, insta a la Iglesia católica a abrir entornos eclesiales explícitamente judíos para los judíos mesiánicos observantes de la Torá dentro de la Iglesia católica. Aunque difiero de él en aspectos significativos, estoy de acuerdo con él en que los católicos deben prestar mayor atención y ahondar en las implicaciones de la elección del pueblo judío en su alianza con Dios y el valor espiritual perdurable, en el plan de Dios, de la observancia de la Torá por parte del pueblo judío.”

—Matthew Levering, Mundelein Seminary

MARK S. KINZER es rabino emérito de la Congregación Zera Avraham en Ann Arbor, (Michigan, EE. UU.) y presidente emérito del Instituto Teológico Judío Mesiánico. Es autor de *Postmissionary Messianic Judaism* (2005) y *Jerusalem Crucified, Jerusalem Risen* (2018, recientemente traducido al español en esta misma editorial).



Mission Bound

Short-Term Mission as Pilgrimage

RODNEY AIST

978-1-6667-4135-3 | 218 p. | \$29

Embracing pilgrimage as a comprehensive image of the Christian life, *Mission Bound* offers a transformative approach to short-term mission. Although the relationship of pilgrimage to short-term mission has been previously considered, it's been invariably dismissed: understood in terms of personal spirituality while its social applications and biblical images have been overlooked. Transcending the inner journey, pilgrimage is crossing boundaries, following God in unfamiliar places, both being and befriending the stranger, and walking alongside one another. As the imitation of Christ, pilgrimage embodies humility, service, love, and compassion as well as our vulnerability with others. Espousing the union of God, self, and the Other as the objective of the Christian life, the book casts the mission partnership as one of reciprocal relations based on the body of Christ. Addressing the entirety of the mission journey, including a spirituality of religious travel, the intragroup experience, and individual Christian formation, the heart of the book explores short-term mission through the lens of the hero's journey. Having loved, served, and listened to others, short-term missionaries return home as more Christlike people where their lifelong journey of faith continues. *Mission Bound* is written as a pre-departure discussion guide for leaders and participants of short-term mission.

"In an age where short-term mission is rightly under scrutiny and increasingly understood as pilgrimage, Rodney Aist provides the church with an intriguing and practical resource."

—Robert S. Heaney, Virginia Theological Seminary

"*Mission Bound* offers a much-needed deep dive into the short-term mission experience, especially in relation to the spiritual pilgrimage. It's a powerful resource for leaders, participants, and hosts, pointing a more meaningful way toward finding the sacred value of encountering diversity in the midst of our hurting world. The critical insights and new approaches offered here hold the potential to profoundly change and improve every journey to ministry through short-term mission."

—Sarah Wilke, director of global relations, The Institute for Discipleship

RODNEY AIST is a Holy Land scholar with a specialty in pilgrimage and intercultural ministry. A Methodist minister, Rodney has served Christian communities in Arkansas, Scotland, Italy, Jerusalem, and the Navajo Nation. The course director at St. George's College, Jerusalem, he teaches pilgrimage courses for laypeople and clergy from around the world. The author of *Jerusalem Bound* and *Pilgrim Spirituality*, he serves as the cohort anchor for a DMin in pilgrimage at Drew Theological School.





Eucharist

OLA TJØRHOM

978-1-6667-4631-0 | 134 p. | \$20

The Eucharist is the sacrament of Christ's presence, his real presence. Here he comes to us in bread and wine, through outward and material signs that are accessible to all. This is an expression of infinite grace. However, when Jesus gives himself to us, we are called to share ourselves and what we have with others. Thus, the Eucharist also becomes the sacrament of fellowship and unity. It is a sacrament in and for our wounded world, a sacrament of life in the widest sense. The reflections in this book are grounded in the Lutheran tradition, combined with an open ecumenical approach. They aim at unfolding some of the wealth of the Lord's Supper in a concise and accessible way.

"With accessible language and theological depth, Ola Tjørhom has given us a rich, ecumenical survey of eucharistic meaning, wonderfully exploring the profound implications of the real presence of Christ in this meal. While the author does not personally know the characteristics of liturgical recovery in North America, his gracious wisdom about Norwegian practice can suggest ways forward for many regions of the church."

—Gordon W. Lathrop, professor emeritus of liturgy, United Lutheran Seminary

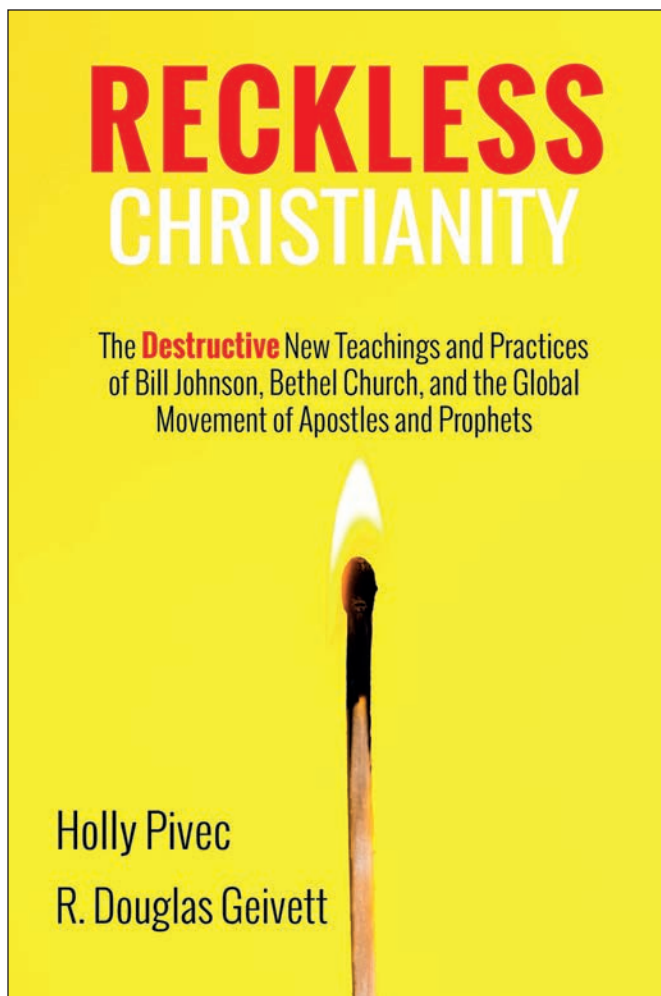
"Ola Tjørhom's book opens the rich ecumenical theological discourse on the meaning of the Eucharist, as well as the status of these dialogues. Furthermore, he also opens up a more profound and rich celebration of the Eucharist as the significant gift it is for all churches and Christians and for the communion given for them to celebrate together."

—Olav Fykse Tveit, presiding bishop, Church of Norway

"Informed by his rich ecumenical experience, inflected by his Lutheran roots, and inspired by an embodied spirituality, Ola Tjørhom presents the Eucharist as a sacrament in and for the whole of creation. As they 'become what they eat,' Christians continue the work of Christ in a world that longs for his touch. This book will bring deep satisfaction to seasoned theologians and dedicated disciples alike. Take and read."

—Martha E. Stortz, professor emerita of religion, Augsburg University

OLA TJØRHOM was born in 1953 in Stavanger, Norway. He was a doctor of theology at the University of Oslo, now professor emeritus of dogmatics and ecumenical theology. Tjørhom has held chairs and taught widely in Norway and across Europe. His publications chiefly deal with the nature and mission of the church, and with church unity.



Reckless Christianity

The Destructive New Teachings and Practices of Bill Johnson, Bethel Church, and the Global Movement of Apostles and Prophets
HOLLY PIVEC AND R. DOUGLAS GEIVETT

978-1-7252-7247-7 | Forthcoming

Bethel Church in Redding, California, is one of the most popular and polarizing churches in America. Home to the award-winning Bethel Music label, its songs are among the most used in churches. Thousands of people visit the church each year, drawn by reports of miraculous healings, the manifestation of a glittering Glory Cloud, and other miracles. They're convinced that the church is at the forefront of an end-time movement that is restoring miraculous power to the church-at-large and "bringing heaven to earth." Yet others are concerned that Bethel has left the boundaries of Scripture and brought its followers into a dangerously speculative and experience-driven faith. They say that, in the name of training miracle workers, Bethel has introduced hazardous, perhaps even occultic, practices into the church. This has resulted in chaos, confusion, and damaged lives. In this book we examine the controversial teachings of the "Bethel Church Movement," as it is called, which has transformed modern Christian practice, culture, and worship. We show its place in the broader New Apostolic Reformation, a worldwide movement of "apostles" and "prophets" intent on reconstructing the mission and the message of the Christian church.

"Pivec and Geivett have produced an impressive, even-handed, and meticulously researched and documented critique of the burgeoning Bethel movement. This book is written in an easy, readable style undergirded by scholarly rigor in support of all of its claims. Beyond its value as a clarion warning against one of the most rapidly spreading toxic movements within evangelical Christendom, I recommend this book as a model for how to exercise spiritual discernment, evaluate evidence, and sort through competing truth claims."

—Alan W. Gomes, author of *Unmasking the Cults*

"*Reckless Christianity* exposes the dangerous and heretical teachings and practices of the Global Movement of Apostles and Prophets. I was struck by the parallels with the so-called Toronto Blessing, or 'Laughing Gospel,' that was all the rage thirty years ago. It seems every generation has to cook up something new that allegedly takes us back to the miracles and prophecies of the first-generation church. Pivec and Geivett rightly warn their readers to steer clear of this new heresy."

—Craig A. Evans, author of *From Jesus to the Church*

HOLLY PIVEC is an independent researcher of new religious movements. She blogs at HollyPivec.com.

R. DOUGLAS GEIVETT is professor of philosophy at Biola University and Talbot School of Theology in La Mirada, California.





Failure-Sparked Innovation

The Key to Ensuring the Future of Local Churches

KAURY C. EDWARDS

978-1-6667-4970-0 | 114 p. | \$18

As the western church faces challenges in declining membership and effectiveness due to religious disaffiliation and general discontent with organized religion, innovation must be a central focus within all aspects of ministry in the Christian church. With the focus that the local church must put on innovation, one aspect that will continually be an important factor is how the church understands, interprets, and utilizes failure. Yes, the church must fail! However, the church must not simply fail for the sake of failure. The challenge for the local church is to rethink its notion of failure, which will allow for creativity, new life, and ultimately, transformational innovation. By establishing a proper framework and definition of failure, the church will be able to embrace good failure and the benefits it can offer.

“Can we learn productively from failure? The design firm IDEO urges people to ‘fail quickly so you can succeed sooner.’ In this thoughtful book, Kaury Edwards urges congregations to learn from failures to ignite innovative and faithful ministry. Drawing from past examples, he offers wonderful insights and practical suggestions for revitalizing local church ministry. A terrific resource!”

—L. Gregory Jones, president, Belmont University

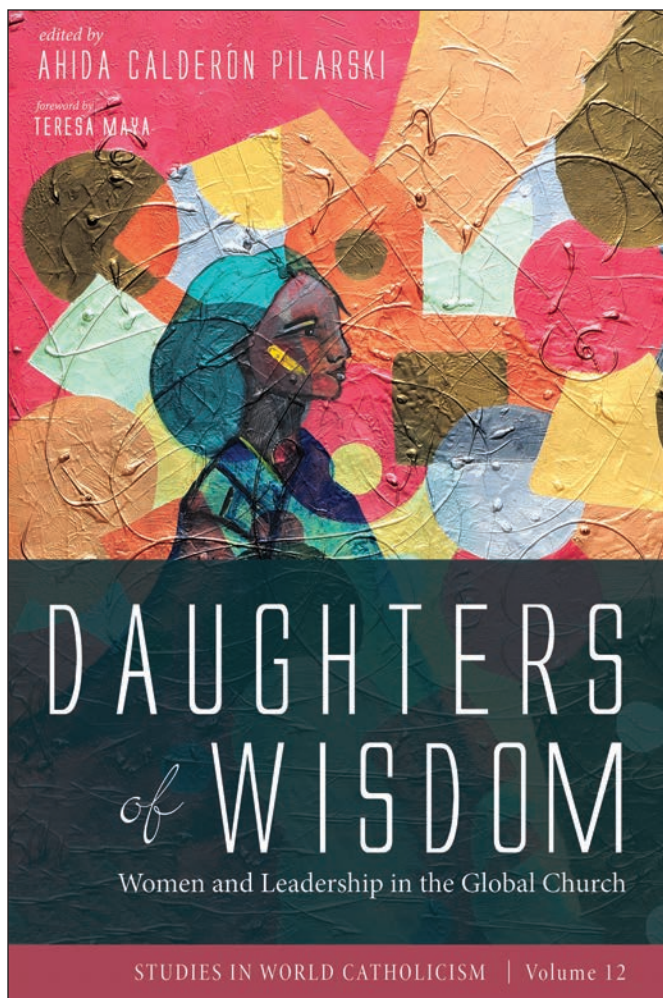
“In this much-needed book, Kaury Edwards recovers the richness of a Wesleyan view of innovation grounded in failure to empower the church to participate in God’s mission. Yes, failure. The plot-twist in this excellent project digs deeply into a theological understanding of good failure to empower Christian innovation.”

—Lacey Warner, associate dean for Wesleyan engagement and hybrid programs, Duke Divinity School

“In certain circles failure is fashionable. ‘Fail fast and fail forward,’ Silicon Valley-types tell us with an almost maniacal glee. But most of these folks have never stepped foot in a church. Thank goodness for Kaury Edwards who steps into this gap. Edwards knows the creative possibilities born of failure, and Edwards knows the church. Here he helps us let go of the idol of success and trust in the God who leads us in, with, and through failure.”

—Ken Hood, author of *The Irrational David: The Power of Poetic Leadership*

KAURY C. EDWARDS is an ordained elder of the United Methodist Church. He received his Doctor of Ministry from Duke Divinity School in 2021. He has served as a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries in South Korea, served in rural and urban local churches in northwest Texas and Kentucky, and actively serves in a local United Methodist Church in the western North Carolina Conference.



Daughters of Wisdom

Women and Leadership in the Global Church

STUDIES IN WORLD CATHOLICISM

EDITED BY AHIDA CALDERÓN PILARSKI

978-1-7252-9033-4 | 230 p. | \$30

This book offers a window into current realities regarding women's leadership in the global church and explores strategic recommendations to nurture this leadership in the twenty-first century. The essays in this volume were initially presented at an international conference organized by the Center for World Catholicism and Intercultural Theology (CWCIT) at DePaul University in 2018. The reference to "Daughters of Wisdom" in the title for this volume was aimed at capturing the diversity of ways which women have found to exercise their leadership in responding to the challenging and/or hopeful realities of their contextual locations and their faith and social communities.

The authors address particularly different aspects of women's leadership in the Catholic Church, with a special emphasis on the global South. The contributors are lay and religious people from India, Nigeria, Mexico, Venezuela, Peru, the US, Singapore, and the Philippines. The topics explored in this volume include women's use of Scripture, the ecclesiological basis for women in church leadership, and the leadership roles that women have been exercising already in grassroots church communities, in Marian devotion, in faith-based social movements, and in theological education.

"If the Catholic Church across the world is going to walk together in synodality, then, as this inspiring volume makes clear, its men and male leadership are going to have to catch up. The essays here reiterate that the wisdom of women, who have long sustained the church as the Blessed Virgin sustained the Christ child, lights a vibrant way ahead and their lead offers a guide to the path of faithfulness in this third millennium."

—Daniel P. Rhodes, Loyola University Chicago

"*Daughters of Wisdom* vibrantly reveals the steadfast living Spirit moving among us through the creative and adaptive leadership of women on the peripheries, amidst great obstacles with great love. Indeed, hidden treasures for the church and world, we must heed their prophetic invitation to risk creating living structures of and for the earth and the gospel. This hope-filled book will inspire us to do so, together as church."

—Joanne Doi, Catholic Theological Union

"Many are the ways in which women *de facto* exercise transformative and prophetic leadership throughout the world. Such ways, however, often remain ignored and insufficiently affirmed in many corners of church and society. We have an obligation, ethical and religious, to learn more from how, where, and why Christian women lead. Reading the voices gathered in Ahida Pilarski's *Daughters of Wisdom* is a solid step in fulfilling such an obligation."

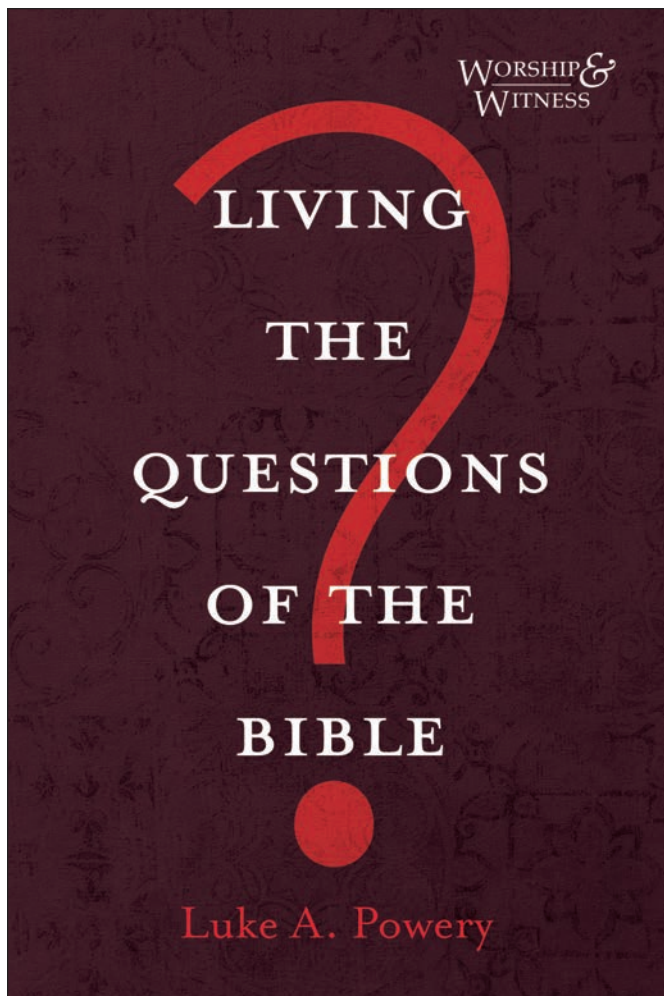
—Hosffman Ospino, Boston College

"*Daughters of Wisdom* offers a paradigm for every conversation about women and the church in the third millennium, drawing from the tradition, the academy, and the apostolate. Readers learn of the ways women integrate faith, family, and communal life in prophetic ways in spaces within the church and the world."

—Susan M. Timoney, The Catholic University of America

AHIDA CALDERÓN PILARSKI is Professor of Old Testament at Saint Anselm College. Her research focuses on the intersection of culture and gender in biblical interpretation, especially in Latina and mujerista biblical hermeneutics. She has published papers on the prophets, migration, Latinx and Latin American biblical hermeneutics, feminist interpretation, and edited or co-edited several books, including: *By Bread Alone: Reading the Bible Through the Eyes of the Hungry* (2014), *Judges* (2018), and *2 Kings* (2019).





Living the Questions of the Bible

WORSHIP AND WITNESS

LUKE A. POWERY

978-1-7252-5837-2 | 158 p. | \$22

Living the Questions of the Bible presents questioning as a viable and faithful Christian practice. We may think the Bible is only about getting answers, but the Bible is also a question book, revealing how the life of faith is a quest with and for God. By exploring various passages in the Bible, this book attempts to invite readers into an interrogative spirituality, one in which we learn that even God questions. Faith seeks and keeps on seeking. It may reach understanding, or it may not. Either way, our questions are a way to live the Christian life honestly, faithfully, and doxologically.

“Luke Powery has been a pastor long enough to understand that the human journey into God is fueled by lasting questions, not final answers. By choosing instead to explore what we most need to ask, Powery invites us into the kind of holy uncertainty that keeps faith supple and keeps people of faith talking to one another late into the night. At his most daring, he insists it is our questions, not our answers, that make us like God.”

—Barbara Brown Taylor, author of *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith*

“We sometimes treat the Bible as a book of answers, but no, it is a book of questions. Luke Powery honors the questions. In fact, he has compiled his own book of questions and provided thoughtful and scriptural answers. For those with questions, which includes us all, his book offers a series of pastoral replies. Use it in the privacy of your room or, better, in group discussion.”

—Richard Lischer, author of *Our Hearts Are Restless: The Art of Spiritual Memoir*

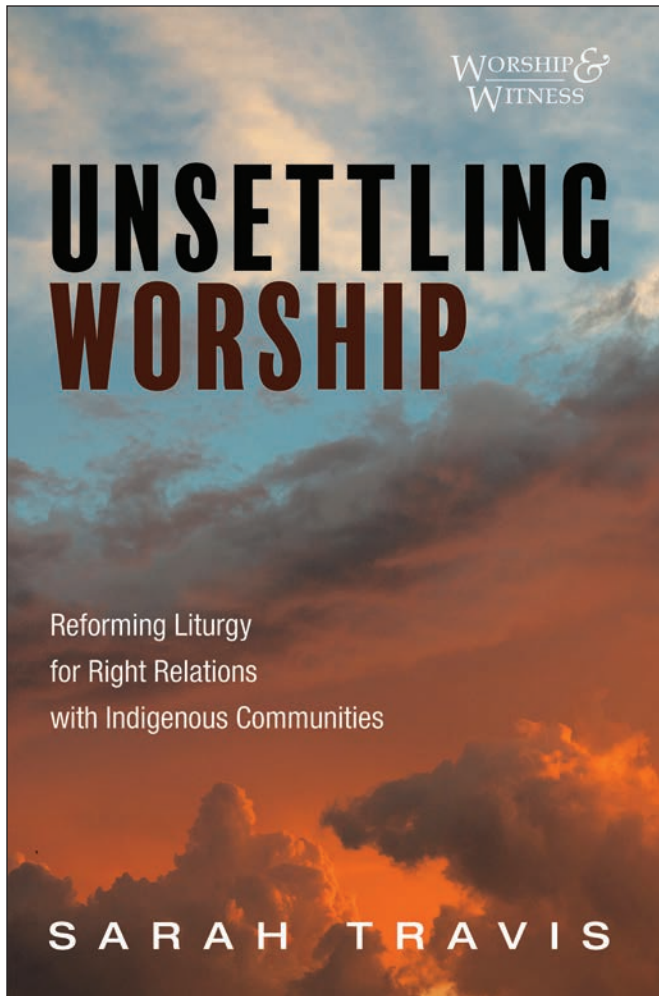
“Luke Powery is a highly skilled preacher who steps into one of the country’s leading pulpits Sunday after Sunday. In this compelling book he unfolds his practice of looking to the Bible not for its easy answers but for its penetrating questions of us. This is a fabulous resource for other preachers, as well as anyone who is ready to grapple their way to a deeper faith.”

—M. Craig Barnes, president, Princeton Theological Seminary

“I was quite intrigued when I read the title of this book. I had never paid that much attention to the questions in the Bible until Luke Powery masterfully introduced me to them and made me realize that questions are foundational to the faith. This book is a must-read for anyone who wants to have their faith stretched and strengthened.”

—Cynthia L. Hale, senior pastor, Ray of Hope Christian Church

LUKE A. POWERY is the dean of Duke University Chapel and associate professor of homiletics at Duke Divinity School. He is the author of several books, including *Were You There? Lenten Reflections on the Spirituals* (2019), and one of the general editors of the multivolume *Connections: A Lectionary Commentary for Preaching and Worship* (2018-).



Unsettling Worship

Reforming Liturgy for Right Relations
with Indigenous Communities

WORSHIP AND WITNESS

SARAH TRAVIS

978-1-6667-4661-7 | 148 p. | \$22

Settler churches across North America have committed to the work of conciliation and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. Worship is a space in which these commitments are expressed and nurtured. As we are embraced by God's reconciling love in worship, we are equipped to carry that reconciling love into our relationships beyond the worship space. Worship equips us for the work of conciliation, but the liturgy itself needs to be decolonized if it is to truly honor Christian commitments to God and neighbor. This book explores the reformed liturgy in its pattern of Gathering, Word, Table, and Sending, searching it both for colonial vestiges, and spaces of new possibility. *Unsettling Worship* invites the reader into a conversation about reformed worship in a setting of ongoing colonization. Worship should both unsettle us, and equip us for the essential work of making things right with Indigenous neighbors.

“In this much-needed conversation about decolonizing—and revitalizing—worship in Canada and beyond, Sarah Travis both names the barriers to conciliation/reconciliation in reformed Christian worship and argues for the need to engage indigenous ways of knowing. She encourages settler/dominant culture communities to face the legacy of colonization head on, especially the residual hurt and pain of residential schools, with humble, practical suggestions, and an ethics of shalom that foregrounds the prophetic role of worship.”

—Becca Whitla, professor of practical ministry, St. Andrew's College

“Sarah Travis brings us the unsettling truth through her incisive interrogation of colonial history and its reification within the praxis of worship in our local churches. Without leaving us at the doorstep of despair, Travis' comprehensive study provides theological and ethical considerations alongside practical examples that invite worship practitioners and theorists to seek the heart of Creator and walk in a good way. I recommend this book to every worship leader and seminary professor of worship.”

—Suzanne Wenonah Duchesne, director of Mast Chapel, New Brunswick Theological

SARAH TRAVIS is the Assistant Professor of Preaching, Worship and Christian Ministry at Knox College, University of Toronto. She is an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church in Canada and the author of *Decolonizing Preaching* (2014) and *Unspeakable* (2021).



Transforming Daily Work into a Divine Vocation

ROBERT BANKS

978-1-6667-3118-7 | 154 p. | \$22

During the last few decades there has been an increasing interest in the connection between our faith and our work, along with the growth of resources and organizations to bring the two into dialogue. Despite this, most Christians continue to feel that their daily work is less valuable than that of pastors, missionaries, or full-time workers in a religious organization.

In a fresh and practical way, this book sets out the biblical, historical, and theological grounds for challenging this commonly felt view. It includes a range of engaging personal case studies that demonstrate the profound effect integrating one's work up into one's faith can have—relationally, institutionally, and societally as well as evangelistically, pastorally, and missionally. Attention is also given to the increasingly addictive, fragmented, and precarious nature of work today, and to how we can spiritually find our way to discerning and expressing our unique God-given vocation.

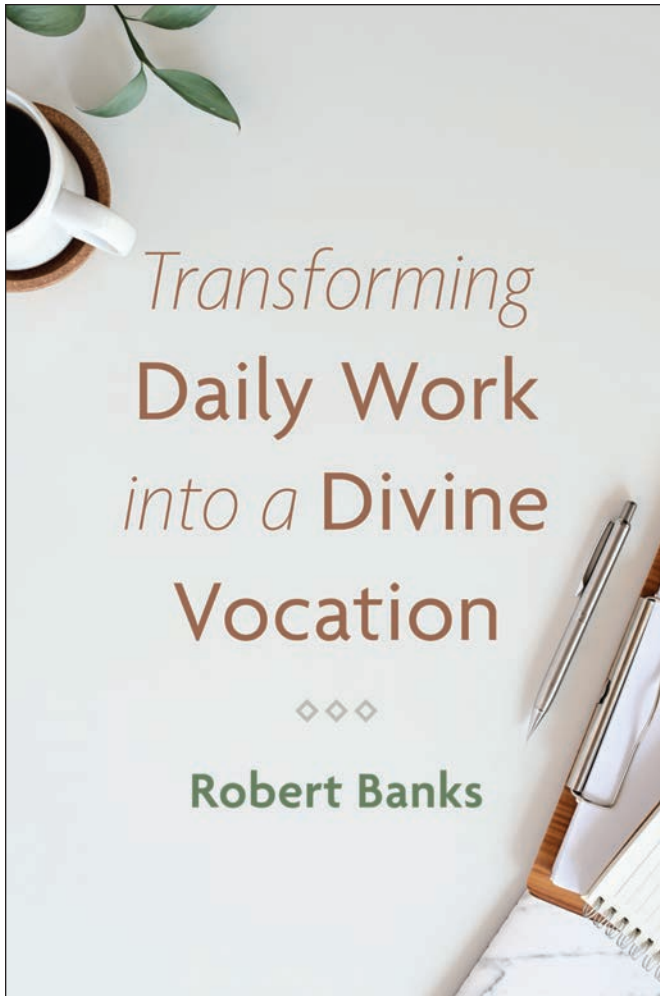
The final section of the book considers whether any of our work has eternal value, and retells a compelling parable of what this might look like.

“This book is vintage Robert Banks, a great pioneer in faith and work integration. He deftly weaves together threads from a lifetime of listening to a wide range of workers globally. Then he reflects biblically and theologically, asking prophetic and practical questions for vocational discernment. Without squeezing, Robert packs in a whole compendium of his many writings on work, but with clarity, stories, questions, and conviction. It is an easy read, but not easy to live.”

—Gordon Preece, Director, Ethos Centre for Christianity and Society

“Here is the fruit of a lifetime's study and reflection. We thank God that many in the church have moved from a false sacred-secular divide in the area of work. But we still need books that articulate clearly and biblically what that actually looks like. Hence, we are grateful to Banks for this timely work.”

—Tan Soo Inn, Director, Graceworks



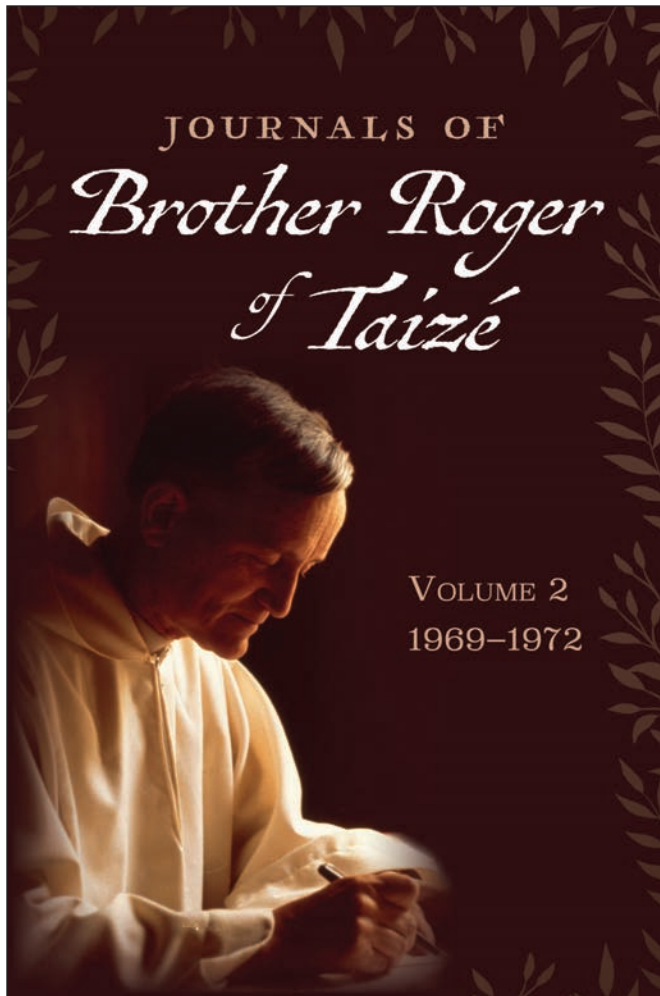
“This is a deeply theological, wise, and truly helpful book for Christians seeking to connect their faith to their daily work. It is the fruit of Robert Banks's many years walking beside and listening to Christians seeking to do this, across many countries and spheres of life. It is rare in its recognition of the practical difficulties and of the wider economic environment which constrains action as well as opening up opportunities. Highly recommended.”

—Paul Oslington, Professor of Economics and Theology, Alphacrucis College

“I commend this book wholeheartedly, having lived long enough to know when there was virtually nothing on work. But Robert Banks approaches this everyday subject with a special slant—God's calling, or vocation. His treatment of the biblical, theological, and historical basis of work as a divine vocation is worth the price of the book. But there is much, much more.”

—R. Paul Stevens, Chairman, Institute of Marketplace Transformation

ROBERT BANKS has taught practical theology and ethics at universities and seminaries in Asia, North America, Europe, and his homeland Australia. His previous books, several of which have won national awards, focus on biblical studies and Christian lifestyle, leadership, and mission, and he has worked closely with lay groups in the marketplace, civil service, and film industry. He is presently an Honorary Professor at Alphacrucis College in Sydney.



Journals of Brother Roger of Taizé, Volume 2

1969–1972

BROTHER ROGER OF TAIZÉ

978-1-6667-6121-4 | 150 p. | \$22

This is the second volume of the personal journals of Roger Schutz-Marsauche (1915–2005), known as Brother Roger, the founder and first prior of the Taizé Community in France, an ecumenical monastic community that strives to live as a “parable of community” in a divided world. Taizé is known especially for its music and contemplative style of worship, and as a place where tens of thousands of young Christians flock each year to spend a time of prayer and reflection.

This volume covers the years from 1969 to 1972 and is centered on the genesis and first preparations of a “Council of Youth.” The project was inspired by the crisis in the Catholic Church in the wake of the Second Vatican Council, and the slowdown of ecumenism after the glowing hopes kindled in the wake of the Council. It was an attempt to take seriously the aspirations of the younger generation and orient them in a positive direction. Brother Roger also talks in these pages about the ongoing life of the community, his personal spiritual journey, and many important encounters that took place in those eventful years.

“The second volume of Brother Roger’s diary plunges us into the years 1969–72 when the ‘Taizé desert’ began to bloom with the arrival of hundreds of young people in preparation for the ‘Council of Youth.’ It bears witness to the sorrows, troubles, dramas, disappointments of life, both in the world and in the church, to the difficulties and disenchantments of ecumenism, and brings the good news from the perspective of joy, hope, and love anchored in Christ.”

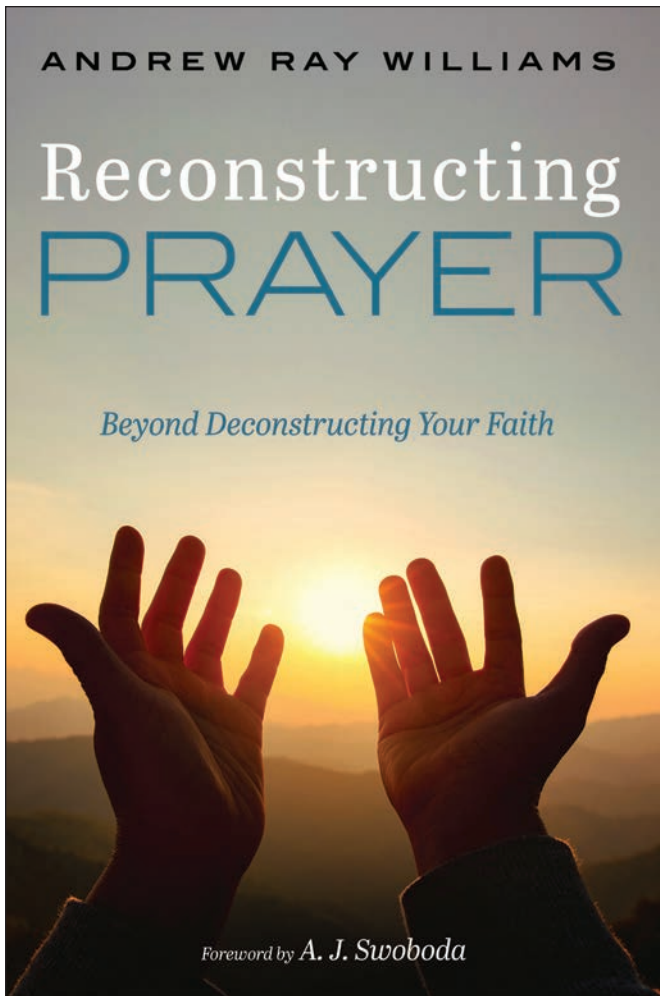
—Job Getcha, Eastern Orthodox metropolitan of Pisidia

“Countless lives have been touched and transformed by the ministry of the Taizé Community and its founder. Now translated into English, this second volume of Brother Roger’s journal is a treasure trove of personal reflections and spiritual insights that will inspire you and make your heart sing.”

—Michael B. Curry, presiding bishop of The Episcopal Church

“This second volume of Brother Roger’s journal reflects the evolution of mission ‘on the Hill’ of Taizé and the growth of concern for youth. It can nourish all of us in the daily searching for faith and fullness. As Brother Roger wrote in his own turbulent times as he reflected on faith in our lives: ‘We have nothing to fear.’”

—Simone Campbell, SSS, 2022 Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient



Reconstructing Prayer

Beyond Deconstructing Your Faith

ANDREW RAY WILLIAMS

978-1-6667-3824-7 | 90 p. | \$17

In the West, many Christians are “deconstructing” and/or “doubting” their faith. As a result, some people seeking to follow Jesus have become disillusioned with prayer—perhaps even skeptical about it. And yet there is still a great desire and longing for connection with God. What is needed, then, is a reconstructed account of prayer—one that is theologically robust, pastorally honest, and spiritually wise. Andrew Ray Williams seeks to provide such an account by providing meditations on childlike prayers in hopes that it might open new ways of understanding specific issues related to Christian faith.

“In this delightful book, Williams deconstructs the modern, disenchanted worldview that causes us to view prayer as a mechanistic, means-end practice existing apart from ordinary life. He then reconstructs a vision of prayer as a means of participating in the mysterious and enchanted world of God’s triune life. In this space of presence, we can offer our full selves—doubts, fears, petitions, and praise. Williams reminds us that prayer is a means of becoming aware of where we are and whose we are.”

—Cheryl Bridges Johns, senior professor of discipleship and Christian formation, Pentecostal Theological Seminary

“The prayers of children are simple yet instructive—they show us what it means to follow a good and gracious God through our doubts and fears. Williams’ book takes Matthew 18:3 to heart, demonstrating how a true and honest childlike confession of faith can guide us through the often necessary stages of deconstruction to a more generous reconstructed Christian faith.”

—Steven Félix-Jäger, author of *Renewal Worship*

“Reading a book on prayer can be a tedious and burdensome experience, like a trip to the dentist. Not so with Andrew Williams’ *Reconstructing Prayer*. This is an honest and accessible meditation on the beauty of prayer—not simply prayer as a here-and-there discipline, but prayer as a moment-by-moment way of living the Christian life. As a pastor-theologian, Williams does a marvelous job of conjoining theological substance with practical spirituality, bringing together both mind and heart in a powerful vision of prayerful living. Highly recommended!”

—Todd Wilson, president, Center for Pastor Theologians

ANDREW RAY WILLIAMS is a pastor, professor, and writer living with his wife and three children in Virginia’s Shenandoah Valley. He has a PhD in theology from Bangor University (Wales) and is the author of such books as *Washed in the Spirit: Toward a Pentecostal Theology of Water Baptism* and *Boundless Love: A Companion to Clark H. Pinnock’s Theology*.

Albert Haase, OFM, & Phil Vestal

foreword by Christine Aroney-Sine

TOUCHING *the BONES of* ELISHA

*Nine
Life-Giving
Spiritual
Practices
from an
Ancient
Prophet*



“The authors, like well-worn, flat stones, skip across the waves of three thousand years of Judeo-Christian traditions. They bounce from young volunteers in Malawi to Job to sisters in a Nazi concentration camp to Francis of Assisi to the Curse on the Chicago Cubs! And with each bounce, the reader is treated to inspiring stories of God acting in our lives. Each chapter concludes with four helpful ways to awaken our spiritual lives. Practical, touching, effective ways to help us touch those life-giving bones of Elisha.”

—William L. Burton, OFM, professor of Scripture, St. Mary’s Seminary & University

“Prophets are agents of the future who act outside of the structures of power to awaken imagination for new ways of seeing and living. In this book, Albert Haase and Phil Vestal explore surprising connections between the life of Elisha and key themes in the teachings of Jesus. They dare us to imagine what it might look like for us to be awake to divine reality in our everyday lives.”

—Mark Scandrette, author of *Practicing the Way of Jesus*

ALBERT HAASE, OFM, is the bestselling author of fourteen books on popular spirituality. He is a full-time preacher and spiritual director (www.AlbertOFM.org).

PHIL VESTAL is a pastor at Oakhurst United Methodist Church in St. Petersburg, Florida. He is also the founder of the Ruah Space online ministry (www.ruahspace.com).

Touching the Bones of Elisha

Nine Life-Giving Spiritual Practices
from an Ancient Prophet

ALBERT HAASE, OFM AND PHIL VESTAL

978-1-6667-6073-6 | 156 p. | \$22

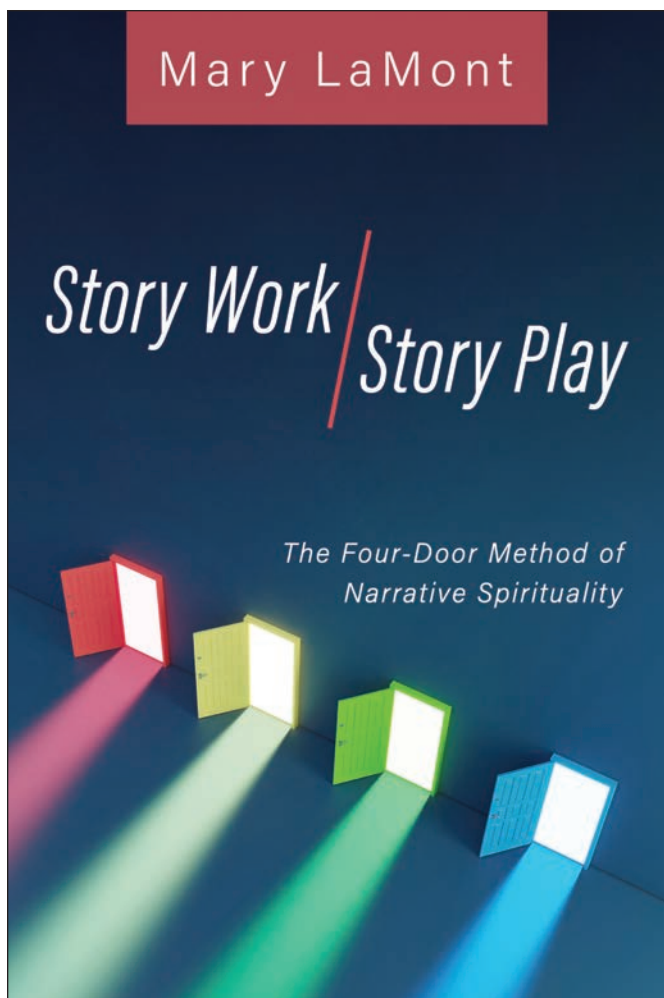
In this book, Franciscan priest Fr. Albert Haase, OFM, and Protestant pastor Phil Vestal bring to life nine spiritual practices from the life and ministry of the ancient Hebrew prophet Elisha—practices later promoted by Jesus, Paul, and subsequent figures in the history of Christian spirituality. These spiritual practices point directly to important themes in spiritual formation:

- The call of God
- Healing
- Perseverance in the face of opposition
- Gratitude and charity
- Prayer, petition, and intercession
- The tension between obedience to the law and Jesus’ command to love
- Living with the awareness of God’s investment in every human endeavor
- God’s ever-present grace and protection in the face of trials and tribulations
- Mercy

Based upon incidents in the life of an ancient prophet, these nine practices are life-giving bones that God uses to instill new spirit and creativity in the contemporary believer.

“In this book, various insights derived from nine episodes of the prophet Elisha are brought to bear on contemporary experience. The insights are discussed from several different religio-cultural perspectives, then take the form of religious practices that prove universally relevant. Though boasting dual authorship, lines of diversity cannot be detected in this very readable study of an unfamiliar prophet.”

—Dianne Bergant, CSA, professor emerita of Old Testament studies, Catholic Theological Union



Story Work/Story Play

The Four-Door Method of Narrative Spirituality

MARY LAMONT

978-1-6667-4390-6 | 156 p. | \$22

A central assumption of narrative spirituality is that the act of retelling the story of episodes of our lives can help us better see the larger Guiding Story that God dreams for us. When I can see my Guiding Story more clearly, I am better able to handle crisis and transition and better able to see my true purpose. *Story Work/Story Play* lays out a four-door method of spirituality that invites participants to explore their Guiding Story through four doors that correspond to the four parts of any story—a main **character**, a **problem** to solve, the **power** needed to solve it, and the **action** taken by the main character. The chapter for each of these four “doors” provides theological, psychological, and scriptural foundations for the narrative method and includes up to ten to fifteen “story work/story play” exercises the reader can use to practice the method. Each chapter also includes profile stories of real people who have discovered layers of their own Guiding Stories. The book ends each chapter with a Guided Visualization. The book’s final chapter explains how members of a “narrative circle” can use the narrative spirituality tools of this book to discern each one’s own unique Guiding Story.

“In *Story Work/Story Play*, Mary LaMont explores the power of stories. She offers practical strategies for anyone looking to deepen their spiritual practice. This is a valuable resource for discovering the stories that shape our lives.”

—Patrick BROWN, Loyola Academy

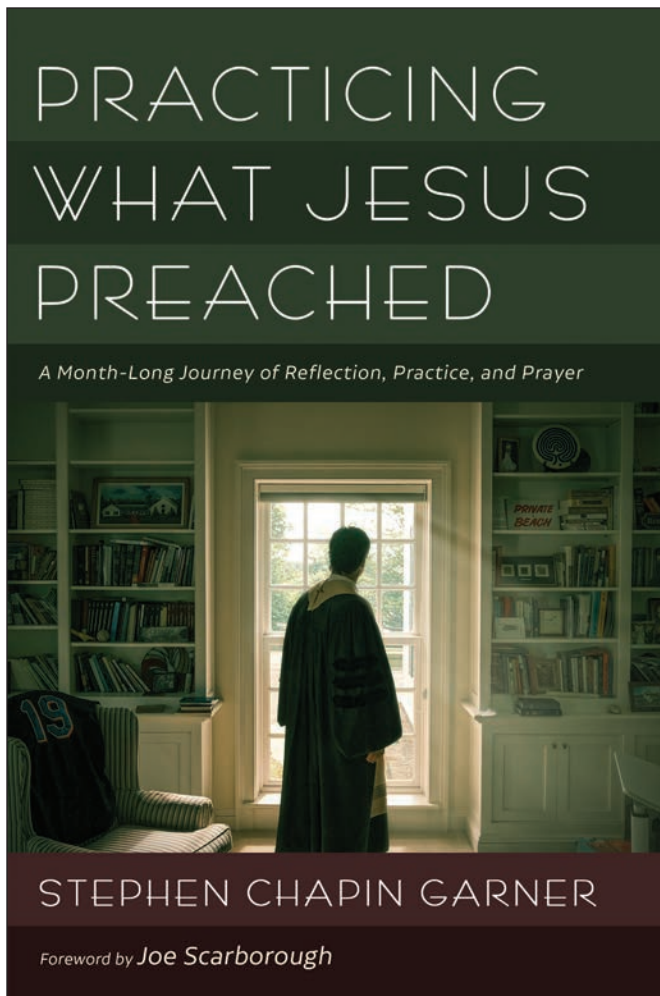
“This is a wonderful book full of rich possibilities and challenges. Mary LaMont invites us to explore our unique guiding stories in order to discover and deepen the life that God intends for each of us. Weaving together Scripture, contemporary writings, psychology, and philosophy, she has provided an abundance of tools to empower seekers, counselors, and spiritual companions to see their stories through a new lens to bring about spiritual growth and healing.”

—Laraine Bodnar, clinical therapist, Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide

“In *Story Work/Story Play*, Mary LaMont offers a highly engaging process to support readers in peeling away layers to discover the ‘Guiding Story’ that God has planted in them. This book is both accessible and illuminating. Whether you are new to narrative spirituality or a seasoned spiritual seeker or guide, this book is an invaluable resource, one that you will return to over and over again.”

—Ben Freville, Dominican University

MARY LAMONT is the director of The Knocking Door, a Chicago-area ministry that provides retreats, workshops, and spiritual direction for church groups, schools, religious orders, and other pastoral ministers. LaMont taught theology for more than twenty-five years at Loyola Academy in Wilmette. She is also trained in Buddhist meditation from the Zen Life Meditation Center. She has a master’s degree from Catholic Theological Union in Scripture and sacramental theology and a degree in American studies and communications from Notre Dame.



Practicing What Jesus Preached

A Month-Long Journey of Reflection, Practice, and Prayer

STEPHEN CHAPIN GARNER

978-1-6667-6304-1 | 96 p. | \$17

Daily devotions work wonders. In this fine collection of reflections on the Sermon on the Mount, Dr. Garner encourages us to meditate upon Jesus’s words, consider their meaning, put them into practice, and pray for the Lord’s blessing in the midst of work and life. A verse, a reflection, a question, a practice, and a prayer will greet you, as you travel for a month with Jesus, putting his preaching into practice.

“If only. If only Christians would live the way Jesus described in his Sermon on the Mount. If only we would live the way Jesus lived. To realize that intoxicating possibility we need to go beyond reading to action. Stephen Chapin Garner’s *Practicing What Jesus Preached* is the book I choose as my guide for that journey.”

—Wesley J. Wildman, professor of philosophy, theology, and ethics, Boston University School of Theology

“In language precise and wise, Stephen Chapin Garner gives readers a generous invitation to come to know Jesus better. For both a curious questioner and a mature believer, this book offers the opportunity to walk day by day into a deeper relationship with Jesus—not the mythic Jesus of the latest news cycle or the far-off Jesus of academic study—but the Jesus of the Gospels and the hope of all who long for liberation. This book makes for an excellent gift and guide.”

—Laura E. Everett, executive director, Massachusetts Council of Churches

“Many people of faith are smugly secure in the knowledge that their personal lives and the ways that we order ourselves on this broken, beautiful planet are aligned with the will of the Holy One. Clearly, I disagree. And so does my friend Stephen Chapin Garner. Chapin takes us on a prayerful journey with Matthew’s Jesus, a journey that reminds us that more is required of us all.”

—William H. Lamar IV, pastor, Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church, Washington, DC

STEPHEN CHAPIN GARNER is the senior minister of The Congregational Church of New Canaan in New Canaan, Connecticut. Chapin has taught preaching at Boston University School of Theology and General Theological Seminary, and leads the Raymond Fellowship Preaching Program. His books include *Getting Into Character: The Art of First Person Narrative Preaching*; *Lost in the Middle? Claiming an Inclusive Faith for Christians Who are Both Liberal and Evangelical*; *Found in the Middle! Theology and Ethics for Christians Who are Both Liberal and Evangelical*; *Scattering Seeds: Cultivating Church Vitality*; and *As the Spirit Moves*.



One with Christ

40 Biblical Meditations on Paul's "in Christ" Idea
BEN PUGH

978-1-6667-5069-0 | 122 p. | \$19

Paul's most common phrase was "in Christ." It is a tiny phrase, used almost as frequently as punctuation, yet within it is abbreviated a whole universe of delight which many of us have barely tasted. For Paul being in Christ is so normal he never even explains what he means by it, or what he means by Christ dwelling in us for that matter. He is not exactly forthcoming about what exactly is involved in us having been crucified with, or having died with, been buried with, raised with, or seated with Christ either. He just expects us to keep up. What he does give us are a few little hints at what this union with Christ does. We get glimpses into the amazing things it does for us.

In forty days we visit just about every time Paul uses a phrase like "in Christ," "in him," "with Christ," and so on, meditating on each of the little hints that Paul provides. We do this in the hope of discovering just how deep this union goes.

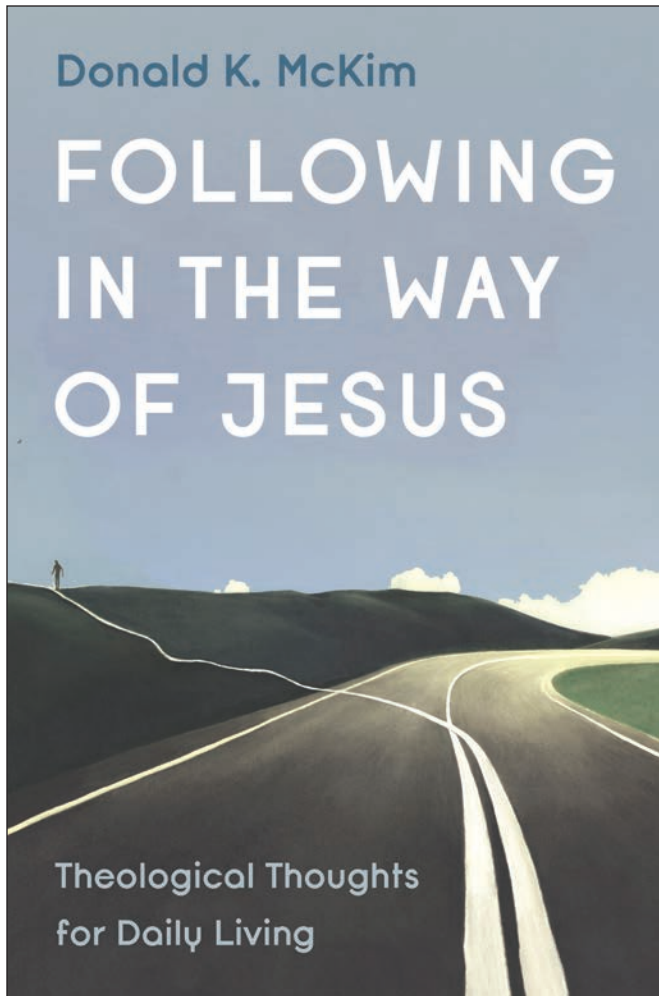
"In this wonderful series of meditations, Ben Pugh reveals the many treasures held within Paul's teaching on union with Christ. Ben writes with the mind of a scholar and the heart of a disciple, and he shows how meditating on our life in Christ can bring transformation into the life of every Christian. I warmly commend *One with Christ* to all who wish to grow closer to Jesus."

—Ed Mackenzie, Cliff College

"Over years of researching and writing about Paul's theology of union with Christ, I have often been asked the 'pastoral' question: union with Christ is grand and marvelous, but how does it affect my daily life? I'm not sure I've ever given a strong answer to that question. But now I will simply say, 'Get hold of Ben Pugh's *One with Christ* meditations. Do one each day. Then thank God for the blessings that will come *in Christ*.'"

—Constantine R. Campbell, Sydney College of Divinity

BEN PUGH is Lecturer in Theology and Postgraduate Research Program Lead at Cliff College, and Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Manchester, UK. He is the author of *The King of the Jews: 28 Moments with the Son of God* (2014).



Following in the Way of Jesus

Theological Thoughts for Daily Living

DONALD K. MCKIM

978-1-6667-5279-3 | 194 p. | \$25

In this book, seasoned pastor-theologian Donald McKim offers reflections on what it means to be following in the way of Jesus as Christian disciples. These pieces take the form of theological thoughts for daily living. Part One explores “Pursuing the Path of Faith” (with sections on “Believing” and “Trusting”) while Part Two concerns “Walking in the Spirit” (with sections on “Following” and “Serving”). McKim brings to bear a lifetime of experience with the Scriptures, the Christian theological tradition, and the walk of faith in these short, stimulating reflections.

“Donald McKim may not sound like a rebel, but he is one. While other Christian writers woo readers by asking less of us, he asks more: more engagement with history, more clarity of thought, more commitment to loving God with our whole minds as well as our whole hearts and souls. Above all, he trusts we are up to the challenge of seeking deeper understanding of the faith that is in us and kindly leads the way.”

—Barbara Brown Taylor, author of *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith*

“Like Luther and Calvin, Donald McKim combines in his new book erudition for intellectuals with the simple truth of the gospel for laity. His writing, always fluid and accessible, never saccharine or preachy, brings to mind the works of both Reinhold Niebuhr and his brother H. Richard Niebuhr. Drink deeply at this well and take time to learn from a man who has spent a lifetime sharing the gospel in truly incarnational ways.”

—William J. Carl III, former president, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

“In these fifty-two wise and beautifully written essays, Donald McKim describes the path for following Jesus and sets out torches to illuminate the way. McKim brings a wealth of theological learning, deep personal experience, and

a feast of pastoral insight to this task. To read this book is to be summoned to a more profound life of faith.”

—Thomas G. Long, professor emeritus of preaching, Candler School of Theology

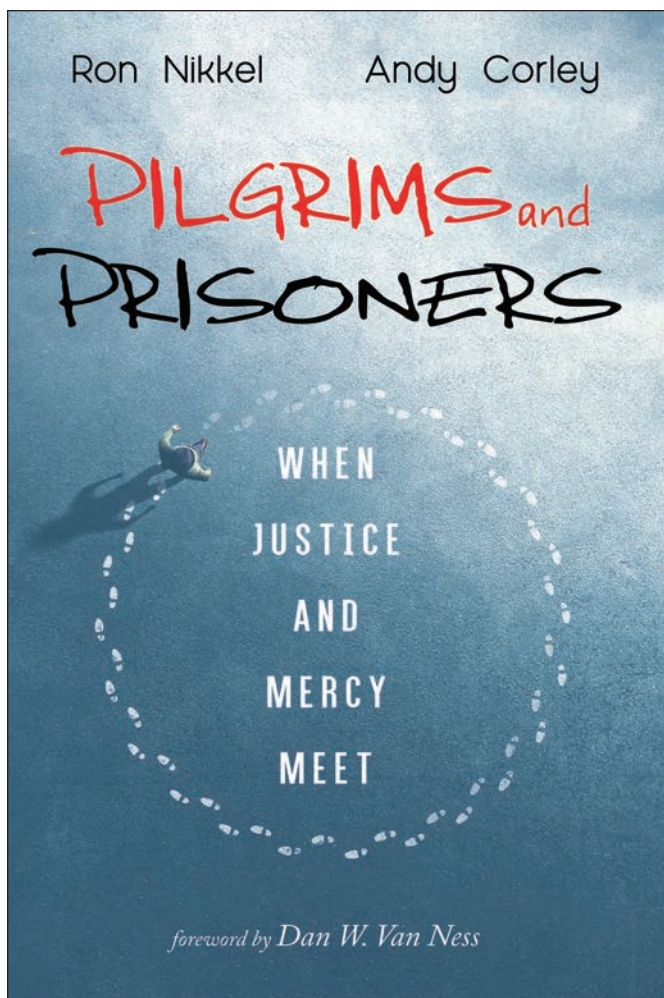
“Donald McKim’s passion for Scripture, theology, the church, and, above all, following Jesus is more than evident in this delightful and helpful collection of thought pieces. McKim combines an accessible introduction to the Christian life with an equally accessible introduction to a broad spectrum of theologians (from Luther and Calvin to Perkins and Ames to Barth and Bonhoeffer). This book is a gift in so many ways!”

—James S. Currie, executive secretary, Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest

“Donald McKim’s writing is always biblical, theological, and accessible. In *Following in the Way of Jesus*, McKim adds personal and devotional to that list of adjectives. Reading this book is like having a deep, meaningful conversation with a trusted and wise friend. McKim’s grace, faith, and generosity imbues each page leaving the reader blessed and eager to be a blessing.”

—Jill Duffield, senior pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, NC

DONALD K. MCKIM is a former seminary dean, professor of theology, and executive editor for theology for Westminster John Knox Press. He is a retired minister of the Presbyterian Church (USA). He is the author and editor of a number of books, both academic and devotional.



Pilgrims and Prisoners

When Justice and Mercy Meet

RON NIKKEL AND ANDY CORLEY

978-1-6667-4791-1 | 148 p. | \$22

When justice is used as a synonym for judgment we miss the point of justice. The prisons of the world are bursting at the seams with offenders who have been judged guilty and are being punished for wrongdoing. Prisons are a failure. In fact, justice is not achieved through imprisonment. Ron and Andy have dedicated their lives to pursuing justice and mercy in response to criminal offenders. In many respects, prisons are the most spiritual places on earth. It is in prison where the great questions of humanity converge—questions of guilt and forgiveness, good and evil, retribution and redemption, hope and despair, life and death, guilt and forgiveness, judgment and mercy. Where is God in the midst of all of this? Is God even relevant, does God care? And if God cares, does that make any difference to the justice we seek? Ron has likely been in more prisons in more countries than any other person. He has been in the very best of prisons and the prisons that can only be described as “hellholes.” In their journey through the prisons of the world, both Ron and Andy have encountered Jesus—God imprisoned with men and women in the margins of respectability and human dignity; God of all righteousness and justice, love, and mercy embracing offenders in the depths of their human condition.

“Ron Nikkel and I walked into prisons in Central America—holes of despair, run by gangs, and, for many prisoners, no hope for an exit. It was here I saw Ron light up rooms with his unmistakable understanding, seeding faith and hope. You may never visit a prison, but *Pilgrims and Prisoners* becomes a personal visit into a world, neglected and ignored.”

—Brian C. Stiller, global ambassador, World Evangelical Alliance

“*Pilgrims and Prisoners* reminded me of the incredible dedication that Ron Nikkel has made to the cause of mercy, justice, and peace in the world by traveling to hundreds of prisons to unconditionally share the love of Jesus. *Pilgrims and Prisoners* gives us a glimpse of the power of Jesus to redeem men and women who society has written off. Any reader will be blessed by this book.”

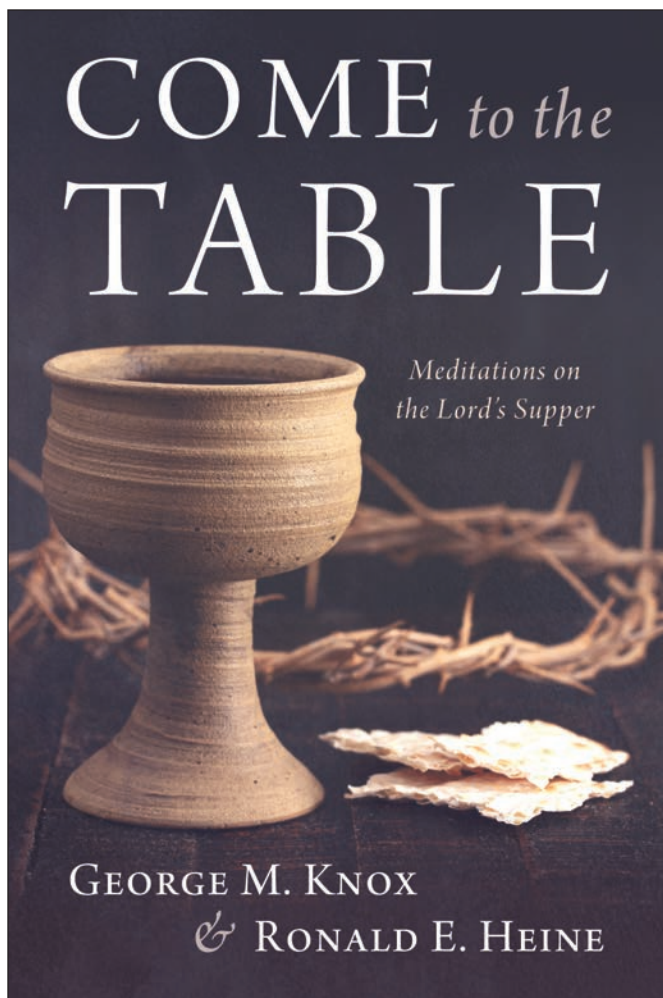
—Michael T. Timmis, author of *Between Two Worlds: The Spiritual Journey of an Evangelical Catholic*

“I have traveled with Ron Nikkel to visit prisons on several continents, and he’s one of my heroes. Now he and Andy Corley have served up a rich combination of Jesus-centered wisdom and raw, real-life stories. Jesus emphasized prison outreach in both his first sermon (Luke 4) and one of his last (Matthew 25). I know of no better guides to teach us how to live out that mandate.”

—Philip Yancey, author of *Where the Light Fell: A Memoir*

RON NIKKEL has had a lifelong passion for justice. After working with marginalized youth in urban communities in his early career, he settled in Washington, DC where he served as president and CEO of Prison Fellowship International for more than thirty years. He led the development of Prison Fellowship International beyond its origins in the USA to encompass a global network of criminal justice ministries in more than 125 countries.

ANDY CORLEY, formerly a business entrepreneur based in the UK, currently serves as the president and CEO of Prison Fellowship International. Ron continues as president emeritus.



Come to the Table

Meditations on the Lord's Supper
GEORGE M. KNOX AND RONALD E. HEINE

978-1-6667-5243-4 | 170 p. | \$24

The cross and empty tomb form the center of the Christian faith. The church celebrates these two events in what is traditionally referred to as the Lord's Supper. It is the custom in some Christian traditions to have a brief meditation related to the Lord's Supper immediately prior to participation. These may be given by the pastor or by a layperson who presides over the ceremony. This book is a series of meditations delivered prior to the celebration of the Lord's Supper. It is our hope that they will be useful for laypeople who perform this service. They may also be helpful as private meditations on the central events of the Christian faith.

"From the introduction which points us to a deeper reverence and understanding of the Lord's Supper and the significance that it holds, this book offers pastors and lay leaders alike a useful resource for ministry. *Come to the Table* contains a variety of excellent stories and illustrations that are tied to the calendar year that could easily be used to impact church worship around the practice of communion."

—Barry Lind, senior pastor, Northwood Christian Church

"When I prepare thoughts for the Lord's Supper, I'm always looking for a good thought, a biblical insight, and a fresh idea. Thanks to Knox and Heine, I now have sixty new meditations. If you are needing help preparing an introduction to the Lord's Supper or just want a book to help you find the heart of our faith, *Come to the Table* is the resource for you."

—Milton Jones, president, Christian Relief Fund

"Knox and Heine, with scholarly minds and pastoral hearts, offer every elder, deacon, congregational member, and gospel minister who presides over the Lord's Table sixty concise and Christ-saturated devotional reflections on our King's meal. *Come to the Table* is a needed resource which blends beautiful and thoughtful stories from everyday life, from authors like Henri Nouwen, from the apostolic fathers, and from mature reflection, each set alongside wisely chosen biblical passages. What a gift!"

—J. K. Jones, Lincoln Christian University

"In every family, coming to the table helps form identity in community. For followers of Jesus, the family table is communion. This book is a gift to the church. It is both deep in history and tradition, yet also current and applicable to the life of faith today. The powerfully grounding introduction and the sixty Christ-centered meditations all invite us to joyfully and humbly come to the table and feast!"

—Tim Knight, pastor, Highline Christian Church

GEORGE M. KNOX is professor emeritus of New Testament and homiletics at Bushnell University, Eugene, Oregon. He served as a pastor in Oregon for twenty-two years before joining the faculty of Northwest Christian College (now Bushnell University).

RONALD E. HEINE is professor emeritus of Bible and theology at Bushnell University, Eugene, Oregon. He is author of numerous books and articles on early Christianity. Most recently he edited, with Karen Jo Torjesen, *The Oxford Handbook of Origen* (2022).

CALM & QUIET MY SOUL



*A Holistic Approach to Spiritual Care
for the Mothering Pastor*

ALYSSA LYNN BELL

Calm and Quiet My Soul

A Holistic Approach to Spiritual
Care for the Mothering Pastor

ALYSSA LYNN BELL

978-1-6667-6343-0 | 142 p. | \$21

Self-care and soul care are trending topics in Christian leadership circles because ministry leaders know they cannot care for their people unless they care for themselves. Pastors who are mothers know this too, and yet it can feel like just one more task to manage among the many they carry on their schedules and in their hearts. The biblical truth is that spiritual rest is a gift from God, not an achievement, a refreshing reminder for women who hold the dual roles of mom and minister. This book invites women leading in these spaces to remember that the God of the Old and New Testaments, the one who pours out replenishment for weary hearts, is a God who is Mother as well as Father, and mothers them with tenderness and strength. Starting here, in the arms of a mothering God who whispers “beloved,” changes the tone of spiritual care for her from a chore to an oasis of replenishment that grounds her in her identity in Christ as a daughter of Creator God.

“Once a mothering pastor myself, this book calms and quiets my soul. The biblical, historical, and theological chapters, as well as the one on a mothering God, disrupt traditional notions that mothering and pastoring are incompatible. Instead, the two roles go together very well. After reading Alyssa Bell’s book, the common feelings of isolation and loneliness become feelings of belonging and rest. For all those who mother and respond to God’s call, this book is a gift.”

—MaryKate Morse, professor of leadership and spiritual formation, Portland Seminary

“As a ‘mothering pastor’ myself, *Calm and Quiet My Soul* resonated with deep longings that I rarely acknowledge, let alone honor. Alyssa Lynn Bell beautifully writes about the unique needs of mothers who serve as pastors and the soul nourishment that can be found in the God who bears, comforts, and nurtures all of life.”

—Teri McDowell Ott, Rev. editor and publisher, *Presbyterian Outlook*

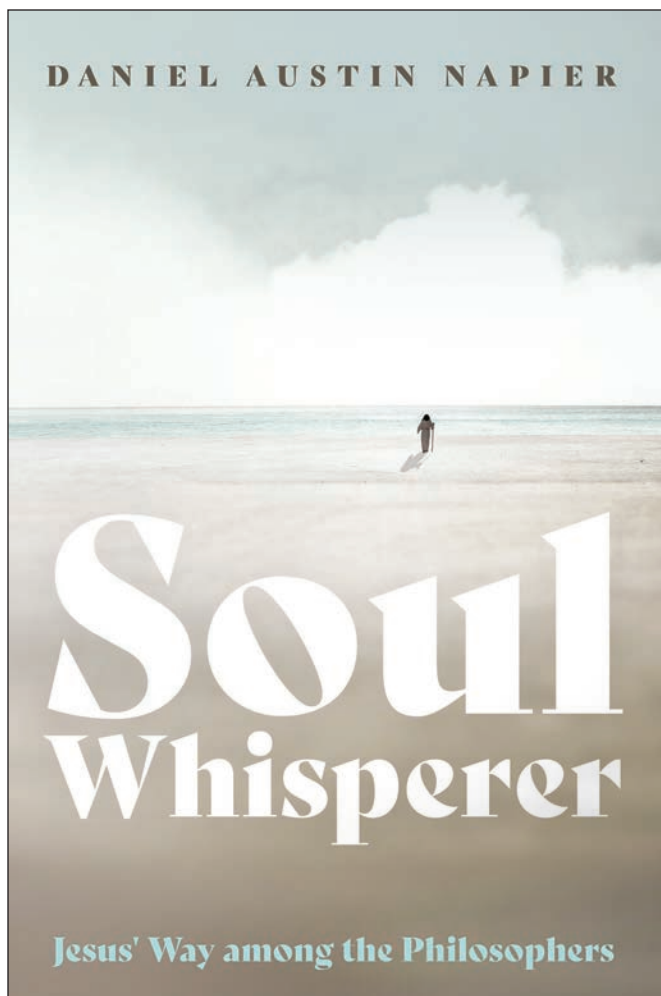
“Pastors need care and encouragement, busy pastors who are mothering their children all the more. Alyssa Lynn Bell demonstrates not only that mothers are needed in pastoral ministry, but also that they reflect the glory and grace of the mothering God we praise. Mothers will love this book, but it will be a blessing and balm for the soul of anyone who wants to better know the God who cares.”

—Nijay K. Gupta, professor of New Testament, Northern Seminary

“*Calm and Quiet My Soul* speaks to the very heart of women clergy who are both moms and ministers. This groundbreaking work addresses the gap women experience between motherhood and ministry. They often don’t have the language or community in which to express and validate their call as both in their lives. Alyssa Bell bridges the lived experience of mothering pastors with practical applications, while also being historically, biblically, and theologically grounded.”

—Susan Rose, founder and executive director, Diakonos Solutions

ALYSSA LYNN BELL is a pastor, spiritual director, and teacher who loves walking alongside people as they encounter God’s transformative love. Alyssa lives in Spokane, Washington, with her husband, Matthew, and two daughters, Theresa and Susie.



Soul Whisperer

Jesus' Way among the Philosophers

DANIEL AUSTIN NAPIER

978-1-6667-6835-0 | 236 p. | \$31

Three hundred years before Christianity became a religion, Jesus taught the Way. His earliest followers identified as philosophers—adherents to the philosophy of Jesus. In this book, Daniel Austin Napier guides us to directly experience Jesus' unparalleled genius for renovating human life. A good tour guide, Napier gestures toward and describes other figures on the periphery—such as Socrates, Aristotle, and the Stoics—to whom Jesus may be fruitfully compared. But Jesus and his account of lasting personal change is the singular point of focus from beginning to end. With cross-disciplinary knowledge and gentle personal warmth, Napier presents a portrait of Jesus that you've never seen before but that you've been looking for.

Perhaps you wonder: What's a soul and what's it good for? How could you locate it in everyday experience? Just how smart is Jesus? What did he say that changed his students so drastically? What are the essential ingredients of lasting personal change? What's it like to co-work with God, and how can you recognize when it's happening? What's so different, and so good, about the God whom Jesus calls Father? You will find lucid answers to all these questions and many more inside. You're invited. Come explore Jesus' philosophy of personal transformation.

thinker answered that question as well as did Jesus of Nazareth. In an era when philosophy was not just an intellectual exercise, but a way of life, the Way of Jesus presented itself as philosophy *par excellence*. Napier's account of Jesus' own philosophy stands as a modern *enchiridion* for the Christian life, in the tradition of Epictetus, Augustine, and Erasmus."

—Aaron Preston, professor of philosophy, Valparaiso University

"Many of us have inadvertently put Jesus in a box. He is the God-man who secured salvation for us when we die. We may affirm that Jesus cares about our life, but we don't know why or how this works. In this book, Daniel Napier gives us a very readable and nourishing framework for why the here-and-now matter and precisely how Jesus teaches us to live. I'm so grateful for this book"

—Jon Guerra, singer-songwriter

"Rumors of a kingdom and reality beyond ourselves have fascinated philosophers for centuries, if not millennia. *Soul Whisperer* goes directly to the subject and brings significant new perspectives from the Christian tradition. It is a work of brilliance and highly relevant to the contemporary debate about living life fully with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength."

—James Catford, founding chair, Center for Christianity and Public Life.

"Building on the work of philosopher Dallas Willard, the thesis of *Soul Whisperer* is simple—the kingdom of God which Jesus proclaimed is the underlying Reality of life. To live a good life is to align our lives to this Reality. Daniel Napier provides key—and often profound—exegetical insights into the teachings of Jesus coupled with practical wisdom and guidance for those who desire to discover and experience the truth of the gospel."

—Eric M. Riesen, president, North American Lutheran Seminary

"What has Athens to do with Jerusalem? Daniel Napier knows. At the heart of ancient Greek philosophy was the question of how to live rightly, but no Greek

DANIEL AUSTIN NAPIER has a PhD from Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and is the director of Ashrei Europe, a spiritual formation ministry based in Thessaloniki, Greece. Prior to Ashrei, Napier served as associate professor of theology at Austin Graduate School of Theology and, before that, as a lecturer in philosophy at the Biblijski Institut in Zagreb, Croatia. He is also the author of *En Route to the Confessions: The Roots and Development of Augustine's Philosophical Anthropology* (2013).



Pray This Way to Connect with God

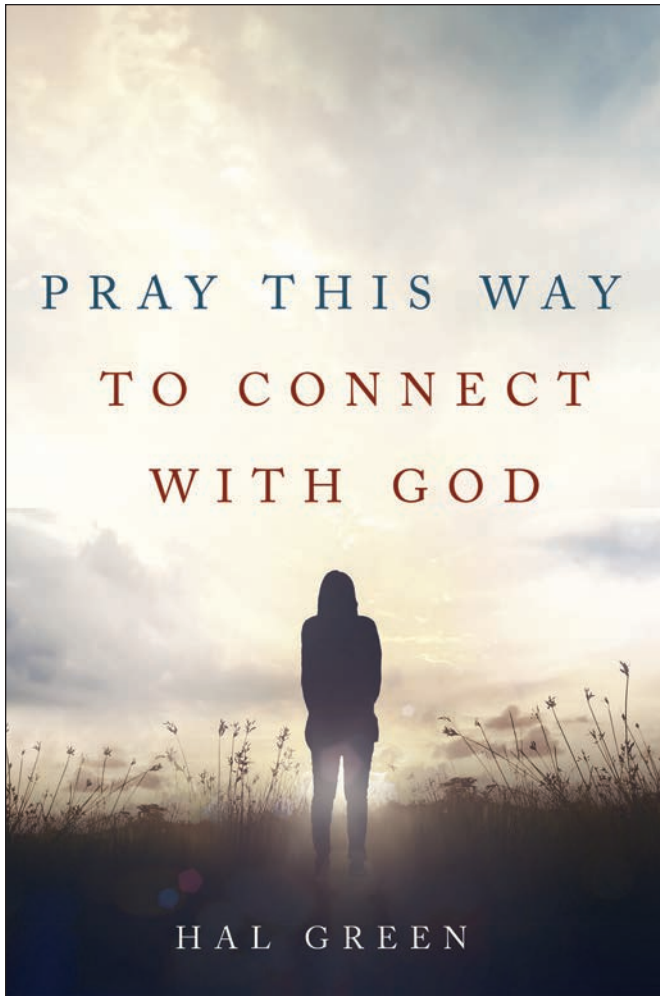
HAL GREEN

978-1-6667-4274-9 | 328 p. | \$33

Prayer is the singular bridge between you and God. The state of your prayer life is the state of your God relationship. It is as vital to your well-being to develop a flourishing prayer life, as it is to develop satisfying communication with loved ones. If you seek to know God personally, this book will assist you in your seeking, as well as in your finding. If you want to transform your prayers from a monologue with you merely addressing God, to a dialogue with God also addressing you, this book is for you. It will guide you from what prayer is to how to pray, from breath prayers all the way to contemplative prayer.

“One thing that I always admired about Hal Green is that he has this wonderful gift of getting right to the point. The title of the book captures this transformative gift; it is a proclamation not to be taken for granted: pray like this to connect with God. I would add an awareness that God has already connected with you. The key on your part is to pray.”

—Carl J. Arico, founding member of Contemplative Outreach



“Green provides an excellent roadmap to begin a life of prayer, to discover ‘how to do it’ and to explore different styles and models together with a rich, guided selection for praying with Scripture and with the saints. Green’s lifelong scholarly work as one of the world’s foremost experts on dialogical philosophy and thought deeply informs this present work to the great benefit of each reader who longs to dialogue with God in fruitful prayer.”

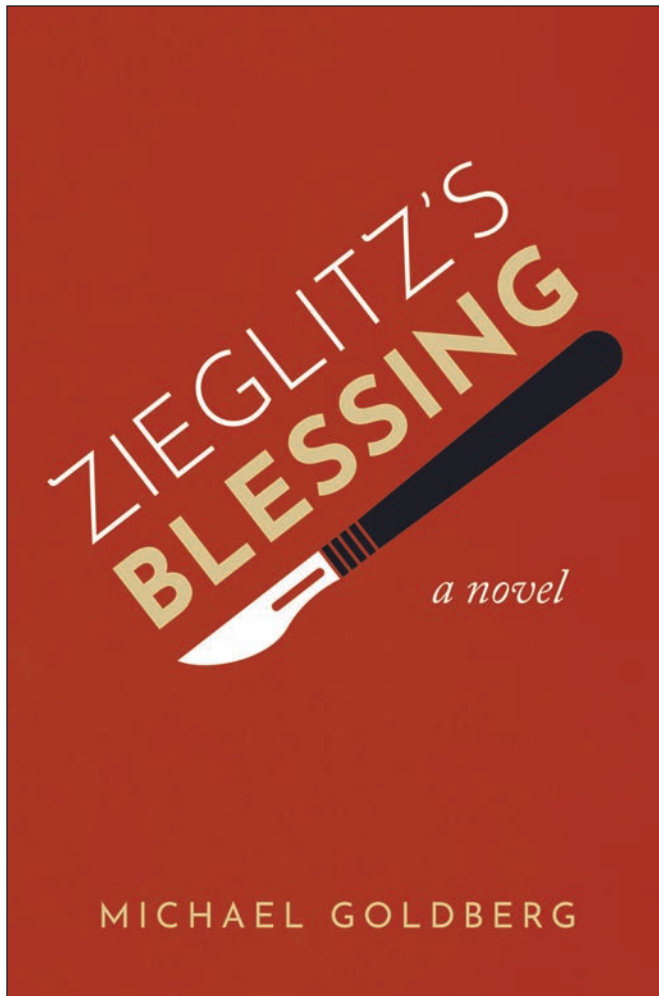
—Joseph R. Chapel, Seton Hall University

“*Pray Like This to Connect with God* contains valuable insights and practical applications gleaned from Hal Green’s lifelong dedication to spiritual growth. It is an essential resource filled with wisdom for anyone seeking depth and development in a relationship with the Holy One. Each page invites the reader to savor its treasury of insight and inspiration.”

—Joyce Rupp, author of *Return to the Root: Reflections on the Inner Life*

HAL GREEN is a former professor of psychology, philosophy, and religion. He is the author of *The Heart of Jesus and the Coming Relationship* (2018) and *Closer Than Your Own I. Meditations on Union with God* (2018). Hal has led numerous prayer retreats across America’s heartland.





Zieglitz's Blessing

A Novel

MICHAEL GOLDBERG

978-1-6667-4006-6 | 208 p. | \$20

Zieglitz's Blessing tells the story of a multigenerational search for Zidentity and the meaning of a man's life. From childhood, Rod Zieglitz questions the truthfulness of his Hebrew name, which means "God will show mercy." Sometimes that name seems fitting. At other times, though, it strikes Zieglitz as a cruel joke. Only on his deathbed, grappling with the challenges he's faced, does Zieglitz rightly understand the notion of God's blessing for the first time. While *Zieglitz's Blessing* is often comic and even irreverent, it's an ultimately serious tale that runs the gamut from suffering to consolation, transgression to forgiveness, and faith lost to trust restored.

"Michael Goldberg's new, genre-bending novel is itself a blessing: an unorthodox Rabbi's quixotic search to heal the wounds he has suffered, and inflicted, since his own bris. Though an entertaining send-up of biblical contradictions and rabbinical hypocrisy, Goldberg also explores his sinner's inherent decency, honor, and love of family. *Zieglitz's Blessing* carves a memory not soon forgotten."

—Lou Gorfain, Emmy award-winning screenwriter

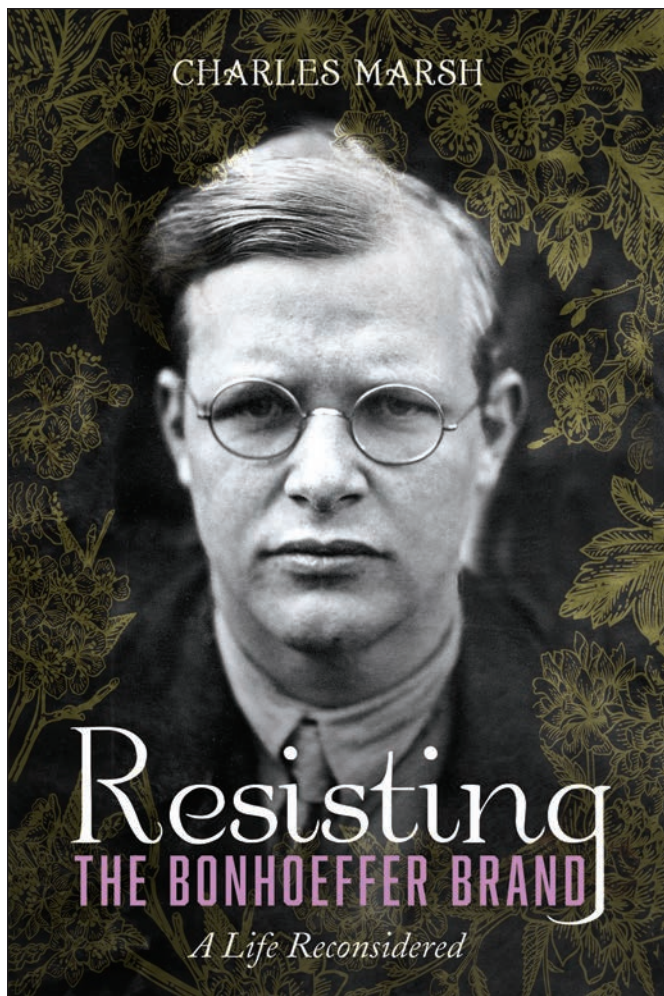
"*Zieglitz's Blessing* follows a man's life through love, loss, anger, and redemption. At times funny, often heart-wrenching, and consistently thought-provoking, Goldberg's novel will touch you in ways that will surely surprise you and stay with you long after reading it."

—Randy Auerbach, film executive and producer

"Rare is the writer who can embed the deepest questions of human existence into a tale as absorbing as *Zieglitz's Blessing*. Drawing on his considerable wit and on his lifelong experiences as a rabbi, a hospital chaplain, and as an ethicist, Goldberg has produced a novel that is tragic, comic, and, finally, redeeming."

—Todd Brewster, New York Times #1 best-selling co-author of the *The Century*

MICHAEL GOLDBERG has been a Jewish studies professor, management consultant, hospice chaplain, and congregational rabbi. Among his other books are: *Jews and Christians, Getting Our Stories Straight* (1985); *Why Should Jews Survive?: Looking Past the Holocaust Toward a Jewish Future* (1995); and *Raising Spirits: Stories of Suffering and Comfort at Death's Door* (2010).



Resisting the Bonhoeffer Brand

A Life Reconsidered

CHARLES MARSH

978-1-6667-3089-0 | 74 p. | \$14

Charles Marsh responds to criticisms of his book *Strange Glory: A Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer* by exploring the largely unexamined relationship between theology and biography. In *Resisting the Bonhoeffer Brand*, he argues that Bonhoeffer scholarship desperately needs the revitalizing energies of the theologian's life story revisited and uncensored by the guild.

“Charles Marsh’s latest book is essential reading for anyone interested in the ongoing, nothing-if-not-spirited debates over the life and legacy of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Readers will find in these pages so much more, including the kind of searching, stirring reflections on the meaning of history and biography that we have come to expect from one of our era’s most brilliant theological minds.”

—Heath W. Carter, Princeton Theological Seminary

“Bonhoeffer warned against being infatuated with a self-made idea about Christian community but not loving the actual community as it is: gritty and human, complex and wondrous. What a turn then—now we need Marsh to offer the same warnings about how we read Bonhoeffer himself. We like our saints to fit tidy boxes and rubber-stamp our presumptions. Marsh, with his historian’s eye and novelist’s pen, won’t let us make this mistake.”

—Winn Collier, Western Theological Seminary

“Charles Marsh offers deep insights about the relationship between theology and biography, and he makes an eloquent, compelling case for reinterpreting Bonhoeffer’s extraordinary life. And as he confronts his fiercest critic, Marsh lifts the lid on the territorial passions simmering beneath a scholar’s patient labors.”

—Clare Carlisle, King’s College London

CHARLES MARSH is the author of *Evangelical Anxiety: A Memoir* (2022) and *Reclaiming Dietrich Bonhoeffer: The Promise of His Theology* and *Strange Glory: A Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer*, which won the 2015 *Christianity Today* Book Award in History/Biography and was shortlisted for the PEN/Jacqueline Bograd Weld Award for Biography. Marsh teaches in the department of religious studies at the University of Virginia and lives in Charlottesville, Virginia.





The Simple Secret

Choosing Love in a Culture of Hostility

JOSHUA GRAVES

978-1-6667-5188-8 | 164 p. | \$23

Jesus' understanding of love separates him from many of the great religious leaders in world history. Jesus believed it was possible to love every person we encounter: children, partners, friends, strangers, the vulnerable, the poor, enemies, and planet Earth itself. The meaning of life is not mysterious after all. According to Jesus, the purpose of our existence is to love and be loved. When we take our last breath, our life will be measured by the love we gave to each person we encountered. The secret of life, it turns out, is not a secret at all.

"If you want to explore the secret to loving every person you encounter, you're going to love this book."

—Sara Gaston Barton, university chaplain, Pepperdine University

"*The Simple Secret* is nothing short of a divine prescription for the ills affecting mankind today. Graves weaves together humor, storytelling, wisdom, and of course his usual profound philosophical understanding of religion, to remind us of God's divine design, that love is our North Star in all we do and all we seek."

—Kimia Ferdowsi-Kline, visual artist

"Joshua Graves is a thoughtful guide who engages both the head and the heart. If you feel a love deficiency in your experience of being a spiritual human, *The Simple Secret* is for you!"

—Ian Cron, author of *The Story of You*

"To speak of the divine is to speak in metaphor, but naming God as love comes the closest to moving past symbol and into the 'really real.' In this book, Joshua Graves helps deepen our understanding and embodiment of the deceptively simple word/idea/practice that is love. He explores love as the ultimate end and

our path to get there, with a compelling invitation to receive and extend love to ourselves and to the world."

—Mallory Wyckoff, author of *God Is*

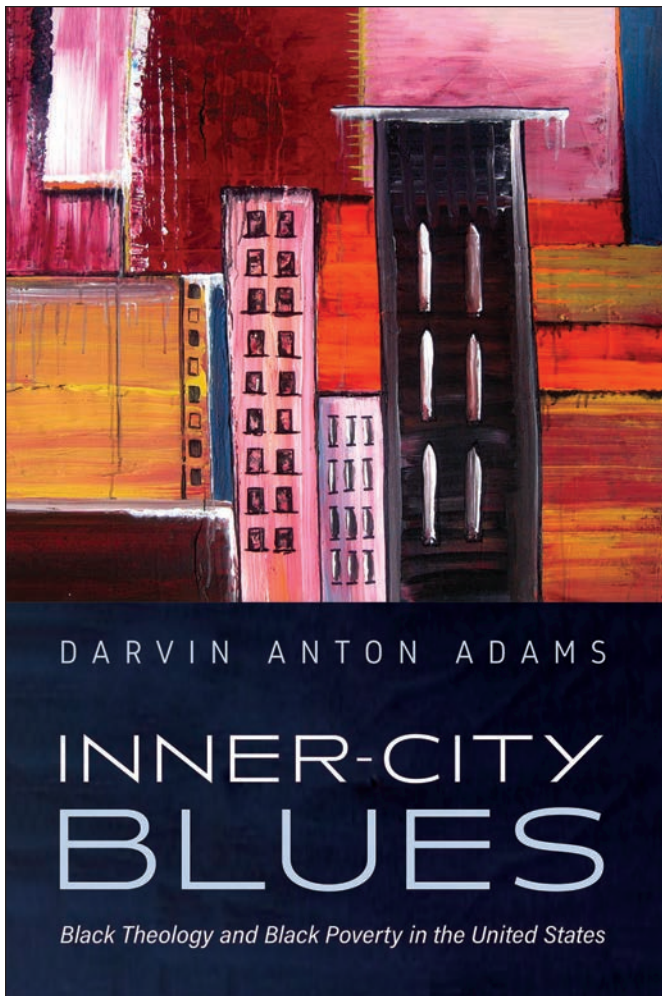
"I believe love spoke the world into existence and continues to hold it all together, because as Scripture says, 'God is love.' This is why, as Joshua Graves says, love is the only thing that really counts. This brilliant and beautiful book offers inspiration for those of us who've grown calloused by a world that's far too full of hate and hostility. If you need a little inspiration or maybe just a message about love, you need this book."

—Luke Norsworthy, author of *God over Good*

"Everyone thinks they know what love is. For some love is gushy and warm like a bowl of something melted. For others, love is a hardened, crusted alignment to their vision of what the world 'ought' to be. Joshua Graves helps us move beyond these amorphous, self-centered definitions of love, calling us into an other-focused, action-oriented, long-serving, cruciform love. *The Simple Secret* clears the way to a better way of loving like Jesus."

—Sean Palmer, author of *Unarmed Empire*

JOSHUA GRAVES is the lead minister for Otter Creek Church in Nashville, Tennessee. He is also author of *The Feast*, *Heaven on Earth*, and *How Not to Kill a Muslim*. Follow him on Twitter @joshgraves.



Inner-City Blues

Black Theology and Black Poverty
in the United States

DARVIN ANTON ADAMS

978-1-6667-3563-5 | 312 p. | \$35

Black theology's addressing of economic poverty in the Black neighborhoods and communities of the United States gives substantive reasoning to the fact that Black poverty is a theological problem. In connecting the narrative of idolatry to the irreversible harm that is associated with all forms of poverty, this new book interlocks the racial subjugation of Black Americans with the false assumptions of capitalism. Here the inner-city blues of poverty are experienced by those who reside in metropolitan cities *and* rural towns. The poverty of Black Americans is described with a vision of development and reconciliation—one that is intentional in its use of cultural language and inclusive to the destructive images of Black people's deprivation. In understanding how idolatry foundationalizes deprivation in the inner-city communities, I envision the liberation motif in Black theology working with the mission of the Black church for the purposes of community empowerment and neighborhood development. As a form of material and structural poverty, Black poverty is an interdisciplinary study that requires a holistic approach to ministry. With a theological focus on deprived inner-city communities, this new volume strategically moves the conversation of Black poverty from description to construction to solution.

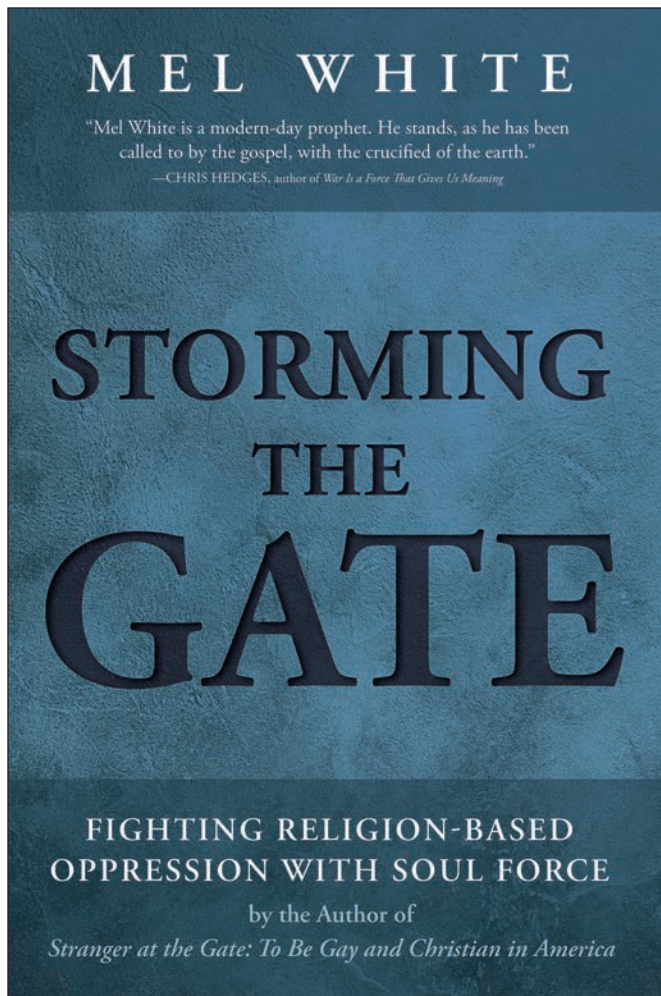
"Black Theology has two underdeveloped areas of study: black poverty and pneumatology. In this timely work, Adams brings together these two areas to provide clear theological analysis of the real legacy of slavery and racism: multigenerational poverty. *Inner City Blues* is long overdue, and readers will be grateful to be in Adam's debt for bringing a piercing honesty to the seminal issue Black America faces."

—Lewis Brogdon, Baptist Seminary of Kentucky

"At this stage of the struggles for racial equity and justice in America comes *Inner City Blues* to bring together Black Liberation Theology and social and economic analysis. Adams provides deep insight into the life and culture of Black Americans with amazing fresh interpretations. Adams pulls the veil away from the plight of Black Americans by pointing to the theological problem at the root of that phenomenon. There are both great hope and genuine practical solutions offered in this book."

—David R. Sawyer, Simmons College of Kentucky

DARVIN ANTON ADAMS pastors the Lane Tabernacle CME Church in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. He also serves as the Teaching Dean of the Evansville/Hopkinsville District and Scholar In-Residence for the Second Episcopal District under the leadership of Bishop Marvin Frank Thomas, Sr. Dr. Adams completed the PhD in Theology and Ethics at Garrett Seminary on the campus of Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. An 8-time award-winning preacher, Dr. Adams has had 40 articles published nationwide.



Storming the Gate

Fighting Religion-based
Oppression with Soul Force

MEL WHITE

978-1-6667-4935-9 | 334 p. | \$29

S*teming the Gate* picks up the story forty years after the publication of *Stranger at the Gate* (1993). Mel and his husband, Gary Nixon, have founded Soulfence and recruited an army of volunteers to help end the lie. Their nonviolent protests made headlines across the nation. These are the heroic and sometimes hilarious stories of Mel, Gary, and their volunteers being harassed, arrested, tried, and jailed for doing battle with the lie and with the Catholic, Protestant, and Evangelical liars who know the truth but refused to tell it.

“Mel White is a modern-day prophet. He stands, as he has been called to by the gospel, with the crucified of the earth.”

—Chris Hedges, author of *War Is a Force That Gives Us Meaning*

“What a life! This wonderful page-turner is the story of a hugely modest man who refuses to see himself as a hero—but most assuredly is. If you’re an atheist like me who hadn’t even known the difference between an evangelical and a fundamentalist, you will be no less moved and riveted by his journey.”

—Andrew Tobias, author of *The Best Little Boy in the World*

“Through laughter and tears, Mel White weaves an amazing story about growing older and wiser. He is learning what it means to grow old with grit and gratitude after a lifetime battling religious bigotry and spiritual violence. What a magnificent tale he spins, and what a gift it is!”

—Paul W. Dodd, retired military chaplain

MEL WHITE has been a Christian minister, author, and filmmaker all his adult life. Raised as an Evangelical Christian and taught that homosexuality was a sin, Mel fought to overcome his own homosexual orientation for decades in all the ways available to him: prayer, Christian counseling, psychotherapy, exorcism, electric shock, marriage, and family.



Jumping to the Skies

Additional Lessons from Parkinson's Disease

ALLAN HUGH COLE JR.

978-1-6667-4818-5 | 106 p. | \$15

This book recounts the author's experience of living with young-onset Parkinson's disease. He writes with candor, vulnerability, and humor, revealing how Parkinson's has prompted his experiences of deeper understanding and a greater zest for life, as well as more wisdom, gratitude, and a mindful approach to living in the moment. He demonstrates how an incurable illness, despite its challenges, can be full of meaning, purpose, and happiness, and how sharing one's personal hardships may enrich one's own life as well as the lives of others.

"In this engaging book, Allan Cole, who writes with the soul of a poet mixed with that of a minister, offers a hopeful, pragmatic approach to living with Parkinson's Disease. Ever the optimist, Allan faces up to 'The Beast,' acknowledging the downsides of living with the disorder while remaining upbeat and positive. Throughout this well-written work, we are offered up many clear-sighted observations on his successful approach to taking on Parkinson's."

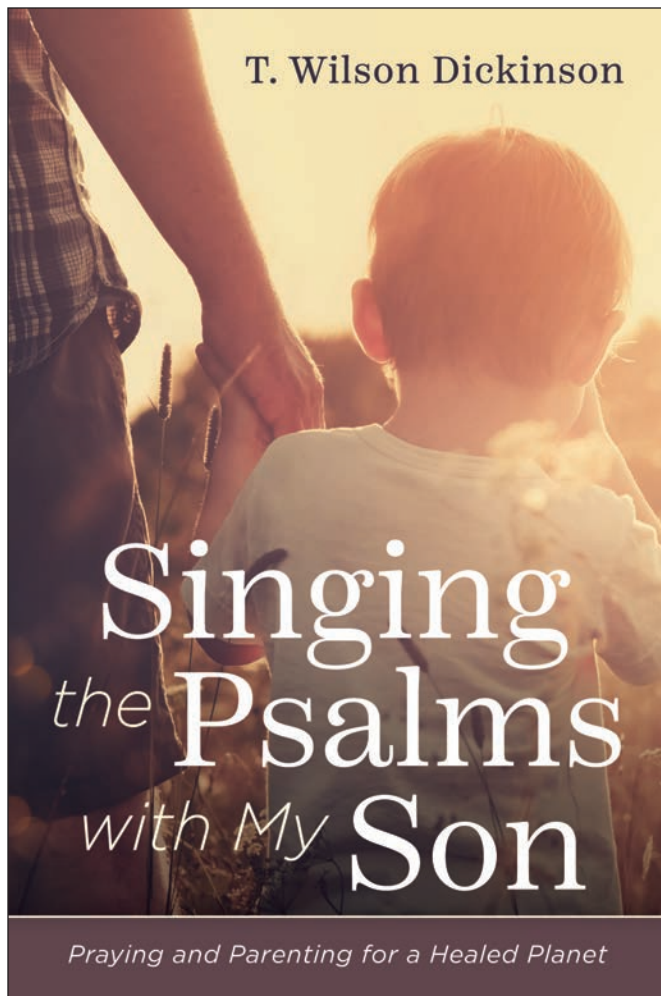
—Davis Phinney, Olympic cyclist and founder of the Davis Phinney Foundation for Parkinson's

"Allan Cole has done it again with another masterpiece in *Jumping to the Skies: Additional Lessons from Parkinson's Disease*. This beautifully written book intertwines experience and empathy and shares a message of hope as we embrace the lessons offered by a neurodegenerative disease."

—Michael S. Okun, MD, co-founder and executive director of Norman Fixel Institute for Neurological Diseases, University of Florida Health

ALLAN HUGH COLE JR. is dean and the Bert Kruger Smith Centennial Professor in Social Work in the Steve Hicks School of Social Work at The University of Texas at Austin. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2016 at the age of forty-eight. The author or editor of many books, he writes regularly for his blog, PD WISE (pdwise.com), and for other national and international outlets on living well with Parkinson's.





Singing the Psalms with My Son

Praying and Parenting for a Healed Planet

T. WILSON DICKINSON

978-1-6667-4393-7 | 160 p. | \$23

What will the future hold for our children? In a time of looming climate catastrophe this question inspires anxiety, fear, and guilt.

In *Singing the Psalms with My Son*, Wilson Dickinson charts a path where the practices of parenting lead to transformation and hope. The everyday tasks of caring for children radiate with the alternative energy of creativity and cooperation. If we learn from them, our homes can become schools for movements of joy and justice, rather than fortresses fearfully set against the world.

Dickinson turns to the Psalms for guidance on this journey. The prayerful poetry of the Psalter gives us refuge where we can cry in lament, while still joining creation in praising God.

With honesty, humility, and humor, Dickinson weaves meditations on individual Psalms with reflections on life as a parent. We accompany him and his son as they find the sacred and revolutionary possibility of ordinary activities—like reading children’s books, playing in the backyard, and celebrating holidays. Coupled with guidance for personal and communal use, these meditations invite us to harness the power of parental love and childish wonder to work for a hopeful future.

“This is a deeply learned and intimate book that seamlessly integrates elements of personal memoir, theological and biblical exposition, critical analysis, parenting wisdom, and social change theory. T. Wilson Dickinson is the rare author who can draw from so many complex streams of thought and lived experience to speak plainly and insightfully about what it means to be fully and faithfully human at this fraught time in history. As a father as well, I was moved and inspired. This book should be widely read, discussed, and shared.”

—Timothy Reinhold Eberhart, associate professor of ecological theology and practice, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

“T. Wilson Dickinson’s beautiful reflections on the Psalms may break your heart open, but will heal it as well. His love for his son stunningly translates for the love all of us have for our sons and daughters, and our hopes that they may live a healthy and spirited future in a world full of challenges. He has done all of us a great service as a father, a poetic writer and a man of faith.”

—Gary Paul Nabhan, author of *Jesus for Farmers and Fishers*

“What an exemplary book by an amazing scholar who is also—at the very same time—an incredible parent, a spiritually centered person, *and* an activist for earth care and social justice. T. Wilson Dickinson tackles head-on an angst that plagues every parent today—what does it mean to bring children into a world of climate catastrophes? His answer joins sage discernment about life priorities with concrete wisdom for daily living, giving readers a wealth of insight, encouragement, and hope.”

—Bonnie J. Miller-McLemore, professor emerita of religion, psychology, and culture, Vanderbilt University

“In this book, T. Wilson Dickinson holds not only his son’s hand but ours too. With the richness of the Psalms, he guides us now and into the future through times unknown and spaces growing in loss and destruction. This book is like the mask we hear about in the airplanes. We put it first on ourselves, so we are able to help our kids. Dickinson teaches us to read the Psalms and offer healing to the world.”

—Cláudio Carvalhaes, professor of worship, Union Theological Seminary

T. WILSON DICKINSON is a theologian, pastor, and organizer. He teaches theology and is the director of the Doctor of Ministry and Continuing Education programs at Lexington Theological Seminary. He is author of *The Green Good News: Christ’s Path to Sustainable and Joyful Life* and *Exercises in New Creation from Paul to Kierkegaard*.



Warnings

The Holocaust, Ukraine, and
Endangered American Democracy

LEONARD GROB AND JOHN K. ROTH

978-1-6667-4396-8 | 252 p. | \$28

Old friends—one a Jew, the other a Christian—Leonard (Lenny) Grob and John K. Roth are philosophers who have long studied the Holocaust. That experience makes us anxious about democracy, because we are also Americans living in perilous times.

The 2020s remind us of the 1930s when Nazis destroyed democracy in Germany. Carnage followed. In the 2020s, Donald Trump and his followers endanger democracy in the United States. With Vladimir Putin's ruthless assault against Ukraine compounding the difficulties, democracy must not be taken for granted. Americans love democracy—except when we don't. That division and conflict mean that democracy will be on the ballot in the 2024 American elections. Probing the prospects, *Warnings: The Holocaust, Ukraine, and Endangered American Democracy* features exchanges between us that underscore the most urgent threats to democracy in the United States and show how to resist them. What's most needed is ethical patriotism that urges us Americans to be our best selves. Our best selves defend liberal democracy; they strive for inclusive pluralism. Our best selves resist decisions and policies like those that led to the Holocaust or genocidal war in Ukraine or conspiracies to overturn fair and free elections in the United States. Our best selves reject antisemitism and racism; they oppose hypocrisy and autocracy. Our best selves hold lying leaders accountable. Our best selves believe that, against all odds, democracy can win out if we never give up trying to be our best.

history, to learn from the Holocaust. Read this book. Learn from it. Pass it on."

—Carol Rittner, RSM, professor emerita of Holocaust studies, Stockton University

"*Warnings* is a conversation between two philosophers, Leonard Grob and John K. Roth, with significant work on the Holocaust. Drawing on ancient sages and citing parallels to 1930s Germany, they discuss recent trends that threaten to destroy the foundations of our nation, and they call for courage to restore mutual respect, fundamental equality, and justice for all. *Warnings* is an urgent message to the nation to preserve the noblest and enduring ideals of America."

—Myrna Goldenberg, professor emerita of English and philosophy, Montgomery College

"Half philosophical *cri de cœur*, half political education, this book is a passionate call for the defense of democracy. Informed by a deep understanding of the Holocaust, Leonard Grob and John K. Roth call out the calculated incitements to hatred by Hitler, Putin, and Trump. This book is needed in our troubled times."

—Björn Krondorfer, professor of religious studies, Northern Arizona University

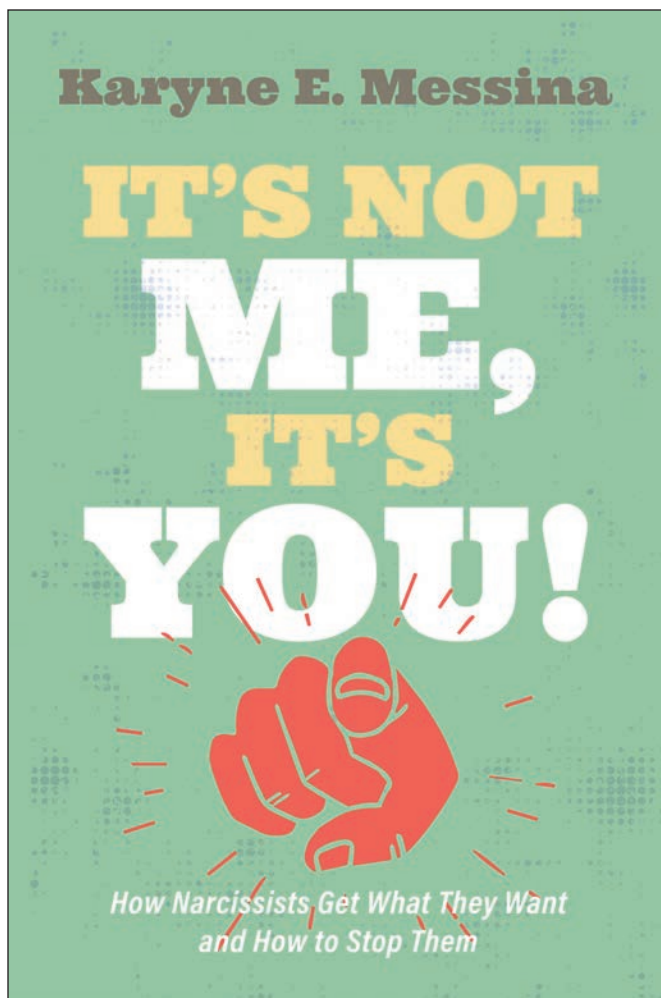
"Philosophers and Holocaust scholars, Leonard Grob and John K. Roth have drawn from all their accumulated wisdom and marshalled all their strength to offer insights gained from a lifetime and warnings learned from the Holocaust to understand the issues of our day—the Russian invasion of the Ukraine, the Trumpian assault on democracy, the polarization of American society, the lure of authoritarianism, and the assault on truth. The result is challenging, engaging, illuminating, even foreboding."

—Michael Berenbaum, professor Jewish studies, American Jewish University

"Powerful, provocative, and challenging, *Warnings* is an important book. It is elegantly written and carefully argued. The authors remind us that democracy is fragile, that *American democracy* is fragile. They urge us to pay attention to

LEONARD GROB is professor emeritus of philosophy at Fairleigh Dickinson University. John K. Roth is Edward J. Sexton Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at Claremont McKenna College. Other books they have published together include *Encountering the Stranger* (2012), which focuses on Jewish-Christian-Muslim relations, and *Losing Trust in the World* (2017), a protest against torture.





It's Not Me, It's You!

How Narcissists Get What They Want and How to Stop Them

KARYNE E. MESSINA

978-1-6667-3855-1 | 188 p. | \$26

Bullies, bad bosses, human traffickers, and mean girls all manipulate their victims without lifting a finger. This sinister form of mind control is known in the psychoanalytical community as projective identification and blame shifting. Many millions of Americans suffer from this kind of abuse, but they don't have to anymore—escape and healing is possible. *It's Not Me, It's You! How Narcissists Get What They Want and How To Stop Them* will guide readers on their path to exiting toxic relationships and provide tangible, actionable solutions.

It's Not Me, It's You! is for victims of psychological abuse and provides tips and tools to both fight the pain and to heal. Throughout the text are stories based on representations of the thousands of patients author Dr. Karyne Messina has helped in her practice as a licensed psychologist. Some examples involve actual people, like musicians and businessmen, and the details of those cases are based on public records that are cited throughout.

Healing from the pain inflicted by narcissists is possible. *It's Not Me* will help you realize that you're not to blame and that you *can* take steps towards a positive and healthy life lived on your own terms.

"There are several texts on how toxic people manipulate others, but this book is so valuable since it also gives the reader instructions on how to deal with such people: Refuse to allow the projector or blame-shifter to accuse you of what he or she has thought, felt, or done. To do this, you must let abusers know that the negative thoughts and accusations sent your way do not belong to you."

—Robert M. Gordon, licensed psychologist

"This long-awaited book is an important publication because it clearly explains an important defense mechanism called projective identification that has previously been known to only a select group of mental health practitioners. . . . In this book, Dr. Messina describes how projective identification may be affecting anyone's life and what one can do about it."

—Harry Gill, medical director, Embark Cabin John and J Snyder Therapeutic Services

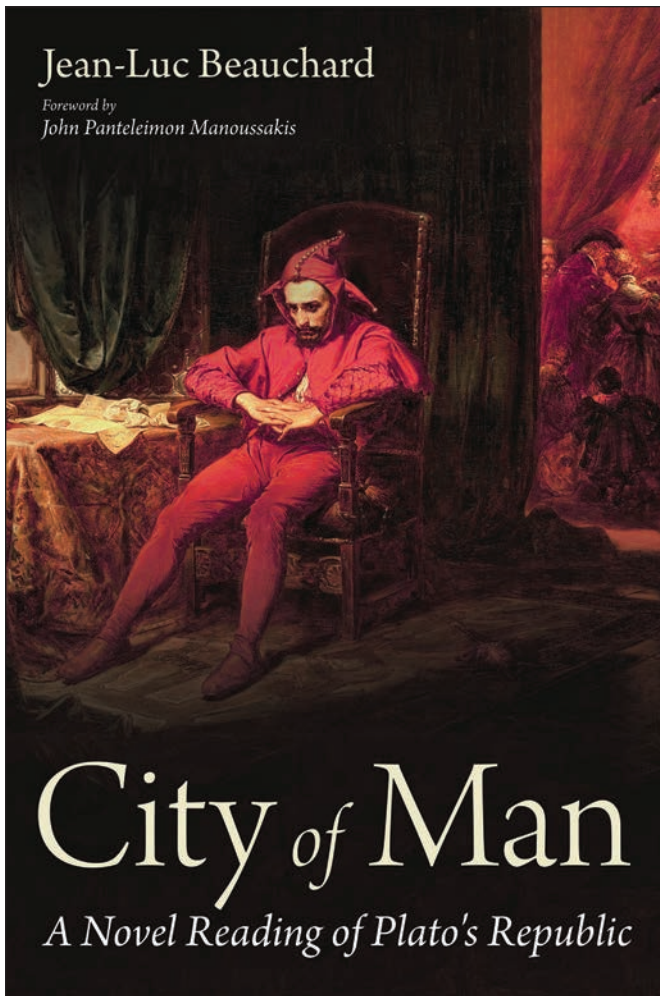
"In this important book, Karyne Messina vividly explores narcissism and the toxic template for relationships of abuse, exploitation, and violence that narcissists employ. She exposes their pervasive influence throughout society, ranging from school and workplace bullying, domestic violence, cyberbullying, racial and homophobic abuse, corporate crime, sex trafficking, and climate denial, to the full-scale assault on democracy by narcissistic leaders worldwide. *It's Not Me, It's You!* is vital reading in our era of disordered minds."

—Ian Hughes, author of *Disordered Minds: How Dangerous Personalities Are Destroying Democracy*

"Karyne Messina's *It's Not Me, It's You!* uses clear, accessible language to talk about an imposing source of human suffering—projective identification and blame shifting characteristic of narcissistic personalities—that manifests itself in various forms, including bullying, racism, mean-girl behavior, homophobia, workplace relationships, domestic violence, and pathological political leadership. This is an articulate, compassionate, thoughtfully organized book that considerably exceeds the expectations of a self-help genre work, largely because of Messina's extensive clinical experience as a psychologist and psychoanalyst."

—Richard Wood, author of *A Study of Malignant Narcissism: Personal and Professional Insights*

DR. KARYNE E. MESSINA, EdD, is a licensed psychologist and psychoanalyst at the Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis and is on the medical staff of Suburban Hospital in Bethesda, Maryland. She maintains a full-time practice in Chevy Chase, Maryland, and is the author of three books on the psychology of manipulation.



City of Man

A Novel Reading of Plato's Republic

JEAN-LUC BEAUCHARD

978-1-6667-5276-2 | 170 p. | \$24

Why does life in society make us so unhappy? Why has civilization always been marked with social unrest? From the time of Plato, our greatest thinkers have understood that in order to confront the ills of the city, one must first look to the individual, to the maladies and discontents of the human soul. In this novel reading of Plato's *Republic*, the insights of Nietzsche and Freud are brought to bear on one of western civilization's most important texts. But what is at stake is far more than our interpretation of the *Republic*. *City of Man* will leave readers better equipped to face the crises that confront us today by reintroducing the import of that oft-quoted but rarely practiced Delphic maxim: *know thyself*.

"On its face, this text presents an undertaking that many would find laughable. Yet, the end result is nothing short of an incisive and wholly new reading of what is arguably the backbone of the Western canon. It is a true rarity to find scholarship like this today, almost to the point that it makes one wonder how a thinker like Jean-Luc Beauchard exists at all."

—Bryan Cocchiara, instructor of philosophy, Brookdale Community College

"If this book accomplishes nothing else than to stand as a reminder of the right and wrong way to approach Plato (and, perhaps, every other text as well), it would still deserve to be called a masterpiece. For it stands, like Socrates in Athens, as a memorial of our ignorance."

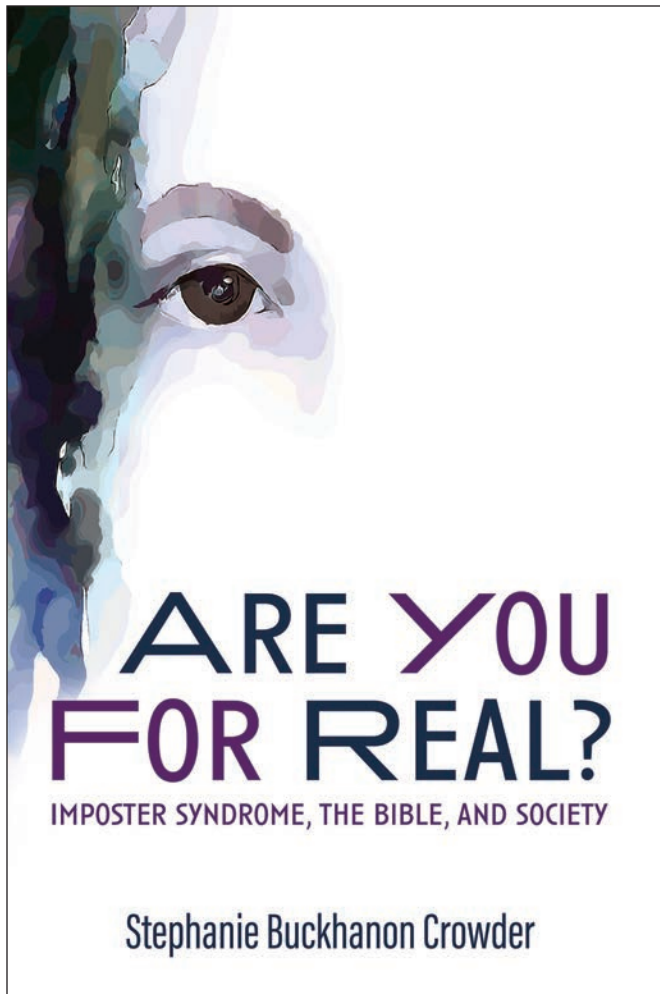
—John Manoussakis, associate professor of philosophy, College of the Holy Cross

"In *City of Man*, Jean-Luc Beauchard leads us through the labyrinth of the dialogues, using his pen as a sword to slay the monsters hidden within and weaving an incredibly subtle thread to guide us back to safety. The gods will no doubt smile on this modern-day son of Theseus and reward him justly for his exceedingly fine achievement."

—Joaquim Maria Nivola, translator of *Les problèmes d'un problème*

JEAN-LUC BEAUCHARD is a philosopher and Catholic priest. He has taught courses in philosophy, theology, and literature at multiple colleges and universities in New England.





Are You For Real?

Imposter Syndrome, the Bible, and Society

STEPHANIE BUCKHANON CROWDER

978-1-6667-1804-1 | 80 p. | \$15

Are You for Real? is a groundbreaking work that places imposter syndrome, the Bible, and society at the same table. In this project Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder addresses the shadow of facade and fake feeling that pervade not only women, but men and non-binary persons in various ways. Matters of racism, sexism, classism, and gender come to the forefront as the author engages imposter syndrome through the lens of biblical texts. While much work on imposter syndrome situates itself in corporate environments, Buckhanon Crowder expands such professional boundaries to include religious contexts and the public square in general. Study questions at the end of each chapter provide space for both individual and institutional reflection on manifestations of imposter syndrome.

“Stephanie Crowder exposes the consequences of imposter syndrome in the lives of Black women and provides a lens of the Bible and society focused on the price Black women pay to be exceptional in all areas of achievement. Crowder stands strong for the plight of Black women when she acknowledges, ‘Ours is still a world that rewards strong assertive men while shushing and shunning women who dare to speak boldly, eloquently, and with much verbal acumen.’”

—Jesse Jackson Jr., former United States congressman

“Stephanie Crowder has bestowed upon us a gift in *Are You for Real?* With keen insight, and integrity, Crowder helps us understand the ‘imposition of imposter syndrome’ societally and scripturally. With the lens of a womanist warrior, Crowder’s exploration of imposter syndrome invites us to engage in internal and external critique at the individual and institutional levels, in order to deconstruct and reconstruct lives lived in the fullness of our own authenticity. Don’t miss this transformative treatment of imposter syndrome.”

—Reginald W. Williams Jr., senior pastor, First Baptist Church of University Park

“Theologian, Bible scholar, and womanist, Stephanie Crowder’s queries have produced this literary resource that explores imposter syndrome from a theological, biblical, and spiritual framework. Though not a psychologist, Crowder masterfully places this behavioral health phenomenon in conversation with various biblical characters and provides space for readers to reflect on how imposter syndrome resonates with their personal journey. This intriguing literary exploration grounded in a womanist perspective will undoubtedly invite reflection and discussion.”

—Gina M. Stewart, senior pastor, Christ Missionary Baptist Church

“Using personal as well as culturally specific narratives, Stephanie Crowder raises awareness of the dangers and challenges women—especially Black women—face when experiencing what is commonly known as imposter syndrome. Her care ‘to *do no harm*’ enabled me to laugh at myself as I became acquainted with the imposters within as presented in the sacred text. The offering of liberating hope calls for our authenticity, as a gift to ourselves and others. A must-read!”

—Sharon Ellis Davis, affiliate professor of pastoral care, McCormick Theological Seminary

STEPHANIE BUCKHANON CROWDER is a versatile speaker, ordained minister, and pop culture aficionado. She holds a PhD in New Testament from Vanderbilt University and is a proud alum of Howard University. She is a #WomanistMomma and the author of numerous essays, blogs, and publications including *When Momma Speaks: The Bible and Motherhood from a Womanist Perspective*. Learn more about her work at: www.drsbuckhanonc.com.



Making Philosophy Laugh

Humor, Irony, and Folly in Philosophical Thought

DUSTIN PEONE

978-1-6667-5599-2 | 166 p. | \$23

Contemporary philosophy has adopted an increasingly tragic point of view. Tragedy, though, is only a partial truth of the human condition. Comedy is another partial truth. The nature of human existence is neither wholly the one nor the other, but tragi-comic. Philosophy must be attuned to both despair and laughter if it is to understand its own world.

In *Making Philosophy Laugh*, the philosopher Dustin Peone makes an apology for the comic side of existence and its use in philosophy. He demonstrates the social and moral uses of humor and analyzes its significance for speculative thinking. Folly and irony are shown to be vital facets of dialectical philosophy. The reader is introduced to the comical side of Socrates and Homer, Descartes and Vico, Kant and Hegel, and many others. Finally, a doctrine of the tragi-comic sense of life is presented that does justice to all aspects of human existence and liberates the spirit from the grimness of serious thought.

“A highly readable retelling of the Western canonical view of humor. This philosophical take brings the comic in a rapprochement with the tragic that culminates in the elevated stance of the absurd.”

—Cynthia Willett, professor of philosophy, Emory University

“The book ‘meanders speculatively,’ as Peone puts it, and does little harm to our understanding of humor on this stroll. It rather reminds us in a pleasant way of what a lot of philosophers have said about the many sides of humor without having to take one.”

—Christian F. Hempelmann, editor-in-chief, *HUMOR: International Journal of Humor Research*

“Dustin Peone takes an engaging look into many underappreciated ways in which philosophy reveals positive uses of humor for developing political awareness and advancing the individual search for meaning and truth. Through insightful and illuminating readings of a myriad of philosophers including Plato, Shaftesbury, and Vico, Peone convincingly argues that humor can invert our expectations of the world to reveal aspects of our reality that people often overlook to their detriment.”

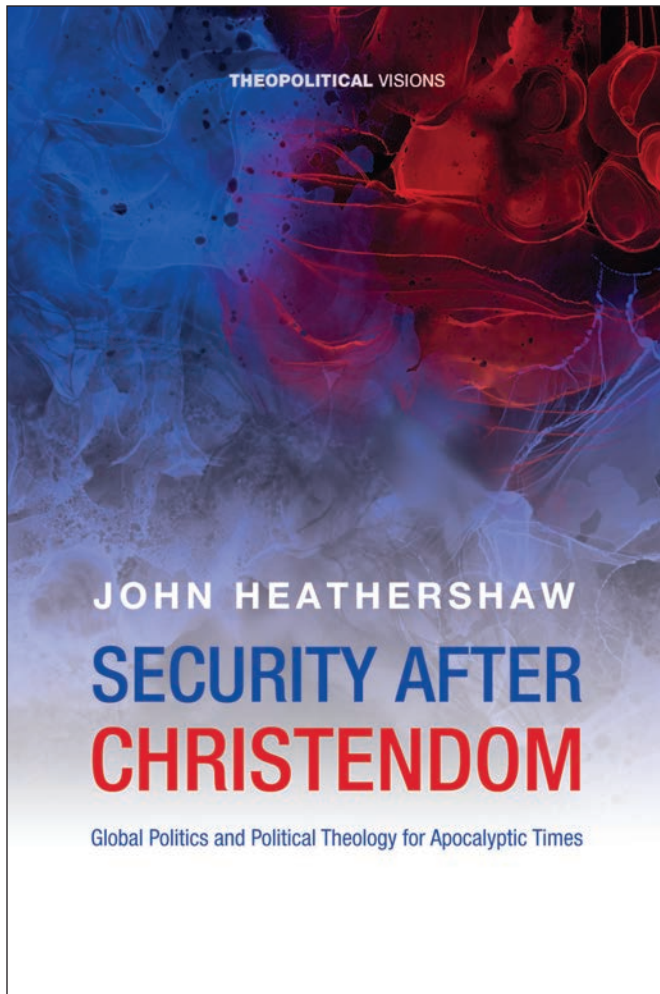
—Alexander Bertland, associate professor of philosophy, Niagara University

“Humor, according to Dustin Peone, is an essentially human activity, and this wonderful book is a monumental exploration of humor, of humanity, and of the humanities. Its breadth and depth make it a must-read in contemporary philosophy of humor.”

—Steve Gimbel, professor of philosophy, Gettysburg College

DUSTIN PEONE is instructor of liberal studies at Mercer University and a fellow of the Institute for Vico Studies in Atlanta. He has taught philosophy and core studies at Emory University and Oglethorpe University. He is also the author of *Memory as Philosophy*, *Plague Literature*, and *Shame, Fame, and the Technological Mentality*.





Security after Christendom

Global Politics and Political Theology
for Apocalyptic Times

AFTER CHRISTENDOM

JOHN HEATHERSHAW

978-1-5326-1533-7 | 358 p. | \$44

We live in the wealthiest and most heavily defended world in history, so why do we feel so insecure? In a secular world, what does Christian theology have to say about this problem? *Security after Christendom* combines practical examples, social scientific research, and an ecumenical approach to political theology to answer these questions. It argues that Christendom was a plural phenomenon of imagined security communities of East and West whose unravelling continues to have implications for global politics today, as dramatically illustrated by Russia's war in Ukraine. While notions of a new Christendom are idolatrous and delusional, secular imaginaries of national security or the liberal international order are both destructive and unstable. True security—radical inclusion, nonviolent protection, and abundant provision—is an eschatological phenomenon, inaugurated by Christ. Security after Christendom is neither found in faithful government nor an exclusive church-as-polis approach but in relations of tension where the fallen powers are continuously confronted by prophetic practices. A post-Christendom community expresses its love for the world by seeking its security, providentially limiting the disorders of the secular age, and offering glimmers of a new earth.

“Security after Christendom offers a much-needed response to contemporary Christianity and its openness to violence, addressing religious support for Putin's war in Ukraine, the insurrection at the US Capitol, and the risk of armed conflicts arising from neo-Christendoms in the Global South. Writing from within the Christian tradition, John Heathershaw demonstrates the potential of Protestant political thought when it combines theological commitment with scholarly engagement of politics and international relations.”

—Marietta van der Tol, postdoctoral research fellow, University of Oxford

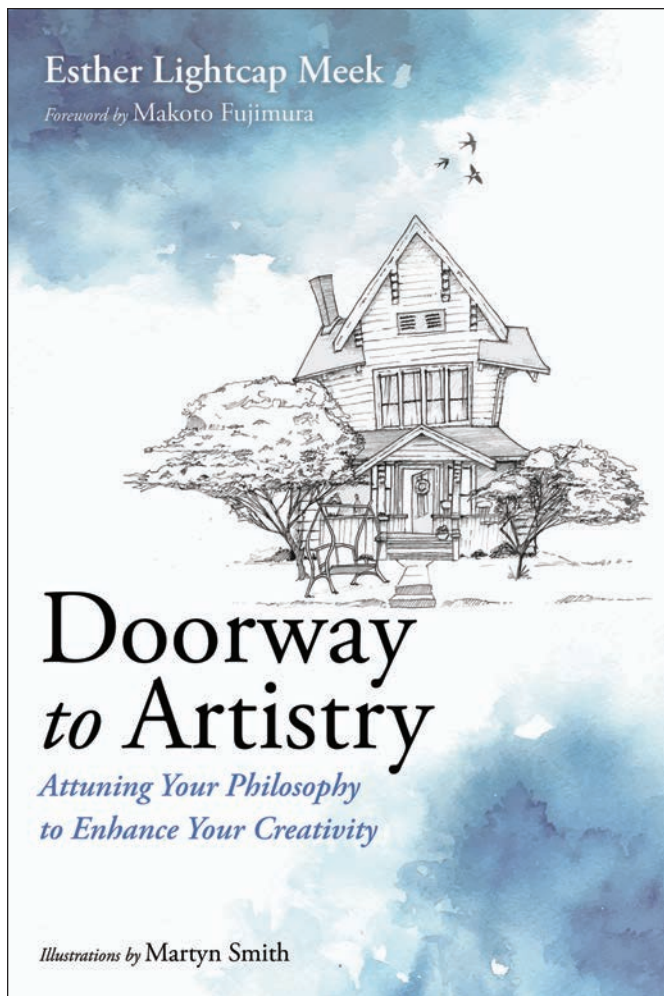
“Too many theological books about politics are written by authors whose primary reference points are other theology books rather than the real world. Bucking this trend, John Heathershaw has produced an astonishing interplay between the theological and social sciences, informed by extended personal engagement in the mucky business of politics over three continents and three decades. *Security after Christendom* is essential reading for anyone wishing to think through the political role of the church in our century.”

—Nick Megoran, professor of political geography, Newcastle University

“John Heathershaw has produced a fascinating and deeply original book on security after Christendom, one which provides theological responses not just to questions of war and peace, but also to broader challenges, from human rights violations to looming environmental threats.”

—Jason Sharman, professor of international relations, University of Cambridge

JOHN HEATHERSHAW is professor of international relations at the University of Exeter and a doctoral student at Bristol Baptist College. He is co-author of *Dictators without Borders* (2017).



Doorway to Artistry

Attuning Your Philosophy to Enhance Your Creativity

HOW KNOWING WORKS IN . . .

ESTHER LIGHTCAP MEEK

978-1-6667-6968-5 | 248 p. | \$32

Your artistry involves you intimately with the world around and beyond you. So your artistry involves profound but simple philosophical matters. As a human person, you are artful and philosophical, at the core of your being. *Doorway to Artistry* offers a playful, everyday philosophical approach necessary for life, integration, healing, and thriving in artistry. It reflects on the real and how we are involved with it, especially in our creative effort. In short, the real hospitably welcomes us, and in our artistry we reciprocate in noble courtesies. Human persons were made for this communion with the real. Find in this book a hospitable welcome to belong at home beyond where you are.

"I can't remember ever using the word 'rollicking' to describe a work of philosophy. In *Doorway to Artistry*, Esther Meek has (once again!) rolled up the heavy rug of academic language and invited us all over to dance in her living room."

—Dawn Cerny, visual artist in residence, Seattle University

"At the fertile intersection of what earlier scholars called the contemplative and the active modes of life, Esther Meek has laid an extravagant feast. With *Doorway to Artistry*, she models a new, munificent style of scholarship for the whole human person, offering from her apparently boundless generosity an invitation to be led in a familiar yet unexpected direction: homeward."

—Pete Candler, author of *The Road to Unforgetting*

"For decades, Esther Meek has been practicing philosophical therapy to free us from the modern picture that holds us captive, a picture that estranges us from the abundance of reality. Meek proposes we make contact with reality through artful discovery that strains toward festal communion. We know Meek's delightful new book hits reality because it leaves us with, in a favorite phrase from Michael Polanyi, an 'unspecifiable sense of an inexhaustive range of indeterminate future manifestations.'"

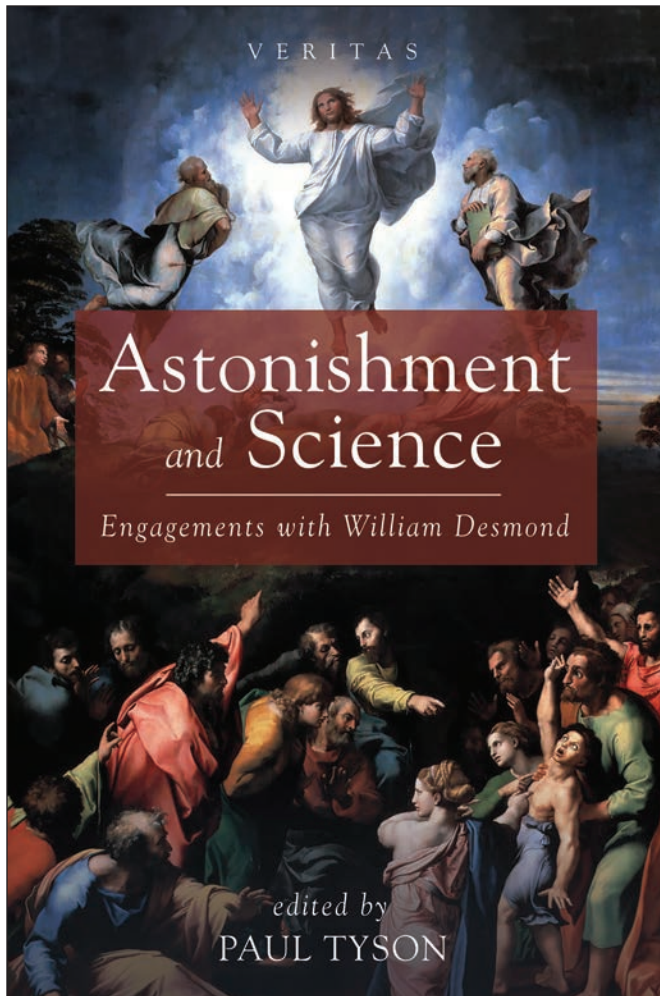
—Peter Leithart, president, Theopolis Institute

"Esther Meek's new book warmly enacts the very welcome into reality it proposes to teach and treats the reader like an honored guest. Deeply philosophical without ever losing contact with the most ordinary, concrete things of daily life, these festive meditations will not only inspire artists, but will inspire everyone else to become artists. This will be a book one feels lucky to have discovered—and then immediately sends as a gift to friends."

—D. C. Schindler, professor of metaphysics and anthropology, The John Paul II Institute

ESTHER LIGHTCAP MEEK is professor of philosophy emeritus at Geneva College. She is senior scholar at The Seattle School for Theology and Psychology, and a Fujimura Institute scholar. She has written extensively on the philosophy of knowledge and her work focuses on the value of philosophy for everyday life.





Astonishment and Science

Engagements with William Desmond

KALOS

EDITED BY **PAUL TYSON**

978-1-6667-3340-2 | 260 p. | \$33

Science can reveal or conceal the breathtaking wonders of creation. On one hand, knowledge of the natural world can open us up to greater love for the Creator, give us the means of more neighborly care, and fill us with ever-deepening astonishment. On the other hand, knowledge feeding an insatiable hunger for epistemic mastery can become a means of idolatry, hubris, and damage. Crucial to world-respecting science is the role of wonder: curiosity, perplexity, and astonishment. In this volume, philosopher William Desmond explores the relation of the different modes of wonder to modern science. Responding to his thought are twelve thinkers across the domains of science, theology, philosophy, law, poetry, medicine, sociology, and art restoration.

“This in-itself-wonderful collection of essays by globally eminent theologians and philosophers asks that we return science to contemplative wonder for the sake of a more rigorous veracity.”

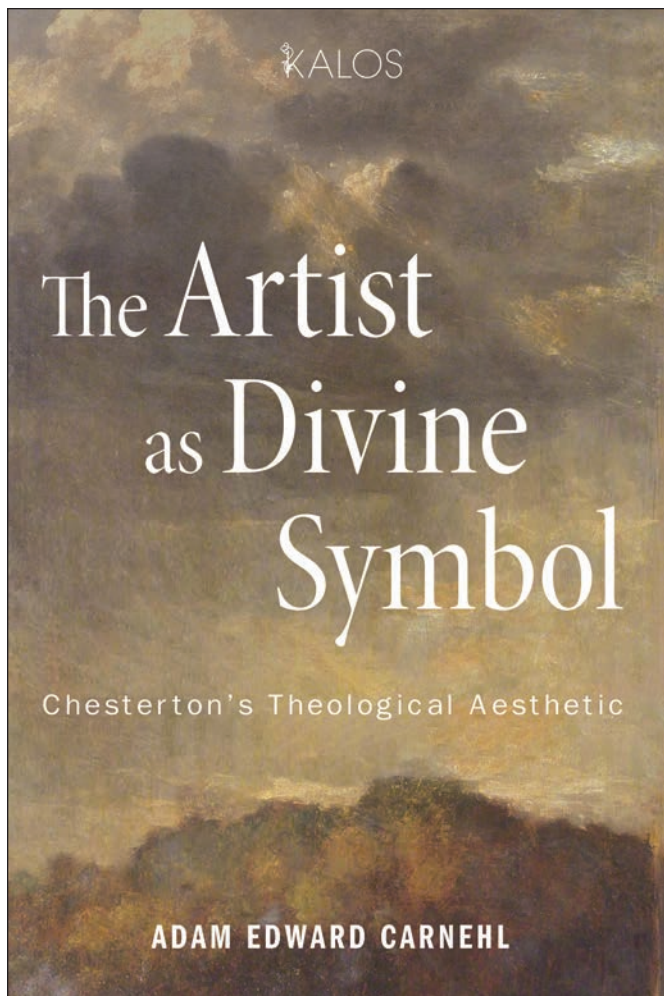
—John Milbank, University of Nottingham

“Astonishment is the wellspring of thinking. It makes us realize that the being of the world exceeds everything that model-driven theory constructs can capture. A civilization that does not preserve the logic of astonishment within its research methods and instruments slaughters the chicken that lays the golden eggs of ‘scientific progress.’ This highly political book shows that we need to recover what distinguishes a mindful physician, jurist, scientist, philosopher, or theologian from a project-driven academic cobbler.”

—Johannes Hoff, Universität Innsbruck

WILLIAM DESMOND is David Cook Chair in Philosophy at Villanova University, and professor of philosophy emeritus at the Institute of Philosophy, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven.

PAUL TYSON writes about Christian Platonism, theological metaphysics, epistemology, the theology of science, theological sociology, the sociology of knowledge, and the theology and politics of money.



The Artist as Divine Symbol

Chesterton's Theological Aesthetic

KALOS

ADAM EDWARD CARNEHL

978-1-6667-6307-2 | 150 p. | \$22

In critical yet appreciative dialogue with four different art critics who demonstrated theological sensitivities, Adam Edward Carnehl traces an ongoing religious conversation that ran through nineteenth-century aesthetics. In Carnehl's estimation, this critical conversation between the John Ruskin, Walter Pater, and Oscar Wilde, culminated in the brilliant approach of G. K. Chesterton, who began his journalistic career with a series of insightful works of art criticism. By conducting a close reading of these largely neglected works, Carnehl demonstrates that Chesterton developed a theological aesthetic that focuses us on the revelation of God's image in every human being. In Chesterton's eyes, only those made in God's image can produce images themselves, and only those who receive a revelation of truth are able to reveal truths for others. Art is therefore a rich and symbolic unveiling of the truth of humanity which finds its origin and purpose in God the Divine Artist.

"In this densely written and learned study of nineteenth-century and fin de siècle aesthetics, Adam Carnehl recovers Chesterton as an important figure in theological mysticism after Ruskin, Pater, and Wilde. Rooted in German Idealism and Romantic thought in Blake and Coleridge, this book deftly re-evaluates Victorian aesthetics culminating in Chesterton, in the recovery of the imago dei, and in God as divine artist."

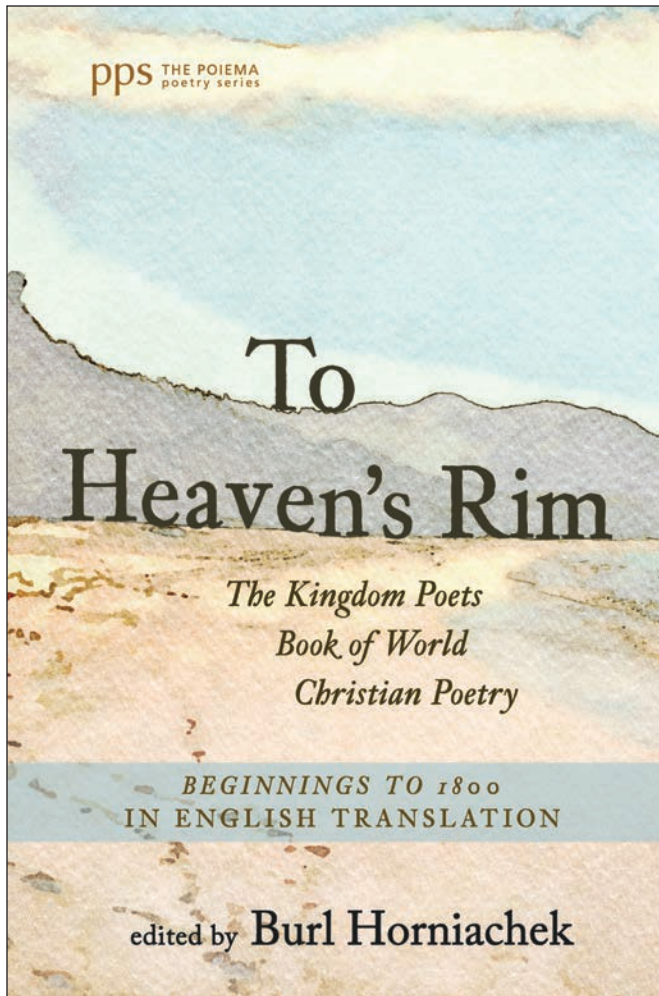
—David Jasper, professor emeritus of literature and theology, University of Glasgow

"By contextualizing Chesterton's intellectual beginnings in late Victorian aesthetics, Adam Carnehl reveals the deep roots of his subject's theological vision and that vision's ultimate coherence. At a time when theology is again turning to the arts, Carnehl is able to show that Chesterton remains a resource for serious theological reflection, over and above the sometimes-polemical apologetics of his later years. Admirably clear, *The Artist as Divine Symbol* fills an important gap in the literature."

—George Pattison, honorary professorial research fellow, University of Glasgow

ADAM EDWARD CARNEHL serves as a Lutheran pastor and spiritual director in northern New Jersey, where he lives with his wife and two children.





To Heaven's Rim

The Kingdom Poets Book of World
Christian Poetry, Beginnings to
1800, in English Translation

POIEMA POETRY SERIES

EDITED BY **BURL HORNIACHEK**

978-1-6667-1682-5 | 310 p. | \$31

From its very first days, the church has been lifting up its songs and poems from the earth to the heavens, whether in praise, thanksgiving, or lament. Join poets from across Syria, Europe, Armenia, Ethiopia, China, and the Philippines in raising their voices. Learn about these great Christian singers from around the world, many of whom are hardly known at all among English readers, yet who are often considered the greatest poets in their own languages. Explore the many styles and genres which Christians have used to express their faith in song, whether hymn, psalm, dream vision, epic, drama, lyric, or didactic poem. Journey through the lives of biblical characters, through abstract theological and philosophical arguments, through moments of intense personal grief and joy, through the lives of saints and terrible sinners, sometimes even through heaven and hell themselves.

“To risk hyperbole, there has never been a book like *To Heaven's Rim* before. Horniachek's anthology shows us how continuous are the Christian theological and spiritual traditions with the poetic one, and that the most profound beauty will be found in ancient texts of which few contemporary Christians will have heard before.”

—James Matthew Wilson, author of *The Fortunes of Poetry in an Age of Unmaking*

“In this delicious anthology, as at some extratemporal wedding feast, a millennium and a half of the world's greatest Christian poets mingle with immortal English-language poets—Henry Vaughn, Longfellow, and Hopkins—and with contemporary masters such as Willis Barnstone, Christopher Childers, Rhina Esplaiilat, Edith Grossman, Seamus Heaney, A. E. Stallings, George Szirtes, and Richard Wilbur. *Laetare!* If you hunger for the beauty of poetry and the wisdom of theology, taste and see.”

—Ryan Wilson, editor-in chief, *Literary Matters*

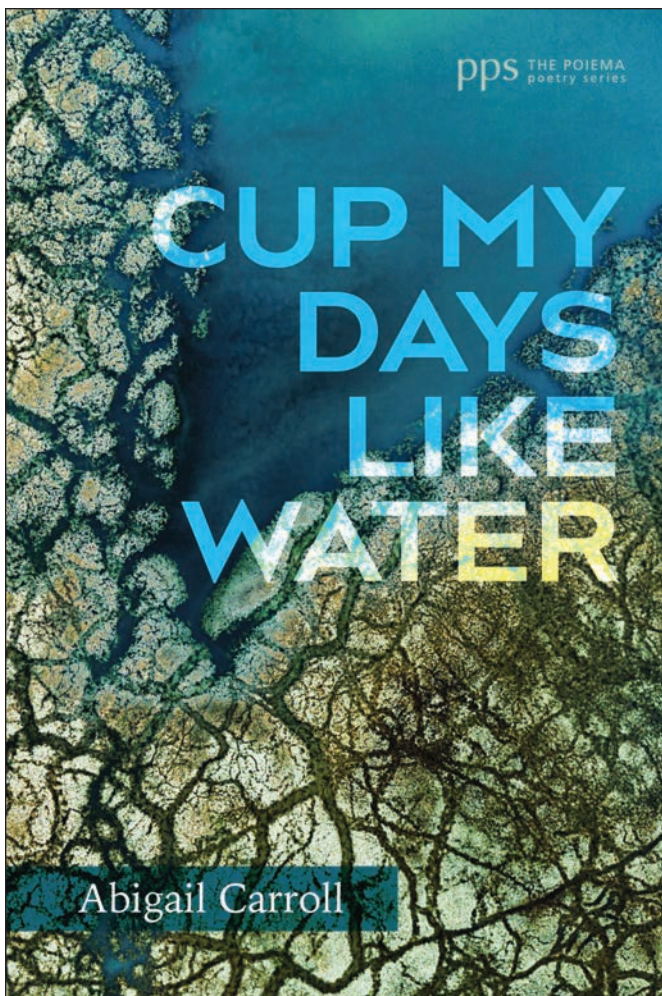
“In his learned anthology of Christian poetry, Burl Horniachek takes us from the early fourth century to the end of the eighteenth, from Syria and Ethiopia to China and Mexico, embracing an exhilarating variety of poetic modes while insisting upon the highest standards of the translator's art. What we witness throughout the book is not the spread of a doctrine, but the emergence of individual voices and visions, and, in some cases, of entire national literary traditions, enkindled by devotion.”

—Boris Dralyuk, co-editor of *The Penguin Book of Russian Poetry*

“Go ye therefore and teach all nations,' Christ exhorts his disciples. This impressive anthology affirms what we should already know: that like the word of God itself, the Christian poetic tradition speaks to, and from, all the world, in all its tongues. Collecting poems from the early church forward, drawing on the best poets and translators working today, Burl Horniachek has given readers in English that tradition's diverse beauty and vibrancy.”

—Sally Thomas, editor of *Christian Poetry in America Since 1940*

BURL HORNIACHEK is a Canadian poet and translator. He lives in Selkirk, Manitoba, with his wife and two children.



Cup My Days Like Water

POIEMA POETRY SERIES

ABIGAIL CARROLL

978-1-6667-6289-1 | 102 p. | \$13

It has been said that a psalm is a singing back to the Divine. *Cup My Days Like Water* is an offering of seventy-five poems—or psalms—rooted in the ancient biblical psalms. Borrowing from the raw honesty, radiant confidence, and unashamed lament of the biblical psalms, this sequence of devotional poems traces one person’s grappling with the themes of nature, illness, justice, beauty, suffering, the character of God, and the pilgrim life. Together, these poems probe the elegant and harsh realities of this world and explore what it means to forge a path of faith in light of those realities. *Cup My Days Like Water* tenders a new ancient way to pray that can help us navigate our disenchanting world with a tested hope.

“This rich poetic collection is overwhelming in its rich imagery, its simplicity of wording, and its unflinching witness to the reality and goodness of God. Abigail Carroll is fixed on the concreteness of life as she sees it, even as she makes winsome linkages to the specificities of Scripture. If you love poetry, get this book! If you do not yet love poetry, get this book and you will promptly learn to love poetry—along with the honest knowing faith of this poet.”

—Walter Brueggemann, professor emeritus of Old Testament, Columbia Theological Seminary

“This glowing volume beams with the ancient spirit of the Psalms—rebuking us with its truth and restoring us with its beauty. In that holy work, Abigail Carroll shines. Her eye is keen, her language is alive, and her sensitivity to the rich goodness of creation inspires us to see deeply and live with intention. A remarkable contribution to Christian poetry.”

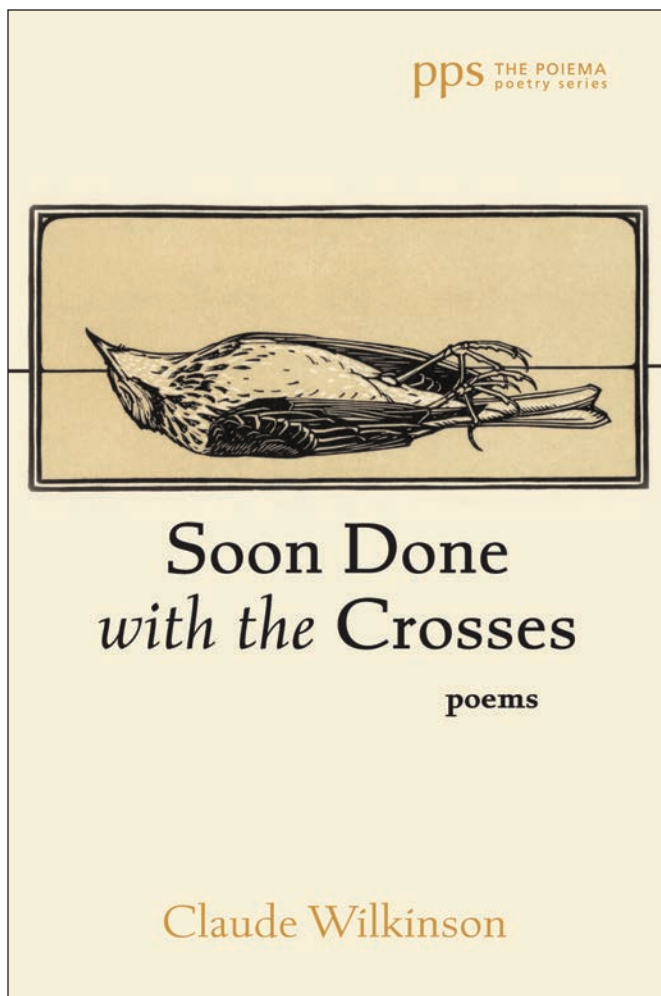
—Paul J. Pastor, contributing poetry editor, *Ekstasis*

“‘When I swallow the Word / it sings—,’ declares the speaker of ‘The Word Tastes like Sun-Crammed Plums.’ Like a patient (and expert) gardener coaxing new blooms from old vines, Abigail Carroll gives us poems flowering with fresh vigor and sublimity from the ancient Psalms. She generously invites us, by each poem’s fierce attention, to be always alert to the holy mystery of our lives: ‘the sweep, the joy, the brine.’”

—Leslie Williams, author of *Even the Dark*

ABIGAIL CARROLL is author of two previous poetry collections, *Habitation of Wonder* and *A Gathering of Larks: Letters to Saint Francis from a Modern-Day Pilgrim*. Her book *Three Squares: The Invention of the American Meal* was a finalist for the Zócolo Public Square Book Prize. Carroll lives and writes in Vermont.





Soon Done with the Crosses

Poems

POIEMA POETRY SERIES

CLAUDE WILKINSON

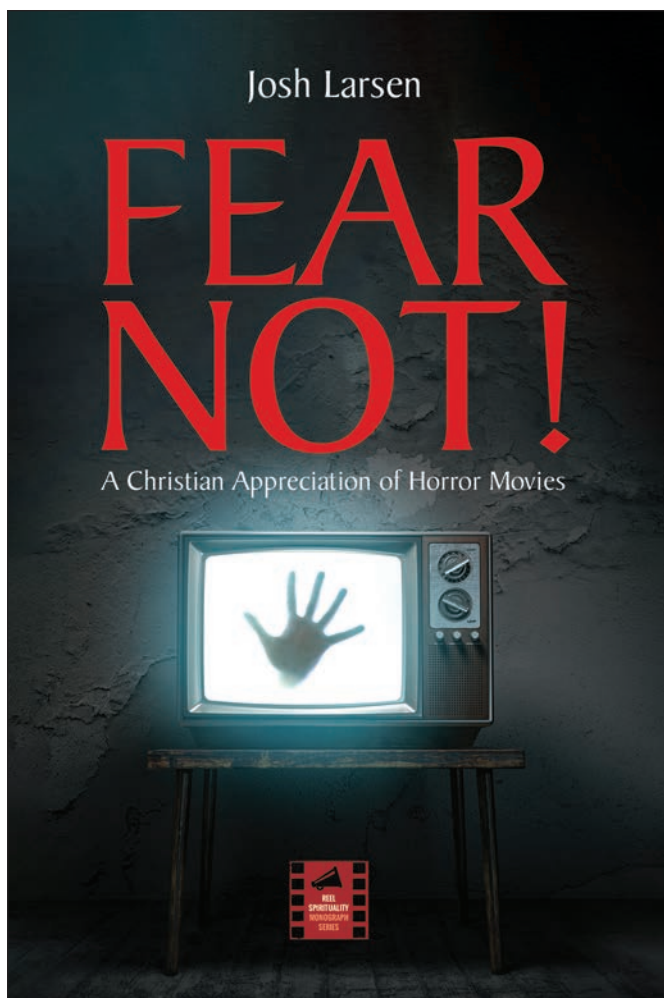
978-1-6667-6557-1 | 100 p. | \$10

Two excerpts from spirituals, offered as epigraphs, foreshadow themes in *Soon Done with the Crosses*. The first song, “One of These Days,” suggests inevitable burdens that all of us must bear at some point, while the second song, “Do Lord,” supposes a glorious reward for those who faithfully endure. The poems in this book form a catalog of varied trials—both historical and contemporary—drawn from art, imaginings, the natural world, and aspects of the human condition, coupled with questions about eternity. Though while the collection begins with pleas for some bright assurance, it concludes in yet another vigil through dark, lonely hours, longing for morning’s clarifying light.

“Combining great wisdom with generous learning, serious linguistic play, and uncommon formal accomplishment, Claude Wilkinson’s new collection awakens in me the possibility of poetry as necessary, well-considered speech and indispensable conversation that promises both communion and community. May it be blessed.”

—Scott Cairns, author of *Slow Pilgrims*

CLAUDE WILKINSON is a critic, essayist, painter, and poet. His previous poetry collections include *Reading the Earth*, winner of the Naomi Long Madgett Poetry Award, *Joy in the Morning*, *Marvelous Light*, and *World without End*. He has been a provost scholar and also John and Renée Grisham Visiting Southern Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi. Other honors for his poetry include a Walter E. Dakin Fellowship and the Whiting Writers’ Award.



Fear Not!

A Christian Appreciation of Horror Movies

REEL SPIRITUALITY MONOGRAPH SERIES

JOSH LARSEN

978-1-6667-3852-0 | 120 p. | \$19

Why would anyone want to watch horror movies? Why would Christians, in particular, bother with the genre? In *Fear Not!*, critic Josh Larsen makes the case that monster movies, creature features, slashers, and other fright films artfully reflect our deep worries in a way that resonates with the Christian experience. Combining critical observation and theological reflection, Larsen devotes each chapter to a different horror subgenre, connecting that subgenre to a commonly shared fear. In addition to considering how the Bible acknowledges and speaks to that fear, each chapter demonstrates how the related themes, narratives, and aesthetics of a handful of films can be viewed through a corresponding theological lens. Reading *Fear Not!*, movie fans will come to appreciate the artistry of the likes of *Get Out*, *The Shining*, *The Blair Witch Project*, *The Babadook*, *Night of the Living Dead*, and *The Sixth Sense*, while also seeing the ways these movies resonate with our fears and, in some cases, hint at God's redemptive comfort.

"As a horror director, I admire and appreciate Josh Larsen's new book and recommend it for anyone who loves wrestling with their fears in the darkness of a theater."

—Scott Derrickson, writer/director of *The Exorcism of Emily Rose*, *Sinister*, *Doctor Strange*, and *The Black Phone*

"The strength of Josh Larsen's commentary has always been its clarity of thought and purpose, and *Fear Not!* offers his most lucid criticism to date. Larsen finds the transcendent in a genre long mined by filmmakers to manifest our scariest earthly anxieties."

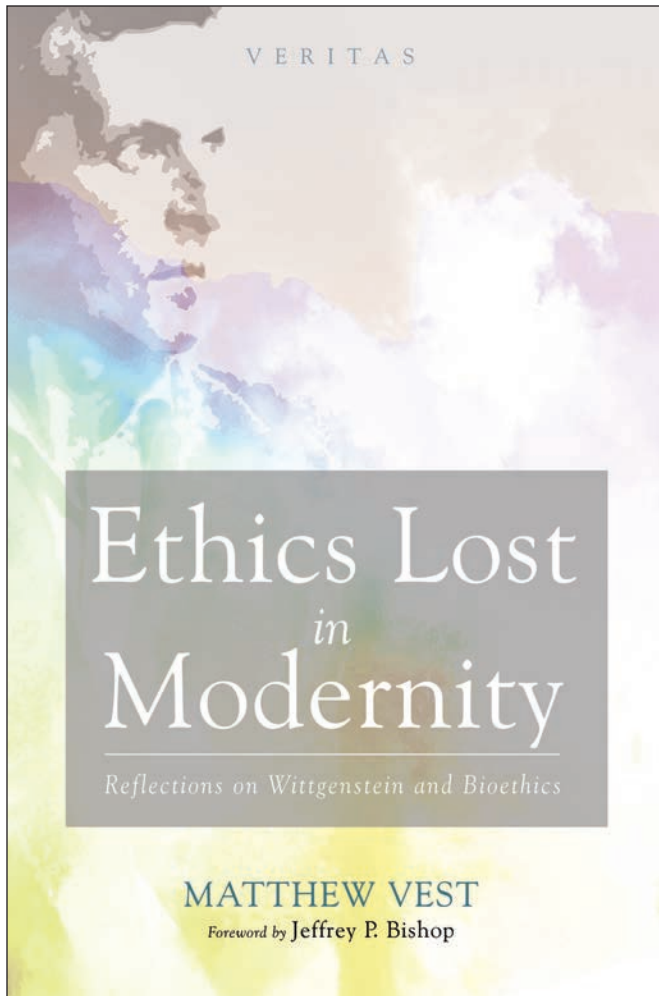
—Adam Kempenaar, co-host and executive producer of *Filmspotting*

"In *Fear Not!*, film critic and *Filmspotting* co-host Josh Larsen walks with zombies, exorcises demons, sprints from Blair witches to *The Babadook* to Jordan Peele—and reframes every kind of screen horror as a spiritual inquiry few of us have ever contemplated. It is an excellent addition to anyone's bookshelf."

—Michael Phillips, *Chicago Tribune* film critic

JOSH LARSEN is the senior producer of *Think Christian*, a website, podcast, and video channel where Christians connect their pop-culture fandom with their faith. He's also the co-host of the *Filmspotting* podcast and the author of *Movies Are Prayers* (2017). You can find an archive of 29 years of his writing, as well as reviews of current movies, at his website, LarsenOnFilm.com.





Ethics Lost in Modernity

Reflections on Wittgenstein and Bioethics

VERITAS

MATTHEW VEST

978-1-6667-4718-8 | 274 p. | \$35

Ethics Lost in Modernity: Reflections on Wittgenstein and Bioethics turns to the philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein as a guide to understand the immense success—yet great danger—of bioethics. Matthew Vest traces the story of bioethics since its inception in the late 1960s as a way to uncover a number of hidden assumptions within modern ethics that relies upon scientific theorizing as the fundamental way of thinking. Autonomy and utilitarianism, in particular, are two nearly unquestioned goals of scientific theorizing that are easily accessible, but at what cost? Vest argues that such an ethics enacts a thin moral calculation that runs the risk of enslaving ethics to scientism. Far from the depth of religious *ethos* and practices of virtue, modern ethics is lost amidst thin ethical theories, enacting a language game that instrumentalizes ethics in service of technological, bureaucratic, and professional end goals. He proposes that true moral living is far from anti-science, but rather is envisioned best when ethics and science are balanced with keen insights from ancient sacred cosmology.

“Drawing on Wittgenstein, Matthew Vest provides an account of the development of bioethics that is at once critical and constructive. You have the sense that this is a book someone needed to write, and Vest has now done it. Hopefully more bioethics will follow his example.”

—Stanley Hauerwas, Duke Divinity School, emeritus

“Matthew Vest successfully shows that unless we recover more metaphysical and spiritual perspectives upon cosmology, we will soon lose our ethical bearing altogether, in the face of our ever-greater ability to alter the natural world.”

—John Milbank, University of Nottingham

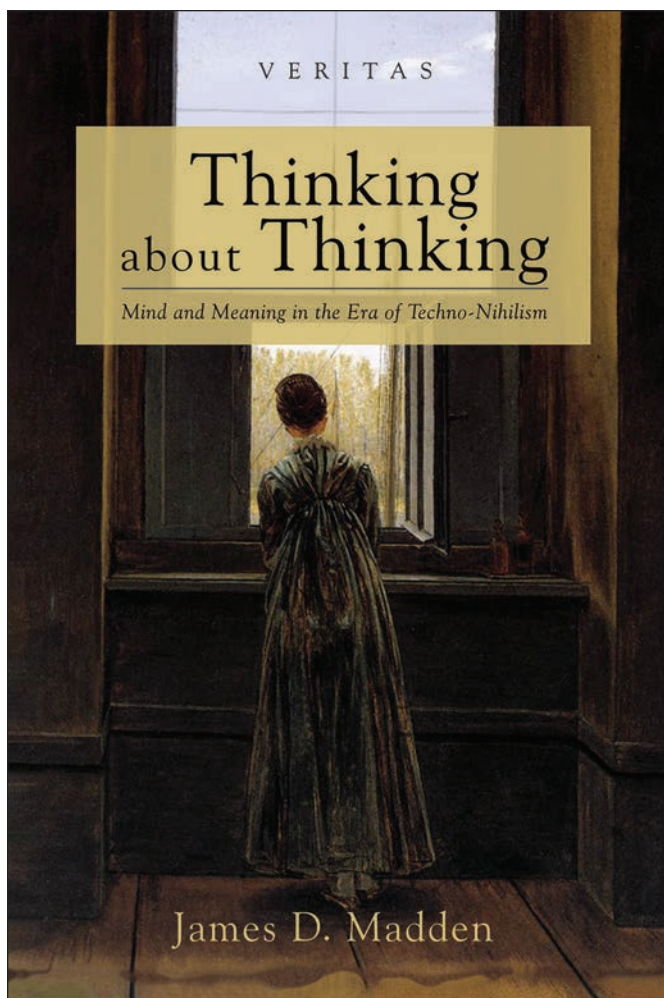
“The emperor has no clothes observes Matthew Vest: contemporary bioethics has evidently lost the ability to say anything new, or even anything very interesting. The crucial question is *why* the discourse of medical ethics has become so vacuous. Vest’s Wittgenstenian critique of mainstream medical ethicists and their methodological assumptions issues in a rousing and timely call to a more metaphysically and existentially rich discussion of the limits and dilemmas of modern health care.”

—Brian Brock, University of Aberdeen

“Provocative and comprehensive, *Ethics Lost in Modernity* illuminates the way to change bioethics from being boring and abstract to a challenging field addressing concrete moral persons of matter and spirit. Liberated from principlism and scientific ethics, Vest brings together Wittgenstein and Orthodox Christianity, thus linking philosophy and theology in an exceptional way, describing an ethics which becomes a meeting place of heavens and the earth. A significant book, opening new horizons and deserving careful consideration.”

—Ioannis Bekos, Theological School of the Church of Cyprus

MATTHEW S. VEST is Senior Lecturer of bioethics at the Ohio State University and Assistant Professor of Christian ethics at St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Seminary.



Thinking about Thinking

Mind and Meaning in the Era of Techno-Nihilism

VERITAS

JAMES D. MADDEN

978-1-6667-5418-6 | 220 p. | \$29

Thinking About Thinking: Mind and Meaning in the Era of Techno-Nihilism addresses our existential crisis by reminding us of the conditions for meaning that have been obscured by the modern technological mentality. Madden weaves together disparate insights from Wittgenstein, Hegel, Aristotle, Heidegger, Merleau-Ponty, Nietzsche, Sophocles, and others in an attempt to account for our mind-fulness in terms of its inextricable connection to a world capable of inspiring our care. The mind is not a discrete entity locked behind the skull or withdrawn into a ghostly realm, but a participation in an inheritance (biological and cultural) held in common with other participants, and taking responsibility for that world is crucial for the meaning. The ever-increasing technological mediation of our lives undermines this worldliness. We are subsequently “losing our minds,” and as our mindedness fades, so goes our sense of dignity and value. Madden makes this case deploying insights from phenomenology, analytic philosophy, Aristotelianism, neuroscience, and cognitive science, and along the way confronts the mind-body problem, freedom, artificial intelligence, transhumanism, and nihilism. More importantly, he invites the reader into an accessible dialogue concerning issues of grave importance to the meaning of our lives.

“Whereas after the Enlightenment it became possible to question and wonder whether human life has any ultimate meaning, if any at all, today the very notion of humanity is under attack. Drawing from Aristotle to Merleau-Ponty, and Aquinas, Wittgenstein, Heidegger, and Solzhenitsyn in between, James Madden shows how resuscitating human thinking preserves our humanity. For anyone in the wilderness, who has been looking for a fellow traveler, *Thinking about Thinking* is that companion.”

—Steven DeLay, editor of *Finding Meaning: Philosophy in Crisis*

“*Thinking about Thinking* is an astonishingly cogent analysis of some of the most prescient thinkers of technology, from Wittgenstein to a rare treatment of Keiji Nishitani. *Thinking about Thinking* is a written form of the Socratic dialectic, and Madden challenges his reader to engage in meta-thinking as a shared critical practice and as the necessary antidote to the sad suffering that is specific to our time.”

—Diana Pasulka, author of *American Cosmic: UFOs, Religion, and Technology*

JAMES D. MADDEN is professor of philosophy at Benedictine College. He is the author of *Mind, Matter, and Nature: A Thomistic Proposal for the Philosophy of Mind* (2013) along with articles on the philosophy of mind and the philosophy of religion. He lives in Atchison, Kansas, with his wife and their children. You may find out more about his work at jdmadden.com.



WHAT WERE THE EARLY RABBIS?

An Introduction from a Sociocultural Perspective



JACK N. LIGHTSTONE

What Were the Early Rabbis?

An Introduction from a Sociocultural Perspective

WEST THEOLOGICAL MONOGRAPH SERIES

JACK N. LIGHTSTONE

978-1-6667-6247-1 | 340 p. | \$39

Over the first eight centuries CE, the religious cultures of Middle Eastern, Mediterranean and many European lands transformed. Worship of “the gods” largely gave way to the worship of YHWH, the God of Israel, under Christianity and Islam, both developments of contemporary Judaism, after Rome destroyed Judaism’s central shrine, the Jerusalem Temple, in 70 CE. But concomitant changes occurred within contemporary Judaism. The events of 70 wiped away well-established Judaic institutions in the Land of Israel, and over time the authority of a cadre of new “masters” of Judaic law, life, and practice, the “rabbis,” took hold.

What was the core, professional-like profile of members of this emerging cadre in the late second and early third centuries, when this group first attained a level of stable institutionalization (even if not yet well-established authority)? What views did they promote about the authoritative basis of their profile? What in their surrounding and antecedent sociocultural contexts lent prima facie legitimacy and currency to that profile? Geared to a nonspecialist readership, *What Were the Early Rabbis?* addresses these questions and consequently sheds light on eventual shifts in power that came to underpin Judaic communal life, while Christianity and Islam “Judaized” non-Jews under their expansive hegemonies.

institution in Jewish religious and civil life. Jack N. Lightstone skillfully places the early rabbis in their Judean, Middle-Eastern, and Greco-Roman social and cultural settings. Based on sound scholarship, the book adopts an engaging style of an experienced teacher and storyteller.”

—Simcha Fishbane, professor of Jewish studies, Touro University Graduate School of Jewish Studies

“*What Were the Early Rabbis?* both translates the best of current academic scholarship on the early phases of Rabbinic Judaism and offers non-experts and scholars alike a fresh and insightful approach to tracking these developments. By drawing upon social-scientific approaches, Jack N. Lightstone moves away from a typical focus on individuals and ideas alone to social institutional factors that led to and sustained the formation of a group that over time changed the lives of Jews and others in the West.”

—Joel Gereboff, associate professor of Religious Studies, Arizona State University

“Jack N. Lightstone is in top form as he guides the non-specialist reader to his vision of the origins of rabbinic Judaism. The author utilizes all his considerable academic and pedagogical talent to create a lucid and cogent introduction to the rabbis of late antiquity and the movement they spawned. In doing so, he contributes to a better, more nuanced understanding of a crucial era in the history of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam alike.”

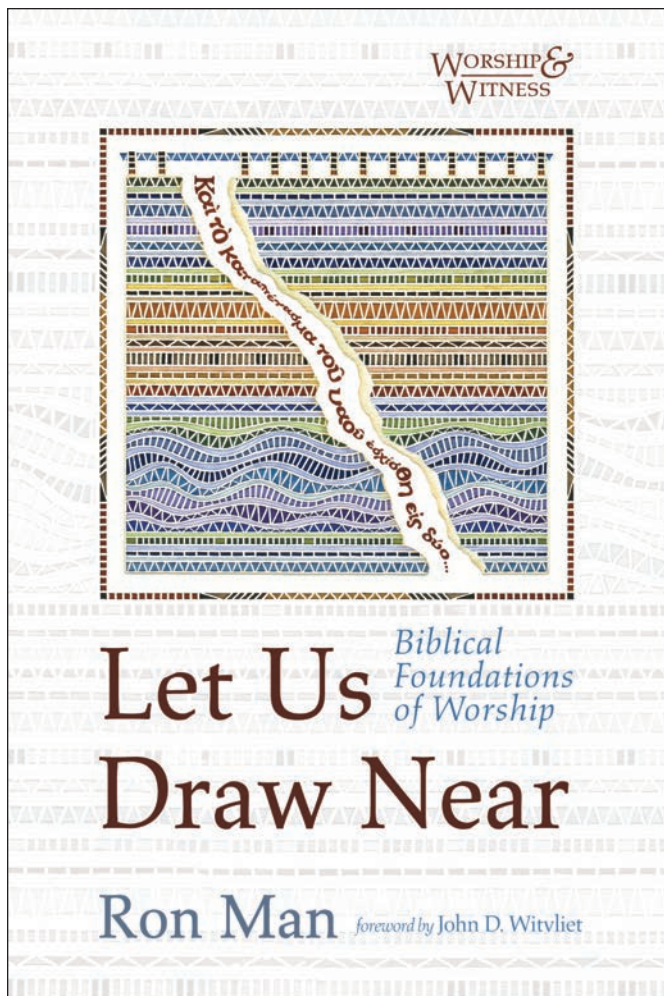
—Ira Robinson, professor emeritus of Judaic studies, Concordia University

“*What Were the Early Rabbis?* addresses intriguing questions and provides stimulating and challenging analyses. The special focus is on the broad emergence of Rabbinic Judaism using social science perspectives but without the burdens of its jargon and always connected to historical and literary contexts. With analytic clarity, Jack N. Lightstone identifies rabbinic culture, its legitimacy, and provides the reader essential ways to understand and study the core rabbinic text, the Mishnah.”

—Calvin Goldscheider, professor emeritus of Judaic studies, Brown University

“This book is a very readable introduction to the core profile and expertise of the cadre of the rabbis just before and after the turn of the third century CE, a seminal era in the evolution of the group that later became the most influential

JACK N. LIGHTSTONE is professor emeritus of history at Brock University (St. Catharines, Niagara Region), where he also served as president and vice chancellor, and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Religion at Concordia University (Montreal). He has had a forty-six-year-long career that combined teaching and research in the history and the social-scientific study of religion in society with senior university administration. His most recent publication with Cascade Books is *In the Seat of Moses* (2020).



Let Us Draw Near

Biblical Foundations of Worship

WORSHIP AND WITNESS

RON MAN

978-1-6667-6277-8 | 604 p. | \$58

Drawing upon his experience in teaching this material over the past twenty-five years in forty countries, Ron Man provides a rich and deep examination of biblical worship, drawing principles out of a rigorous study of the text of Scripture. He also writes as a practitioner, from the perspective of one who served as a church worship pastor for twenty-two years. Features distinguishing this book from other similar studies include: 1) a tracing of the foundational *Revelation and Response* pattern through the Scriptures; 2) a more thorough treatment of New Testament texts than is often found; 3) a comprehensive treatment of the crucial role of Jesus Christ as the true Leader of our worship; 4) a consideration of worship as it relates to world missions; and 5) a concluding summary of twelve “Biblical Principles of Worship,” synthesizing the results of the study.

“*Let Us Draw Near* is a book we’ve needed for decades. As we seek to train students from around the world in transcultural principles of worship, we’ve always relied on Ron Man’s insightful, biblical instruction and his global experience as a missionary and ethnodoxologist. Now his many great articles have been integrated into a cohesive, rich resource on the theology and practice of worship. It should be required reading for pastors, seminary educators, missionaries, ethnodoxologists, and worship leaders of all kinds.”

—Robin Harris, president, Global Ethnodoxology Network

“Worship focused on God’s story of redemption in Christ, God’s covenantal table of grace, and God’s mission of love to the world is the source and summit of the very life and hope of all humankind. Ron Man presents a superb magnum opus that delineates multiple aspects and principles of this great climactic act of reconciling friendship with God. This book is a must-have for any serious theologian’s library.”

—James R. Hart, president, Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies

“If you are looking for a biblically grounded, thoroughly comprehensive, meticulously researched, historically connected, vibrantly relevant, and engagingly written work on Christian worship, look no further than Ron Man’s *Let Us Draw Near*. While he expertly teaches *about* worship, Man masterfully guides the reader through biblical, theological, historical, cultural, and global tributaries that engage the reader to respond *as* worshipers of Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father in the power of the Holy Spirit.”

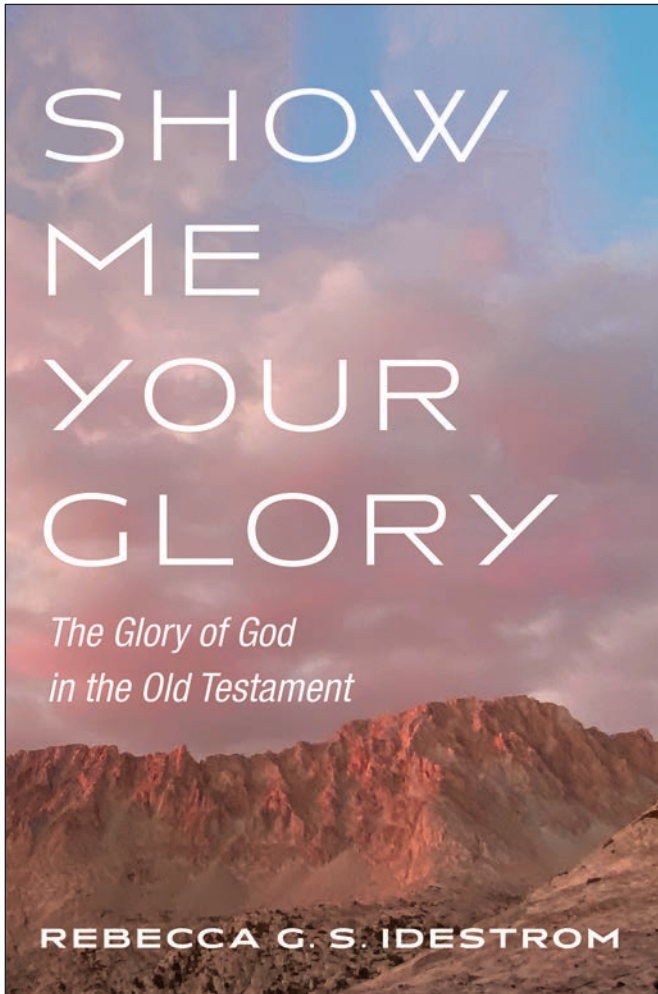
—Joseph R. Crider, dean of the school of church music and worship, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

“The best resource on the crucial subject of godly worship is the Bible. And now, the best guide to those scriptural resources is Ron Man’s newly published book, *Let Us Draw Near*. Thorough enough for theologians, pastors, and worship leaders, yet readable enough for people in the pew, may this faithful investigation of biblical truth richly inform—and thereby *transform*—the worship of many a Christian for years to come.”

—A. Duane Litfin, president emeritus, Wheaton College

RON MAN is director of Worship Resources International (worship-resources.org) and missionary in residence at First Evangelical Church in Memphis, Tennessee. He is the author of *Proclamation and Praise: Hebrews 2:12 and the Christology of Worship* (2007) as well as numerous articles. He serves on the steering committee of the Biblical Worship Section of the Evangelical Theological Society (etsworship.wordpress.com) and the board of the Global Consultation on Arts and Music in Missions (www.gcamm.org).





Show Me Your Glory

The Glory of God in the Old Testament

REBECCA G. S. IDESTROM

978-1-4982-1795-8 | 344 p. | \$44

What does Scripture mean when it speaks of the glory of God? The answer to this question is not as straightforward as we might think! In *Show Me Your Glory*, Rebecca Idestrom invites the reader on a journey to discover what the Old Testament teaches us about God’s glory. While exploring this biblical theme, she examines various scriptural passages about the glory of the LORD within their larger narrative context in each biblical book. She also considers the different key words used for glory as well as the many diverse images and themes connected to God’s glory. This thematic investigation demonstrates that the Old Testament Scriptures present a deeply profound and multifaceted portrait of the glory of God. Although it is impossible to fully capture what the Bible says about God’s majestic glory, *Show Me Your Glory* yields many wonderful insights into its depiction, meaning, and significance, resulting in a deep and rich biblical theology of divine glory.

“Rebecca Idestrom’s monograph on the divine glory in the Old Testament is doxological theology of the best sort. Careful exegesis of all the relevant Old Testament texts, impressive command of the background literature, a pleasantly accessible writing style, and a tray of gemstone insights are some of the most conspicuous features of this splendid study of a great biblical theme.”

—Robert Patterson Gordon, emeritus regius professor of Hebrew, University of Cambridge

“Rebecca Idestrom has delivered a superb work on the topic of God’s glory! Page by page and through careful analysis she guides us on a journey, introducing us to the rich variations of the glory’s appearances to the writers of the Old Testament and demonstrating their significance in the grand narrative of Israel’s history.”

—Myrto Theocharous, professor of Old Testament, Greek Bible College

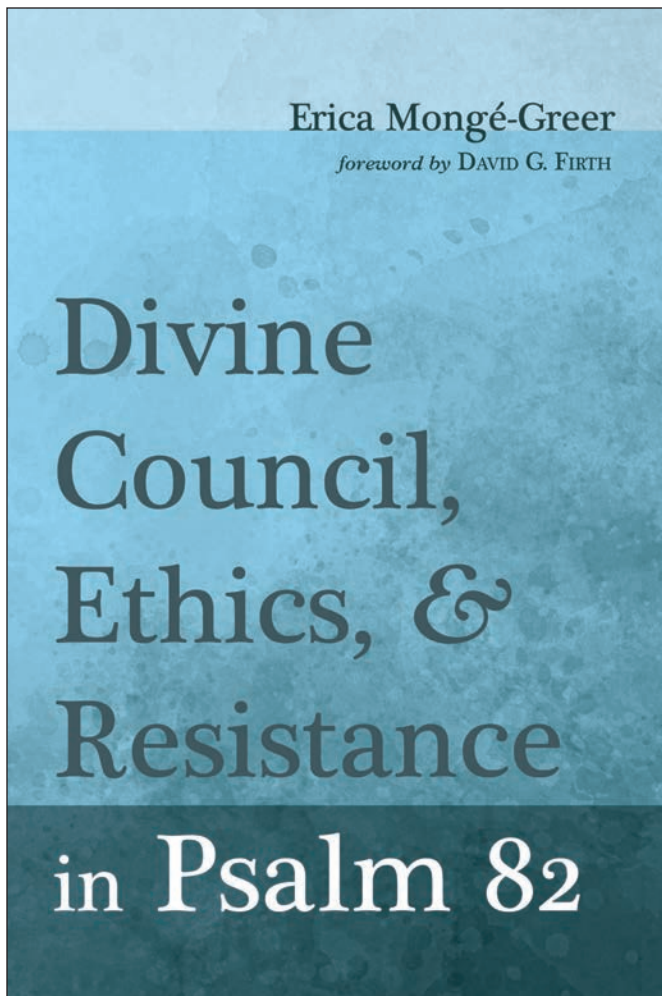
“*Show Me Your Glory* guides readers to uncover the riches of God’s glory in the Old Testament. Glory as both an attribute of God (glory of God) and that which prompts worship of God (glory to God) is traced throughout the Old Testament witness with responsible readings of specific texts and their relevance to the larger revelation of the Old Testament. The end result is an expanded view of God’s glory and an invitation to encounter this glory in deeper ways.”

—Mark J. Boda, professor of Old Testament, McMaster Divinity College

“Idestrom traces God’s glory across a large textual landscape, presenting a multifaceted biblical theology. The topic is grand in scope and import, and Idestrom’s work is academically rigorous while remaining open to lay readers. Idestrom also displays a rich devotional attentiveness, revealing her deep encounter with the topic. Now, in a gift to the church and the academic community, she shares the fruits of that encounter with us.”

—Lissa M. Wray Beal, professor of Old Testament, Wycliffe College at the University of Toronto

REBECCA G. S. IDESTROM is professor of Old Testament at Tyndale University, Toronto. She is the author of two commentaries, “Habakkuk” and “Zephaniah” in *The Book of the Twelve*, edited by John Christopher Thomas (2020), and *From Biblical Theology to Biblical Criticism: Old Testament Scholarship at Uppsala University, 1866–1922* (2000).



Divine Council, Ethics, and Resistance in Psalm 82

ERICA MONGÉ-GREER

978-1-6667-5311-0 | 222 p. | \$31

Psalm 82 is a mythopoeic psalm that is often overlooked as simplistic, confusing, or just out of place. Across more than a century of scholarship, academics have argued for various interpretations of the first verse, proving only that it is easy to get caught up in the mythical mysteries of the ancient concept of divine council. Approaching Psalm 82 as ethical liturgy, however, reveals a deeply sophisticated, prophetic summons to actively embrace justice for the poor, marginalized, and disenfranchised in one's community. This book explores the origins of Psalm 82, its use as liturgy in early Israelite cultic practice, and its reception as resistance literature in the Second Temple period.

"You may have been puzzled by Psalm 82. It's an extraordinary psalm! But Erica Mongé-Greer has also written an extraordinary study of it, in which she looks at the psalm from all sorts of interesting and thought-provoking angles. Her study might even push you into doing something about the powerless rather than being the kind of person that the psalm confronts."

—John Goldingay, professor of Old Testament, Fuller Theological Seminary

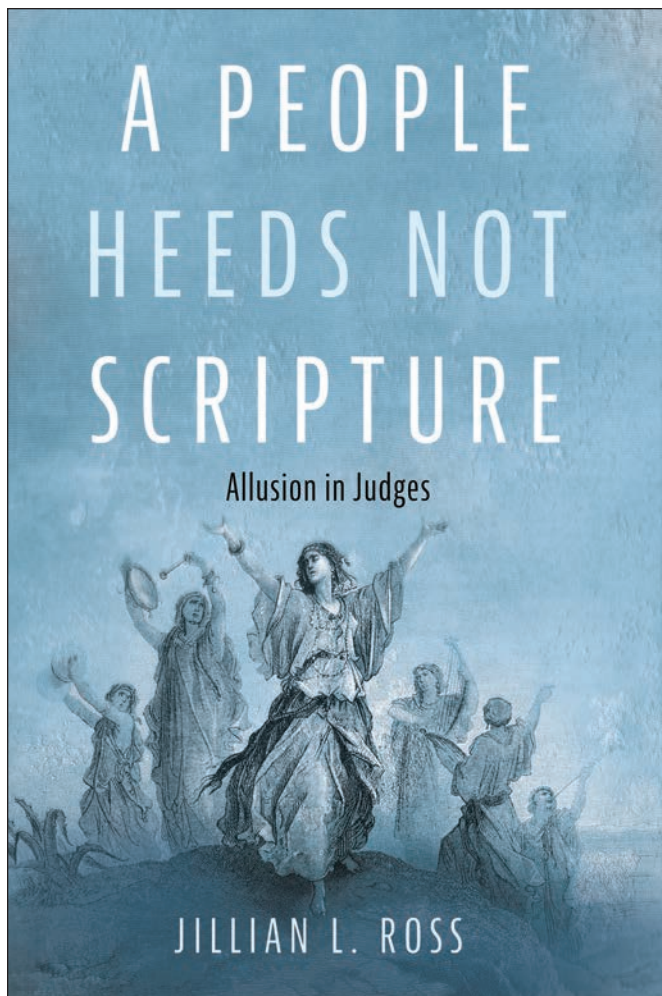
"In Erica Mongé-Greer's splendid new book, she carefully yet creatively reveals how Psalm 82's ambiguities and complexities have a polysemous ethical function. The psalm plays richly and fruitfully in the imagination of the individual and community as it is liturgically employed. In the end, with the *elohim* of verse 1, all those who use the psalm are called to account for injustice. This is a must-read for scholars of the psalms and all who seek justice in the name of the God who governs the divine assembly."

—Helen Paynter, director, Centre for the Study of Bible and Violence, Bristol Baptist College

"A monograph that brings together profound scholarship and a deep desire to demonstrate that Scripture speaks into current conversations outside the academy about the ethical use of power. Erica Mongé-Greer convincingly reinstates Psalm 82 as an important text whose profound concern for justice exemplifies the wider Psalter's blending of deep piety and heartfelt praise with a yearning for YHWH to redress the injustices inflicted upon the powerless by the powerful."

—Peter Hatton, coordinator of theological education, Bristol Baptist College

ERICA MONGÉ-GREER holds a PhD in divinity and specializes in biblical ethics and ancient Near Eastern religious texts. Mongé-Greer is a Hebrew Bible/Old Testament adjunct professor whose research explores the relationship between mythology and culture. Follow her at ScholarlyWanderlust.com.



A People Heeds Not Scripture

Allusion in Judges

JILLIAN L. ROSS

978-1-6667-9594-3 | 340 p. | \$45

“Everyone did what was right in their own eyes.” This well-known indictment rumbles across the epilogue of Judges, denouncing God’s people as wayward. Yet understanding the source of Israel’s degenerative and downward spiral comes from an oft-overlooked declaration: Yahweh is testing Israel’s fidelity to the commandments he gave “by the hand of Moses.” By employing covert allusions rather than explicit quotations Judges contrasts the obvious sins of Israel with veiled reminders of the law that they have abandoned.

In this volume, Jillian Ross employs current insights from literary theory, establishing a robust methodology for identifying allusions in the text. Once applied, the allusions to the Law, especially as presented in Deuteronomy, display three clear peaks: the prologue, Gideon narrative, and epilogue. The results suggest that Judges teaches a Deuteronomistic concept that the Israelites failed to obey the Torah, particularly its call for covenant fidelity in worship and warfare, as given to them “by the hand of Moses.”

“With methodological clarity and close attention to the text, Jillian Ross demonstrates how the book of Judges engages with the Pentateuch. What emerges is a theologically sensitive and informative reading of Judges that demonstrates the perils of failing to heed Scripture. This is a persuasive work that merits close attention.”

—David G. Firth, Trinity College Bristol

“Something is amiss in the book of Judges. Jillian Ross investigates what’s going on and helps readers learn to carry out such an investigation. Ross reveals the recurring subtle web of allusions to the Torah in Judges and draws out the deep irony that a people who heeds not Scripture is a people who are in conflict against the Torah-shaped narrative in which they are set. This book provides a discerning evaluation of allusions in Judges that will greatly benefit readers.”

—Gary Edward Schnittjer, Cairn University

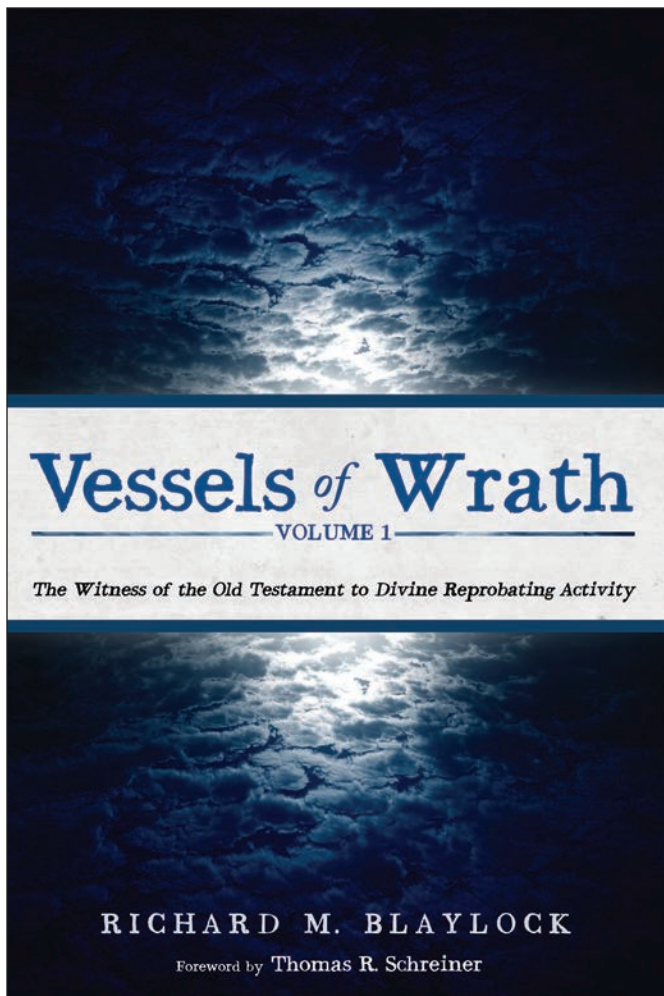
“Allusion is an important literary device, crucial to any study of biblical intertextuality. Yet, it has not always been clearly understood and has often been based primarily on the scholar’s intuition. Moreover, literary allusion in the book of Judges as a whole has never been fully explored. Fortunately, Jillian Ross’s significant monograph addresses these issues.”

—K. Lawson Younger Jr., Trinity International University

“Ross’s volume offers readers of Judges a more nuanced look at just how the biblical book traces the Israelites’ disobedience to their divine Sovereign. Her diligent analysis of the text reveals the intricacies of the Judges narrative and the crucial role Pentateuchal allusions play at key points in its unfolding message.”

—Michelle Knight, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

JILLIAN L. ROSS is associate professor of biblical studies at Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA.



Vessels of Wrath, Volume 1

The Witness of the Old Testament
to Divine Reprobating Activity

RICHARD M. BLAYLOCK

978-1-6667-5237-3 | 240 p. | \$33

Hardening hearts. Blinding eyes. Sending deceitful spirits. Crafting vessels of wrath. Few will deny that certain biblical passages make claims about God that are difficult to accept. But perhaps the most troubling are the verses that describe God as influencing individuals or groups towards wicked behavior for the purpose of condemning them. What are readers to do with these texts? In *Vessels of Wrath*, Richard M. Blaylock tackles the thorny subject of divine reprobating activity (DRA). Through an exhaustive, biblical-theological study of the Old and New Testaments, Blaylock argues that the Bible does not present DRA as an insignificant or monolithic concept; instead, the biblical authors showcase both the significance and the complexity of DRA in a variety of ways. The book aims to help readers of the Bible to wrestle with the Scriptures so that they might come to better understand its testimony to this mysterious and awesome divine activity.

“Richard Blaylock’s two-volume *Vessels of Wrath* is one of the most comprehensive studies from Scripture of divine reprobation ever done for the Christian church. I commend this excellent and insightful work to you for the manifold ways in which you will likely grow in your hope and faith in God as you see more clearly the God who upholds goodness and righteousness with full integrity of character.”

—Bruce A. Ware, professor of Christian theology, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

“Richard Blaylock analyzes God’s reprobating activity in the Bible with great care and thoroughness. The way he exegetes and correlates Scripture is not overstated but convincing.”

—Andy Naselli, associate professor of systematic theology and New Testament, Bethlehem College and Seminary

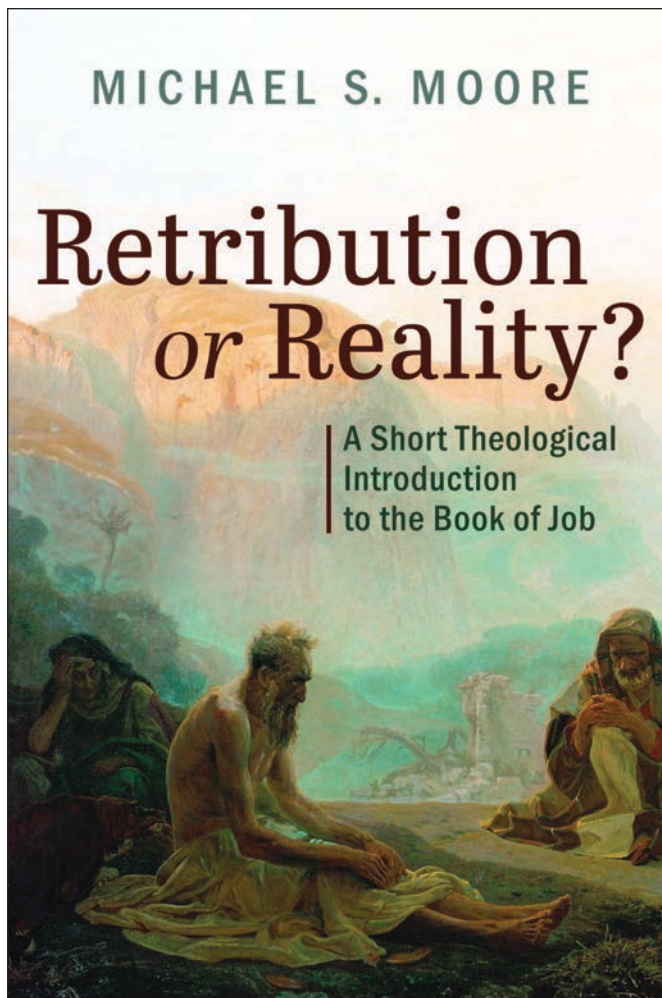
“God’s reprobating activity in the Scriptures is the theme under consideration in these two volumes by Richard Blaylock. *Vessels of Wrath* is a treatment of the relevant biblical material that is both comprehensive in its scope and exceptionally clear in its presentation. Blaylock employs skillful exegetical and biblical-theological analysis to draw out the diverse facets of this multifaceted theme woven integrally through the Old and New Testaments.”

—Josh Mathews, associate professor of biblical studies, Western Seminary

“The magnitude and depth of Richard Blaylock’s exegetical-theological research, thinking, and argumentation is evident and persuasive. He leaves no biblical text untouched that speaks to God’s reprobating activity in both the Old and New Testaments. He carefully demonstrates wherein the biblical texts uphold God’s reprobating activity retributively and non-retributively. Blaylock states well his thesis and does likewise for the objectives of each chapter in both volumes.”

—Ardel B. Caneday, retired professor of New Testament and Greek, University of Northwestern

RICHARD M. BLAYLOCK is assistant professor of biblical studies at Western Seminary in Portland, Oregon.



Retribution or Reality?

A Short Theological Introduction
to the Book of Job

MICHAEL S. MOORE

978-1-6667-0733-5 | Forthcoming

The book of Job is one of the greatest, if not *the* greatest, literary accomplishments of the ancient world, yet in many ways it is just as relevant today as it was then. This book examines Job from a comparative theological perspective in order to help contemporary readers access it, learn from it, and apply its insights to contemporary life.

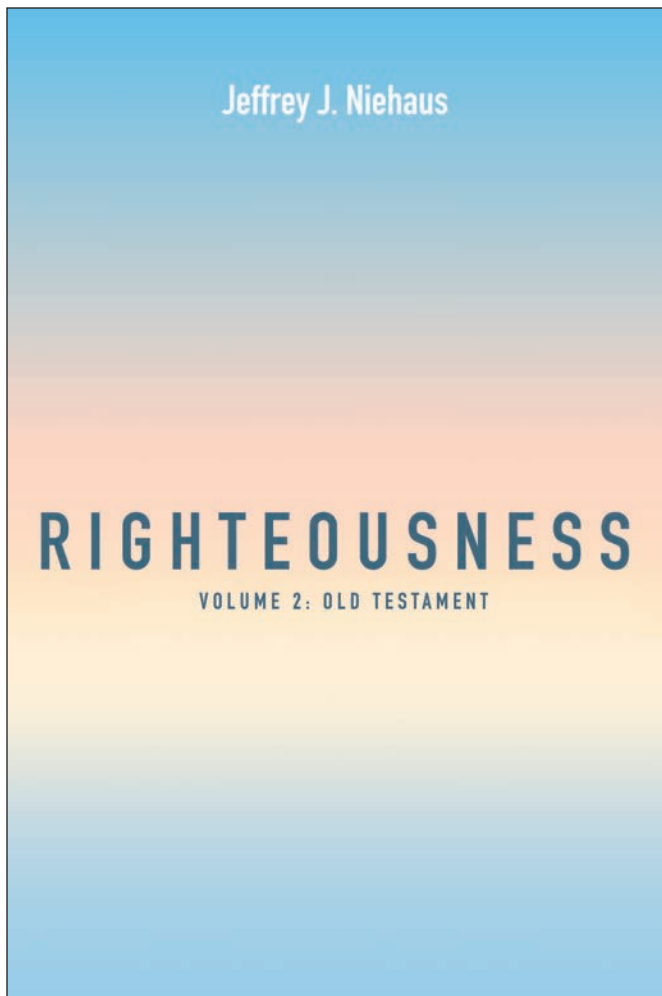
“A scholarly tour de force! Michael Moore brings together insights from a wide range of ancient literary sources, assesses the contributions of various critical methodologies (textual and social science), and explores accounts of suffering from both his personal and pastoral experience. Experts on Job will be grateful for the bibliographical density of his discussion; lay readers are offered many diverse avenues of assessing the theological challenges of reading Job in a world of suffering.”

—James T. Butler, senior associate professor of Old Testament, Fuller Theological Seminary

“Michael Moore states that disinterested piety as motivation for righteous living is the theme of the book of Job. He maintains that most studies of this biblical book focus on some aspect of what he calls ‘incomplete divine justice.’ Hence his focus is primarily on Job, rather than on God. His analysis includes interaction with countless other commentators as he argues his point. Thus, this book includes an interesting survey of Joban interpretation.”

—Dianne Bergant, CSA, professor emerita of Old Testament studies, Catholic Theological Union

MICHAEL S. MOORE is director of the Arizona Research Center for the Ancient Near East (ARCANE) and a faculty associate at Fuller Theological Seminary and Arizona State University. He is the author of *Wealth Watch: A Study of Socioeconomic Conflict in the Bible* (Pickwick) and *What Is This Babbling Trying to Say? Essays on Biblical Interpretation* (Pickwick).



Righteousness

Volume 2. Old Testament

JEFFREY J. NIEHAUS

978-1-6667-3802-5 | 364 p. | \$46

The second volume of this three-volume work exegetes and comments on every occurrence of the Hebrew terms for righteousness in the Old Testament. It begins with a discussion of apperception and deductive method and concludes with an afterword on righteousness and ontology. The ontological argument affirms that God's aseity is the foundation of righteousness in the Bible, and thus of all true righteousness. Righteousness is being true to God, and God is always true to himself, including in his self-existence. Other terms in the righteous word group, such as "righteous" and "justify," are considered, along with the important word pair, "righteousness and justice," in semantic domain studies in the first three chapters. Semantic domain studies show that terms like "upright," "blameless," and "good" are qualifiers of righteousness. Whatever the flavor or nuance of the terms for righteousness may be in different OT contexts, however, study shows that the underlying sense of righteousness is conformity to God's Being and doing, and the same is true of the righteousness of God.

"In vol. 2 of *Righteousness*, Jeffrey Niehaus offers an exhaustive treatment of 'righteousness' and related words in the Old Testament. His central thesis—that 'righteousness' in Scripture mean conformity to God's Being and doing—allows him to look at each passage with proper nuance. The book will be of immense help to all those investigating this central theological theme."

—Sean McDonough, professor of New Testament, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

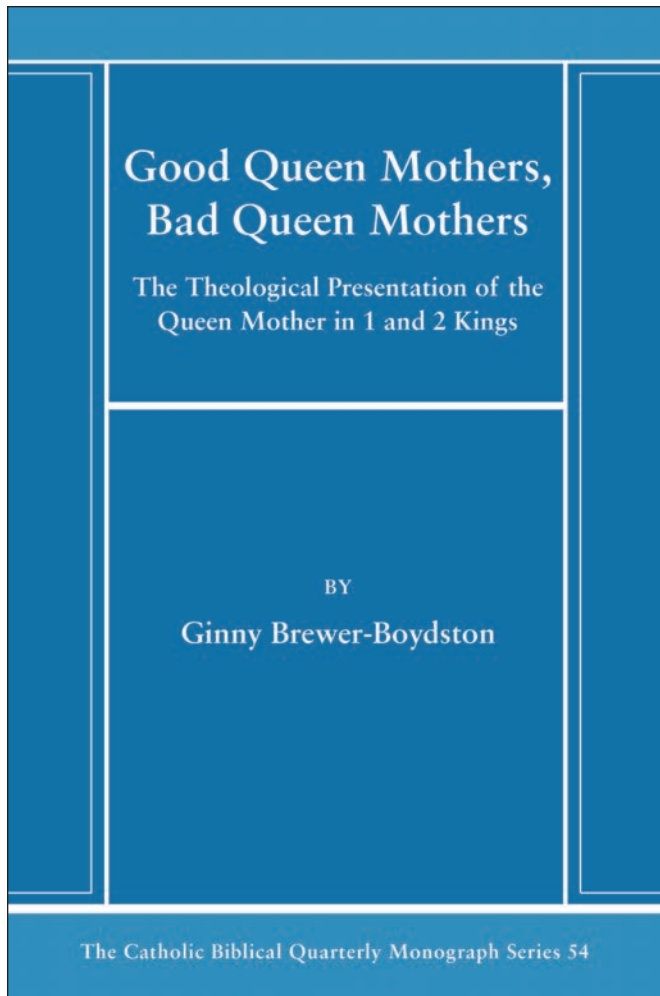
"Jeffrey Niehaus has produced the most comprehensive and careful study of the biblical concept of righteousness yet written. Many prior studies of the topic were theologically but not exegetically generated, and many followed the old notion that righteousness was conformity to the created order. Tracking and inductively analyzing—in exemplary detail—all the assertions about righteousness in both Testaments, he demonstrates convincingly that righteousness is conformity to God's being and doing. This book not only achieves its purpose, but serves as an example of how biblical theology can and should be done."

—Douglas Stuart, senior professor of Old Testament, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

"This book a meticulous and comprehensive study of the righteousness which is central to God's character and which defines all his actions. It is what makes redemption necessary, and it issues in the great summons to the church to be righteous as God is. Jeffrey Niehaus is a sure-footed guide through the complexities of some of the scholarly discussion because he never loses sight of what is really important. This is a study that will richly reward a careful reading."

—David F. Wells, author of *No Place for Truth*

JEFFREY J. NIEHAUS is senior professor of Old Testament at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.



Good Queen Mothers, Bad Queen Mothers

The Theological Presentation of the
Queen Mother in 1 and 2 Kings

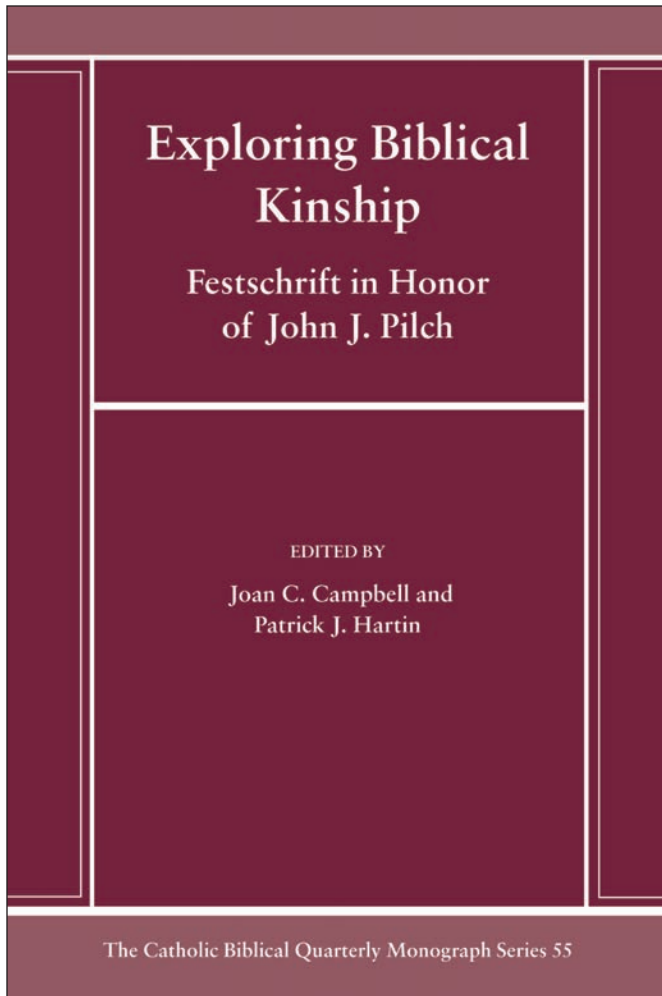
CATHOLIC BIBLICAL QUARTERLY MONOGRAPH SERIES

GINNY BREWER-BOYDSTON

978-1-6667-8745-0 | 232 p. | \$32

The regnal formulas in 1-2 Kings list the name of the king's mother for Judah, signaling an importance of her position and place within the books' theological presentation. This book investigates the passages in which the king's mother appears outside of the formulas through narrative criticism and integrates that study with a theological discussion of the formulas in order to demonstrate 1-2 Kings' view of the queen mother's place in the monarchy. She held a sanctioned position within the court and had such great influence upon her son that she receives blame as part of the monarchy for the exile.

GINNY BREWER-BOYDSTON is Adjunct Lecturer at Baylor University in Waco, Texas; and Adjunct Instructor at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton, Texas.



Exploring Biblical Kinship

Festschrift in Honor of John J. Pilch

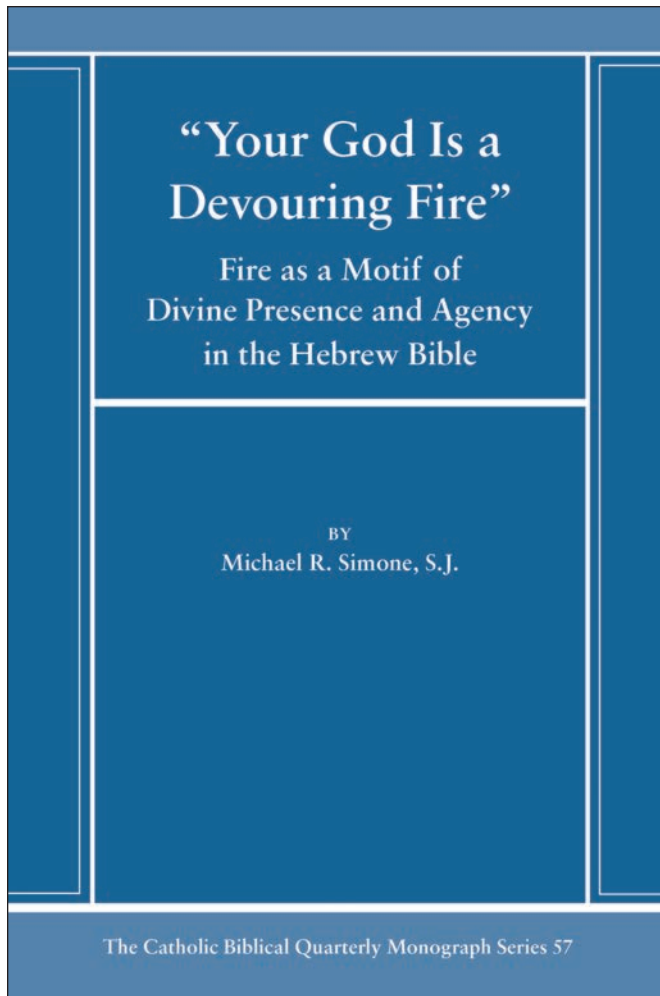
CATHOLIC BIBLICAL QUARTERLY MONOGRAPH SERIES

EDITED BY **JOAN C. CAMPBELL** AND **PATRICK HARTIN**

978-1-6667-8748-1 | 312 p. | \$40

Exploring Biblical Kinship honors John J. Pilch, a long-time member of the Catholic Biblical Association and a founding member of the Context Group. The festschrift, generated by the Social-Science Taskforce of the CBA explores biological and fictive kinship issues reflected in the lives of biblical persons. The essays in Part One deal with how patronage operates in biblical culture. Part Two analyzes family dynamics, commencing with an essay on violence contributed by the honoree. Part Three delves into kinship, descent, and discipleship. The text reflects the enduring influence of a renowned social-science scholar.

PATRICK J. HARTIN, Professor of Religious Studies Gonzaga University; Joan C. Campbell, Associate Professor; Atlantic School of Theology; Halifax, Nova Scotia.



“Your God Is a Devouring Fire”

Fire as a Motif of Divine Presence
and Agency in the Hebrew Bible

CATHOLIC BIBLICAL QUARTERLY MONOGRAPH SERIES

MICHAEL SIMONE SJ

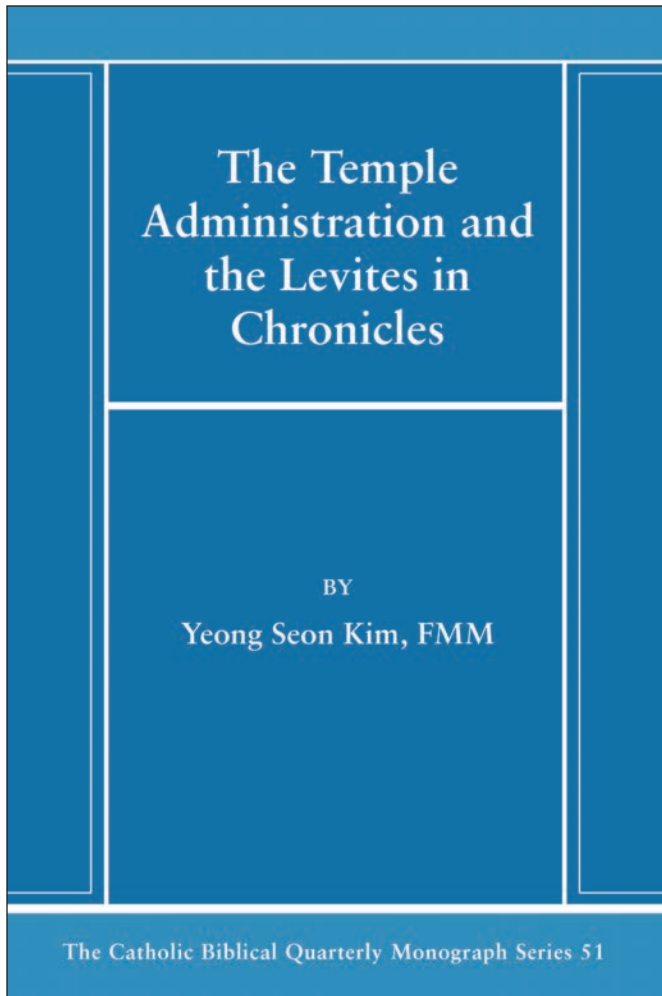
978-1-6667-8754-2 | 144 p. | \$24

In the ancient Near East, the distinction between the divine realm and the material world was not always clear. In Mesopotamia, statues, kings, and even cultic utensils could become “gods” in their own right. Certain biblical traditions show this idea as well. Yhwh appears as a human during visitations to Abraham and Jacob (Gen 18:1-2 and 32:25-31). Yhwh also can act through objects (Gen 15:17; 1 Sam 5:1-5). This suggests that, in Israel as in Mesopotamia, a distinction between humans and gods was one of status more than ontology. Throughout the ancient Near East, religious literature included motifs that emphasized divine status, such as power, size, wonder-working ability, and the possession of numinous qualities.

In Israel, these divine “status symbols” were frequently storm motifs like cloud, precipitation, and fire. Fire was one of the most common, perhaps because, being vivid and powerful, it shared Yhwh’s life-giving, transformative, yet dangerous qualities. In certain narratives, fiery motifs accompany an embodied divine presence. At other times, fiery phenomena are the sole perceptible indications of divine presence. As a motif of divinity, fire can symbolize divine agency even functioning at a distance from Yhwh or shared with a secondary agent like an angel, tool, or weapon. Israel’s extensive use of fire in the cult gives witness to similar traditions. Divine fire accompanies each new cultic inauguration in the Hebrew Bible. A tradition in Leviticus suggests that this fire remained continuously burning and served as a “gate” that allowed God to receive portions of the cultic offering.

In the Hebrew Bible, fire was thus a “status symbol” of divinity, drawn from traditional storm motifs and ancient conventions of divine embodiment. In its vivid ethereal appearance and power to give, transform, and take life, it symbolized the presence and agency of Yhwh, the God of Israel.

MICHAEL SIMONE, S.J., professor of Sacred Scripture at Boston College.



The Temple Administration and the Levites in Chronicles

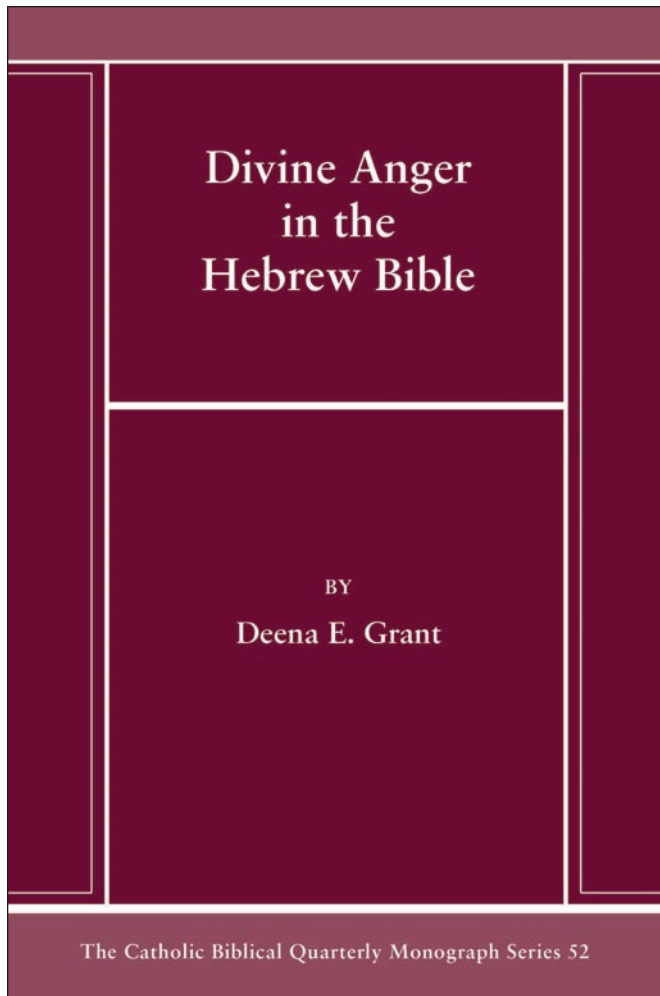
CATHOLIC BIBLICAL QUARTERLY MONOGRAPH SERIES

YEONG SEON KIM

978-1-6667-8736-8 | 240 p. | \$33

The author explored sections on gatekeepers, treasures and tax collectors from the book of Chronicles in order to examine whether the selected passages can be used as a source to reconstruct the temple administration in the post-exilic period. The author concludes that the Chronicler's description of the temple administration, especially his incorporation of non-priestly cultic personnel among the Levites, must be considered to comprise an argument of an ideal temple administration. The Chronicler's ideal was grounded in his creative exegetical approaches to Pentateuchal traditions and his responses to the contemporary debate about the legitimate priesthood among different priestly circles.

YEONG SEON KIM, researcher of the New Rising Institute for Spirituality in Korea, lecturer of the Introduction to the Old Testament at Sogang University, editorial member of the *Journal of Catholic Theology and Thought*.



Divine Anger in the Hebrew Bible

CATHOLIC BIBLICAL QUARTERLY MONOGRAPH SERIES

DEENA E. GRANT

978-1-6667-8739-9 | 216 p. | \$30

In this book, we explore the aim, expressions and outcomes of God's anger in the Hebrew Bible. We consider divine anger against the backdrop of human anger in order to discern those aspects of it that are recognizably human from those facets of it that are distinctly divine. Furthermore, we examine passages from a range of literary contexts across major biblical collections in order to distinguish those features of divine anger that are elemental to its definition from those that are limited to individual collections. The sum of these conclusions forms our answer to the question: What does the Bible mean when it describes God as angry?

DEENA E. GRANT, Associate Professor of Hebrew Scriptures at Barry University

BIBLICAL STUDIES: OLD TESTAMENT



PICKWICK PUBLICATIONS

FINDING BEAUTY IN THE BIBLE

An Aesthetic Commentary on the Song of Songs



Robert D. Miller II, OFS

Finding Beauty in the Bible

An Aesthetic Commentary on the Song of Songs

MCMMASTER BIBLICAL STUDIES SERIES

ROBERT D. MILLER II, OFS

978-1-6667-3664-9 | 140 p. | \$23

We approach Raphael's *Agony in the Garden* or Fra Angelico's *Crucifixion* for their beauty and not primarily to learn about fifteenth-century fashion or even to decode the iconography. Yet the many books on the Song of Songs, whether they try to read the book as an ancient Near Eastern love song or a Christian allegory, miss the main point of this book: its aesthetic elements. "Aesthetics" is the appreciation of beauty. Aesthetics examines literary form as a response to content, the way poetics works with contents, the use of loaded semantic terms, even the sound created by words and what cognitive science tells us it does to listeners. This book uses the commentary format to accompany an individual's reading of the Song of Songs, focusing on these neglected aspects of the text. It both reads the book as it is meant to be read and opens up a new vista on this magnificent biblical text.

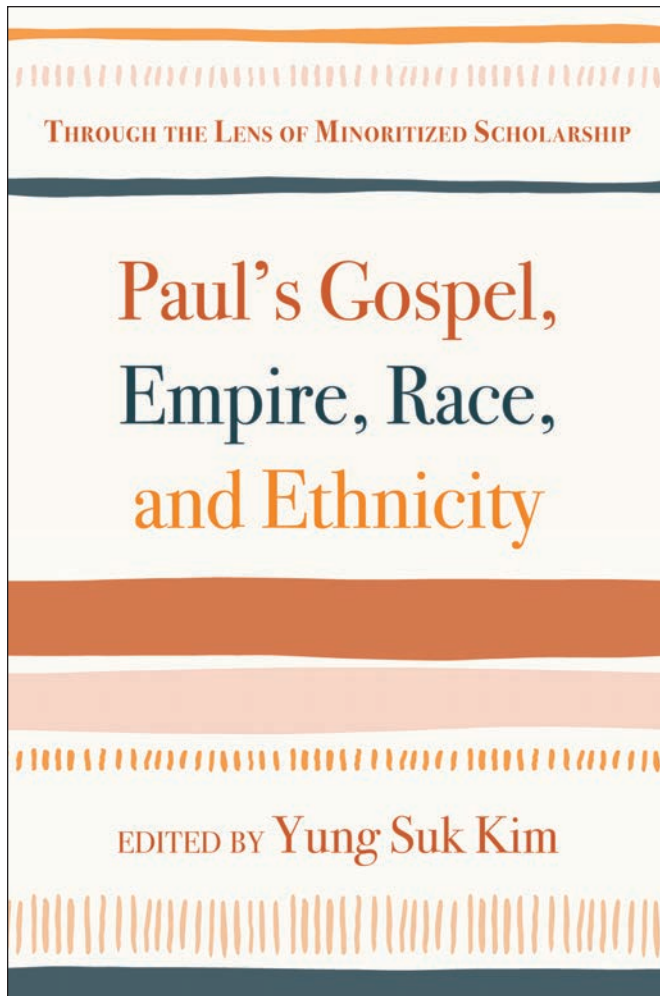
"Robert Miller has done a very difficult thing: he has read an ancient literary masterpiece as though it were written just yesterday, yet without once losing sight of its cultural remoteness or compromising its irreducible strangeness. An elegant book about beautiful love-poems."

—Brian McHale, author of *The Obligation toward the Difficult Whole: Postmodernist Long Poems*

"Robert Miller offers an illuminating and fresh study of the evocative power of beauty in the Bible's Song of Songs. It is a careful and sophisticated commentary on the Song's poetic elements that yields new insights into the Song's myriad meanings. Using aesthetic criticism, Miller does more than help us understand beauty within the Song; he demonstrates that beauty is a reverberating energy between the reader and this text."

—Carey Ellen Walsh, author of *Exquisite Desire: Religion, the Erotic, and the Song of Songs*

ROBERT MILLER is ordinary professor of Old Testament at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, and a research affiliate of the University of Pretoria Faculty of Theology & Religion. He is the author of many books on the Old Testament and ancient Israel.



Paul's Gospel, Empire, Race, and Ethnicity

Through the Lens of Minoritized Scholarship

EDITED BY YUNG SUK KIM

978-1-6667-3187-3 | 138 p. | \$27

Contributors to this volume, who represent diverse cultures and perspectives of Asian descent, African American heritage, and Latin American culture, explore Paul's gospel in critical contexts and its implications for race/ethnicity. Key questions include: What is Paul's gospel? Is it for or against the Roman imperial order? Does Paul's message foster true diversity and race relations? Or does it implicate a racial hierarchy or racism? This volume engages readers in conversation with the politics of interpretation in Paul's gospel. How much is it political? Which Paul do we read? This collective volume is the clarion call that biblical interpretation is not an arcane genre in the ivory tower but engages current issues in the real world of America, where we must tackle racism, the Western imperial gospel, and the rigid body politic.

"The essays in this volume are full of powerful exegetical and theological possibilities for reading Paul. In a corner of the discipline so in need of more diverse voices and perspectives, this collection of essays is an important intervention as we are invited anew to ponder how the pressing realities of empire, race, and ethnicity shape not just how Paul's letters were written and read in antiquity but also how their interpretation today is so deeply inflected by these powerful social and cultural forces."

—Eric D. Barreto, associate professor of New Testament, Princeton Theological Seminary

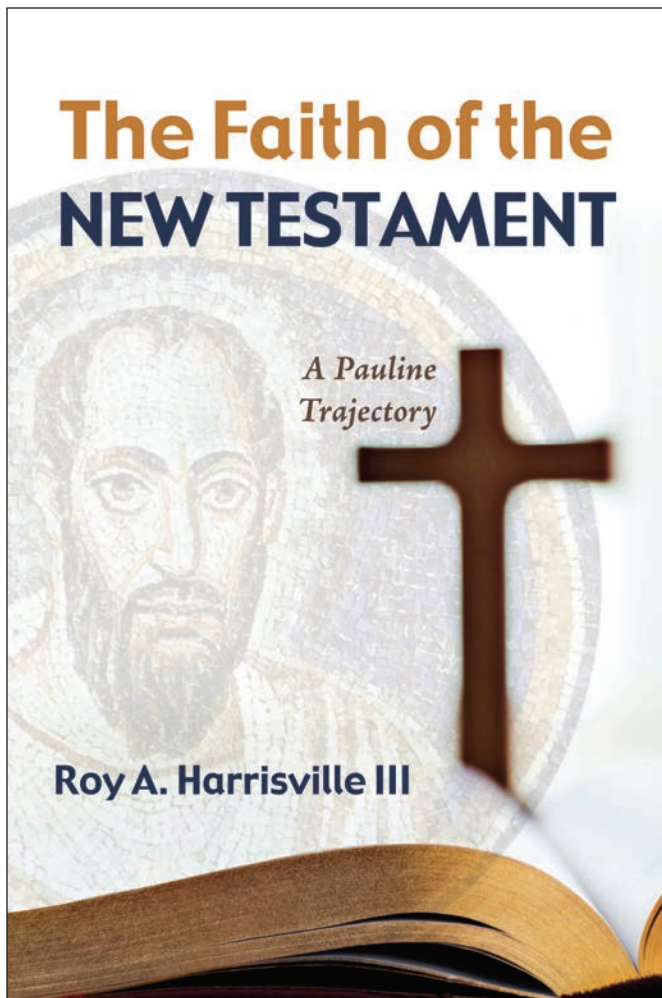
"The essays in this volume are valuable contributions from some of the important voices in biblical studies today. These scholars demonstrate why the discipline of biblical scholarship, particularly Pauline studies, needs to be in dialogue with pressing contemporary concerns. Each essay, in its own way, provides insight into the critical connection between Scripture and social justice."

—Lisa M. Bowens, associate professor of New Testament, Princeton Theological Seminary

"In this impressive volume edited by Yung Suk Kim, minoritized scholars make key Pauline texts come alive by placing them in conversation with some of the major issues of our time: race/ethnicity, empire, and diaspora. Contributors deftly challenge traditional, spiritualized readings of Paul and reclaim Paul for liberative purposes without essentializing or idealizing him. Paul's gospel emerges as a powerful paradigm for resisting empire and affirming dignity and diversity. A brilliant and timely volume."

—Raj Nadella, associate professor of New Testament, Columbia Theological Seminary

YUNG SUK KIM is professor of New Testament and early Christianity at Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology, Virginia Union University. Kim is the author of numerous books, including *How to Read Paul: A Brief Introduction to His Theology, Writings, and World* (2021); *Christ's Body in Corinth: The Politics of a Metaphor* (2008); and *Toward Decentering the New Testament* (Cascade, 2018; co-authored with Mitzi J. Smith). He also edited *1–2 Corinthians: Texts @ Contexts* (2013).



The Faith of the New Testament

A Pauline Trajectory

ROY A. HARRISVILLE III

978-1-7252-9478-3 | 138 p. | \$23

The importance of faith in Christianity cannot be denied, nor the arguments surrounding it. The crisis of faith that now grips the Western church necessitates a fresh look at its essential teachings. This study traces the trajectory of St. Paul's concept of faith in the rest of the New Testament in order to answer the question of how far and in what manner the other books of the New Testament agree or disagree with the Apostle of the Gentiles. Was St. Paul an outlier or an influencer? Common assumptions about faith and the language of faith are challenged in this study. Rather than giving simple voice to conventional presuppositions, this book wrestles with the origin and character of Christian faith and provides a provocative view that should spark renewed discussion about the heart of Christianity.

"*The Faith of the New Testament* is a must-read for any student serious about grasping not only the foundation of the Christian witness, centered in Jesus Christ, but also the origin of faith itself. With clarity and simplicity, Harrisville offers a comprehensive study of the New Testament texts, making connections and comparisons with the apostle Paul's understanding of faith. I highly recommend this work for anyone interested in deepening their biblical knowledge and strengthening their faith walk with Christ."

—Daniel W. Selbo, bishop, North American Lutheran Church

"The apostle Paul tells us that the gospel is the power of God for salvation. In this book, Harrisville guides us into New Testament approaches to faith, especially Paul's, in order to tap into and unleash God's creative energy that inspires faith and allows the church to be energized by it. Harrisville offers a resource valuable for every gospel preacher."

—Mark Mattes, Grand View University

"Countering volitional interpretations, Harrisville shows how a Pauline trajectory of faith as a transformative gift of divine power can be traced throughout the New Testament. I highly recommend this book. It succeeds in recovering the vital faith of the early Christians whose lives were changed in response to the call of God through the gospel of Jesus Christ."

—Charles B. Puskas, North Central University

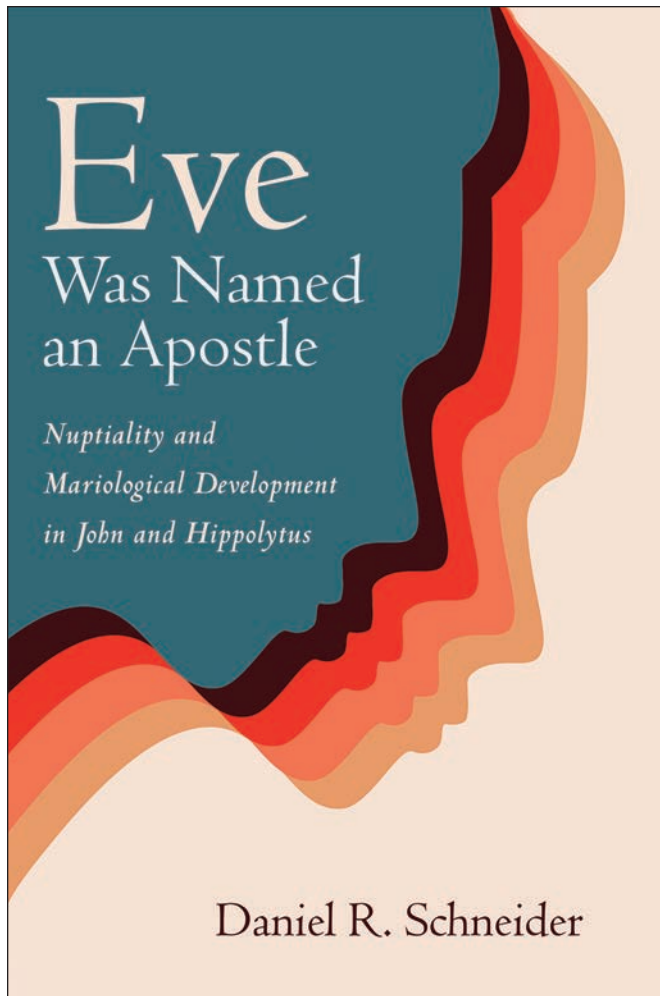
"Faith is a fundamental category of Scripture. It means trust, assent to revealed truth, conviction that forms character, and especially in the theology of Paul, gracious gift. Using Paul's theology of grace as his measure, Harrisville examines faith in a wide-ranging, rich word study of the New Testament canon."

—Walter Sundberg, Luther Seminary, emeritus

"The dynamics of Christian faith vary, but is there a consistent and coherent way of thinking of its origins and consequences? Harrisville leads us through the New Testament books looking for answers. He finds unity and diversity of expression, but common themes at a deeper level. The result is a fine contribution for theology and ministry."

—Arland J. Hultgren, Luther Seminary, emeritus

ROY A. HARRISVILLE III has published several articles and is the author of *The Figure of Abraham in the Epistles of Saint Paul* (1992) and *The Faith of Saint Paul: Transformative Gift of Divine Power* (2019).



Eve Was Named an Apostle

Nuptiality and Mariological Development
in John and Hippolytus

DANIEL R. SCHNEIDER

978-1-6667-3693-9 | 242 p. | \$33

This book investigates the movement of the Eve parallelism along the chain of tradition, focusing primarily upon the female characters of the Gospel of John. The principal aim is to explore their interrelationship with the mother of Jesus who, in the developed ecclesial tradition, is eventually given the title New Eve. Accordingly, this work examines the motif of *woman* in the Fourth Gospel by probing the use of the nuptial metaphor where female narrative characters are presented both as idealized disciples and fictive brides of the divine Bridegroom. By means of a common narrative-critical approach, this book then engages the thought of Hippolytus of Rome as found in his *Commentary on the Song of Songs*. Specifically, it explores how his focus upon the *myrrophores* is an expansion of the Johannine tradition, and one in which the nuptial metaphor takes on an ecclesial significance. By presenting the primordial garden in a narrative climax whereby a symbolic recapitulation occurs in the resurrection garden, Hippolytus shifts the Eve parallelism from the mother of Jesus to the Magdalene. This, in turn, is early evidence of a confluence of understanding, whereby she is not only disciple, but also both Eve and *apostola apostolorum*.

“A valuable link between Scripture and patristics. Original and creative, giving a well-written, professional, and fair exegesis of a work by Hippolytus which uses gender symbols from John’s Gospel in an early stage in the process by which Mary becomes the New Eve, and which also depicts repentant antitypes of Eve as the equal helpmate and spouse who becomes an apostle. Very relevant today as the Catholic Church considers the role of women.”

—Michael Cullinan, director, Maryvale Higher Institute of Religious Sciences

“This book makes a valuable contribution to examination of the chain of tradition between canonical and postapostolic witnesses to biblical interpretation. At the same time, it illuminates the flexibility of interpretation at the time of Hippolytus with regard to the concept of a new Eve and the roles of women as tradents of Christian witness.”

—Mary E. Mills, University of Manchester

“Combining intertextuality, narratology, and attention to early reception, Daniel Schneider offers an absorbing account of Johannine women characters, both named and unnamed, and how the Johannine narrative fares in the hands of one particular Johannine tradent, Hippolytus. Schneider’s is a richly layered book, amply demonstrating the potential of close textual reading and of pursuing a particular thread along the line of early tradition.”

—Ian Boxall, The Catholic University of America

DANIEL L. SCHNEIDER is an adjunct professor of theology at the Franciscan University of Steubenville in Steubenville, Ohio and associate staff member at the Maryvale Institute in Birmingham, England.

The Principle of the New Era in Galatians

Another Look at the Law of Christ (Gal 6:2)

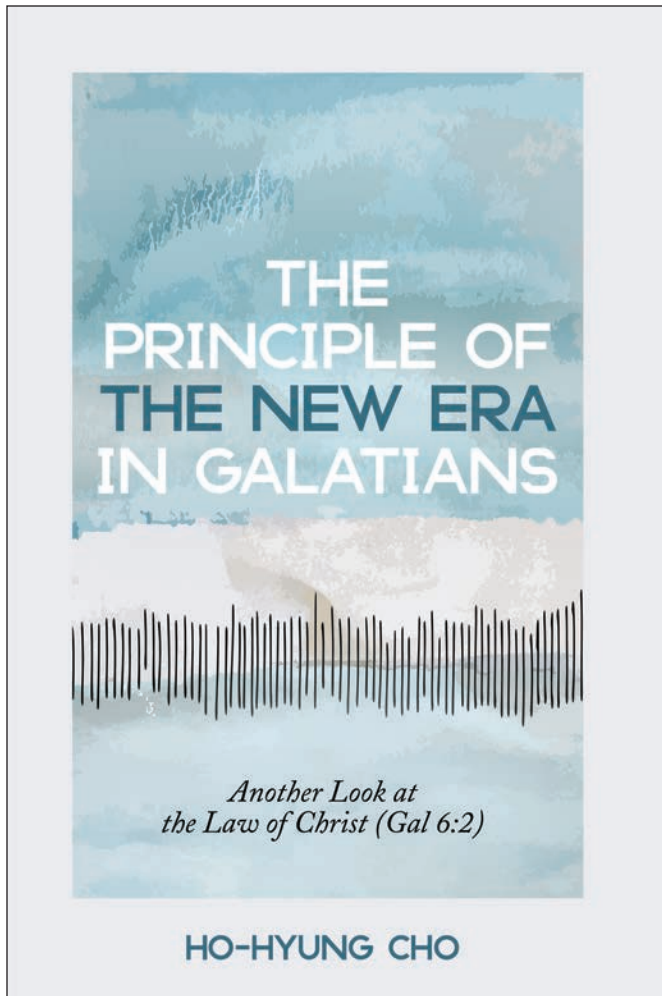
HO-HYUNG CHO

978-1-6667-5716-3 | 186 p. | \$28

This book is placed within broader scholarship's trajectory by explaining that νόμος in Gal 6:2 refers to "principle," unwritten law, rather than written law such as the Mosaic law and another law. Because νόμος diachronically and synchronically had various meanings in history, the context in which it is found is significant. Given the context of Galatians, while Paul negatively depicts νόμος as the written Mosaic law throughout the letter, he positively uses it as a device for striking the ears of the Galatians in the verse. Remarkably, 6:2 is in 5:13—6:10 called paraenesis, namely, exhortations that they should perform with the Christian principle of life made by the Spirit. Being led by the Spirit is the sine qua non for believers in Christ. All indications surrounding 6:2 show that the phrase, ὁ νόμος τοῦ Χριστοῦ in 6:2 means "the principle created by Christ," that is, "keeping in step with the Spirit." This principle results from the new era inaugurated by the crucified and risen Christ. In 6:2 Paul exhorts the people of the new era to conform to the new era's principle created by Christ.

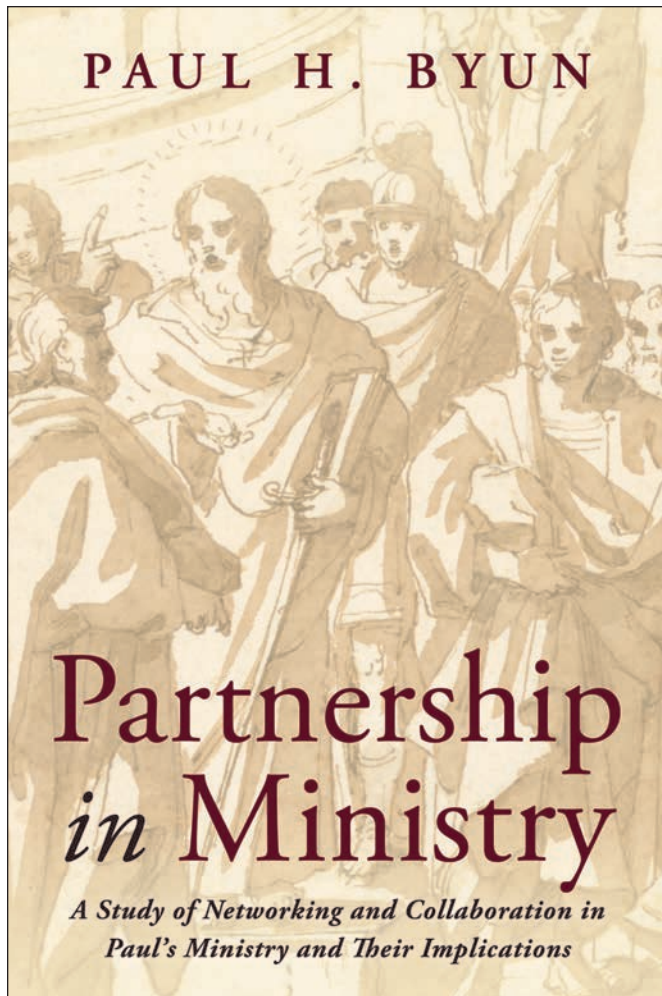
"Ho-Hyung Cho has done something remarkable—he takes on issues of the law and the New Covenant in Paul, specifically in Galatians, and has written a book that neither parrots the latest, trendy thing in scholarship nor simply presents an old view with a twist. I recommend this book whole-heartedly."

—Brian J. Vickers, professor of New Testament interpretation, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary



"Although countless books have been written on Paul's view of the law, Ho-Hyung Cho's careful analysis of νόμος in Galatians 6:2 will be of benefit to every reader. I am happy to commend this work."

—Robert L. Plummer, professor of biblical studies, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary



“This book provides an excellent introduction to the study of the network and collaboration of early Christian churches, challenging Pauline scholarship to view Paul’s ministry and early Christianity not just in the paradigm of conflict and competition but more in the framework of unity and partnership. It is well researched, logically organized, and clearly written, and it offers many theological and practical insights for contemporary churches in terms of their networking and collaboration in ministry.”

—S. Aaron Son, professor of biblical studies, Dallas Baptist University

Partnership in Ministry

A Study of Networking and Collaboration
in Paul’s Ministry and Their Implications

PAUL H. BYUN

978-1-5326-0985-5 | 222 p. | \$31

What type of relationship did New Testament churches have with one another? Was it a relationship of conflict and competition? Or was it a loose aggregation of individual churches scattered across the Roman Empire? Or can it be described as a cohesive partnership for the common cause of the gospel of Christ?

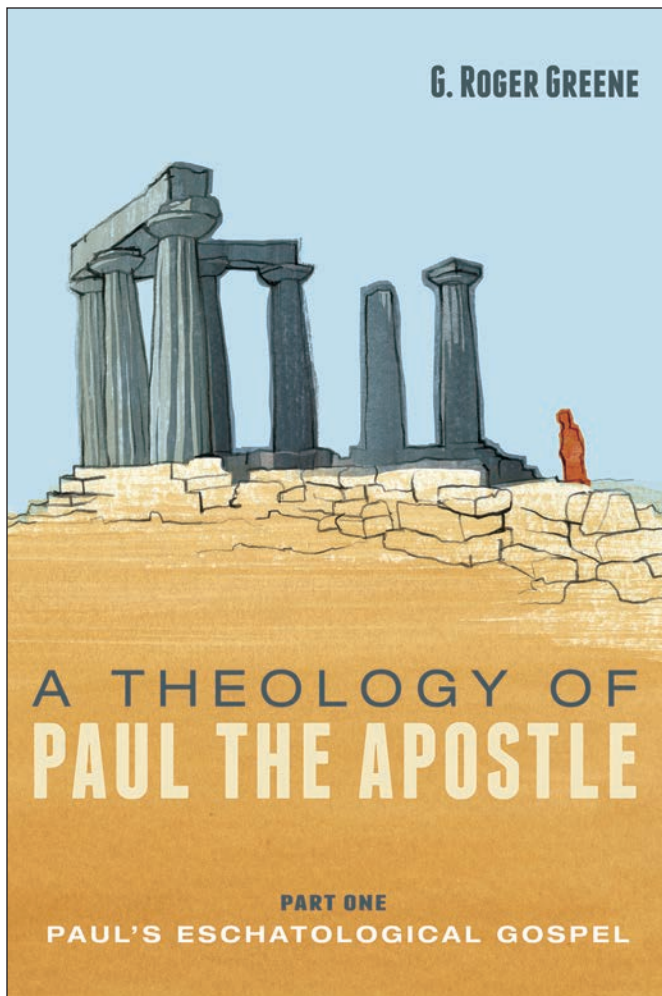
Most New Testament church activities are recorded in connection with Paul’s ministry. In this sense, the present study started on the premise that close attention to Paul’s partnership ministry would offer a richer understanding of New Testament church relationships.

By exploring some ministry areas—such as Paul’s coworkers, financial assistance, and communicative activities—this book demonstrates that Paul’s churches, occasioned and mediated by Paul’s partnership ministry, were engaged in networking and collaboration far more closely than has generally been assumed, not only among themselves but also with non-Pauline churches. Paul’s partnership ministry significantly contributed to the relationship of New Testament churches.

“Challenging scholarship to view the apostle Paul not only through his opponents, but also through his friends, Byun explores Paul’s collaboration with the churches through the lens of coworkers, financial assistance, and communicative activities. The result is a stimulating analysis of the social and religious dynamics of the ancient world that positions early Christianity within the framework of unity and partnership rather than conflict.”

—Mark Taylor, professor of New Testament, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

PAUL H. BYUN is mission pastor at New Hope Community Church at Los Angeles. He earned a PhD in New Testament studies from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 2020.



A Theology of Paul the Apostle, Part One

Paul's Eschatological Gospel

G. ROGER GREENE

978-1-6667-4583-2 | 564 p. | \$66

The legacy of Paul looms large in all Christian theology. While the study of Paul is not a simple task, proper interpretation should be sustainable on the basis of a thorough examination of Paul's letters within their historical matrix. The work, *Theology of Paul the Apostle*, is presented in two parts. Part One, *Paul's Eschatological Gospel*, addresses matters relevant for Paul's appreciation of the gospel of God in the establishment of the eschatological community in Christ. Paul's Judaism informs his apocalyptic description, as he expresses his thought with consistent convictions within the varied contingent contexts of his communities within a Greco-Roman world. Part Two, *Cross and Atonement*, examines a perennial "storm center" within Paul's theology from both an exegetical and developmentally historical perspective. Paul was embraced by the gospel of God "in Christ," the resurrection being the turning point of the ages. While Paul's theology and the understandings of Paul must be established point by point, Paul's theology has continuing relevance within the very different matrix of a postmodern world.

"You are holding the first volume of a masterful examination of Paul's theological legacy. G. Roger Greene traces Pauline influence on Christian theology first by prioritizing Paul's first-century understanding of the gospel of God and then by engaging Paul's interpreters, ancient and modern, who have shaped the matrix through which we experience Paul. Offering critical evaluation and insight, Greene's clear, comprehensive treatment enriches our understanding of Paul's message for the people of God."

—Kathy Maxwell, associate professor of biblical and theological studies, Palm Beach Atlantic University

"G. Roger Greene has produced a thorough and enlightening study of the theology of Paul. One does not have to agree with his conclusions on which letters may be by Paul and which may be deuter-Pauline writings in order to benefit from the insights of this work. Particularly helpful is Greene's attention to the difference between the actual ideas of Paul and how those ideas were misconstrued or misunderstood by later interpreters."

—Mitchell G. Reddish, professor of Christian studies, Stetson University

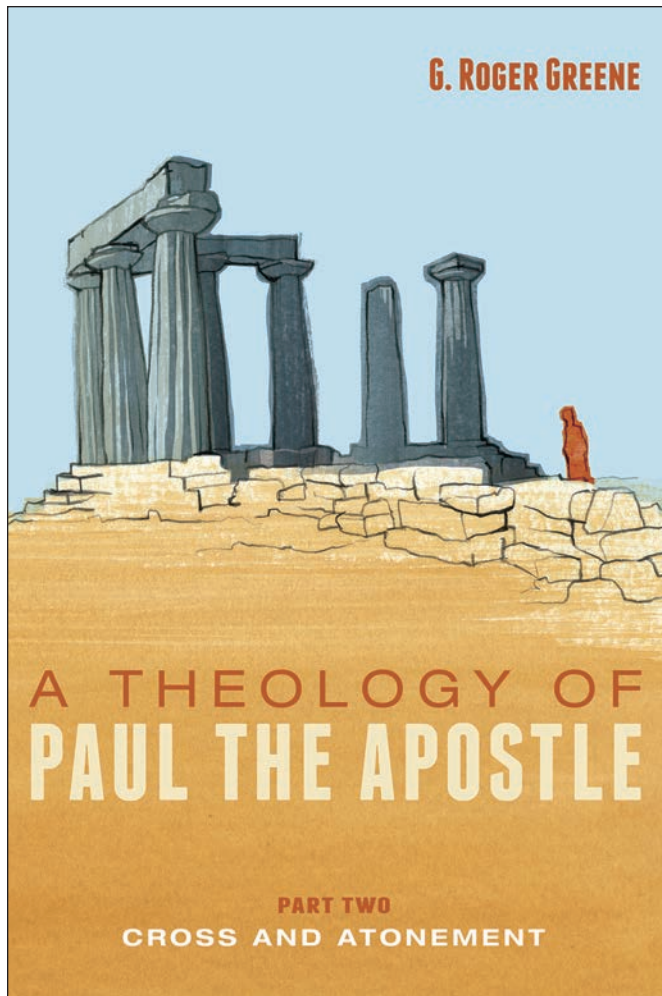
"Meticulously researched and thoughtfully reasoned, G. Roger Greene's work seeks to excavate through the accretion of 'theological barnacles' which adhere to the theology of the apostle Paul in an effort to recapture the essential theological tenets of the Christian church's earliest theologian. Mission accomplished! *A Theology of the Apostle Paul* is a compelling conversation with the corpus of Pauline literature and the chorus of Pauline scholarship past and present."

—Edward L. Mahaffey, professor of Christian studies, Mississippi College

"G. Roger Greene's analysis of the foundational elements of Paul's theology will allow readers to appreciate the diversity of scholarly perspectives on Paul's thought while at the same time stimulating them to explore new avenues in the interpretation of his epistles. Rather than attempting to present a comprehensive theology of Paul, Greene invites readers to engage in a dialogue with Paul and his interpreters that is both critical and constructive."

—David A. Brondos, professor of theology and biblical studies, Theological Community of Mexico

G. ROGER GREENE is professor of Christian studies at Mississippi College. He has traveled widely in the biblical world. He is the author of *The Ministry of Paul the Apostle: History and Redaction* (2019).



A Theology of Paul the Apostle, Part Two

Cross and Atonement

G. ROGER GREENE

978-1-6667-4586-3 | 392 p. | \$49

The legacy of Paul looms large in all Christian theology. The New Testament and the Christian world itself would be a very different place apart from the impact of the apostle Paul. The work, *Theology of Paul the Apostle*, is presented in two parts. Attention is given in each volume to the foreground matrix of the place of Paul within historical Christian interpretation. Part One, *Paul's Eschatological Gospel*, addresses matters relevant for Paul's appreciation of the gospel of God in the establishment of the eschatological community in Christ. Part Two, *Cross and Atonement*, addresses the more specific and particular issues within Paul's gospel that have been a "storm center" within theological discussion. The present writer finds Paul to be one who embraces the gospel of God "in Christ," the resurrection being the turning point of the ages that calls for a cruciform imperative of Christian identity and living in an eschatological age of fulfillment. Paul's theology and cross imperative has continuing relevance within the very different matrix of a postmodern world.

"In this second volume, G. Roger Greene again relentlessly focuses on the language of the Pauline Epistles, resisting the temptation to go beyond Paul to later theological systems. With clarity and care, Greene allows Paul to speak for himself on matters central to Pauline theology in order to more fully grasp the freedom—and responsibility—of living lyrical lives that are the result of God's merciful gift of reconciliation."

—Kathy Maxwell, associate professor of biblical and theological studies, Palm Beach Atlantic University

"This second volume of G. Roger Greene's two-volume work continues his careful presentation of the thought and teachings of Paul. The major focus here is on Paul's beliefs about the death and resurrection of Jesus. Throughout this volume, and especially in the latter chapters, Greene demonstrates how various doctrines of the atoning work of Christ, both ancient and modern, have often ignored or distorted the teachings of Paul."

—Mitchell G. Reddish, professor of Christian studies, Stetson University

"Meticulously researched and thoughtfully reasoned, G. Roger Greene's work seeks to excavate through the accretion of 'theological barnacles' which adhere to the theology of the apostle Paul in an effort to recapture the essential theological tenets of the Christian church's earliest theologian. Mission accomplished! *A Theology of Paul the Apostle* is a compelling conversation with the corpus of Pauline literature and the chorus of Pauline scholarship past and present."

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Food Justice and Hospitality in Luke-Acts

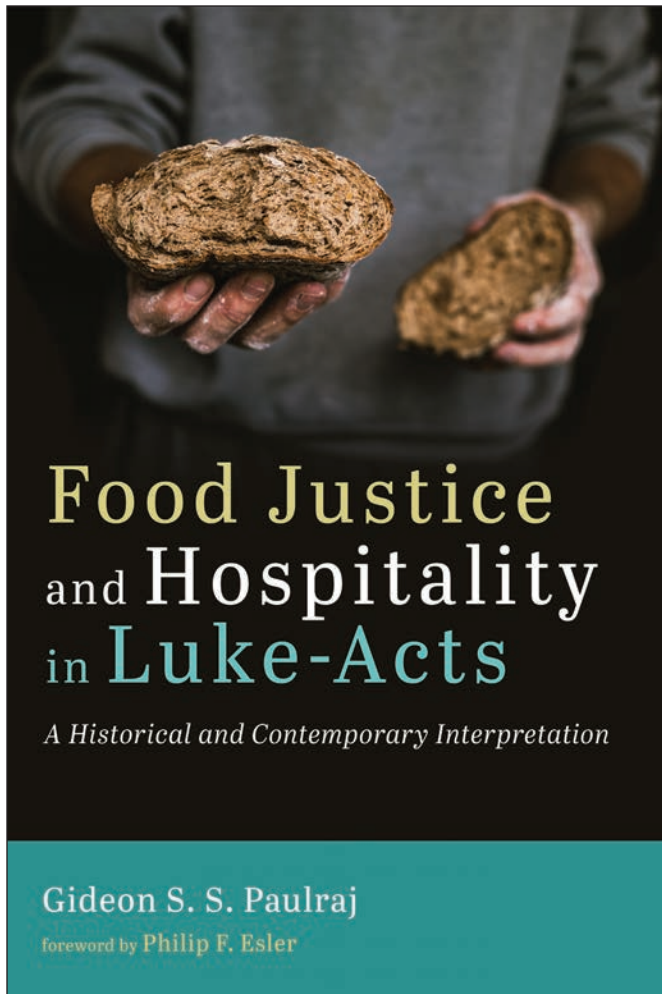
A Historical and Contemporary Interpretation
GIDEON S. S. PAULRAJ

978-1-6667-5535-0 | 312 p. | \$40

Food security is a multifaceted concept and extends beyond the production of, availability of, and demand for food. This book attempts to explore the meal narrations in Luke-Acts as a source for a theology of hospitality to ascertain Luke's concern for the immigrant, the poor, the homeless, the hungry, and the outcasts. This book focuses on fifteen meal scenes in Luke-Acts and contributes to Lukan scholarship on meals, particularly in addressing the issue of food insecurity. Firstly, by incorporating cultural dimensions and anthropology to understand the social context of the first-century world, this book contributes a new perspective on the Lukan audience, which was stratified by socioeconomic and religious disparities in terms of privilege, wealth, and power. Secondly, this book analyzes the Lukan concern with the social structure and the social, political, economic, and religious setting behind his emphasis on the *ptōchoi* and the marginalized concerning livelihood needs such as food and shelter. Thirdly, this book connects Lukan concern with contemporary theologies that include an emphasis on hunger and hospitality, such as liberation theology, Dalit theology, and practical theology. Thus, the book challenges readers and offers a few recommendations for implementations to combat hunger and destitution.

"Unexpectedly, some of us in the West are now faced with the reality or threat of food shortages. In this timely publication, Paulraj combines a careful analysis of the rich treatment of the themes of food poverty, justice, and hospitality in Luke-Acts with a thorough understanding of contemporary policy debates. It provides a vital resource for anyone engaged in those debates, whilst shedding fresh light on the meaning of several Lukan passages."

—Crispin Fletcher-Louis, visiting research fellow, University of Gloucestershire



"This marvelous book challenges us to see the familiar in Luke-Acts in a life-changing way. What happens if we interpret 'the poor,' as those who are starving? What happens when we honor dishonorable, destitute persons by inviting them to our banquets? What happens to our traditional Christology when we highlight Jesus who reveals himself as stranger, guest, host, and servant at the table of life? Let's apply Luke's meal Christology to contemporary crises such as food insecurity in India."

—Robert J. Karris, author of *Eating Your Way Through Luke's Gospel*

"This work on a Lukan theology of the poor is remarkable because it deals with the past as well as with food insecurity today. India is the context in which the voice of the poor and the marginalized as hungry people appear, and contemporary India is challenged by those marginalized who read the reflections of the communities reflected by Luke-Acts. I commend this work to all those working for justice and for the end of hunger today."

—Mario I. Aguilar, author of *After Pestilence: An Interreligious Theology of the Poor*

GIDEON S. S. PAULRAJ is an ordained minister of the Church of South India, a Church in the Anglican Communion, and teaches courses in New Testament, Greek language, and theology. He received his PhD from the University of Gloucestershire, Cheltenham. Having been born and brought up in India, he is concerned about the destitute (beggars), and this concern motivates him to read Luke-Acts and to propose a Lukan theology of hunger and hospitality.

THE FOURFOLD GOSPEL



*A Formational Commentary on
Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John*
Volume 3: From Conflict to Compassion

John DelHousaye

The Fourfold Gospel, Volume 3

A Formational Commentary on Matthew, Mark,
Luke, and John: From Conflict to Compassion
JOHN DELHOUSAYE

978-1-5326-8370-1 | 600 p. | \$69

In the spirit of Ludolph of Saxony (c. 1295–1378) and Ignatius of Loyola (1491–1556), *The Fourfold Gospel* invites the reader into the mystery of God’s redemption in Jesus Christ. All the parallel passages in the Gospels are glossed together, along with the unique material, using a medieval interpretive approach called the Quadriga or the acronym PaRDeS in Hebrew. Meditating on the literal, canonical, moral, and theological senses of Scripture offers a scaffolding for the spiritual formation of the reader. This volume focuses on the illuminative stage of discipleship, the goal of the parables, along with Jesus’s conflict with enemies and our mission.

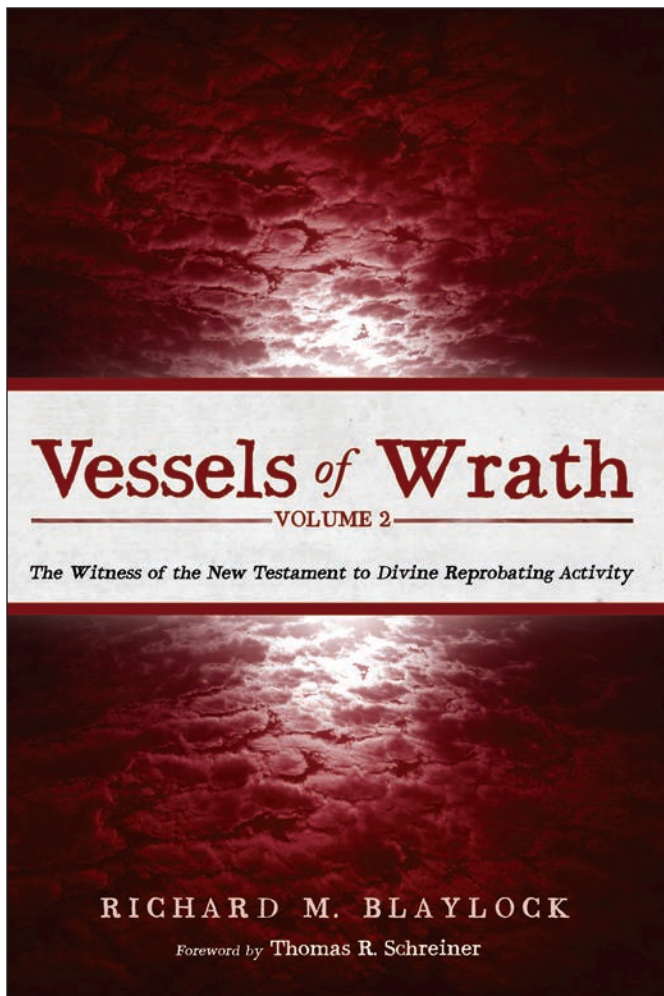
“This is a truly unique work. *The Fourfold Gospel* offers deep Gospels scholarship from a dizzying range of sources, ties those exegetical insights into broader canonical themes, makes powerful moral application, and invites the reader into deeper intimacy with Jesus. As one of John DelHousaye’s former seminary teachers, I am delighted to let his two decades of rigorous study of Scripture, ancient Jewish and Roman sources, church history, and spiritual formation teach, encourage, and convict me. Thank you Dr. DelHousaye for this marvelous resource!”

—Steve Tracy, professor of practice, Phoenix Seminary

“John Delhousaye has soaked in the canonical Gospels in a way that few people ever do. This is the third volume of this project in which he carefully moves through central themes of the narratives of all four Gospels—in this volume conflict, mission, kingdom parables, and compassion—taking us on a journey with him to meet the living Christ so that we may learn how to know and follow him more faithfully. This work combines a careful devotional reading with a scholarly engagement with the text.”

—Michael W. Goheen, director of theological education, Missional Training Center

JOHN DELHOUSAYE is Professor of Biblical and Theological Studies at Arizona Christian University and Scholar-in-Residence at The Spiritual Formation Society of Arizona.



Vessels of Wrath, Volume 2

The Witness of the New Testament
to Divine Reprobating Activity

RICHARD M. BLAYLOCK

978-1-6667-6313-3 | 248 p. | \$34

Hardening hearts. Blinding eyes. Sending deceitful spirits. Crafting vessels of wrath. Few will deny that certain biblical passages make claims about God that are difficult to accept. But perhaps the most troubling are the verses that describe God as influencing individuals or groups towards wicked behavior for the purpose of condemning them. What are readers to do with these texts? In *Vessels of Wrath*, Richard M. Blaylock tackles the thorny subject of divine reprobating activity (DRA). Through an exhaustive, biblical-theological study of the Christian canon's witness, Blaylock argues that the Bible does not present DRA as an insignificant or monolithic concept; instead, the biblical authors showcase both the significance and the complexity of DRA in a variety of ways. The book aims to help readers of the Bible to wrestle with the Scriptures so that they might come to better understand its testimony to this mysterious and awesome divine activity.

“Richard Blaylock’s two-volume *Vessels of Wrath* is one of the most comprehensive studies from Scripture of divine reprobation ever done for the Christian church. I commend this excellent and insightful work to you for the manifold ways in which you will likely grow in your hope and faith in God as you see more clearly the God who upholds goodness and righteousness with full integrity of character.”

—Bruce A. Ware, professor of Christian theology, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

“Richard Blaylock analyzes God’s reprobating activity in the Bible with great care and thoroughness. The way he exegetes and correlates Scripture is not overstated but convincing.”

—Andy Naselli, associate professor of systematic theology and New Testament, Bethlehem College and Seminary

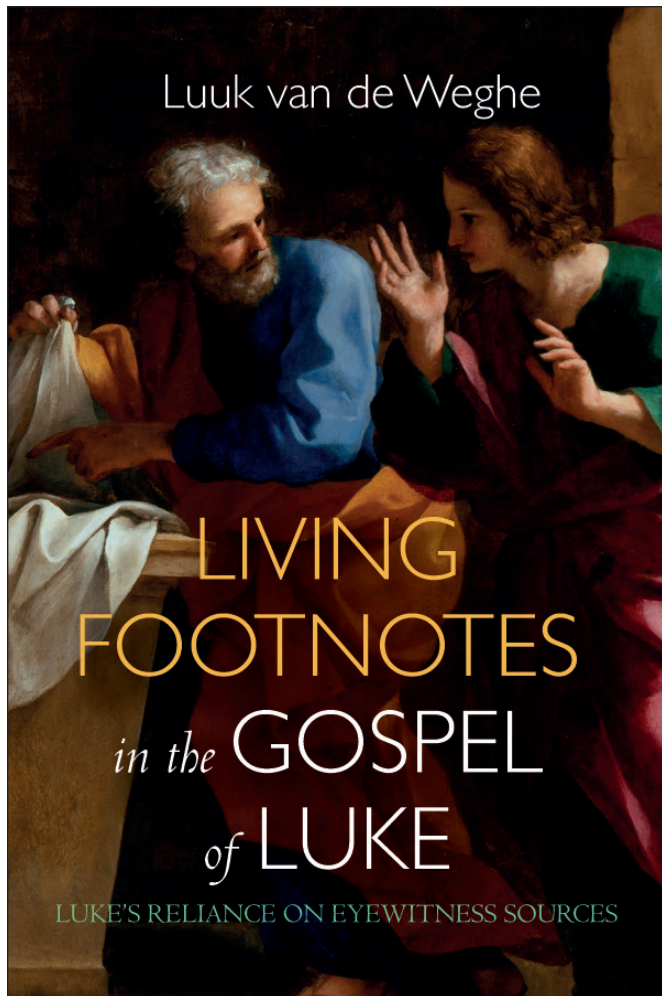
“God’s reprobating activity in the Scriptures is the theme under consideration in these two volumes by Richard Blaylock. *Vessels of Wrath* is a treatment of the relevant biblical material that is both comprehensive in its scope and exceptionally clear in its presentation. Blaylock employs skillful exegetical and biblical-theological analysis to draw out the diverse facets of this multifaceted theme woven integrally through the Old and New Testaments.”

—Josh Mathews, associate professor of biblical studies, Western Seminary

“The magnitude and depth of Richard Blaylock’s exegetical-theological research, thinking, and argumentation is evident and persuasive. He leaves no biblical text untouched that speaks to God’s reprobating activity in both the Old and New Testaments. He carefully demonstrates wherein the biblical texts uphold God’s reprobating activity retributively and non-retributively. Blaylock states well his thesis and does likewise for the objectives of each chapter in both volumes.”

—Ardel B. Caneday, retired professor of New Testament and Greek, University of Northwestern

RICHARD M. BLAYLOCK is assistant professor of biblical studies at Western Seminary in Portland, Oregon.



Living Footnotes in the Gospel of Luke

Luke's Reliance on Eyewitness Sources

LUUK VAN DE WEGHE

978-1-6667-6536-6 | 188 p. | \$28

Did Luke interview eyewitnesses to write his Gospel? *Living Footnotes in the Gospel of Luke* provides a careful, thorough examination of Luke's claims (Luke 1:1–4), demonstrating that he not only claims to use living sources but also did so. It builds a corroborative evidence case towards this end, not merely by accumulating unrelated strands of evidence, but by showing the interconnectedness of independent lines of subtle clues in Luke's text. These historically rich, unintentional features weave together to generate a robust impression upon the reader: Luke not only relied on living informants but in fact sifted his sources in preference of eyewitness testimony.

"Luuk van de Weghe has written an important volume. As readers progress through it, they may get the initial impression that this work is a mosaic of various evidences of which several, although interesting, are of no great significance. However, as they read on, they will see that all of these evidences add up to a cumulative case that is quite compelling. Much in this work is original and contributes to the case for the third evangelist's use of eyewitnesses in the research and composition of his Life of Jesus."

—Michael R. Licona, professor of New Testament studies, Houston Christian University

"Luuk van de Weghe takes seriously Luke on his own terms as an ancient historian, giving focused attention to his claim that eyewitnesses functioned as primary sources for Luke-Acts. Through rigorous research and argumentation, van de Weghe has tipped the scales in favor of the conclusion that Luke did consult eyewitnesses. Among other gems, he demonstrates that the best explanation for the striking agreements between Luke and John's Gospels is that Luke relied on the Beloved Disciple as an eyewitness source."

—John J. Peters, author of *Luke among the Ancient Historians*

"Luuk van de Weghe's *Living Footnotes in the Gospel of Luke* is a welcome addition to the literature on the Third Evangelist's connections to eyewitness testimony. Van de Weghe brings fresh material and a fresh perspective to an important topic. The field of New Testament studies needs this sort of serious engagement with a reportage model of the Gospels."

—Lydia McGrew, author of *Testimonies to the Truth*

LUUK VAN DE WEGHE is the author of *The Historical Tell: Patterns of Eyewitness Testimony in the Gospel of Luke and Acts* (2023) and *For People Like Us: God's Search for the Lost of Luke 15* (2023). His research has been published in leading peer-reviewed journals in the field of biblical studies, including *New Testament Studies*, *Tyndale Bulletin*, and *Bulletin for Biblical Research*.



Domination or Empowerment?

A Power Discourse Analysis
of 1 and 2 Corinthians

ESTHER G. CEN

978-1-6667-9364-2 | 220 p. | \$31

This book argues that Paul, as God's accountable steward, seeks not to dominate the Corinthians but to empower them to mature in their understanding and conduct themselves appropriately under the cruciform authority of Jesus Christ. It invites readers to revisit the merely negative notion of power in deconstructionist power discourses and reconsider the importance of good uses of power in building up a faith community.

"This is a fascinating study of Paul's use of power language in his Corinthian correspondence informed by an extraordinary breadth of resources including Esther Cen's inspiring autobiography. For students of Discourse Analysis or post-colonial exegesis generally, or for those who are spiritual leaders interested in the disposition of power within a Christian setting, Cen's monograph is a must read."

—Robert W. Wall, professor emeritus of Scripture and Wesleyan studies, Seattle Pacific University and Seminary

"Esther Cen is not naive about the role that power plays in society, nor is she unaware that scholarship is itself an exercise of power. She provides a description of Paul's uses of power in 1 and 2 Corinthians that is theoretically informed and empirically grounded. When she finally offers her own evaluations of Paul, she unfolds important nuances that should give each of us pause as we each seek to arrive at our own understanding."

—Christopher D. Land, associate professor of New Testament and linguistics, McMaster Divinity College

"Esther Cen makes a convincing case that Paul seeks to empower the Corinthians rather than to dominate them through the development and application of a rigorous and sophisticated methodology based on socio-linguistic criteria. This book is an excellent resource for Pauline studies and for pastoral theology, and it is an invaluable demonstration of the use of methodology in biblical scholarship."

—Cynthia Long Westfall, associate professor of New Testament, McMaster Divinity College

"Esther Cen presents a powerful socio-linguistic analysis of Paul's discourse of authority and power, rooted in an excellent awareness of the social location of thought, ancient and contemporary. She demonstrates in a differentiated way that the Corinthian correspondence is evidence of Paul's exercise of power through empowering leadership, making a highly relevant contribution to Pauline scholarship and its relevance for society and church today."

—Kathy Ehrensperger, research fellow, University of Basel

ESTHER G. CEN is an assistant professor of biblical studies at Seattle Pacific University in Seattle.

THE QUEST FOR A HISTORICAL JESUS METHODOLOGY



*Graeco-Roman Biographies, the Gospels,
and the Practice of History*

MICHAEL VICKO ZOLONDEK

“In this remarkably clear and accessible volume, Michael Zolondek offers an innovative approach to reconstructing the historical Jesus. If the Gospels are indeed *bioi*, why not draw on the methodological practices of other ancient biographers? The result is a fresh and inviting challenge to read the gospels in their ancient context.”

—Helen K. Bond, professor of Christian origins, New College, University of Edinburgh

The Quest for a Historical Jesus Methodology

Graeco-Roman Biographies, the
Gospels, and the Practice of History

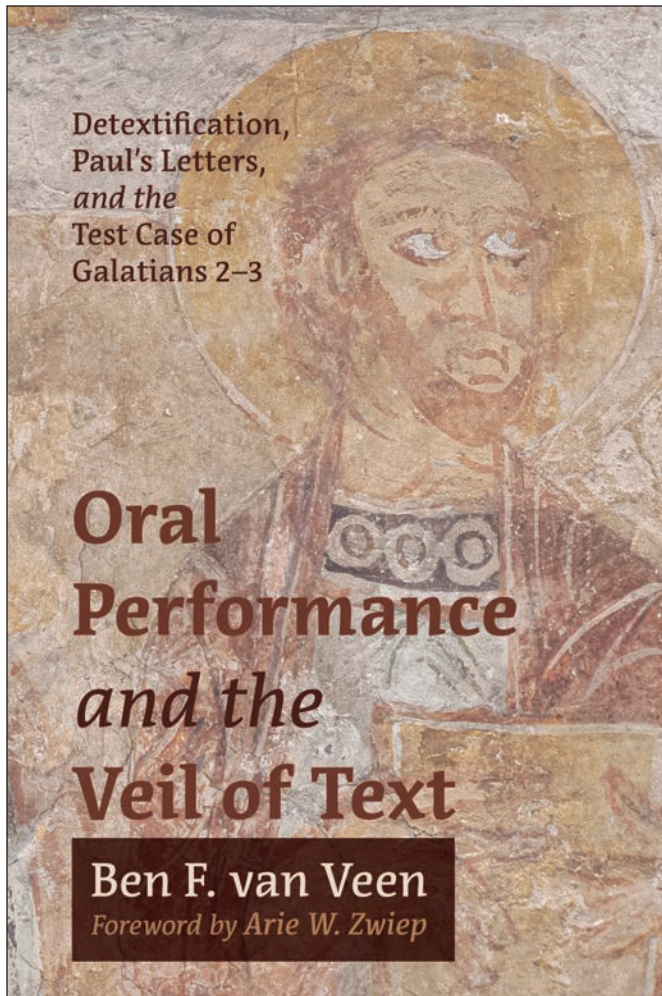
MICHAEL VICKO ZOLONDEK

978-1-6667-3026-5 | 134 p. | \$22

Throughout the “quest for the historical Jesus,” there has been a parallel quest aimed at discovering new and improved methodologies for studying his life. This methodological quest was originally driven by the belief that the Gospels are so unique (even *sui generis*) among the literary works of their time that such “historical experimentation” (to use Schweitzer’s words) is necessary for the task of reconstructing Jesus’s life. Although most scholars today characterize the Gospels as a form of Graeco-Roman biography rather than *sui generis* literature, they nevertheless have continued this quest for new methodologies. This has left historical Jesus studies in a problematic methodological state.

In this book, Zolondek argues that if the Gospels are indeed types of Graeco-Roman biographies of Jesus, then no such experimentation is necessary. Rather, historical Jesus scholars should instead be adopting the standard methodological practices that historians and classicists have for decades used to effectively reconstruct the lives of other ancient persons who were also the subjects of Graeco-Roman biographies. After providing examples of three such methodological practices, Zolondek goes on to offer suggestions as to how scholars might apply them to the study of Jesus and, in doing so, end their long-running methodological quest.

MICHAEL VICKO ZOLONDEK earned his BA and MA in Religious Studies from Florida International University before going on to earn his PhD in New Testament Language, Literature, and Theology from the University of Edinburgh. His research focuses on the historical Jesus, and he teaches Religious Studies at Florida International University in Miami, Florida. He is the author of *We Have Found the Messiah* (2016).



Oral Performance and the Veil of Text

Detextification, Paul's Letters, and
the Test Case of Galatians 2–3

BEN F. VAN VEEN

978-1-6667-6295-2 | Forthcoming

It is common opinion in biblical scholarship that the biblical documents functioned in a sociocultural context dominated by the spoken word. *Detextification* is the result of addressing the complex relation between this formally acknowledged functioning in its original oral delivery and the daily praxis of biblical scholarship in which these documents function as autonomous texts in an ever-expanding universe of texts. The argument in this book is that in addition to acknowledging the difference in media (oral performance there and then versus reading text here and now), it is crucial to differentiate and explicate the mindsets behind these media. A literate reader in the present structures thought, vis-à-vis text, differently from someone intensively formed by oral-aural communication, in the moment of exposure to a performing orator. The latter perspective was Paul's in the process of his letter composition. Therefore, this is a leading question in *detextification*: How can a contemporary biblical scholar relate to the text of Paul's letters in such a way as to understand how the apostle envisioned his original addressees structuring their thoughts during the event of a letter's oral-aural delivery? Two test cases are provided from the Letter to the Galatians (Gal 2–3).

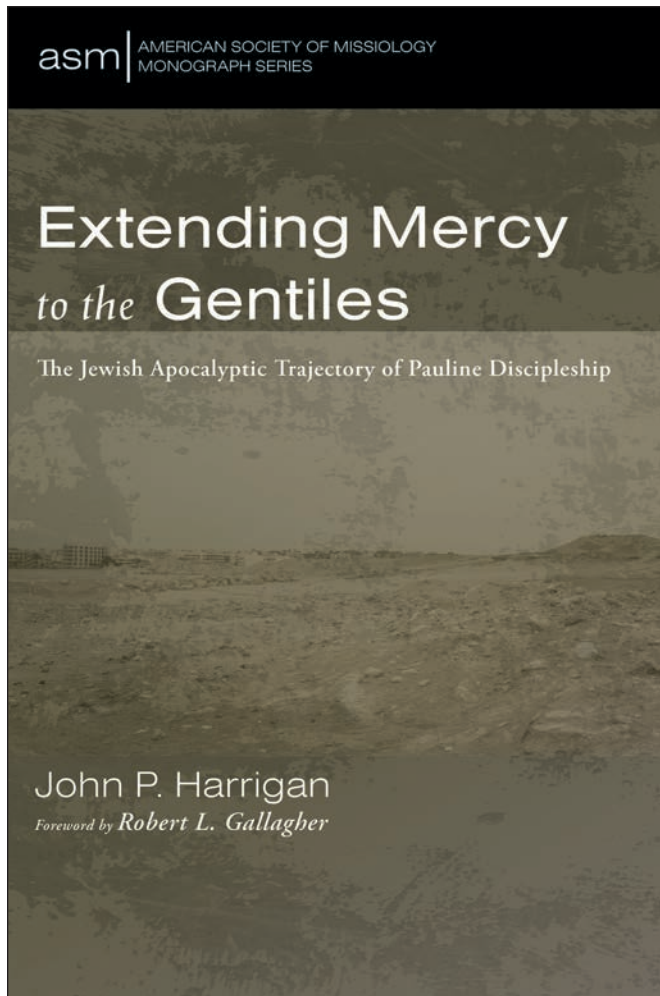
"Ben F. van Veen's insightful exploration adeptly bridges the gap between historical context and contemporary interpretation, prompting a serious reevaluation of our comprehension of ancient documents. For those captivated by the confluence of history, communication, and biblical studies, this book embarks on a journey that stimulates profound reflection."

—A. W. Zwiep, professor of hermeneutics, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

"Ben F. van Veen presents a thorough challenge to all textually trained scholars to fully embrace the different mindset of the New Testament authors. Employing a vast range of previous studies of orality, van Veen points to new avenues on how to study the New Testament and suggests ways to understand how Paul and other authors structured their thoughts in various forms of textual argumentation. Here scholarship will find help to transform oral theory to analytical interpretation."

—Samuel Byrskog, professor of New Testament studies, Lund University

BEN F. VAN VEEN received his PhD at the Vrije Universiteit (Amsterdam). He is currently a prison chaplain in the Netherlands.



Extending Mercy to the Gentiles

The Jewish Apocalyptic Trajectory
of Pauline Discipleship

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MISSIOLOGY MONOGRAPH SERIES

JOHN P. HARRIGAN

978-1-6667-6739-1 | 258 p. | \$35

Paul's discipleship agenda was defined by his native Jewish apocalyptic worldview. The novelties of his thought—namely, the death of Israel's Messiah, the unique gift of God's Spirit, and the intentional mission to the gentiles—seem to be framed within the common Jewish eschatological parameters of the day of the Lord, the judgment, the resurrection of the dead, and the messianic kingdom. Moreover, for Paul this eschatology was the primary driver of discipleship—comforting in the midst of tribulation, anchoring the gifts of the Spirit, and informing divine mission. Paul thus disciplined the gentiles into the hope of Israel.

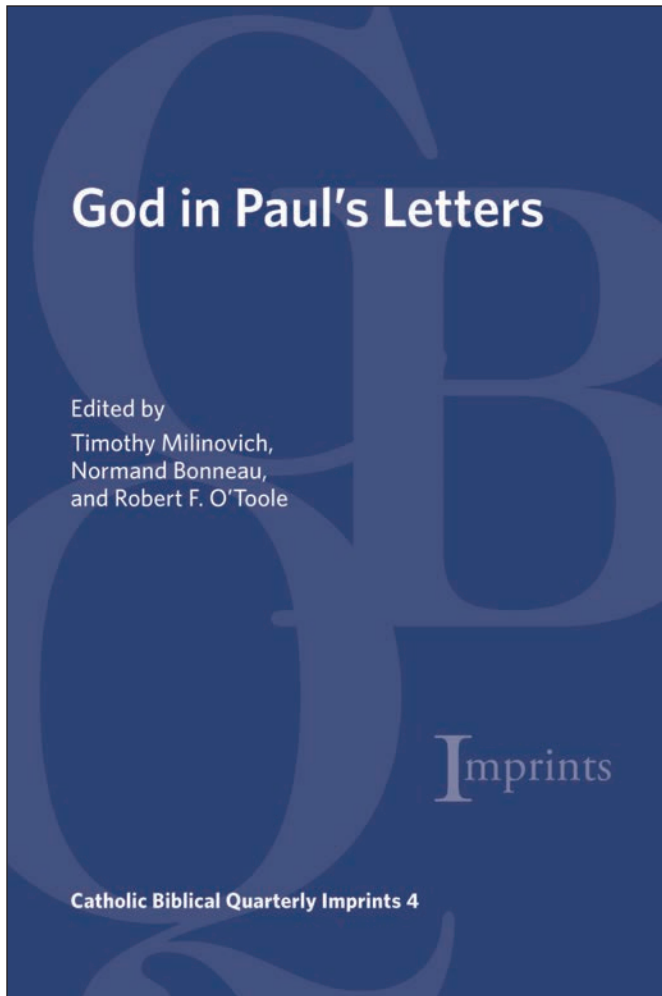
"Few books are as exciting and so prone to engage the reader from its opening chapters to its ending summary as *Extending Mercy to Gentiles*. This book is another signal to the body of Christ to observe how eschatology is the general driver of biblical theology and how we need as interpreters to be more 'Israelo-centric' in how we think and depict the message of the Bible. I heartily endorse this volume and pray for its wide appreciation in our day and times."

—Walter C. Kaiser Jr., president emeritus, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

"John Harrigan's *Extending Mercy to the Gentiles* brings fresh understanding of Pauline discipleship within the framework of Paul's indigenous Jewish apocalyptic worldview. With an intriguing thesis and argument sustained by excellent engagement with the literature, Harrigan prudently leads the reader to a strong conclusion: Paul disciplined Gentiles *into* the unaltered Jewish apocalyptic narrative, rather than away from it, together with the knowledge of God and hope of eternal life."

—Robert L. Gallagher, professor emeritus of intercultural studies, Wheaton College

JOHN P. HARRIGAN is a church planter and missions trainer. He and his family work in the Middle East and have a passion for the cross, the return of Jesus, and the Great Commission.



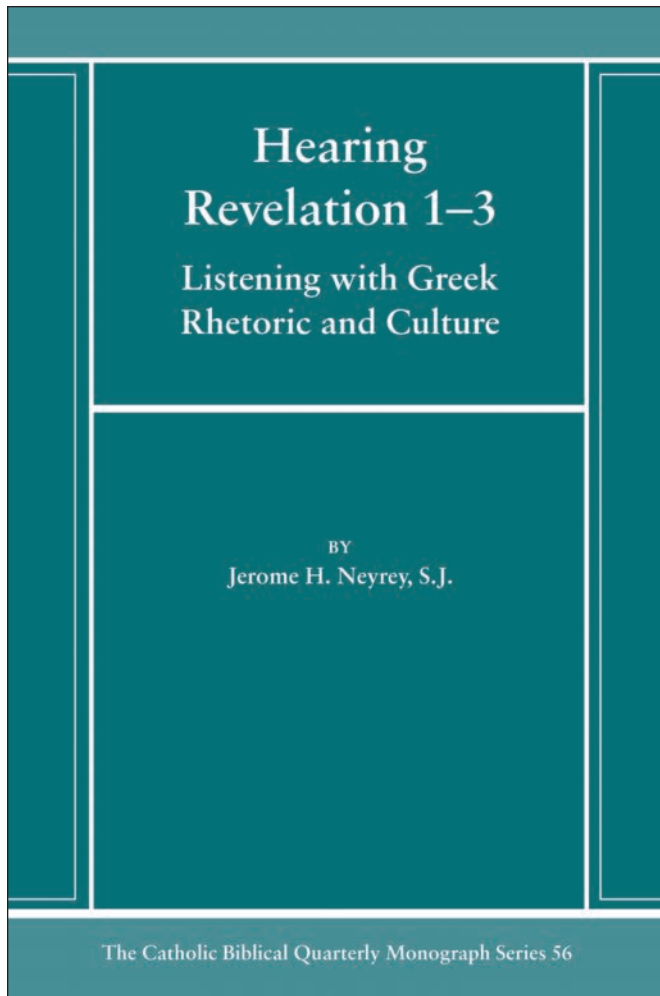
God in Paul's Letters

CATHOLIC BIBLICAL QUARTERLY IMPRINTS

**EDITED BY TIMOTHY MILINOVICH, NORMAND BONNEAU,
AND ROBERT F. O'TOOLE**

978-1-6667-8128-1 | 216 p. | \$28

In Pauline studies, where Christological questions have often carried the day, Paul's understanding of God is emerging to play an equally important role. What did it mean to the apostle that God is sovereign Lord of history and creation? This volume explores the various ways that the theme of God is foundational to Paul's seven undisputed letters, with attention to the diverse perspectives of each letter. In addition, the volume offers essays on overarching topics such as epistemology and the new creation that Paul describes in his writing. The authors engage as well challenging questions, including Paul's views on evangelizing all people, Jew and Gentile alike. Readers will come away with a deeper appreciation for both the theology and the Christology of Paul, whose understanding of God provides the key to the salvific plan realized in Christ.



Hearing Revelation 1-3

Listening with Greek Rhetoric and Culture

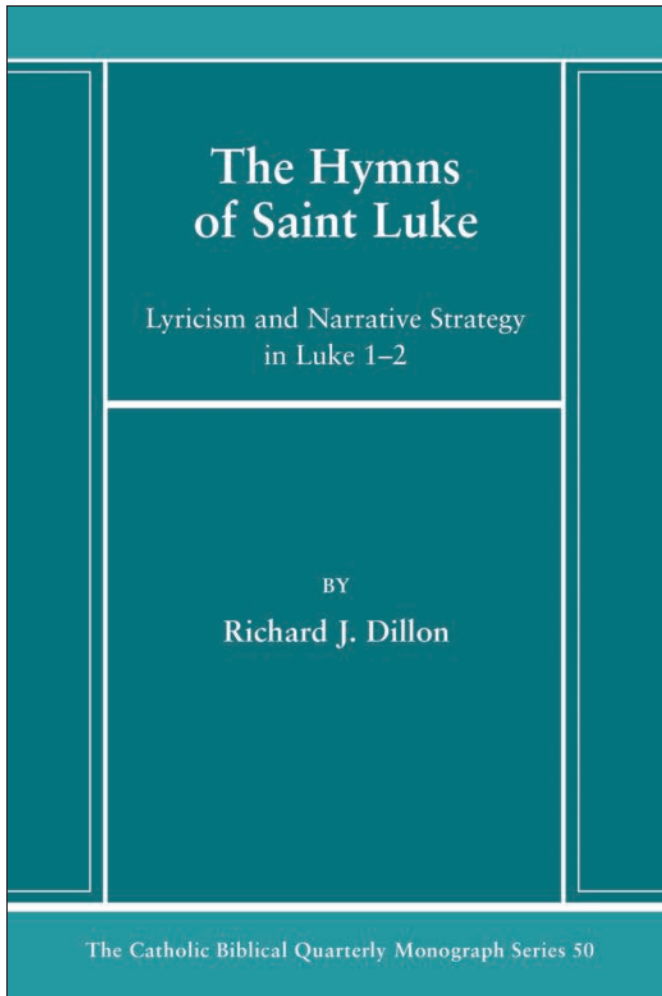
CATHOLIC BIBLICAL QUARTERLY MONOGRAPH SERIES

JEROME H. NEYREY SJ

978-1-6667-8751-1 | 224 p. | \$31

Recipients of Revelation listened to it, and heard it like other oral performances. Greek recipients knew not only Greek, but conventional ways of rhetorical presentation typical of Greek culture. They knew how works began (with a proemium, but with focus on speaker's ethos). Ethos of speaker was the first proof of persuading, and so audiences knew what one sounded like. They heard Revelation 1 as a continuous presentation, not like scholars pausing to examine each tile in the mosaic. The Speaker of Revelation 1-3 is Jesus – not John, who delivers God's revelation to the seven churches. After presenting himself in an impressive bodily manner, called an *ephrasis*, he addresses seven individual letters. He repeats appropriate aspects of his ethos in his address of each letter. The letter type is solely that of praise and blame. Because this type is opaque to modern readers, the monograph presents examples of letters of praise and of blame. Greek hearers, moreover, valued more than anything praise, honor and respect, and so these cultural values are presented in some detail. Finally, each of the seven letters is then examined in the light of praise and blame, which in this context means in terms of common understanding of the cardinal virtues: prudence, justice, courage, and temperance. The two dominant virtues turn out to be justice and courage. Since most commentators on Revelation consider the cities from the eyes of elite writers of antiquity, the mean character of urban life needs be brought into focus. Only then can the virtues of the non-elites be identified and given proper praise or blame. Whatever else goes on in Revelation, the first three chapters are thoroughly Greek in composition, structure, and values.

JEROME H. NEYREY, S.J., Professor Emeritus, University of Notre Dame, IN.



The Hymns of Saint Luke

Lyricism and Narrative Strategy in Luke 1–2

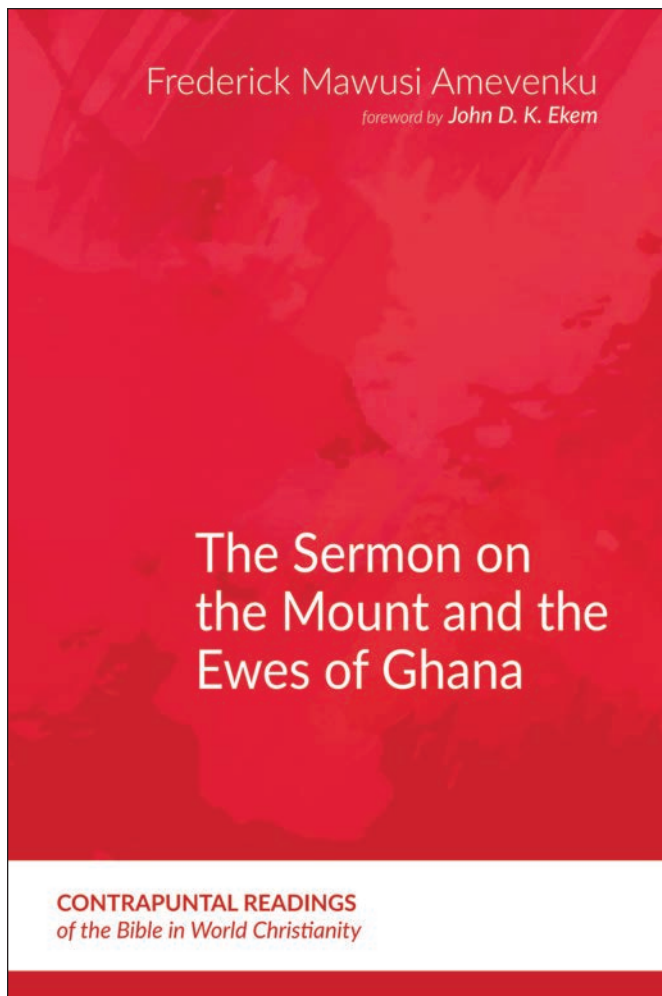
CATHOLIC BIBLICAL QUARTERLY MONOGRAPH SERIES

RICHARD J. DILLON

978-1-6667-8733-7 | 192 p. | \$28

The four canticles of Luke's birth story—the Magnificat, Benedictus, Gloria in excelsis, and Nunc dimittis—are taken to be integral components of the narrative and a sustained lyrical prelude to the author's two-volume historical work. Each composition is analyzed in three steps: proximate context; text; and macrocontext, the last displaying, in each case, a graded contribution to the cumulative preview of Luke's overall argument that the songs constitute. The summary impression made by this argument is of the author's decisive role in the creation of these passages, of which—save, perhaps, for the Benedictus—his is the originating hand.

RICHARD J. DILLON, Professor Emeritus of Theology, Fordham University, New York.



The Sermon on the Mount and the Ewes of Ghana

CONTRAPUNTAL READINGS OF THE BIBLE IN WORLD CHRISTIANITY

FREDERICK MAWUSI AMEVENKU

978-1-6667-5282-3 | Forthcoming

Using socio-rhetorical interpretation to study Matthew's Sermon on the Mount, the book explores the contextual interpretation of the sermon among the Ghana-Ewe. The book argues that the Sermon on the Mount can be viewed as Jesus' new kingdom gospel and a reinterpretation of the Mosaic law, teaching not only ethics but also kingdom-appropriate righteousness for theological and ethical renewal. Kingdom-appropriate righteousness is nurtured through daily exchanges with God, leading to habitual forgiveness and subsequent divine perfection of love for God and one's enemies. In the contemporary context, kingdom-appropriate righteousness challenges the deficient, "compulsory-wealth" (prosperity gospel) Christianity that is promoted in contemporary Ghana and elsewhere.

"It is a privilege to have read this book. Frederick Amevenku, with solemn passion and deep-rooted knowledge of the Ewe culture, assumes the position of authority and expertly underscores the need to hermeneutically engage the African indigenous cultures in order to make the gospel relevant in contemporary times. I strongly endorse and recommend this book to anyone wishing to have daily, closer encounters with the Lord."

—Senyo Adzei, lecturer in ethnomusicology, University of Cape Coast

"This book is a meticulous work on the Sermon on the Mount and its implications for the Ewe people of Ghana. Frederick Amevenku uses socio-rhetorical interpretation to explore the commonalities between the recipients of the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel and the Ewe religious, and his contextualization of Jesus' reinterpretation of the law to reflect kingdom-righteousness is an outstanding contribution for Ghana Ewe Christians."

—Eric Nii Bortey Anum, professor of New Testament studies, University of Cape Coast

"This book is a groundbreaking effort to theologize within a non-Western context, taking cognizance of insights from Western scholarship. Frederick Amevenku has made a brilliant contribution to the field of African biblical hermeneutics, and his book eloquently highlights the hydra-headed nature of

intercultural exegesis. It is highly recommended for use in both academic and non-academic circles."

—John D. K. Ekem, distinguished professor of biblical exegesis and mother tongue hermeneutics, Trinity Theological Seminary

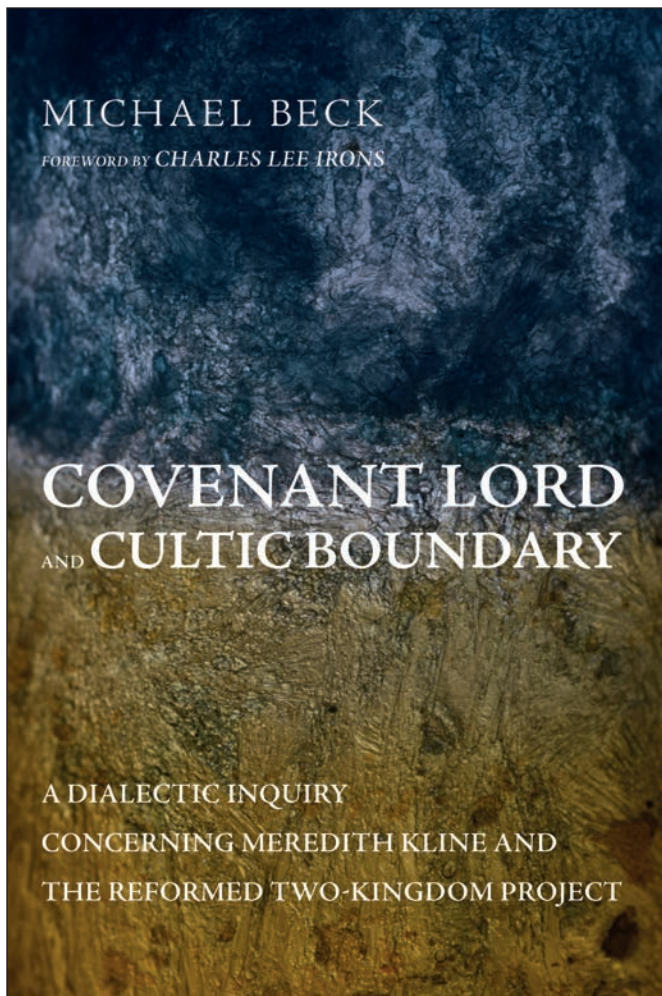
"Incisive, bold, and contrapuntally negotiating conventional scholarship in a contextually grounded study that grasps connections between biblical texts, exegetical labor, and contextual application, this book on liberating biblical interpretation and translation promotes mother tongue theologizing on the African continent and elsewhere and provides fresh perspectives on the Sermon on the Mount."

—Jeremy Punt, professor of New Testament, Stellenbosch University

"Frederick Amevenku's work is a careful exegetical and hermeneutical study of the Sermon on the Mount informed by socio-rhetorical interpretation and viewed from the perspective of the West-African Ewe culture. This is a highly relevant study which will be instrumental in correcting some misconceptions about the Sermon on the Mount in much of popular Christianity, and it will help the church to refocus its mission."

—Werner Kahl, professor of New Testament and early Christianity, Goethe University Frankfurt

FREDERICK MAWUSI AMEVENKU is an ordained minister of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Ghana, a senior lecturer and director of graduate studies at the Trinity Theological Seminary, Legon in Accra, Ghana, and a research fellow at Stellenbosch University, where he obtained his PhD. Amevenku has published many journal articles and several book chapters.



Covenant Lord and Cultic Boundary

A Dialectic Inquiry Concerning Meredith Kline and the Reformed Two-Kingdom Project

MICHAEL BECK

978-1-6667-3757-8 | 330 p. | \$42

The Reformed Two-Kingdom project has generated a great deal of literature. However, this literature is often characterized by inflamed rhetoric. Further, though it is standard fare to assume that Kline was the architect of the project, in reality, there has been very little scholarly examination of this point. In response, Kline's system is analyzed through the means of a dialectical discourse with three differing models within the Reformed tradition—the Theonomist, Perspectivalist, and Dooyeweerdian schools. Through this means, the study keeps away from surface-level polemics and instead directs readers to the critically important substructural level of current discussions. While clarifying some of the key differences between Kline and his interlocutors, often-overlooked points of nuance are also highlighted. These points are shown to be important in that they present the potential to lessen frustration and impasse in the ongoing dialogue.

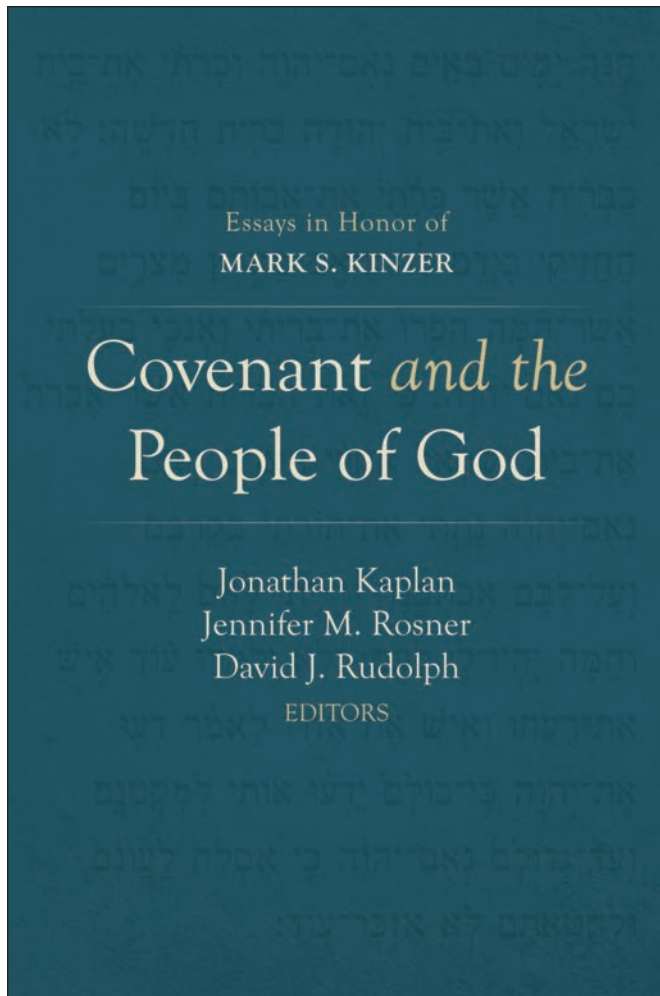
“*Covenant Lord and Cultic Boundary* establishes Michael Beck as a balanced and brilliant biblical theological and philosophical thinker. It is a remarkable achievement that I highly recommend for those who are yearning for a comprehensive and coherent biblical worldview. It will be of immense value for those readers actively participating in God's work of evangelism in the global mission field.”

—Jeong Koo Jeon, professor of biblical and systematic theology, Faith Theological Seminary

“The creative and confessional exegetical insights of Meredith G. Kline (1922–2007) have broad application for Reformed faith and life today. In this thought-provoking book, Michael Beck focuses on the formative influence of Kline's covenant theology in the development of Reformed Two-Kingdom thought. Readers will especially appreciate Beck's measured, balanced, and meticulously documented assessment of Kline's engagement with the alternative Reformed approaches of theonomy, perspectivalism, and neo-Calvinism (all, in Kline's judgment, forms of monocovenantalism).”

—John R. Muether, professor of church history, Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando, FL

MICHAEL BECK is a pastor at Gracenet Community Church as well as a lecturer of Old Testament and biblical theology at Grace Theological College (New Zealand). Michael also co-hosts the *Two-Age Sojourner* podcast. He has been married for nineteen years and has three children.



Covenant and the People of God

Essays in Honor of Mark S. Kinzer

EDITED BY **JONATHAN KAPLAN,**
JENNIFER M. ROSNER,
AND **DAVID J. RUDOLPH**

978-1-6667-3243-6 | 354 p. | \$45

Covenant and the People of God gathers twenty-four essays from friends and colleagues of Messianic Jewish theologian and New Testament scholar Mark S. Kinzer, in honor of his seventieth birthday. The essays are organized around two central themes that have animated Kinzer's work: the nature of the covenant and what it means to be the people of God. The volume includes fascinating discussions of some of the most sensitive areas related to Jewish-Christian dialogue, post-supersessionist interpretation of Scripture, and the theological shape of Messianic Judaism. Among the contributors are scholars working in North America, Europe, and Israel. They include: Gabriele Boccaccini, Douglas A. Campbell, Holly Taylor Coolman, Gavin D'Costa, Jean-Miguel Garrigues, Douglas Harink, Richard Harvey, Vered Hillel, Jonathan Kaplan, Daniel Keating, Amy-Jill Levine, Antoine Lévy, Gerald McDermott, Michael C. Mulder, David M. Neuhaus, Isaac W. Oliver, Ephraim Radner, Jennifer M. Rosner, David J. Rudolph, Thomas Schumacher, Faydra L. Shapiro, R. Kendall Soulen, Lee B. Spitzer, and Etienne Vetö.

"Few scholars have had more impact than Mark Kinzer. This extraordinary volume is more than a festschrift; it is a testimony to a vision and to its spiritual fruitfulness, rooted in deep faith. An ever-gracious interlocutor and a brilliant and creative thinker, Mark Kinzer has charted a path worthy of the utmost attention."

—Matthew Levering, Chair of Theology, Mundelein Seminary

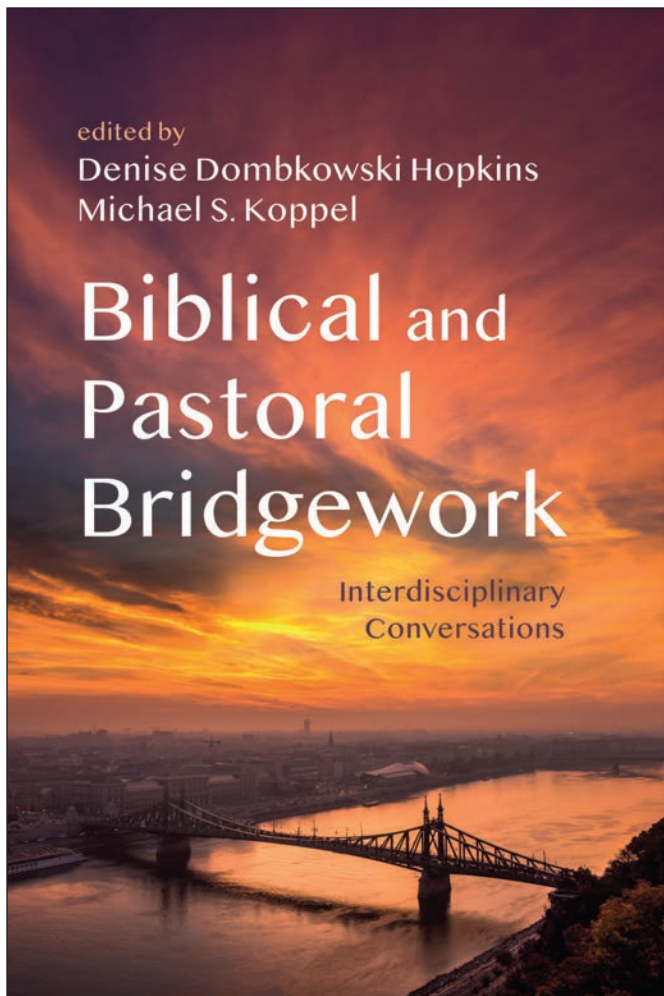
"Mark Kinzer has been a mentor and dialogue partner for many theologians of different religious affiliations wrestling with questions arising from the fact that Christ has called 'together a people made up of Jew and gentile' (*Lumen Gentium* §9). This festschrift of essays centering on Kinzer's vision of bilateral ecclesiology and the mission and witness of Jews in the church by an all-star cast of twenty-four scholars will be a catalyst to further reflection."

—Lawrence Feingold, Professor of Theology, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, St. Louis

"This beautiful volume includes essays by some of the most accomplished scholars working on the intersection between Judaism and Christianity. The notion that an observant Jew might confess Jesus as the Messiah will remain a complicated and controversial topic. There is no simple solution to this challenge, but this volume addresses a number of the sensitive dimensions of this issue in a non-polemical and post-supersessionist fashion."

—Gary A. Anderson, Professor of Catholic Theology, University of Notre Dame

JONATHAN KAPLAN is associate professor of Hebrew Bible and early Judaism at the University of Texas at Austin. Jennifer M. Rosner is affiliate assistant professor of systematic theology at Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California. David J. Rudolph is professor of New Testament and Jewish studies and director of Messianic Jewish studies at The King's University in Southlake, Texas.



Biblical and Pastoral Bridgework

Interdisciplinary Conversations

EDITED BY **DENISE DOMBKOWSKI HOPKINS** AND **MICHAEL S. KOPPEL**

978-1-6667-7533-4 | 230 p. | \$32

Whether singly or jointly authored, these essays model dynamic, interactive reading of human situations and biblical texts. The exchange between texts and human situations reveals the multivalent complexities of both human situations and scriptural texts, and cautions against a simplistic use of the Bible and of pastoral theory and practices. Drawing upon both texts throughout the Bible and diverse psychological theories, the authors bridge the long-standing divide between the “classical” and “practical” disciplines in biblical studies and pastoral care. The aim of this book is to spur readers’ imaginations toward critical engagement with the Bible and with one another to promote healing, connection, and justice in a world crying out for wholeness. Gems hidden in plain sight within the Bible can become powerful tools for illuminating the pains and promises of the human condition.

“In this book, both biblical scholars and pastoral theologians collaboratively invite readers to the intersectional dialogues that connect two seemingly distant topics, between the Bible and psychology, between loss and agency, between hurt and healing, between systemic exploitation and subversive counseling, between theory and praxis, and so on. Expounding biblical texts from the multifaceted yet tangible angles of pastoral theology, these collected essays champion ‘so what?’ questions, tellingly mapping out individual struggles and communal empowerment in the twenty-first century.”

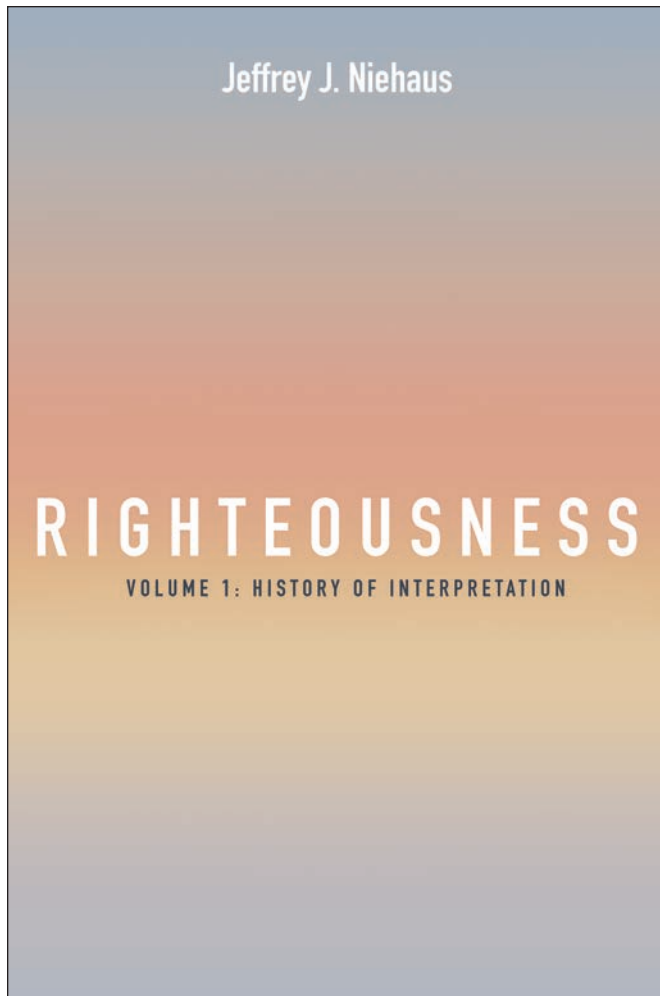
—Hyun Chul Paul Kim, professor of Hebrew Bible, Methodist Theological School in Ohio

“*Bridgework* offers readers a colorful tapestry of the ways biblical and pastoral theological methods enrich each other. Hopkins and Koppel have long been prominent voices in demonstrating that religious practitioners must engage their most sacred texts. Here they bring together several of today’s critical thinkers in extending this endeavor. This volume stretches the imaginations not only of biblical scholars and pastoral theologians, but of pastoral leaders, preachers, seminary students, and the religiously curious.”

—David A. Hogue, professor emeritus of pastoral theology and counseling, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

DENISE DOMBKOWSKI HOPKINS is Woodrow and Mildred Miller Professor of Biblical Theology and Hebrew Bible at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC, and author of *Psalms: Books 2–3* in the Wisdom Commentary Series (2016).

MICHAEL S. KOPPEL is Howard Chandler Robins Professor of Pastoral Theology and Congregational Care at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC, and author of *Body Connections: Body-Based Spiritual Care* (2021).



Righteousness

Volume 1. History of Interpretation

JEFFREY J. NIEHAUS

978-1-6667-3801-8 | 308 p. | \$40

The first volume of this three-volume work reviews the history of efforts to define biblical righteousness. Modern views are engaged and critiqued, from the seminal article (1860) by Ludwig Deibel (God's righteousness as the agreement of his will and purpose) to others in the theological stream known as the "New Perspective." Scholars discussed include Walther Eichrodt, Gerhard von Rad, Elizabeth Achtemeier, James D. G. Dunn and N. T. Wright. Other perspectives are also engaged, including H. H. Schmid's definition of righteousness as conformity to the created order (*Weltordnung*), John Piper's view that God's righteousness is God's concern for his own glory, and the traditional view, championed by C. L. Irons, that God's righteousness is his *iustitia distributiva*. The author examines these views, all of which have been supported by inductive studies, in light of a proposed alternative: that righteousness is conformity to God's Being and doing. That definition will be explored further in Volumes II (OT) and III (NT). Unlike previous studies, the present work proceeds deductively and experimentally, and thereby seeks to avoid the pitfalls of a dogmatic approach. Extra-biblical, patristic, medieval, and reformation views of righteousness are also considered as background to the modern study of righteousness.

"This book a meticulous and comprehensive study of the righteousness which is central to God's character and which defines all his actions. It is what makes redemption necessary, and it issues in the great summons to the church to be righteous as God is. Jeffrey Niehaus is a sure-footed guide through the complexities of some of the scholarly discussion because he never loses sight of what is really important. This is a study that will richly reward a careful reading."

—David F. Wells, author of *No Place for Truth*

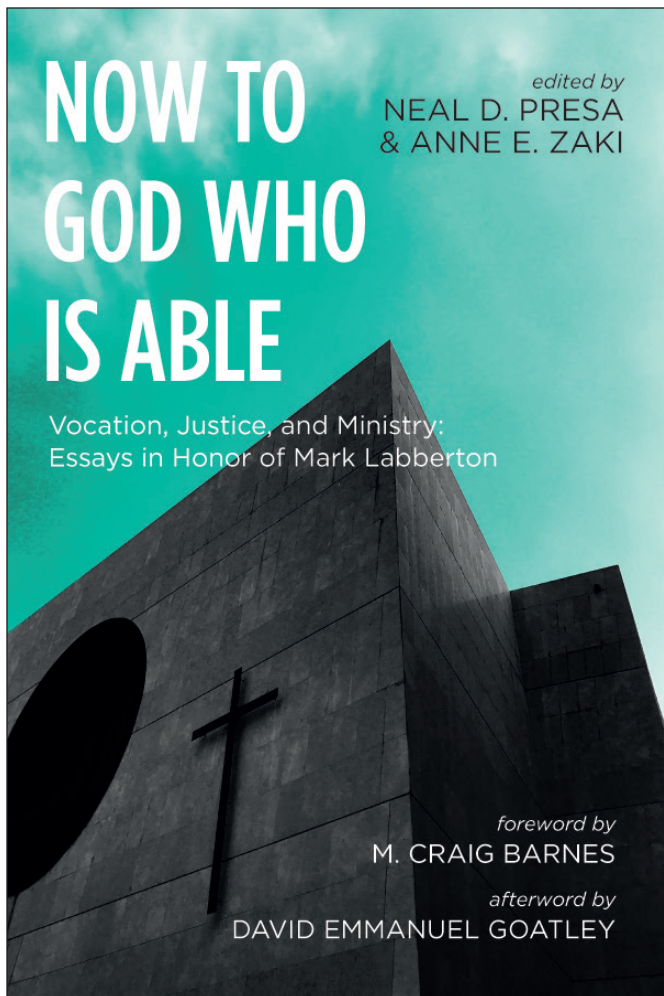
"Jeffrey Niehaus has provided a lucid and thoroughgoing account of 'righteousness' in Scripture against its historical background. Vol. 1 provides a helpful overview of the history of interpretation; his attention to the German language tradition will be especially useful to English-speaking readers. No student of this crucial topic can afford to miss Niehaus' valuable contribution."

—Sean M. McDonough, professor of New Testament, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

"Jeffrey Niehaus has produced the most comprehensive and careful study of the biblical concept of righteousness yet written. Many prior studies of the topic were theologically but not exegetically generated, and many followed the old notion that righteousness was conformity to the created order. Tracking and inductively analyzing—in exemplary detail—all the assertions about righteousness in both Testaments, he demonstrates convincingly that righteousness is conformity to God's being and doing. This book not only achieves its purpose, but serves as an example of how biblical theology can and should be done."

—Douglas Stuart, senior professor of Old Testament, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

JEFFREY J. NIEHAUS is senior professor of Old Testament at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.



Now to God Who Is Able

Vocation, Justice, and Ministry: Essays
in Honor of Mark Labberton

EDITED BY **NEAL D. PRESA** AND **ANNE ZAKI**

978-1-6667-4673-0 | Forthcoming

The triune God of justice has a mission in the world to which we are called to participate and partner. The awesome nature of that mission and vision inspires and animates this volume, *Now to God Who is Able*. An international array of Christian pastors, scholar activists, parachurch ministry leaders, and community organizers reflect critically on the theological, biblical, contextual, and practical dimensions of what it means to bear witness of the gospel orientated and anchored in God's justice. Using a trinitarian framework within the prophetic call to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God, this book speaks to the modern challenges and opportunities of the pastoral vocation, ecclesiology, hermeneutics, homiletics, ecumenism, theological education, and missional theology. Each essay and this book honor the more than four decades of ministry of Mark Labberton, who retired as president of Fuller Theological Seminary in 2023.

"From a richly diverse group of authors—not for the sake of performance but because *this* is how the transformative work of God always plays out—this volume seeks to carry forward the vast impact of Mark Labberton. Through the exegesis of the Scriptures, revelation of history, and thoughtful construction of theology, readers will hear their deepest questions articulated and be challenged and inspired to become part of the answers God is bringing about."

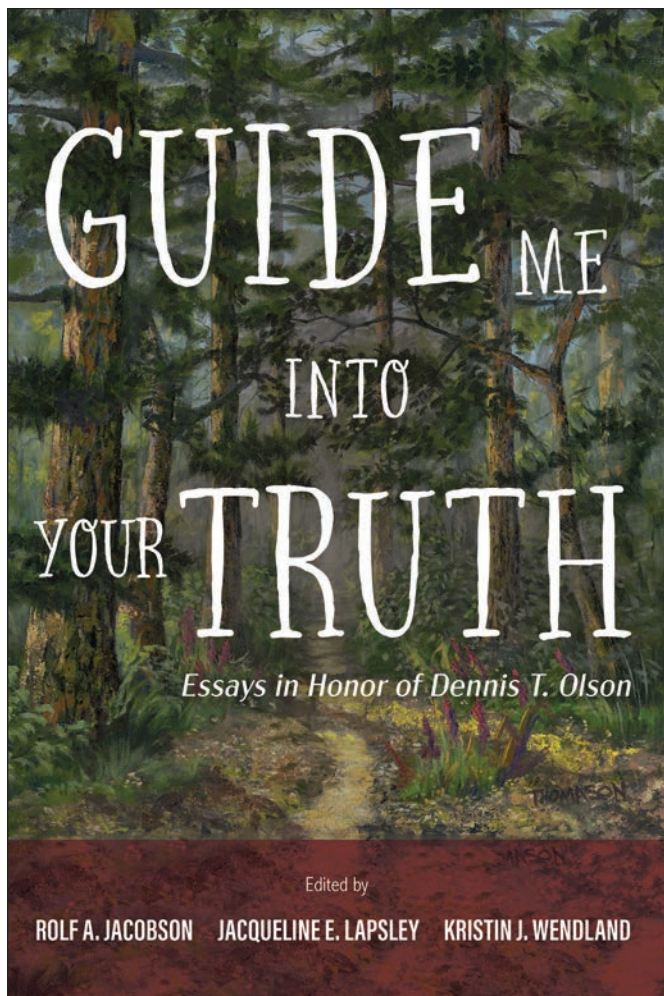
—Amy Peeler, professor of New Testament, Wheaton College

"*Now to God Who Is Able* is not only a fitting tribute to an extraordinary servant of the gospel, Mark Labberton, but also a most fitting tribute to our triune God who gives himself to us in that same gospel. Neal Presa and Anne Zaki deserve our thanks for assembling an exceptional collection of essays written by Mark's friends and colleagues, organized in both trinitarian and prophetic terms, calling us to follow Mark's example, as he follows the example of Christ. Highly recommended!"

—Todd Wilson, co-founder and president, Center for Pastor Theologians

NEAL D. PRESA is associate professor of preaching and worship and vice president of student affairs and vocational outreach at New Brunswick Theological Seminary and affiliate associate professor of preaching at Fuller Theological Seminary. He is the author of *Worship, Justice, and Joy* (Cascade, 2023).

ANNE E. ZAKI is assistant professor of preaching and practical theology at the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Cairo, Egypt and affiliate professor at Fuller Theological Seminary.



Guide Me into Your Truth

Essays in Honor of Dennis T. Olson

EDITED BY **ROLF A. JACOBSON, JACQUELINE E. LAPSLEY,
AND KRISTIN J. WENDLAND**

978-1-6667-6667-7 | Forthcoming

In his forty-plus years of work as a biblical scholar, Dennis Thoral Olson has illumined the meaning of the Bible for his readers and hearers in diverse ways. Among the topics he has taken up in his scholarship and teaching are the nature of leadership, life in community, the relation of science and theology, Jewish-Christian relations, repentance and forgiveness, and many, many more. In this essay collection, a number of Dennis's students, colleagues, and friends respond to the profound values and seminal ideas at the heart of his work and take up the profound question of truth as it pertains to Scripture, a question that Olson himself urged biblical scholars to consider in his inaugural address from over twenty years ago.

DENNIS T. OLSON is the Charles T. Haley Professor of Old Testament Theology and chair of the biblical studies department at Princeton Theological Seminary. He earned his MDiv from Luther Theological Seminary and his MA, MPhil, and PhD from Yale University. His academic interests are in literary approaches to Old Testament interpretation and Old Testament and biblical theology. He specializes in the Pentateuch and other narrative literature of the Old Testament. An ordained Lutheran minister, he has chaired the Convocation of Teaching Theologians for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Olson has served as a general acquisitions editor for the Society of Biblical Literature, a member of the Society of Biblical Literature Pentateuch steering committee, and he is currently the Pentateuch general editor for a thirty-volume project titled *The Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (de Gruyter).

ROLF A. JACOBSON is dean of the faculty, professor of Old Testament, and the Alvin N. Rogness Chair of Scripture, Theology, and Ministry at Luther Seminary. He is the coauthor (with Karl N. Jacobson) of *Divine Laughter* (2022) and author of *The Homebrewed Christianity Guide to the Old Testament* (2018).

JACQUELINE E. LAPSLEY is president and professor of Old Testament at Union Presbyterian Seminary. She is coeditor (with Neal D. Pressa) of *Poetic Living* (Pickwick, 2023), a coauthor of *Bible and Ethics in the Christian Life* (2018), and author of *Whispering the Word* (2005).

KRISTIN J. WENDLAND is associate professor of religion at Wartburg College. She holds a PhD in Old Testament from Princeton Theological Seminary.

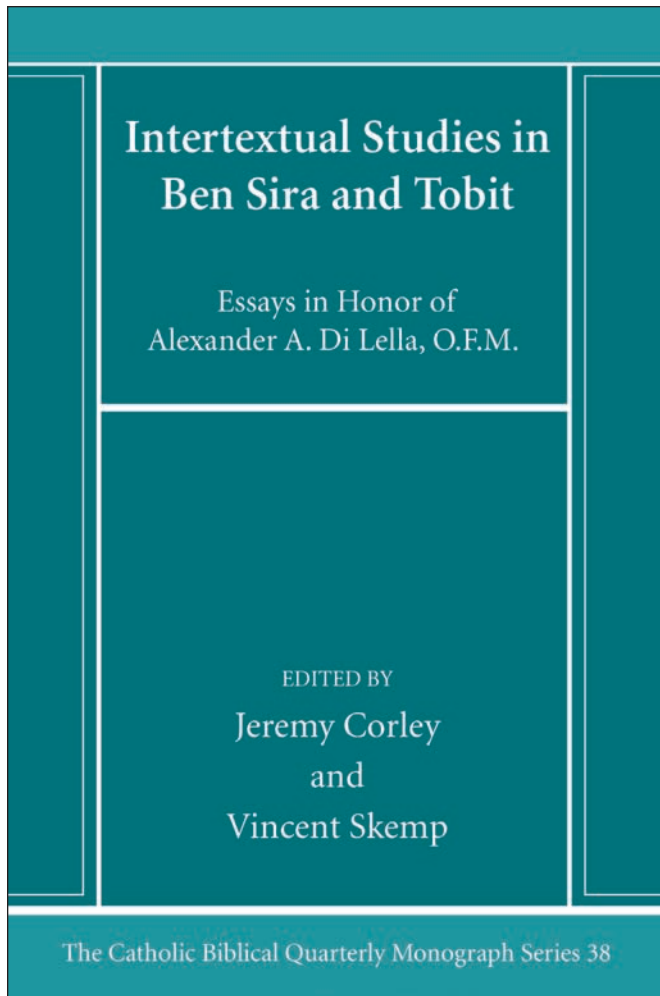


Biblical and Ancient Greek Linguistics, Volume 10

EDITED BY **STANLEY E. PORTER** AND **MATTHEW BROOK O'DONNELL**

978-1-6667-8886-0 | 86 p. | \$18

Biblical and Ancient Greek Linguistics (BAGL) is an international journal that exists to further the application of modern linguistics to the study of Ancient and Biblical Greek, with a particular focus on the analysis of texts, including but not restricted to the Greek New Testament. The journal is hosted by McMaster Divinity College and works in conjunction with its Centre for Biblical Linguistics, Translation and Exegesis, and the OpenText.org organization (www.opentext.org) in the sponsoring of conferences and symposia open to scholars and students working in Greek linguistics who are interested in contributing to advancing the discussion and methods of the field of research. *BAGL* is a refereed on-line and print journal dedicated to distributing the results of significant research in the area of linguistic theory and application to biblical and ancient Greek, and is open to all scholars, not just those connected to the Centre and the OpenText.org project.



Intertextual Studies in Ben Sira and Tobit

Essays in Honor of Alexander A. Di Lella, O.F.M.

CATHOLIC BIBLICAL QUARTERLY MONOGRAPH SERIES

EDITED BY **JEREMY CORLEY** AND **VINCENT SKEMP**

978-1-6667-8694-1 | 336 p. | \$43

This volume offers 17 essays on the apocryphal/deuterocanonical books of Ben Sira (Ecclesiasticus) and Tobit. Four essays explore Tobit's connections with Genesis (Irene Nowell), Job (Anathea Porter-Young), Psalms (Stephen Ryan), and the New Testament (Vincent Skemp), with a fifth considering the medieval Hebrew and Aramaic Tobit texts (Loren Stuckenbruck and Stuart Weeks). Five further essays examine Ben Sira's links with Genesis (Maurice Gilbert), Exodus (Friedrich Reiterer), Kings (Pancratius Beentjes), Prophets (Leo Perdue), and Proverbs (Jeremy Corley). Seven more essays on Ben Sira refer to the patriarch Joseph (Robert Hayward), Ezra (Michael Duggan), fear of God (Renate Egger-Wenzel), Qoheleth (Edward Owens), First Enoch (Benjamin Wright), Letter of James (Núria Calduch-Benages), and Matthew's Gospel (James Aitken).

JEREMY CORLEY is Lecturer in Sacred Scripture / Director of Research, Pontifical University St. Patrick's College, Maynooth.

VINCENT SKEMP is associate professor of religion, St. Catherine University, St. Paul, MN.



Divine Suffering

Theology, History, and Church Mission

EDITED BY **ANDREW J. SCHMUTZER**

978-1-7252-6827-2 | 326 p. | \$42

Divine Suffering is an inter-disciplinary study that draws from systematics, philosophy, biblical theology, and pastoral experience. In addition to covering topics like the suffering of the Father in the Son and God's cruciform vulnerability, this book also explores how divine suffering animates the Christian gospel and resonates in the ongoing persecution of believers. The study of the suffering God has everything to do with *Theology, History, and Church Mission*. Like exploring a cathedral from all its entrances, both scholars and seekers will find ample opportunity for theological challenge, biblical insight, and missional hope. To accomplish this, both Scripture and doctrine are closely investigated. Today, divine suffering must face the contemporary realities of protest atheism, escalating wars, new studies in relational theology, and dialogical personhood that presses the need to explain a Christian message about the kind of God who is not only transcendent but also personal. *Divine Suffering* introduces us to the history of God, not just the God of history. In this study, we meet a God available to our pain though not diminished by it. Mounting

situation. An impressively wide array of approaches and topics are well canvassed. A landmark book in defense of the suffering of God."

—Paul Rhodes Eddy, Bethel University

"*Divine Suffering* is a collection of essays committed to thinking through how God's transcendent being experiences and interacts with a world of suffering and sorrows. This is a serious exercise in wrestling with how God's god-ness is safeguarded even as he covenants with and participates in the human condition through his Son, Jesus Christ. A diverse range of perspectives for a difficult, yet profoundly stimulating topic."

—Michael F. Bird, Ridley College, Melbourne, Australia

"The authors of this book take us through the Bible and clearly demonstrate that the God of Scripture is not a distant God. He partners with our pain and suffering—indeed, 'Jesus wept' (John 11:35). These essays will be a blessing to many who wish to dig deep in Scripture and church history and prepare present and future generations to never give up hope when we go through pain and suffering."

—Samuel Naaman, Moody Bible Institute

"Ours is a broken, bloodied world. And our only hope for help and healing is the broken, bloodied God. *Divine Suffering* is a collection of essays with striking evenness and thematic continuity, and it sings of a reality that could hardly be more uplifting and glorious. This book brims with biblical, theological, and pastoral wisdom—a grand gift to the church's life and mission, especially for times such as these."

—John C. Clark, Moody Bible Institute

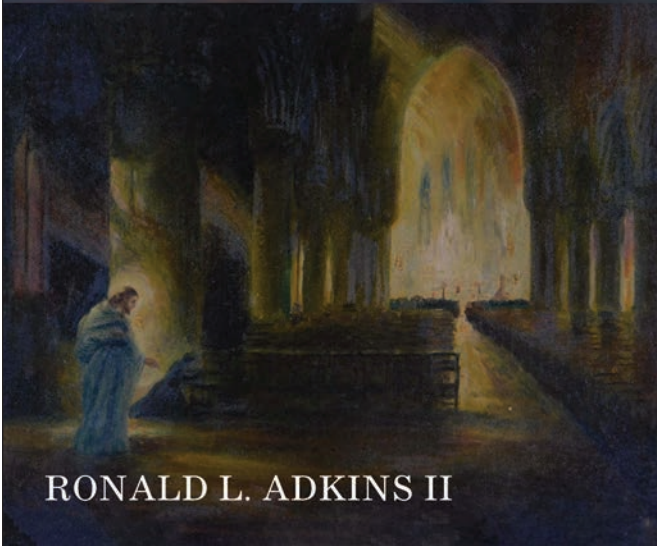
"This is a badly needed book. It pushes back against one of the ways in which historical, philosophical, and dogmatic systematic theology have overridden the biblical text and the needs of the Christian life in favor of a simplistic absolute view of God as static, non-interactive, and non-affective. Yes, God is sovereign, so the struggle in fallen creation cannot overcome him, but God has also chosen to struggle right along with us all along the way."

—Richard E. Averbeck, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

"The claim that God is *impassible*—that, since God cannot be affected by anything external to himself, God does not suffer—has been a plank of classical theism through the centuries. In this book, Andrew J. Schmutzer assembles a solid team of authors to scrutinize anew this long-standing theological propo-

ANDREW J. SCHMUTZER is Professor of Biblical Studies at Moody Bible Institute. He is the author of *Esther* (2018) and co-editor of *The Psalms: Explorations in Theological Themes* (2022).

Trinitarian Pneumatological Personhood *and the* Theology of John Zizioulas



RONALD L. ADKINS II

Trinitarian Pneumatological Personhood and the Theology of John Zizioulas

RONALD L. ADKINS II

978-1-6667-3671-7 | 332 p. | \$43

In a growing secular society, what distinguishes a Christian from a non-Christian? Is a Christian identified by certain religious and ceremonial activity, social action, principles, or do their relationships identify them as Christian? This book suggests that a Christian person is in a continual relationship with the Triune God through the Holy Spirit. Furthermore, this living relationship reflects the eternal relationship of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, because people have been created in the image and likeness of the Triune God.

This book uses historical, theological, philosophical, and biblical approaches to understand the Christian person. Throughout this book, the reader will be engaged with the modern Greek theologian, John Zizioulas. However, this book is a study on the person of the Holy Spirit, though never separated from the trinitarian relationship, who makes a human person a Christian.

“Ronald Adkins highlights the personal dynamics in the Christian understanding of the Trinity, based on the pneumatological (Spirit-oriented) theology of John Zizioulas. Zizioulas and Adkins emphasize the relationships between God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, which help us to focus on right relations as much (or more) than on right beliefs about the Trinity.”

—Don Thorsen, Azusa Pacific Seminary

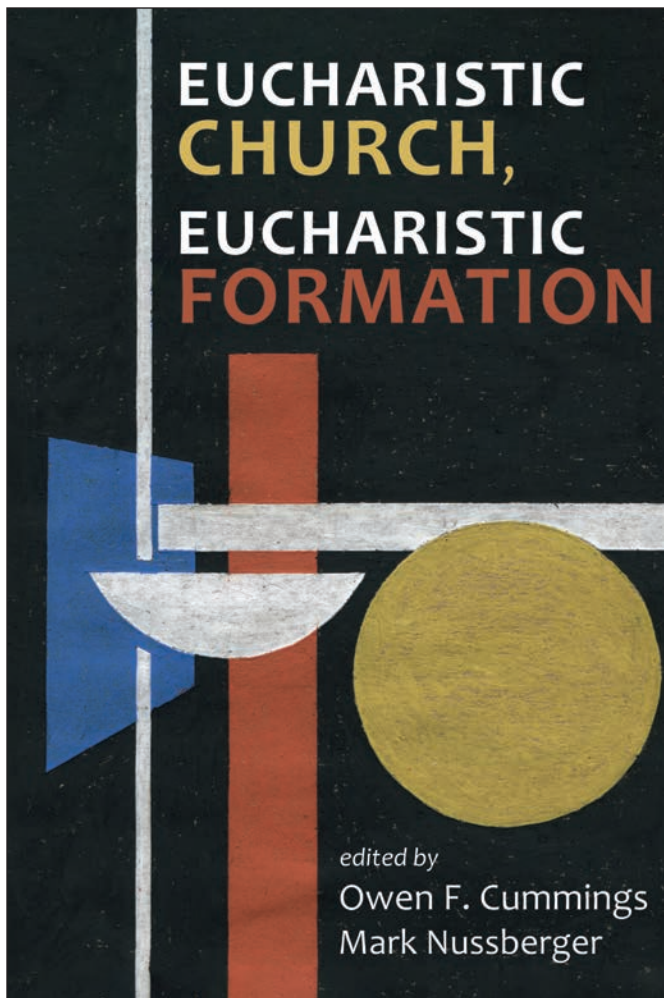
“As Pergamum’s angel once received praise and critique from the Revelator (Rev 2:12–17), so does its current bishop, Greek Orthodox theologian John Zizioulas, from Ronald Adkins. Writing as a Wesleyan evangelical, he recognizes how his own tradition (and Pentecostals too) can profit from Zizioulas’s theology of personhood while correcting its deficiencies. This volume advances the ecumenical cross-fertilization of the Trinitarian renaissance. As the Revelator would say: Those who have an ear, let them hear!”

—Jerome Van Kuiken, Oklahoma Wesleyan University

“Nearly forty years on from John Zizioulas’s seminal work on personhood, Ron Adkins addresses its impact on how we should view the human person. Adkins challenges the reader to think through what it means for human personhood to be made alive in and through Jesus Christ, whose own personhood is radically Trinitarian. For anyone interested in theological anthropology, especially from a specifically Trinitarian perspective, this is a *must-read*.”

—Graham McFarlane, London School of Theology

RONALD L. ADKINS II is the pastor of the Urbana Church of Christ in Christian Union. He has earned a BA, Ohio Christian University; MDiv, Wesley Biblical Seminary; STM, Trinity Lutheran Seminary; and PhD London School of Theology, Middlesex University. He has been a Conference Superintendent, Pastor, and Professor. Ron and his wife Jan have four children.



Eucharistic Church, Eucharistic Formation

EDITED BY OWEN F. CUMMINGS AND MARK NUSSBERGER

978-1-6667-4761-4 | 182 p. | \$27

Theological colleges preparing ministerial candidates for ordination are constantly engaged in revising their curricula. In the American Catholic Church at this time (in 2022), this process is guided by the US bishops' document the *Program of Priestly Formation*. Mount Angel Seminary believes that its theological curriculum centered on the Eucharist and known as communion ecclesiology offers an integrated approach to priestly formation in all four dimensions of that document: academic, personal, spiritual, and pastoral. The various essays in this book both illustrate how this is done and offer an example to other institutions involved in priestly formation.

"I was happily surprised to learn of Mount Angel Seminary's theological curriculum based in communion/eucharistic ecclesiology. It already has in place what Pope Francis asks for in *Desiderio desideravi* (n. 37): 'The plan of studies for the Liturgy in seminaries must take account of the extraordinary capacity that the actual celebration has in itself to offer an organic and unified vision of all theological knowledge.' Mount Angel has set an example that deserves wider attention."

—Archbishop Vittorio Viola, archbishop secretary, Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments

"In his famous book, *Models of the Church*, the late Cardinal Avery Dulles gave Catholics multiple perspectives through which to view the church. Now we have another perspective, given to us by Owen F. Cummings and Mark Nussberger, editors of *Eucharistic Church, Eucharistic Formation*, and that is the perspective of 'communion ecclesiology.' The reader will find in these pages the pastoral theology of Pope Francis, a theology of encounter and journey."

—Archbishop John C. Wester, archbishop, Santa Fe, New Mexico

"This book provides a eucharistic vision and understanding of priestly identity and formation, of ministry specifically and of the Christian life in general. I commend this book not only to seminarians and priests for their formation

and ongoing formation and to all who are interested in priestly formation and ministry in the church, but also to all who seek to live the communion that is our faith and life in the Lord Jesus Christ."

—Msgr. Joseph Betschart, Mount Angel Seminary

"Each of these essays is a jewel that complements and supports the central jewel in the crown of Catholicism—the celebration of the Eucharist. All of these authors (monks and the lay faithful) are true disciples of St. Benedict and write from the heart and soul of the monastic charism as it serves the whole church. Each of the essays is a piece of a carefully crafted mosaic that when taken together can shape seminary (university, college) curriculum."

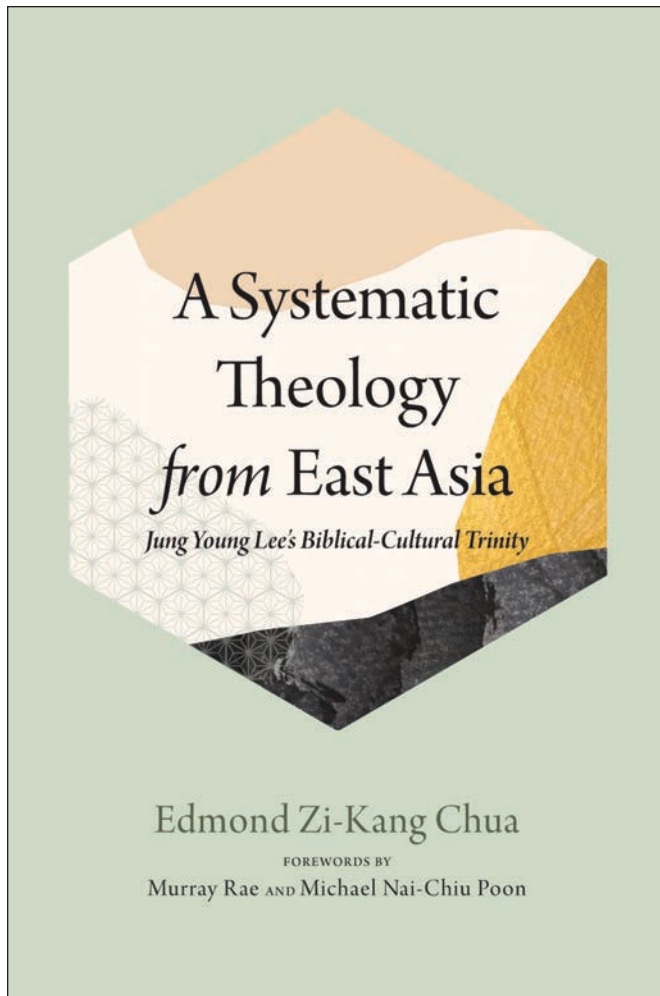
—Kevin W. Irwin, Catholic University of America

"This volume is a precious result of and witness to an admirable initiative of Mount Angel Abbey and Seminary which deserves to be much more widely known and imitated. Mount Angel eagerly embraced the challenge of integrating its curriculum several decades ago, and, as this valuable collection of studies and reflections by teachers and formators directly involved shows, thoughtfully sustains that effort still today, to the great benefit not only of its students and faculty, but ultimately of the church itself."

—Paul McPartlan, Catholic University of America

OWEN F. CUMMINGS is Distinguished Regents' Professor of Theology at Mount Angel Seminary.

MARK NUSSBERGER is associate professor of Sacred Scripture at Mount Angel Seminary. The various contributions in this volume come from colleagues in the graduate school of theology.



A Systematic Theology from East Asia

Jung Young Lee's Biblical-Cultural Trinity

EDMOND ZI-KANG CHUA

978-1-6667-6319-5 | 282 p. | \$38

A *Systematic Theology from East Asia: Jung Young Lee's Biblical-Cultural Trinity* considers the Trinitarian theology of Jung Young Lee, a twentieth-century Korean American theologian, unique for being based on the Bible but also inspired by the *Book of Changes*, a classical text from East Asian culture with wide appeal. This monograph examines the Christian scriptural-traditional and cultural roots of Lee's doctrines of God and the Trinity as twin pillars of his systematic theological system bearing out God's nature, purposes, and guidance for humanity and the world. In addition, this book outlines the autobiographical milieu of Lee's theology, its contribution to three distinct fields of Trinitarian doctrine (immanent-economic trinitarianism, social Trinity theory, and Cappadocian trinitarianism), and culminates in an assessment of Lee as a systematic theologian from East Asia, comparing Lee with other Asian American theologians.

"Chua is a meticulous scholar whose work deserves serious consideration. As well as introducing a wider readership to the life and work of Jung Young Lee, the quality and caliber of Chua's theological discussion is itself first-rate and most instructive. This work will, I am sure, serve to establish Chua as a most competent systematic theologian in his own right."

—Douglas Pratt, honorary professor of theology and religious studies, University of Auckland

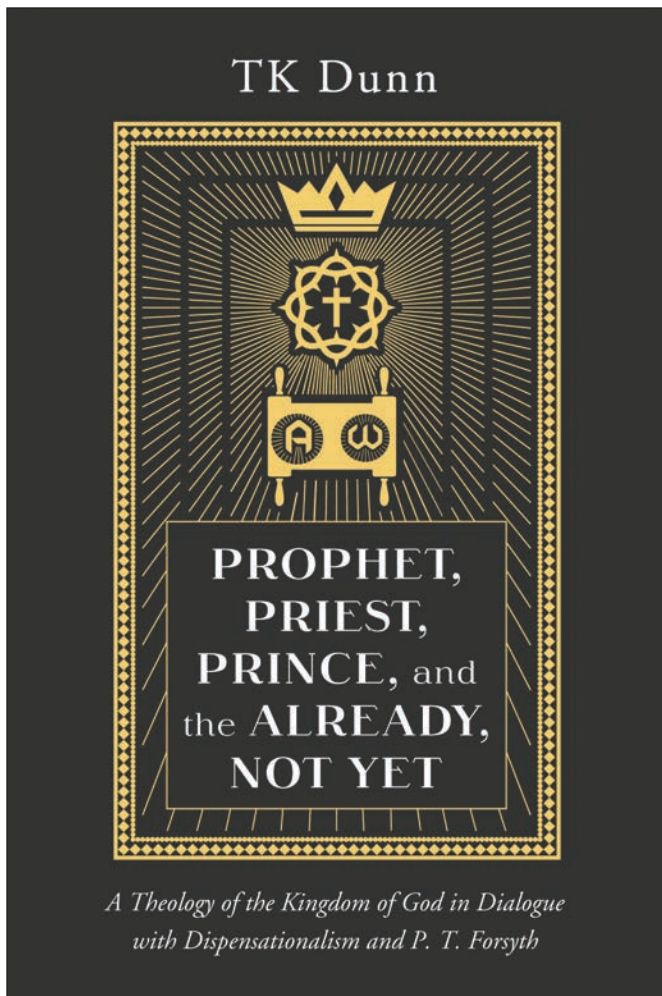
"*A Systematic Theology from East Asia* is a patient and groundbreaking study in world Christianity. Chua's research is among the first attempts to assess the dogmatic contribution of Christian thinkers of Asian ethnic origins amid huge geopolitical changes in the late twentieth century. Chua's book draws attention to the place of canonical texts and philosophical traditions, from both the East and the West, in the making of Christianity—and to the central tenets of the Christian faith."

—Michael Nai-Chiu Poon, honorary research fellow, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

"As a Chinese Singaporean who has studied within the Western theological academy and who traverses both Western and East Asian conceptual worlds, Edmond Chua is an astute guide to the theology of Jung Young Lee. He offers both a clear explanation of Lee's theological project and a perceptive analysis of the ways in which Lee's Trinitarian theology departs from and challenges Western theological thinking. I am pleased to commend this book."

—Murray Rae, professor of theology, University of Otago

EDMOND ZI-KANG CHUA is an academic researcher in trinitarian, patristic, Asian, and systematic theology. He is the author of 'God-ness', 'God-ity', and *God* (2015; 2nd ed., 2022) on trinitarian coherence, as well as *Experience, Culture and Religion in Systematic Theology* (2023).



Prophet, Priest, Prince, and the Already, Not Yet

A Theology of the Kingdom of God in Dialogue with Dispensationalism and P. T. Forsyth

TK DUNN

978-1-6667-6070-5 | 244 p. | \$33

Using the enigmatic theological expression of P. T. Forsyth, TK Dunn explores how a holistic and comprehensive interpretation of the threefold office of Christ undermines three critical areas of dispensational theology: the literal hermeneutic, disdain for the church catholic, and a convoluted interpretation of the end times focused on ethnic, corporate Israel. Interacting with liberalism as Forsyth's foil, and using the exegetical analysis of Scripture by G. E. Ladd, Dunn argues that the kingdom of God is not the human-driven utopia dreamed of by liberal scholars nor a dystopic, disconnected future realm exclusively for ethnic, corporate Israel; rather, the kingdom must be understood as the dominion of Christ's reign over a redeemed people who order their lives according to his gospel. Access to the kingdom, therefore, is open to all who are redeemed by the priestly work of Christ, submit to the king's constitution, and thereby live according to the prophetic proclamations of kingdom life.

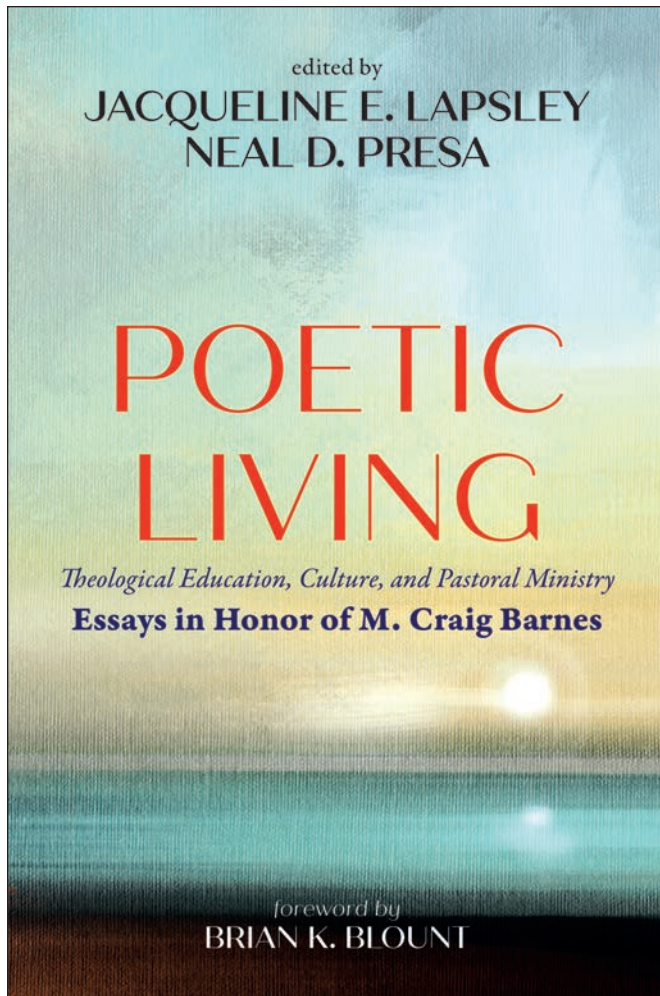
"From the very beginnings of Christianity, the question of what is meant by the coming of the kingdom of God has preoccupied believers. In a sensitive way, TK Dunn draws on biblical and theological material to bring wisdom to troubled ecclesial, eschatological, and—even—political waters. There is much in here for pastors and professors alike to engage in relation to the history of the church, biblical theology, and systematics."

—Tom Greggs, author of *Breadth of Salvation: Rediscovering the Fullness of God's Saving Work*

"At a time in which 'kingdom theology' appears to be making a comeback, TK Dunn's thesis is an important addition to the conversation. Leaning upon the cross-centered hermeneutics of Scottish theologian P.T. Forsyth, Dunn offers a robust critique of the dispensationalist eschatologies which have had such a significant impact on modern evangelicalism and arguably the modern world. What emerges is a rigorous, readable, and fascinating theological account of the church's relationship to the past, present, and ongoing work of Christ as prophet, priest, and king."

—Aaron P. Edwards, author of *Taking Kierkegaard Back to Church: The Ecclesial Implications of the Gospel*

TK DUNN is associate professor of history and theology at CIU. He lives in Columbia, South Carolina, with his wife, Yesenia, and dog, Wellington.



Poetic Living

Theological Education, Culture, and Pastoral Ministry: Essays in Honor of M. Craig Barnes

EDITED BY **JACQUELINE E. LAPSLEY AND NEAL D. PRESA**

978-1-6667-4751-5 | 170 p. | \$26

Poetic Living offers timely and provocative insights on the present and future trajectory of theological education, faith and culture, and pastoral ministry from an intergenerational, interdisciplinary array of pastors, scholars, and theologians. In doing so, these writers honor the ministry of M. Craig Barnes, the seventh president of Princeton Theological Seminary.

“*Poetic Living* describes the life and ministry of Craig Barnes. Celebrated scholars, theologians, and pastoral leaders bear witness to Barnes’s faithful leadership at an unprecedented time in theological education and the church. The essays translate the impact of this president, preacher/poet, and pastor, who served a premier seminary at a time of sociocultural, theological, and educational disruption for ‘such a time as this’ (Esth 4:14).”

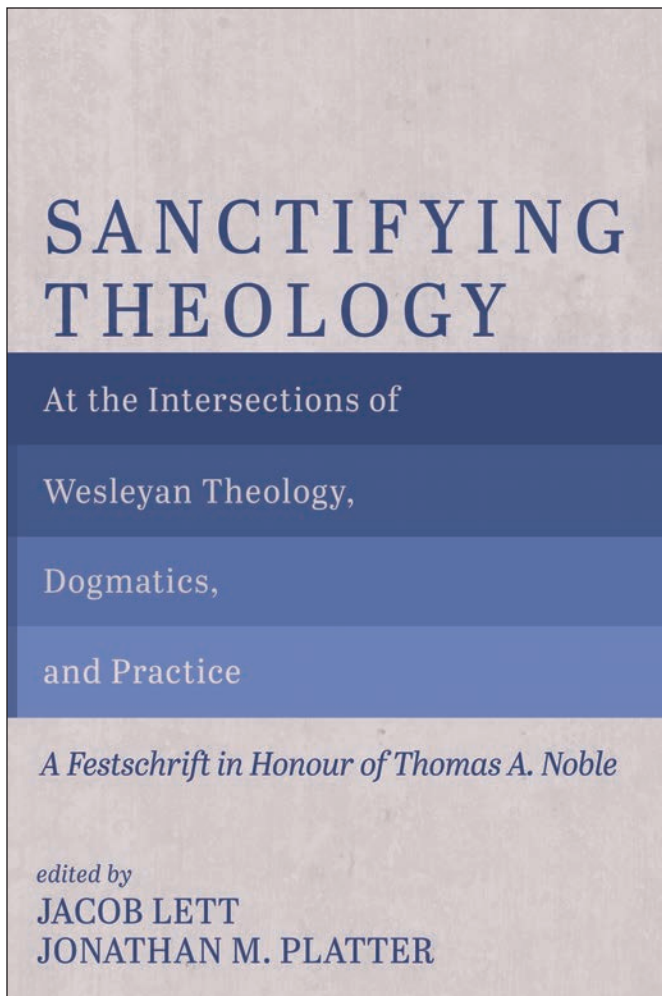
—Frank Yamada, executive director, Association of Theological Schools

“Every few years a pastor-theologian redefines the scope of leadership in higher theological education. *Poetic Living* is an impactful collection of essays depicting the core underpinnings of a thoughtful and strategic servant-leader, the Rev. Dr. M. Craig Barnes. Infused with personal and theological accounts from inspiring leaders, *Poetic Living* is an invitation, in these uncertain times, to connect with what is beautiful in God’s call to ministry while exploring our own shared reality with those we serve.”

—Victor Aloyo Jr., president and professor of practical theology, Columbia Theological Seminary

JACQUELINE E. LAPSLEY is president and professor of Old Testament at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond and Charlotte.

NEAL D. PRESA is vice president of student affairs and vocational outreach and associate professor of preaching and worship at New Brunswick Theological Seminary.



Sanctifying Theology

At the Intersections of Wesleyan Theology, Dogmatics, and Practice—A Festschrift in Honour of Thomas A. Noble

EDITED BY **JACOB LETT** AND **JONATHAN M. PLATTER**

978-1-6667-9129-7 | 266 p. | \$36

Sanctification is not merely a “practical” and isolated doctrine but should permeate the whole horizon of theology: dogmatics, ethics, practices, as well as the sciences and the arts. The essays are collected under the twin convictions that theology can be sanctified and sanctifying. The whole of theology is inflected by holiness, and so theology should aim to share in God’s sanctifying work. *Sanctifying Theology* contributes new possibilities in Wesleyan-holiness theology and explores their contribution to various Christian doctrines and contemporary issues. Written in honor of the work of Thomas Arthur Noble, the essays in this book are attentive to the streams of theology that have most influenced him: the fathers, the Wesleys, and the Torrances. Both constructive and exploratory, the topic of the essays cover, among other things, (1) consideration of how Wesleyan-holiness theologies contribute to ecumenical theological discussions, (2) readings of Wesleyan-holiness theology through the lens of the church fathers and the Torrances, and (3) explorations of how these conversations and sources might shape contemporary practical and

“This volume is a fitting tribute to Tom Noble, the most prominent Wesleyan systematic theologian of our time. The essays model Noble’s passion for clarifying and reclaiming traditional convictions in conversation with the sciences, arts, and vital Christian practices. Highly recommended.”

—Randy L. Maddox, professor emeritus of Wesleyan and Methodist studies, Duke Divinity School

“This Festschrift in honor of Professor Thomas Noble is a fitting tribute to his life, churchmanship, and theological contributions to the Catholic and Wesleyan traditions. The range of scholarly essays on Wesleyan theology and its relationship to the wider evangelical and Catholic traditions, with chapters on systematics, worship, the arts, biblical studies, neuroscience, evangelism, and theological research, adds to the value and appeal of this excellent Festschrift.”

—Geordan Hammond, director, Manchester Wesley Research Centre

“Great teachers are among the gifts of the Holy Spirit to the church. The truly great ones absorb and pass along the teaching once delivered to the saints in ways that help it live anew and afresh in the lives of their students. *Sanctifying Theology* witnesses to the work of such a teacher. Professor Noble has inspired a new generation of Wesleyan theologians, and if this volume is any indication, our future is in good hands.”

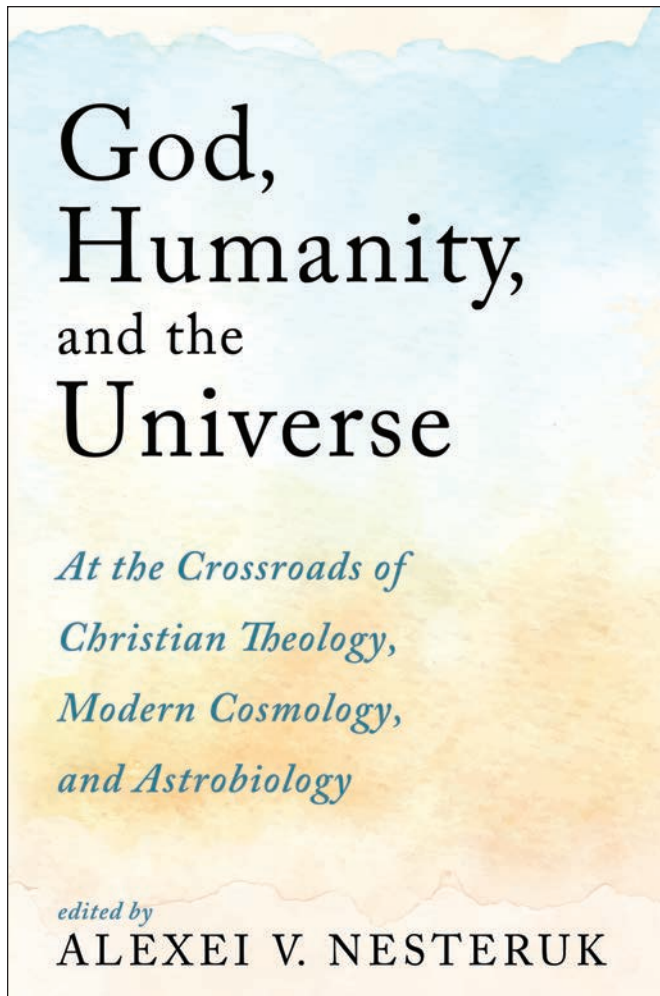
—Jason E. Vickers, professor of theology and Wesleyan studies, George W. Truett Theological Seminary

“This rich and stimulating collection of essays offers valuable insight into the theology of the Christian life. In seeking to apply the traditions of the church to contemporary concerns, its authors have provided a most fitting tribute to the many achievements of Tom Noble.”

—David Fergusson, regius professor of divinity, University of Cambridge

JACOB LETT is senior lecturer in theology and dean of the faculty at Nazarene Theological College at Manchester. He is the author of *Hans Urs von Balthasar’s Theology of Representation* (2023).

JONATHAN M. PLATTER is associate professor of theology at MidAmerica Nazarene University in Olathe, Kansas. He is the author of *Divine Simplicity and the Triune Identity* (2021).



God, Humanity and the Universe

At the Crossroads of Christian Theology,
Modern Cosmology, and Astrobiology

EDITED BY ALEXEI V. NESTERUK

978-1-6667-7660-7 | 336 p. | \$43

The main objective of this book on cosmology and theology is to reassess the current approach to research in the field of interaction, mediation, and dialogue between modern cosmology and Christian theology (Eastern Orthodox theology in particular). This project was part of wide-ranging cross-disciplinary research undertaken by scientists, philosophers, and theologians across the world within the framework of Science & Orthodoxy around the World, run by the National Hellenic Research Foundation (Athens) from 2019 to 2023. The project and this publication contribute to the large-scale academic activity in the field of science and religion (or science and theology) with a particular accent on the contribution of Eastern Orthodox theology to this dialogue, as well as to the venues of advancement of this theology given the recent breakthroughs in cosmology, physics, and philosophy. The book also underlines the importance of expressing cosmological ideas theologically, symbolically, and scientifically in the wide context of culture and humanity's sociopolitical and environmental predicaments.

"This volume represents a new deep insight into the dialogue between Orthodox Christian theology and modern views about the universe and man's place in it. One of the distinct features of this collective effort is to raise some deep questions that challenge traditional theology. It is usually assumed that in its appropriation of modern scientific ideas theology remains intrinsically static. This collective monograph proposes that engaging with modern scientific ideas can lead to the advancement of theological understanding."

—Konstantin Litvinenko, research fellow and teaching fellow in physics, University of Surrey

"*God, Humanity, and the Universe* is a fascinating, informative, and insightful philosophical exploration and elaboration of humans' relationship to the cosmos. Utilizing traditional patristic writings and biblical narratives, complemented by a contemporary Western Christian perspective, the book invites readers to use science-theology interaction and their own imagination to explore issues such as: the plurality of worlds, divine incarnation (once or multiple times?), and the possibility that other intelligent beings might be humans' neighbors in the vast cosmos."

—John Hart, professor emeritus of Christian ethics, Boston University School of Theology

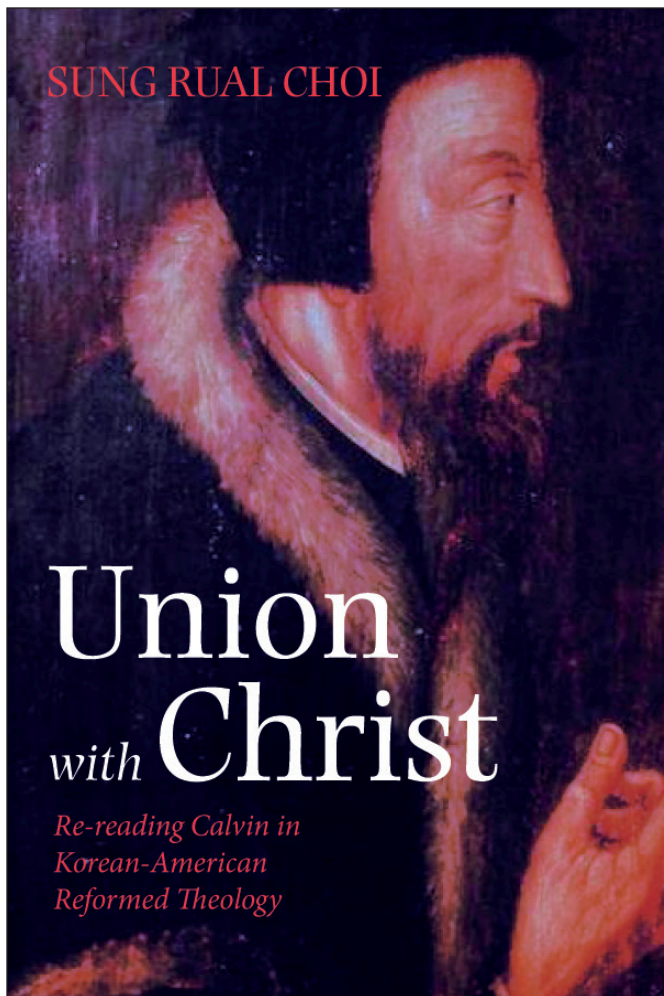
"Here is an important contribution to cosmology and theology. It engages with the contemporary big issues in the field, explores its wider significance for culture and environmental responsibility, and most importantly brings the rich and sometimes underrepresented tradition of Eastern Orthodox theology to the field."

—David Wilkinson, professor of theology and religion, Durham University

"*God, Humanity, and the Universe* will be of great benefit to the research community in the fields of theology, philosophy, and science, but also to the general public."

—Adrian Lemeni, professor of Orthodox theology, University of Bucharest

ALEXEI NESTERUK is a visiting lecturer at the University of Portsmouth in the UK. He holds doctorates in both physics/mathematics and philosophy. He is the author of *Light from the East* (2003), *The Universe as Communion* (2008), *The Sense of the Universe* (2015), and *The Universe in the Image of Imago Dei* (Pickwick Publications, 2022).



Union with Christ

Re-reading Calvin in Korean-American Reformed Theology

SUNG RUAL CHOI

978-1-6667-8185-4 | Forthcoming

Understanding union with Christ as a frame of thought (as a motif or theme) is important for accessing Calvin's theology. While the union-with-Christ doctrine arises when Calvin explains the doctrine itself directly (especially in light of soteriology), the strong presence of this motif—union with Christ (union with the Triune God)—indicates its pervasiveness when other doctrines or theological themes are explained as well. This book suggests that we approach the notion of union of Christ as a theological frame of thought that touches on most of the doctrines and theological themes of Calvin's theology. This book deals with union with Christ as a motif or theme rather than as a doctrine.

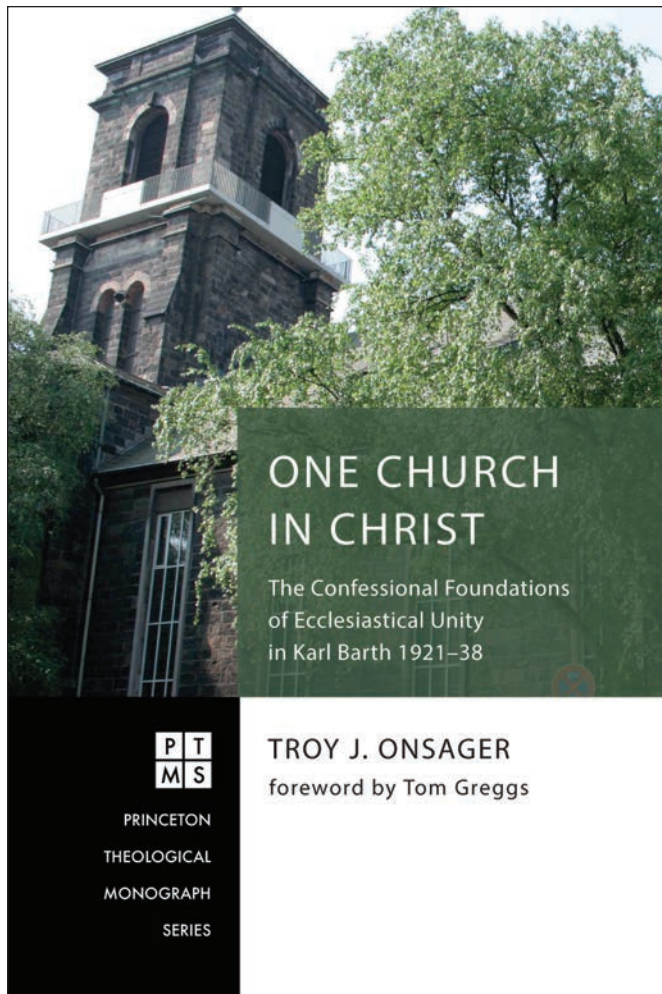
"In this meticulously researched study, Sung Rual Choi demonstrates the systematic importance of union with Christ in Calvin's thought and traces the fortunes of this theme through later traditions of Korean and American reformed theology. His analysis raises far-reaching critical questions about the reception of Calvin's thought and its potential for reforming and renewing theology in our time."

—Ben Myers, professor of theology and literature, Alphacrucis University College

"Through a meticulous reading of Calvin's works, this thorough study reinterprets and reevaluates the original scope, content, and meaning of Calvin's use of 'union with Christ.' It convincingly argues that this notion should not be relegated to a mere soteriological theme in the theology of the influential sixteenth-century reformer, but that it functions as a core motif in his theology as a whole. Further scholarship on Calvin's theology and reception will benefit greatly from engaging with Choi's detailed analysis."

—Robert Vosloo, professor of systematic theology, Stellenbosch University

SUNG RUAL CHOI is Lecturer of Systematic Theology and Research Methodology at Alphacrucis University College at Sydney in Australia. He is the author of *A New and Effective Manual for Academic Writing and Research Method* (2020). He also directs the Korean Higher Degree Research Programme and is a member of Alphacrucis Research Committee.



One Church in Christ

The Confessional Foundations of
Ecclesiastical Unity in Karl Barth 1921–38

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL MONOGRAPH SERIES

TROY J. ONSAGER

978-1-6667-1691-7 | 252 p. | \$34

This book is devoted to understanding the confessional foundations of church unity in the earlier theology of Karl Barth. This book follows Barth's academic and ecclesiastical career from the years 1921 to 1938 as he moves from a nonconfessional pastor in Switzerland prior to his first teaching post in Göttingen to articulating, in his first volume of *Church Dogmatics*, the critical and essential authority of the church's confession in its public witness at the start of his final teaching post in Basel. During these years, each academic placement and public ecclesiastical assignment is crucial for understanding the development of Barth's confessional theology in order to make sense of his mature dogmatic understanding of the authority of the church's confession in *CD I/2*.

"This is a careful and impressive study of Karl Barth's early ecclesiology. It will be valuable to anyone with an interest in Barth's theology, confessional theology, the unity of the church, or indeed Christian witness today."

—Adam Neder, associate dean, School of Theology and Christian Ministry, Belmont University

"In this informative and accessible work, Troy Onsager explores Karl Barth's life and theology in the critical 1920s and 1930s, during which Barth schematizes the church's confession of faith as ecumenical yet particular, defined yet provisional. Barth's 'confessional quadrilateral,' as Onsager labels it, undergirds Barth's prophetic opposition to Nazism and charts a promising way forward for the confessional identity of the church today."

—James R. Edwards, professor emeritus of theology, Whitworth University

"Troy Onsager's *One Church in Christ* is a remarkably clear exposition of Barth's development as a confessional theologian in the formative decades of

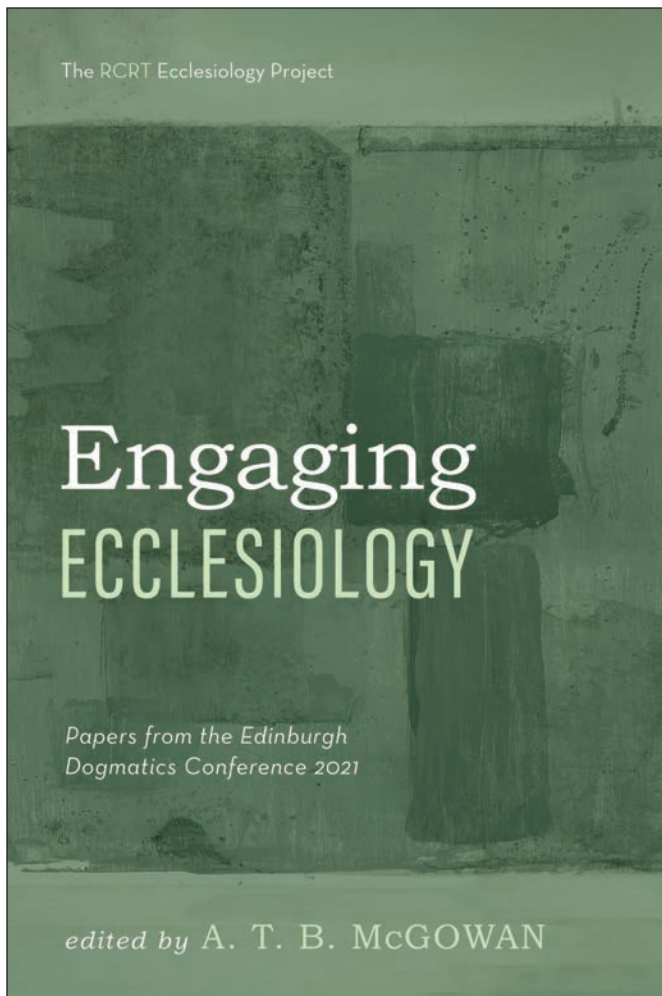
the 1920s and 1930s. It sets forth not only Barth's understanding of the Reformed confessions of the past but also casts light upon Barth's own confessional identity. Onsager's book reveals Barth's confessionalism as one that is both particular in character and ecumenical in aspiration and in turn points to Barth's continuing relevance for the church's present task of confession."

—Kimlyn J. Bender, professor of Christian theology, George W. Truett Theological Seminary

"Troy Onsager's book provides priceless insights into a largely unexplored area of Karl Barth's theology. Barth's understanding and use of Reformed confessional heritage has profound ramifications, not only for students of Barth's theology but for the church of twenty-first-century America. Far from mere declarations of belief, Onsager shows how confessional standards can be used to unite the church and bring it to greater health and deeper faith. A profoundly needed study for our day."

—Mark Rayburn Patterson, president, Flourish Institute of Theology

TROY J. ONSAGER is the pastor of Escalon Presbyterian Church in Escalon, California, and an instructor for the Flourish Institute of Theology (ECO).



Engaging Ecclesiology

Papers from the Edinburgh
Dogmatics Conference 2021

THE RCRT ECCLESIOLOGY PROJECT

EDITED BY **A. T. B. MCGOWAN**

978-1-6667-2869-9 | 196 p. | \$29

The Edinburgh Dogmatics Conference (EDC) takes place every second year. The Rutherford Centre for Reformed Theology, which runs the conference, has a present interest in studying the doctrine of the church (ecclesiology). After two years of pandemic, when most churches began to take new forms or develop new ways of meeting, many questions are being asked: What is the church, and what is it for? Is it a core element of Christianity, or is it an optional extra? Does the doctrine of the church flow out of our understanding of God and the gospel, or is it to be viewed socially and pragmatically? Are the historic marks of the church still relevant to today's discussions? This volume contains the papers given at the 2021 EDC. Here we have eight significant theologians exploring the nature and function of the church in ways that are challenging and thought-provoking. Continuing the study of ecclesiology, the 2023 EDC will address the subject of the Holy Spirit and the church, and in 2025 the subject will be creeds, confessions, and the church.

"Renewed attention to the doctrine of the church is a notable feature of recent Protestant works of systematic theology. This collection offers an array of informed and insightful essays that not only address but also develop the current dialogue in creative ways. This volume thus marks a warmly welcome addition to the ongoing conversation."

—Paul T. Nimmo, University of Aberdeen

"With so many controversies, scandals, and stories of deconstruction, it is hard to think of an area in theology that has as much cynicism swirling around it these days as ecclesiology; that means it is exactly the time for us to revisit the topic. Thankfully, this volume brings trusted voices together to remind us of the indispensability of the church for Christian faith and life."

—Kelly M. Kapic, Covenant College

"Not only is the Christian church in the West in freefall, but the face of the church is rapidly changing because of compromises with the world's agenda and the reaction of people who vote with their feet. The authors of these valuable studies take these current problems on board. With insightful analysis, they draw on the riches of Scripture and the historic Christian tradition to

suggest new paths. A challenging read for all those concerned by the question—Wither the church?"

—Paul Wells, Faculté Jean Calvin, emeritus

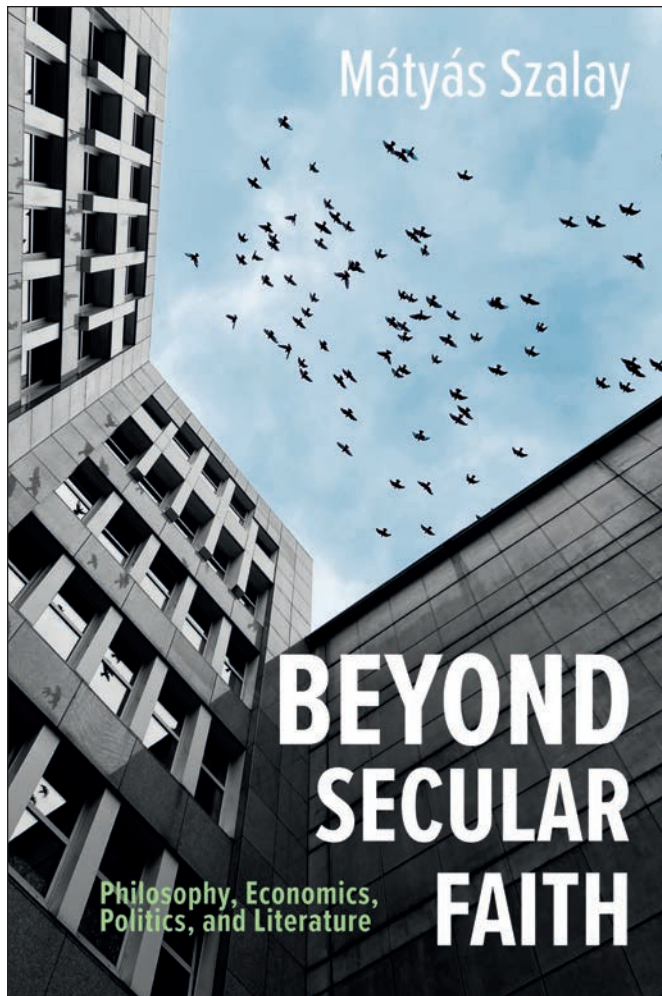
"*Engaging Ecclesiology* alerts us to questions, texts, conversations, and challenges that are important for ecclesiology in the twenty-first century. It will be a help to Reformed Christians of various stripes and even to many from other traditions as it models a multi-aspectual analysis of the doctrine of church."

—Michael Allen, Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando

"As the first edition of the newly conceived Rutherford Centre for Reformed Theology, *Engaging Ecclesiology* brings together eight essays from significant British scholars, each reflecting on the nature, identity, formation, and challenges of the Reformed church and churches more generally. In a world of miserable deconstruction, this volume is a work of constructive dogmatics. The abiding theme of the essays is hope and a confident, but realistic, view of the church."

—Myk Habets, Laidlaw College

A. T. B. MCGOWAN is director of the Rutherford Centre for Reformed Theology and professor of theology in the University of the Highlands and Islands. He served as principal of Highland Theological College for fifteen years and has also served in various parishes of the Church of Scotland. Professor McGowan is vice chairman of the World Reformed Fellowship and serves as chairman of its theological commission. He is also president of the Scottish Evangelical Theology Society.



Beyond Secular Faith

Philosophy, Economics, Politics, and Literature

EDITED BY MÁTYÁS SZALAY

978-1-6667-2894-1 | 340 p. | \$43

Attempts to reach an understanding of how to live a Christian life in the contemporary context have never been more necessary. This is the aim of the International Symposium: Beyond Secular Faith, an annual conference held in Granada, Spain. This volume represents the fruits of over seven years of scholarship.

The title *Beyond Secular Faith* suggests we are interested in (re) discovering and reflectively elaborating ways to overcome the limits imposed by the dominant contemporary culture. We are convinced that only a faith liberated from the conceptual restrictions and reductions (put forward by secular philosophy and theology) and centered radically on Christ can flourish in the dimension that is proper to faith; that is, in all spheres of human life.

Featuring contributions from internationally recognized philosophers and theologians such as Tracey Rowland, Jarosław Jagiello, Rocco Buttiglione, Alison Milbank, Massimo Borghesi, John Milbank, and others, we will explore a diversity of questions from this common perspective: the light of revelation illuminates how Christians should live in the modern world, leading to a new beginning.

“Though many of these essays are critical of modern patterns of thought and practice, what animates the volume as a whole is not nostalgia or resentment, but rather the conviction that a Christ-centered life is a joyful life. The authors find in the death of Christendom an opportunity for renewal. From a variety of perspectives and dealing with a variety of themes, the essays bring forth the riches of Christian traditions for a more hopeful future.”

—William T. Cavanaugh, DePaul University

“*Beyond Secular Faith* reminds as much as it enacts, the radical epoché that Christian theology entails: that to serve God is to serve humankind, the converse also, because a proper metaphysics rests in the infinite generosity of the divine hypostatic union. . . . The level of sophistication, and creativity, on display in these essays is of an extremely high order, whilst, concomitantly, reminding us to think again; to abandon that most childish of postures, that of the grown-up. I cannot recommend the delight of this invitation enough.”

—Conor Cunningham, author of *Darwin's Pious Idea*

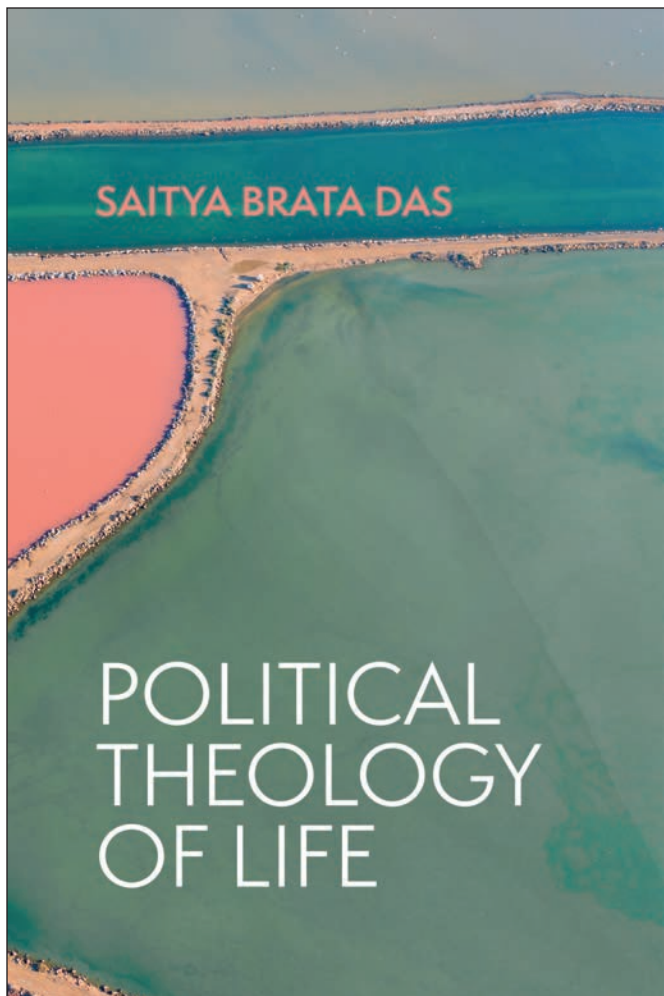
“A brilliant collection of essays from an array of international scholars. Whether engaging the Western construction of Islam, Chaucer, sex, Flannery O’Connor, secularization, Dorothy Day, beauty, Charles Taylor, political sovereignty, Dostoevsky, economy, German Idealism, John Paul II, the Eucharist, contemporary Gnosticism, or Von Balthasar, each chapter yields surprising insights into human aspirations for freedom, morality, economy, democracy. What unites them is the realization that there can be no freedom, indeed, no self to be set free, without Love. A rich and rewarding read!”

—Daniel M. Bell Jr., Lenoir-Rhyne University

“The authors address various manifestations of the current cultural crisis in the fields of politics, economics, literature, philosophy, and theology. Their inquiry deepens in the anthropological and metaphysical roots of postmodernity, and opens, with wisdom and realism, a horizon of hope for the renewal of our time. In the face of false dilemmas, reduced perspectives, and ideological obstinations, the book is highly recommended for those who seek an integrative, suggestive, and well-founded vision of reality.”

—Salvador Antuñano-Alea, Universidad Francisco de Vitoria

MÁTYÁS SZALAY is the director of the Edith Stein Institute of Philosophy in Granada, Spain. His primary intellectual endeavor is exploring the different dimensions of *philosophari in Maria*.



Political Theology of Life

SAITYA BRATA DAS

978-1-6667-6153-5 | 200 p. | \$29

Taking up the work of Meister Eckhart, F. W. J. von Schelling, and Søren Kierkegaard, *Political Theology of Life* formulates the task of an unconditional affirmation of life. Such a political theology consists of constructing a *kenotic* eschatology, which puts into question any political attempt to justify and legitimize any world-historical hegemony on a theological foundation. The work thereby argues that in today's neoliberal-secular world of narcissistic mass-consumption in the age of extreme capitalism, such an affirmation of life—released from the grasp of sovereign power—is the highest ethico-religious task of our time. The work shows that each of these thinkers—Meister Eckhart at the epochal closure of the medieval world, and Schelling and Kierkegaard from the heart of the epochal condition of modernity—has exposed open a dimension of infinitude and manifestation that can be truly inspiring for us; that is to say, in the abandonment of all worldly attributes lies a receptivity to the highest gift of beatitude, an opening to the infinitude that sanctifies our worldly existence, which is a radical gift arriving from an origin without origin and without foundation, a gift that does not have to be anchored in the *nomothetic* operation of worldly hegemonies.

Illumination Book Award winner in poetry
<https://illuminationawards.com/20/2023-medalists>

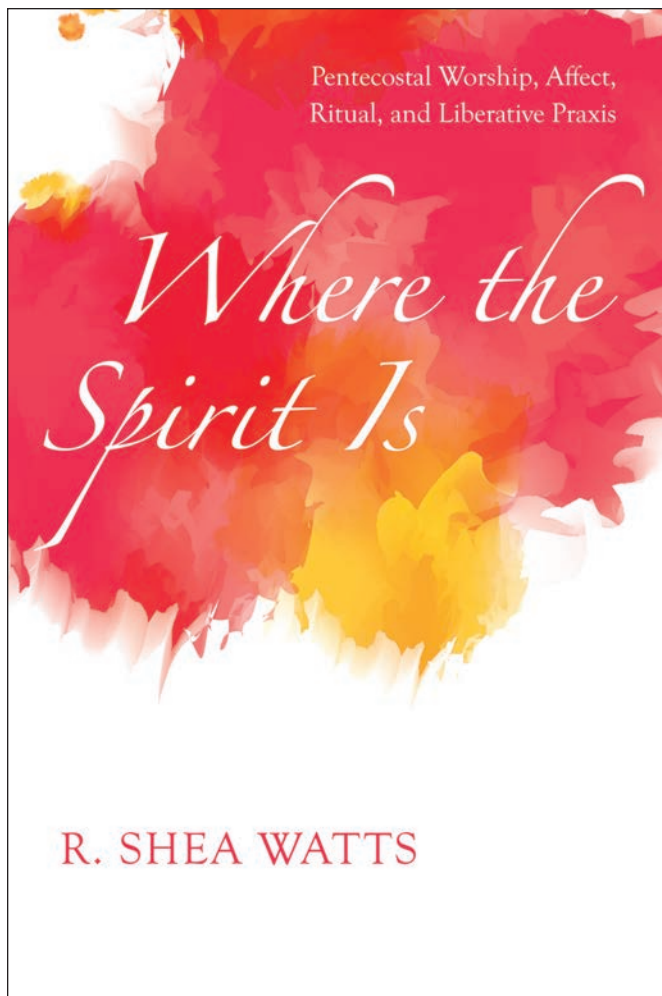
“Saitya Das is a radical theologian of rare insight and philosophical depth. In his latest installment of political theology he provides a compelling, challenging, and liberating political eschatology that breaks open the previously closed life of a reductionist secularist modernity. His rethinking and retheologizing beatitude and life is a tremendous tour de force of thought, depth, and insight—nothing less than how beatitude enables and demands how we may live with and for others in the desert of modernity.”

—Michael Grimshaw, professor of sociology, University of Canterbury

“In this profound and timely meditation on political theology, Saitya Das demonstrates that the thinking of transcendence in Paul, the Greek fathers, Eckhart, Schelling, and Kierkegaard gives the lie to the widespread contemporary presupposition that philosophies of immanence emancipate life from metaphysics. On the contrary, Das shows that immanentism is actually a disavowed and nihilistic will to power, while transcendence frees life by possibilizing all things and releasing us into the new. With this work, Das emerges as the Barth of continental philosophy.”

—Sean J. McGrath, professor of philosophy, Memorial University of Newfoundland

SAITYA BRATA DAS is associate professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He is the author of the *Political Theology of Kierkegaard* (2020).



Where the Spirit Is

Pentecostal Worship, Affect,
Ritual, and Liberative Praxis

R. SHEA WATTS

978-1-6667-3508-6 | 190 p. | \$28

This dissertation explores the experiential contours of Pentecostalism as a liberative praxis. The connection between Pentecostalism and social change is a burgeoning line of inquiry, particularly in the Global South, but this study focuses on the history of Pentecostalism in the US, beginning with the production and circulation of the African American Spirituals. Bringing theories of affect into conversation with ritual studies, this interdisciplinary work traces personal stories and experiences from the author and examines them in light of Pentecostal traditions that stem from the Azusa Street Revival in Los Angeles, California, the birthplace of the Pentecostal movement. William J. Seymour's vision at Azusa was egalitarian and transgressed the societal boundaries and norms of race and gender in the early twentieth century. Pentecostalism was and is informed by Black, queer, female, and other voices often silent or rendered invisible. Without this representation, Pentecostalism is simply one tradition among many co-opted and appropriated for the ongoing colonial projects of the modern Western world. Therefore, this book explores Blackpentecostal tradition: specifically, The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries (TFAM), a predominately Black LGBTQ+ movement that integrates Pentecostal worship and theology with an inclusive, liberative theology.

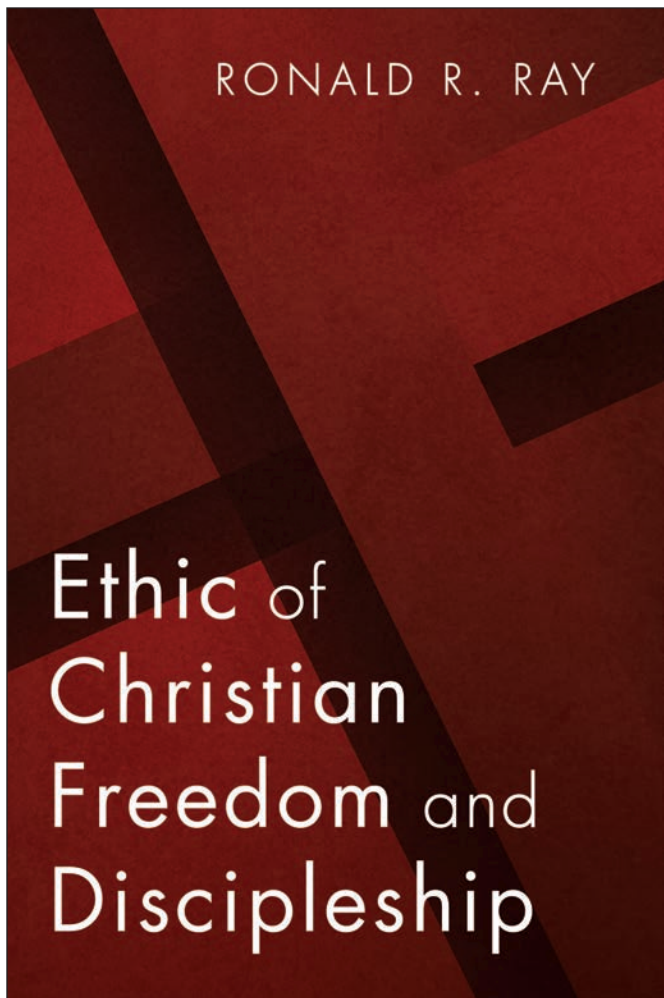
"Vivid, resonant, and profound, R. Shea Watts's *Where the Spirit Is* adds to the growing literature on feeling Pentecostal. Watts deftly combines affect theory, ritual studies, and liberation theologies, producing a generous study defined by its acute attention to the embodied interactions of race, sexuality, gender, worship, sound, and justice."

—Donovan O. Schaefer, University of Pennsylvania

"*Where the Spirit Is* is a unique and fascinating work in which R. Shea Watts uses his own personal and very complex experience growing up Pentecostal to explore the work of the Spirit. . . . This book conducts a very complex dance, interweaving searing personal experience with sharp insights into academic analysis. Watts dances away from simple condemnations or praise and keeps pressing the fundamental question of liberative praxis: 'What then can be done to flesh out freedom in the present age?'"

—Susan Brooks Thistlethwaite, Chicago Theological Seminary, emerita

R. SHEA WATTS is a professor in the Religion and Philosophy Department at Wingate University. He earned a PhD in theology and culture from Chicago Theological Seminary in 2021 and lives in Charlotte, North Carolina, with his spouse, Kathryn, and their three cats, Sophie, Curly, and Rosalyn.



Ethic of Christian Freedom and Discipleship

RONALD R. RAY

978-1-6667-5358-5 | 202 p. | \$30

Ethic of Christian Freedom and Discipleship is written for teachers and students of Christian ethics within the English-speaking world. It demonstrates the basis of Christian ethics in Christian theology. Twenty-nine years ago, before leaving the Nigerian theological college where the author had been teaching, *Between Two Worlds: An Ethic of Christian Freedom* was privately printed. In Kenya, at what became St. Paul's University, the author primarily used copies of this book for eleven years of teaching Christian ethics. *Ethic of Christian Freedom and Discipleship* manifests continuity with the author's earlier book, but is a distinctly different work.

"Christianity as a way of life often occasions the challenge of the disconnect between theory and practice. In this book, Ronald Ray makes a significant contribution to the much-needed bridge between faith and conduct, principles and practice, theology and ethics. As a pastor saddled with the responsibilities of theological and doctrinal formations, I see this work as a veritable tool for contemporary Christian living—an antidote for just rote knowledge and/or practice."

—George Ugo Njoku, clerical synod secretary, Anglican Church of Nigeria

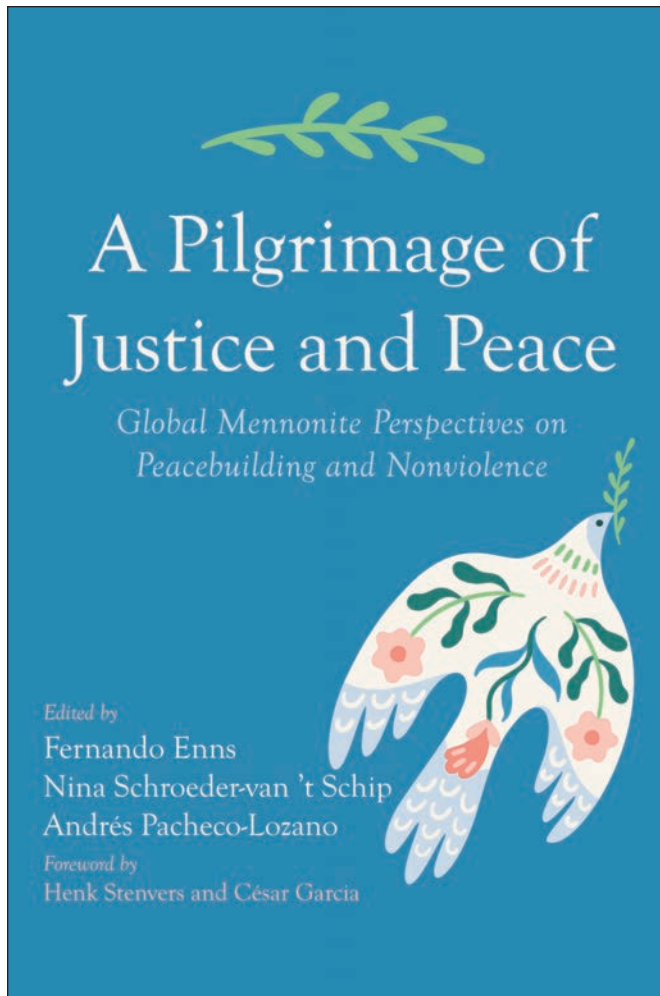
"This classic work by Ronald Ray shows how to be 'free indeed' and be 'truly disciples' of Jesus Christ in the uneasy calling to be a Christian. Readers will understand how to apply Christian ethics in Christian theology as a commitment to daily Christian faith in Christ Jesus. I unreservedly recommend this masterpiece to theological educators in seminaries, colleges, universities, and everyone that cares about Christian discipleship and spiritual formation for Christian living and societal transformation."

—Paul Cookey, lecturer of biblical studies, Theological College of Northern Nigeria

"In this timely offering, Ronald Ray presents Christian freedom as the necessary behavior of genuine disciples. He skillfully highlights models of freedom advocated for by the Christian faith while, at the same time, critiquing models and misappropriations of freedom in secular spaces. I recommend this great compilation to all who seek true expressions of freedom for a world that is easily enslaved."

—Julius Kithinji, professor of New Testament, St. Paul's University

RONALD R. RAY completed seven years of parish ministry in Oregon, fifteen years of teaching in Nigeria, and eleven in Kenya. He earned a BA in economics from Willamette University, an MDiv from Yale Divinity School, and a PhD from Saint Andrews University, Scotland, completing the first doctorate on Jacques Ellul's Christian Ethic. He is the author of *Systematics Critical and Constructive 1* and *Systematics Critical and Constructive 2*, both published by Wipf and Stock. Ron and Diane currently live in Wilderness, South Africa, on the southern coast just outside of George.



A Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace

Global Mennonite Perspectives on
Peacebuilding and Nonviolence

EDITED BY **FERNANDO ENNS, NINA SCHROEDER-VAN 'T SCHIP, AND ANDRÉS PACHECO-LOZANO**

978-1-6667-1381-7 | 478 p. | \$44

This edited volume includes contributions by scholars, ministers, artists, and NGO workers from around the world who are interested in topics of Mennonitism, peacebuilding, and theologies of nonviolence. The papers published together here reflect the richness and diversity of peacebuilding interests and approaches within the current global Mennonite family and offer interdisciplinary explorations of peace and conflict with attention to historical, theological, and lived perspectives.

The book includes papers based upon research and insights that were shared at the Second Global Mennonite Peacebuilding Conference and Festival (2019) at Mennorode in the Netherlands. The findings presented here are structured thematically with attention to key points of current concern and research—including, among others, studies on historical and current peacebuilding efforts pertaining to migration and refugee care, ecological justice, gender justice, interreligious dialogue, church-state relations, and racial justice.

“This formidable collection of conference papers offering Mennonite theological, ethical, and practical perspectives on peace- and justice-making reminds me once again of the extraordinary gifts, commitments, and reflections that Mennonites bring to the global church. In a time of European war and rumors of global conflagration, this collection could hardly be timelier. Highly recommended.”

—David P. Gushee, Mercer University

“Once or twice in our lifetime, we may come across a beautiful mosaic which is colorful and inspiring. This book is such a mosaic. Whether you are a professor looking for reading materials for peace-building classes, or you are a pastor looking for materials to engage your congregation with the struggle for just peace on earth, or you are a peace activist looking for ideas and breakthroughs, this book has them all.”

—Paulus S. Widjaja, Duta Wacana Christian University

“This volume with presentations held at the second Mennonite Peace Conference and Festival in 2019 offers deep insight into modern Mennonite reflections on peacebuilding and reconciliations in historical, theoretical, and practical perspectives. The book not only discusses the pilgrimage of justice and peace, but is itself part of this pilgrimage.”

—Friederike Nüssel, Heidelberg University

PROF. DR. FERNANDO ENNS is Professor of (Peace-)Theology and Ethics and Director of the Amsterdam Center for Religion and Peace & Justice Studies at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. He is also Professor of Peace Church Theology and Director of the Center for Peace Church Theology at the University of Hamburg, Germany.

DR. NINA SCHROEDER is an art historian and postdoctoral researcher at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. She teaches religious history with the Dutch Mennonite Seminary and researches Mennonite involvement and representation in the early modern Dutch art world.

DR. ANDRÉS PACHECO LOZANO is Lecturer and Researcher at the Dutch Mennonite Seminary in Amsterdam. He is also the Research Assistant of the chair of (Peace-)Theology and Ethics at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.

DESERT, WILDERNESS, WASTELAND, AND WORD

*A New Essay by Jacques Ellul
and Five Critical Engagements*



JACQUES ELLUL

edited by Michael Morelli

translated by Kelsey Haskett

Desert, Wilderness, Wasteland, and Word

A New Essay by Jacques Ellul
and Five Critical Engagements

JACQUES ELLUL

EDITED BY **MICHAEL MORELLI**

978-1-6667-4253-4 | 140 p. | \$23

Desert, Wilderness, Wasteland, and Word features an English translation of a recently discovered and until-now unpublished essay of Jacques Ellul's that examines the significance of the desert from biblical, theological, and ethical perspectives. It also provides an introduction that contextualizes Ellul's piece, and five incendiary essays that critically reflect on Ellul's work. Altogether, this volume offers fresh and provocative insight into the writings of Jacques Ellul during a historical moment that appears to be on its way to, or already in, a desert, wilderness, and wasteland, with many people in it who are desperate for encounters with a new, revitalizing Word.

"Jacques Ellul is a gift who keeps on giving. The great French sociologist has seen clearly (and before the rest of us) the toxic dangers of modern technological development. . . . This book is an important probe into Ellul, and a shrewd discernment about what serious faith requires and makes possible when we are woke to the undercurrents of the power of death that are all around us."

—Walter Brueggemann, professor emeritus of Old Testament, Columbia Theological Seminary

"From the biblical topic of desert to modern desert and spiritual wilderness in our lives, this book is a fascinating course between void and voice, fullness and silence, death and life, on the way to the real life which rises from void and death. Jacques Ellul and several high experts on Ellulian thought lead us along this hard road. A nourishing, thirst-quenching and essential book!"

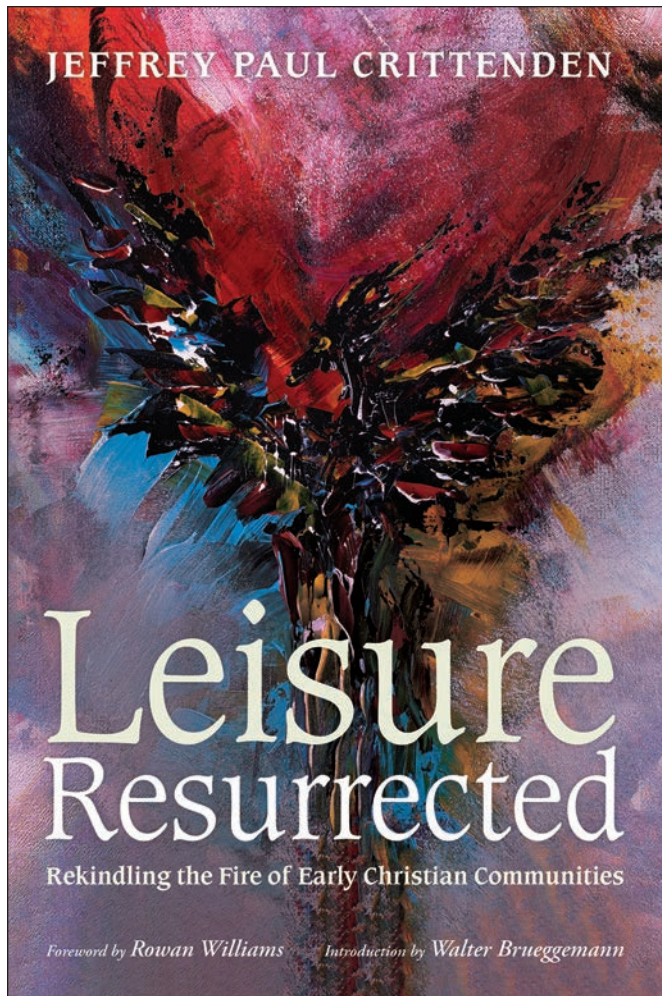
—Frédéric Rognon, professor of philosophy, University of Strasbourg

"*Desert, Wilderness, Wasteland, and Word* is a wonderful collection of essays, a gift not just to Jacques Ellul scholars but to thoughtful readers, especially Christians, everywhere. As Ellul provided us with a fully-developed biblical study of *The Meaning of the City* in 1970, so he provides here an insightful collection of insights and challenges about 'the meaning of desert and wilderness'—thanks to the careful reconstruction of his notes by Jean-Philippe Qadri and Jerome Ellul. This is an extraordinary and timely book."

—David W. Gill, president, International Jacques Ellul Society

JACQUES ELLUL (1912–94) was professor of the history and sociology of institutions at the University of Bordeaux. A sociologist, historian, and Protestant lay theologian, Ellul is primarily known for his writings on technology, propaganda, and Christian anarchism.

MICHAEL MORELLI is assistant professor of theology and ethics at Northwest Seminary and College, a founding member of ACTS Seminaries, and an affiliate of Trinity Western University. He is the author of *Theology, Ethics, and Technology in the Work of Jacques Ellul and Paul Virilio*.



Leisure Resurrected

Rekindling the Fire of Early Christian Communities

JEFFREY PAUL CRITTENDEN

978-1-6667-5117-8 | 182 p. | \$27

As the church emerges from the impact of COVID, how will it reimagine its mission? With all the disruption COVID caused comes an opportunity for congregations. How will the local church organize itself, engage with the neighborhood and world, and offer pastoral care to a planet dealing with the significant issues heightened during COVID? Returning to old patterns of behavior is a wasted chance. A theological opportunity for the church lies in rediscovering the classical aim of leisure.

The early church during the first two centuries offers us an understanding of leisure quite unique from the dominant expressions of leisure, such as Greek *scholē*, Roman *otium*, and the Jewish Sabbath. By exploring early Christian practices, we can find insights about leisure for mission today. These practices include setting aside a single day of the week to worship, sharing in a common meal open to all, and, following the meal, incorporating into nonwork time care and engagement in the health and vitality of the community in the name of Jesus Christ. The followers of Jesus were consistent, if extraordinary, in meeting weekly, on the Lord's Day, to worship, eat together, and go out into the neighborhood to live out their faith.

"In the skilled hands of Jeffrey Crittenden, leisure becomes something surprising and brilliant. It is not just free time, it is an attitude towards life, a transformational way of being, the product of thoughtful decisions about how we want to live. Most importantly, from a Christian perspective, it is a resurrection activity, centered around a meal to which all are invited by Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to live in true community, one with another."

—Paul Scott Wilson, professor emeritus of homiletics, College of Victoria University, University of Toronto

"In an age when we badly need to recover of a good theology of work and leisure, Jeffrey Crittenden's *Leisure Resurrected* takes us back to the early centuries of Christianity to seek alternative insights and recover views from a variety of settings, particularly liturgy. This excellent book challenges us and offers ways in which we can re-examine a theology of leisure."

—Robert Gibbons, professor of Eastern Christianity, Graduate Theological Union

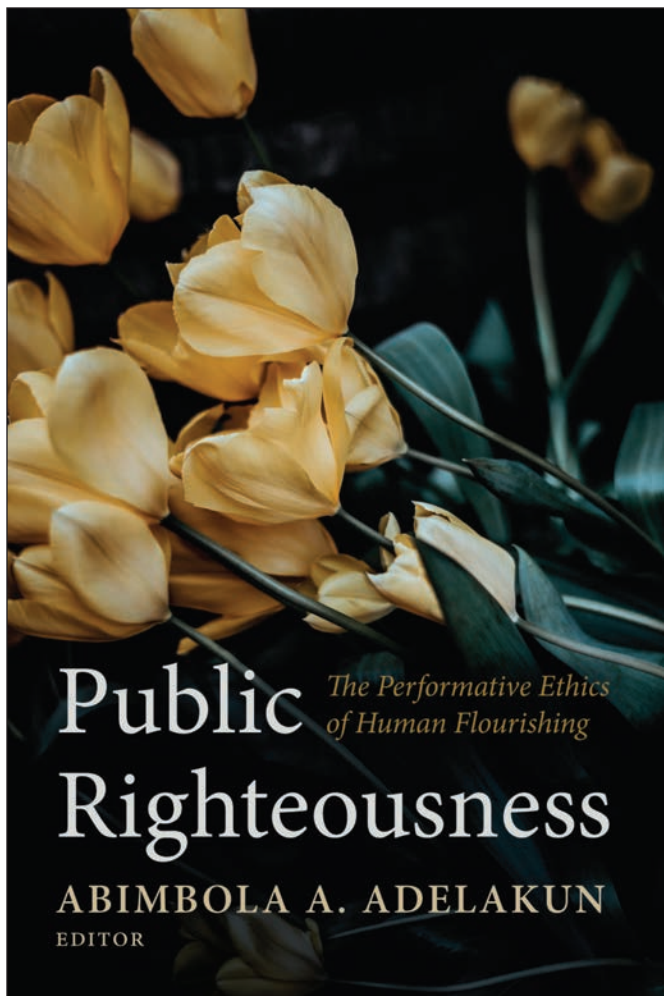
"Half a century ago I sat in the lectures of Josef Pieper in Munster/Westphalia. You could buy his book, *Leisure: The Basis of Culture*, in drugstores, yet in those heady activist days, only a handful of students attended his long, learned lectures. But maybe the worm of history has turned! Jeffrey Crittenden's book makes one think so—and gladly!"

—Douglas John Hall, professor emeritus of theology, McGill University

"Jeffrey Crittenden's book opens up a whole new 'window' through which we can view the earliest Christian communities. Until now, 'leisure studies' has never figured on the horizon of New Testament/Early Christian studies. This book demonstrates that how the first followers of Jesus viewed leisure is an important insight into their discipleship and practice—and ours."

—Thomas O'Loughlin, professor emeritus of historical theology, University of Nottingham

JEFF CRITTENDEN is an assistant professor of Homiletics at Huron University in London, Ontario, the senior minister of Metropolitan United Church in London, Ontario, and the founder and director of the Centre for Practical Theology (Canada).



Public Righteousness

The Performative Ethics of Human Flourishing

EDITED BY **ABIMBOLA A. ADELAKUN**

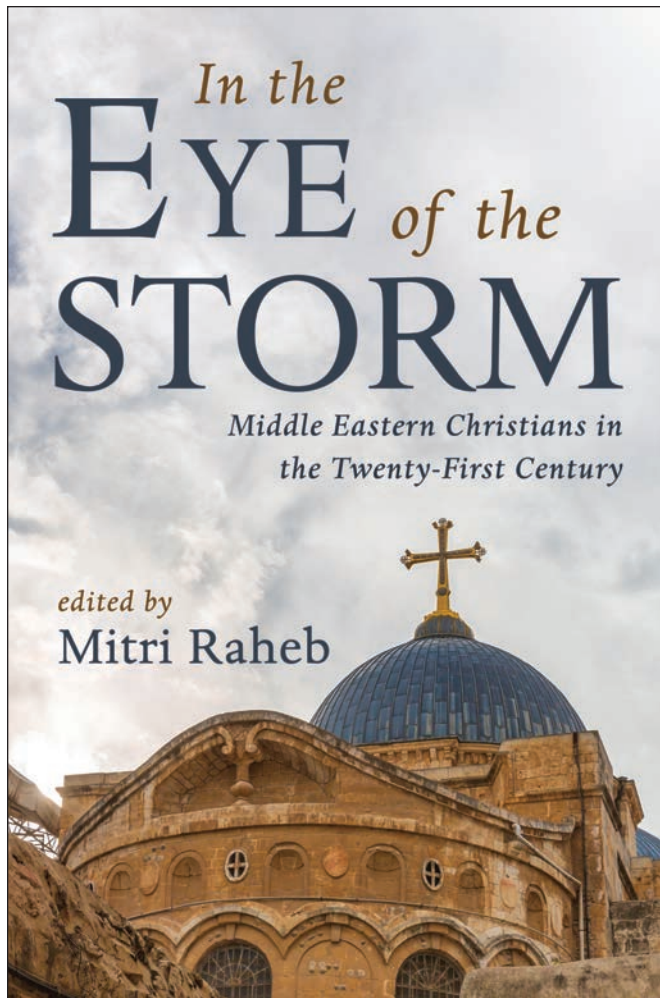
978-1-6667-3854-4 | 234 p. | \$33

Public Righteousness: The Performative Ethics of Human Flourishing is driven by the idea that part of what manifests as a disorderly display of virtue in public culture is underlined by the desire to see a more righteous society and an expression of the will to enact such an ideal world into reality. This book re-structures the ferment of such public displays and fashions an ethic that overturns the ostentatious signals of self-righteousness and the fierce contest of animating visions. This book engages the work of social ethicist Nimi Wariboko to explore an idea of public righteousness. In place of smug superiority and phony pieties, the performative ethics that inaugurate this public righteousness offer an intellectual and moral competence that establishes rectitude and culminates in human flourishing.

“This collection of essays edited by Abimbola A. Adelokun brings together insights from performance theory, theology, and ethics to articulate a conceptual framework that shifts attention away from the individual moral agent and onto the structures that hinder human flourishing. This corrective to the widespread narcissism that often characterizes public debate of social justice issues cultivates public righteousness over against self-righteousness. By taking human suffering seriously the various authors transform this work into something beyond utopian wish fulfillment—and deserving of a wide readership beyond the academy.”

—Rubén Rosario Rodríguez, professor of theological studies, Saint Louis University

ABIMBOLA A. ADELAKUN is an assistant professor at the University of Texas at Austin. She is the author of *Performing Power in Nigeria: Politics, Identity, and Pentecostalism* and *Powerful Devices: Politics and Praxis of Spiritual Warfare*.



In the Eye of the Storm

Middle Eastern Christians in
the Twenty-First Century

EDITED BY **MITRI RAHEB**

978-1-6667-4893-2 | 202 p. | \$33

The situation of Christians in the Middle East has become an important topic of international discussion as well as an important theme covered in the media, as several CBS *Sixty Minutes* programs have highlighted the plight of Christians in Palestine, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and Egypt. *In the Eye of the Storm* tells the story of the plight of twenty-first-century Middle Eastern Christians in five countries (Palestine, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, and Egypt) in the context of the so-called Arab Spring and within a destabilized region that is a geopolitical triangle shaped by Israeli hegemony and Arab-Iranian tensions. The book places the situation of the Christians within the wider sociopolitical context of the Middle East in the twenty-first century. A unique feature of this book is that it is written mainly by native Christians who have spent their entire lives in the region and continue to live there. *In the Eye of the Storm*, therefore, provides an insider perspective rather than a hegemonic and colonial outsider perspective. This book hopes to offer a sociopolitical framework for the Christians of the Middle East, thus allowing them to tell their own story as they see it and not one that has been projected onto them by outside forces.

“Mitri Raheb is no stranger to those who closely follow developments in the Middle East. This newest book provides a crucial update on the fate of Arab Christians living in five critical areas: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestinians within Israel, and Palestinians under Israeli occupation in the West Bank. It is impossible to understand the modern Middle East without understanding the volatile landscape presented *In The Eye of the Storm*.”

—Gary M. Burge, author of *Whose Land? Whose Promise? What Christians Are Not Being Told about Israel and the Palestinians*

“In this exceptionally nuanced and insightful volume, the contributors demonstrate that Christians in the Middle East inhabit diverse contexts and face varied issues. While affirming commonalities and collective solidarity, these chapters identify the Christian communities of several countries of the region, discuss their contributions to their societies, and explore the particular histories and circumstances that Middle Eastern Christians live today. This book is a valuable corrective to some more facile and unrooted representations of the Christians of the region.”

—Peter Makari, author of *Conflict and Cooperation: Christian-Muslim Relations in Contemporary Egypt*

MITRI RAHEB is the founder and president of Dar al-Kalima University in Bethlehem, Palestine. The most widely published Palestinian theologian to date, Raheb is the author of more than forty books, including *Faith in the Face of Empire* and *The Politics of Persecution*.

Nadia Marais



*Homo
Florens?*

Cultivating Grammars of Salvation

Homo Florens?

Cultivating Grammars of Salvation

NADIA MARAIS

978-1-6667-6709-4 | 438 p. | \$54

What does it mean to flourish?

Human flourishing lies at the heart of the good news of the gospel, and yet contemporary theologies know not only one way of speaking about what it means to flourish. If we embed our theological grammars of flourishing in the doctrine of salvation, as the doctrine in which theological flourishing talk is arguably rooted and from which rich fruit may be borne, there is not one but various ways in which to speak about what it means to flourish.

Yet what governs our speaking? Why do we speak of flourishing as we do?

The various conceptions of human flourishing that are outlined in this book – piety, joy, and comfort; being fully alive, healing, and dignity; grace, happiness, and blessing – represent a collection of attempts not only to imagine human flourishing, but also to imagine ways of speaking about human flourishing. Perhaps what theology could offer to the vibrant and robust conversations on human flourishing lies exactly in the reminder to take care about how we speak about that which is truly and deeply human: our longing to flourish.

“This book is an invitation. It invites readers to the ongoing human conversation about happiness and flourishing. Taking the form of a survey of nine well-known such discourses, it asks why we speak in these ways. It discerns three logics behind ways of imagining flourishing—faith, love, hope—yet even together they offer no final word, but merely invite readers to join this ongoing conversation about meaningful and more humane life. Is anything more important?”

—Dirk Smit, professor of Reformed theology and public life, Princeton Theological Seminary

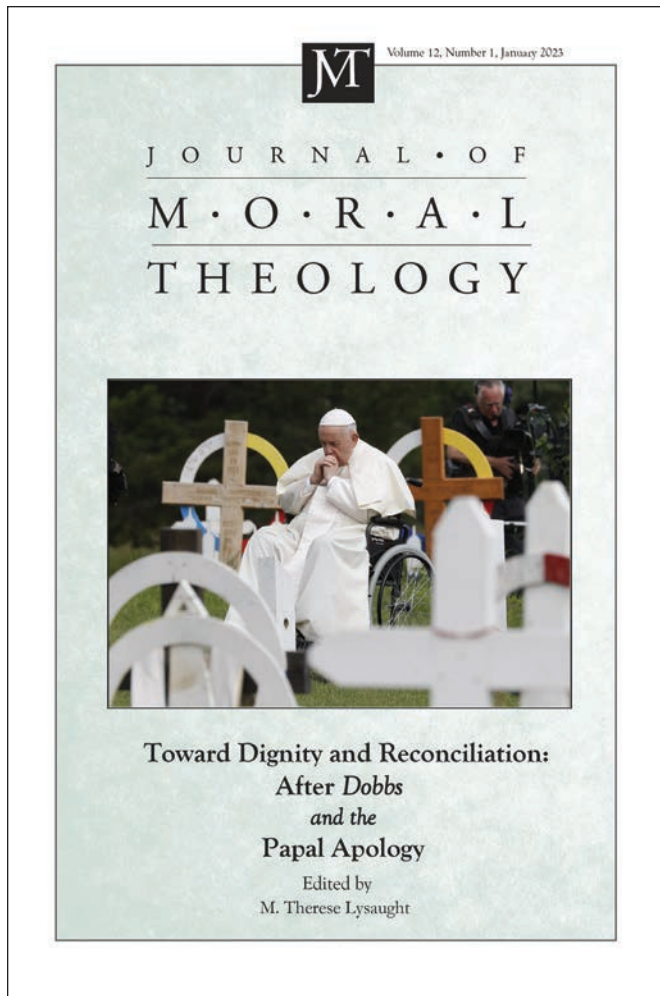
“In a time when we have good reasons not to be happy with many of the discourses on happiness, Nadia Marais’s book displays a theologically sophisticated cartography to evaluate and cultivate our grammars of salvation. Through interaction with various terroirs, this in-depth study produces a well-blended proposal to speak of human flourishing in line with the good news of the gospel. *Homo Florens?* promises to bear rich fruit and bring readers much insight, inspiration, and joy.”

—Robert Vosloo, professor in systematic theology, Stellenbosch University

“Theologically rigorous, with extensive footnotes that reveal the scholarship that lies beneath the accessible prose, this book brilliantly weaves together the work of well-known theologians from across the globe to offer rich insights on happiness and flourishing, imbedded in Christian discourses on salvation. In this significant contribution to the Christian soteriological discussion, Nadia Marais shows why she is considered one of the most exciting voices to emerge in South African theology in recent years.”

—Rachel Sophia Baard, assistant professor of theology and ethics, Union Presbyterian Seminary

NADIA MARAIS is senior lecturer of systematic theology at Stellenbosch University in South Africa. She co-edited *Reconceiving Reproductive Health?* (2020) and *Sexual Reformation?* (2022) and has published various essays and articles on questions related to human and ecological flourishing. Marais is ordained in the Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa and is a Mandela Rhodes Scholar.



Journal of Moral Theology, Volume 12, Issue 1

Toward Dignity and Reconciliation:
After Dobbs and the Papal Apology

EDITED BY **M. THERESE LYSAUGHT**

978-1-6667-6864-0 | 176 p. | \$27

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Outing Gay Priests: Toward a Theological Ethics of Privacy in the Digital Era

Levi Checketts

Pope Francis's Apology to the Indigenous Peoples of Canada

Doris M. Kieser

The Papal Apology and Seeds of an Action Plan

Archbishop Donald Bolen

Papal Apologies for Residential Schools and the Stories They Tell

Jeremy M. Bergen

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Towards Universal Communion

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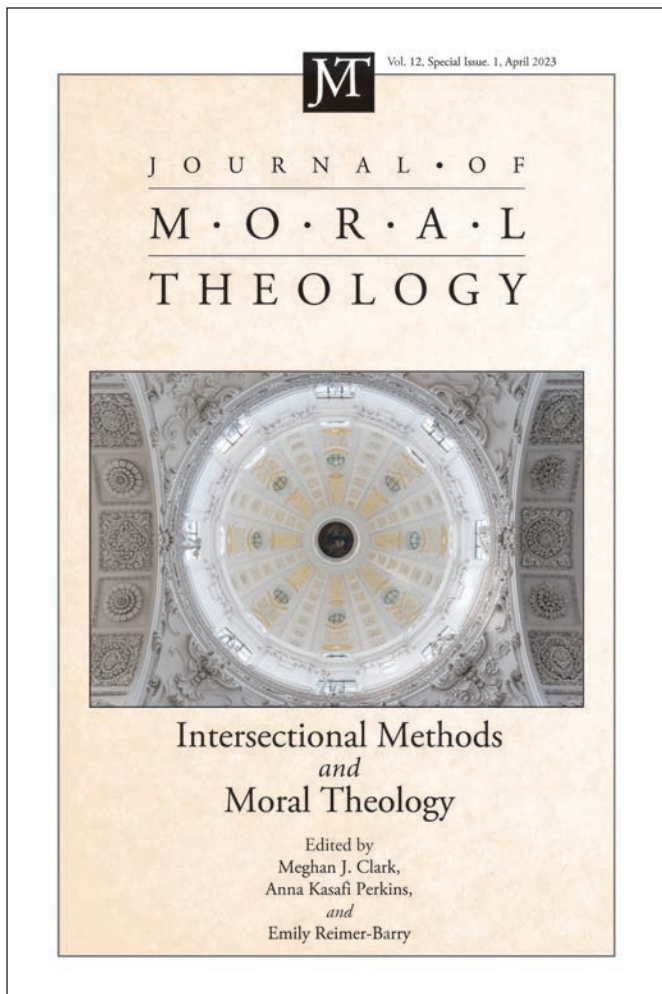
David E. DeCosse

Discerning the Roles of Reason and Emotion in Classroom Conversations about Abortion

Jane Sloan Peters

Holding the Tensions: Female Bodily Integrity as an Intrinsic Good

Kathleen Bonnette



Journal of Moral Theology, Volume 12, Special Issue 1

Intersectional Methods in Moral theology

**EDITED BY MEGHAN J. CLARK, ANNA KASAFI PERKINS, AND
EMILY REIMER-BARRY**

978-1-6667-8050-5 | 180 p. | \$27

Special Issue on Intersectional Methods and Moral Theology: Introduction

Meghan J. Clark, Anna Kasafi Perkins, and Emily Reimer-Barry

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Rufus Burnett, Jr.

An Interdisciplinary Theological Method from the Knowledge of the Forgotten

Alexandre A. Martins

The Case for Intersectional Theology: An Asian American Catholic Perspective

Hoon Choi

Enfleshing the Work of Social Production: Gender, Race, and Agency

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Intersectionality at the Heart of Oppression and Violence against Women in Law: Case Studies from India

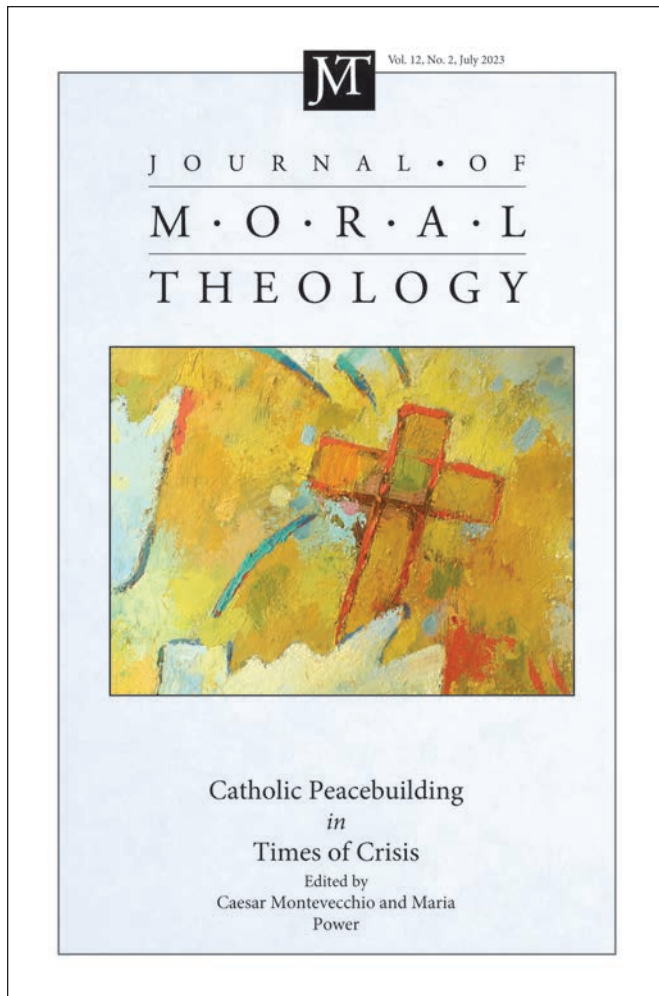
Julie George, SSPS

Intersectionality and Orthodox Theology: Searching for Spandrels

Rachel Contos

Black Feminism, Womanism, and Intersectionality Discourse: A Theo-Ethical Roundtable

jennifer s. leath, Nontando Hadebe, Nicole Symmonds, and Anna Kasafi Perkins



Journal of Moral Theology, Volume 12, Issue 2

Catholic Peacebuilding in Times of Crisis

EDITED BY **CAESAR MONTEVECCHIO** AND **MARIA POWER**

978-1-6667-8826-6 | 150 p. | \$24

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Bernard G. Prusak

Struggling with Self-Love: A Thomistic Perspective on Anxious Attachment and the Vice of Self-Debasement

Sheryl Overmyer

Synodality in the Catholic Church: Toward a Conciliar Ecclesiology of Inclusion for LGBTQ+ Persons

Ish Ruiz

CATHOLIC PEACEBUILDING IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Catholic Peacebuilding in Times of Crisis: Hope for a Wounded World

Caesar A. Montevecchio

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Maka Black Elk

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Imagination in Catholic Thought and Peacebuilding

Eduardo Gutiérrez González

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Nickolas L. Becker, OSB

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Simeiqi He

THE RISING GLOBAL CANCER PANDEMIC

Health, Ethics, and Social Justice

GLOBAL THEOLOGICAL ETHICS

Edited by
Andrea Vicini,
Philip J. Landrigan,
and Kurt Straif

The Rising Global Cancer Pandemic

Health, Ethics, and Social Justice

ETHICAL CHALLENGES IN GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

EDITED BY **ANDREA VICINI, PHILIP J. LANDRIGAN, AND
KURT STRAIF**

978-1-6667-5335-6 | 230 p. | \$32

The Global Theological Ethics book series focuses on works that feature authors from around the world, draw on resources from the traditions of Catholic theological ethics, and attend to concrete issues facing the world today. It advances the *Journal of Moral Theology*'s mission of fostering scholarship deeply rooted in traditions of inquiry about the moral life, engaged with contemporary issues, and exploring the interface of Catholic moral theology, philosophy, economics, political philosophy, psychology, and more.

"Framed by the ethical principles that unite us, this book offers an inspirational challenge to all of us to improve the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and care of people with cancer. It is a roadmap for action, to implement what we already know will reduce the burden of cancer and the immense suffering it inflicts on so many people worldwide."

—Keith Martin, MD, executive director, Consortium of Universities for Global Health

"This book is a call to address cancer in the global health agenda from an interdisciplinary, ethical, and social justice-oriented approach. The editors gathered a truly diverse group of scholars and partitioners to show the challenge that cancer is for people's health and well-being across the globe, considering health disparities and injustices that impact middle and low-income countries, impoverished communities, and historically marginalized populations. It is a necessary resource for anyone engaged in global health."

—Alexandre A. Martins, assistant professor of theology, Marquette University

"Bringing together global experts on healthcare, public policy, economics, and ethics, this remarkable book provides a powerful analysis of the complexities of cancer care in our world today. This captivating volume is a significant contribution to debates about cancer care, emphasizing the intersection between public health and social justice. This book is an indispensable resource for anyone concerned about our world, and particularly those dedicated to securing just, equitable cancer care."

—Suzanne Mulligan, STL, lecturer in moral theology, St. Patrick's Pontifical University

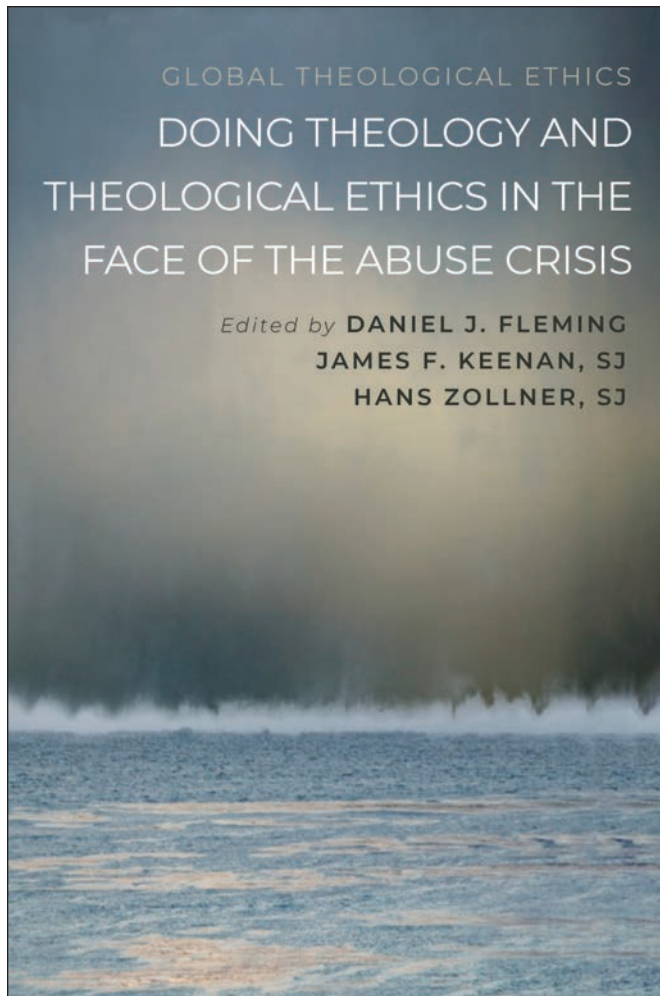
"This volume is a helpful challenge to the public health community to not lose sight of ongoing global needs, such as cancer, even while addressing acute crises such as COVID-19. The way personal narratives live alongside structural analyses is a great example of attending to all dimensions of a health concern. The authors offer ways not only to reduce the global impact of cancer, but to do so while also creating a more just world."

—Michael Rozier, SJ, department chair of health management and policy, Saint Louis University

ANDREA VICINI, SJ, is Chairperson, Michael P. Walsh Professor of Bioethics, and Professor of Theological Ethics in the Theology Department at Boston College. He also holds a M.D. from the University of Bologna and a S.T.D. from the Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Southern Italy in Naples.

PHILIP J. LANDRIGAN, M.D., MSc, FAAP, is Director of the Global Public Health and the Common Good program and director of the Global Observatory on Pollution and Health at Boston College.

KURT STRAIF, M.D., Ph.D., is currently visiting professor of epidemiology at Boston College and co-director of the Global Observatory on pollution at health with the schiller institute for integrated science and society.



Doing Theology and Theological Ethics in the Face of the Abuse Crisis

GLOBAL THEOLOGICAL ETHICS

EDITED BY **DANIEL J. FLEMING, JAMES F. KEENAN, AND HANS ZOLLNER**

978-1-6667-7009-4 | 384 p. | \$48

This volume is the fruit of a “theological laboratory” initiated by the then-Centre for Child Protection and the Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church (CTEWC) called “Doing Theology in the Face of Sexual Abuse.” Eventually those from the laboratory engaged those meeting for two years via “virtual tables,” due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In the end, twenty-six scholars offer insights on the crisis itself and pathways for moving forward.

There is a certain urgency about this volume, which is not often reflected in works of theology or theological ethics. The sheer scale of the undermining of human dignity through sexual abuse that has occurred within the church asks questions of these disciplines and scholars within them: To what extent have we been blind to these issues? Why have our efforts in theology and theological ethics been so slow to wrestle with this crisis? How are theology and theological ethics implicated in the crisis? And how might the disciplines be constructive in responding? In this volume, we encounter a diverse range of scholars from all around the world wrestling with these and other questions.

DANIEL J. FLEMING is head of ethics for St Vincent’s Health Australia and adjunct professor of ethics in the School of Medicine at the University of Notre Dame Australia. Fleming holds a PhD in moral philosophy and theology and is the author of over fifty academic and media publications in the areas of theological ethics, health care ethics, and moral education. He is an active member of Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church (CTEWC) and co-chairs CTEWC’s virtual table on the topic of abuse in the church with James F. Keenan, SJ.

JAMES F. KEENAN, SJ, is the Canisius Chair, director of the Jesuit Institute, and vice provost for Global Engagement at Boston College. In addition to being a distinguished scholar, with over twenty-five books and three hundred essays published, he is also the founder of the Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church (CTEWC) network. His most recent book is *A History of Catholic Theological Ethics*. Receiving a licentiate and a doctorate from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, Keenan has been a Jesuit priest since 1982.

HANS ZOLLNER, SJ, is director and professor of the Institute of Anthropology: Interdisciplinary Studies on Human Dignity and Care at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He has been a member of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors since its inception in 2014.

GLOBAL THEOLOGICAL ETHICS

A PROPHET TO THE PEOPLES

*Paul Farmer's Witness and
Theological Ethics*



EDITED BY *Jennie Weiss Block,
M. Therese Lysaught, and Alexandre A. Martins*

A Prophet to the Peoples

Paul Farmer's Witness and Theological Ethics

GLOBAL THEOLOGICAL ETHICS

EDITED BY **JENNIE WEISS BLOCK, M. THERESE LYSAUGHT,
AND ALEXANDRE A. MARTINS**

978-1-6667-6503-8 | 408 p. | \$51

The Global Theological Ethics book series focuses on works that feature authors from around the world, draw on resources from the traditions of Catholic theological ethics, and attend to concrete issues facing the world today. It advances the *Journal of Moral Theology's* mission of fostering scholarship deeply rooted in traditions of inquiry about the moral life, engaged with contemporary issues, and exploring the interface of Catholic moral theology, philosophy, economics, political philosophy, psychology, and more.

This series is sponsored in conjunction with the Catholic Theological Ethics and the World Church. The CTEWC recognizes the need to dialogue from and beyond local cultures and to interconnect within a world church. Its global network of scholars, practitioners, and activists fosters cross-cultural, interdisciplinary conversations—via conferences, symposia, and colloquia, both in-person and virtually—about critical issues in theological ethics, shaped by shared visions of hope.

“Paul Farmer was on a quest for wisdom. He sought phronesis: practical wisdom for the art of living. He found the soul of care. Religion inspired him to endure and transcend. He aspired to a revolutionary mercy. Readers who know his social medicine and those new to his praxis will get closer to the mystery of his soul by reading these chapters. Eye-opening!”

—Arthur Kleinman, professor of anthropology, Harvard University

“Paul Farmer's legacy as a doctor of the poor and a teacher of humanity is nourishment for theologians and for all who are committed to seeking out the insignificant ones of history in whom the God of life is encountered. His was an active and responsible hope, and this book is a testament to a life freely and joyfully given in love.”

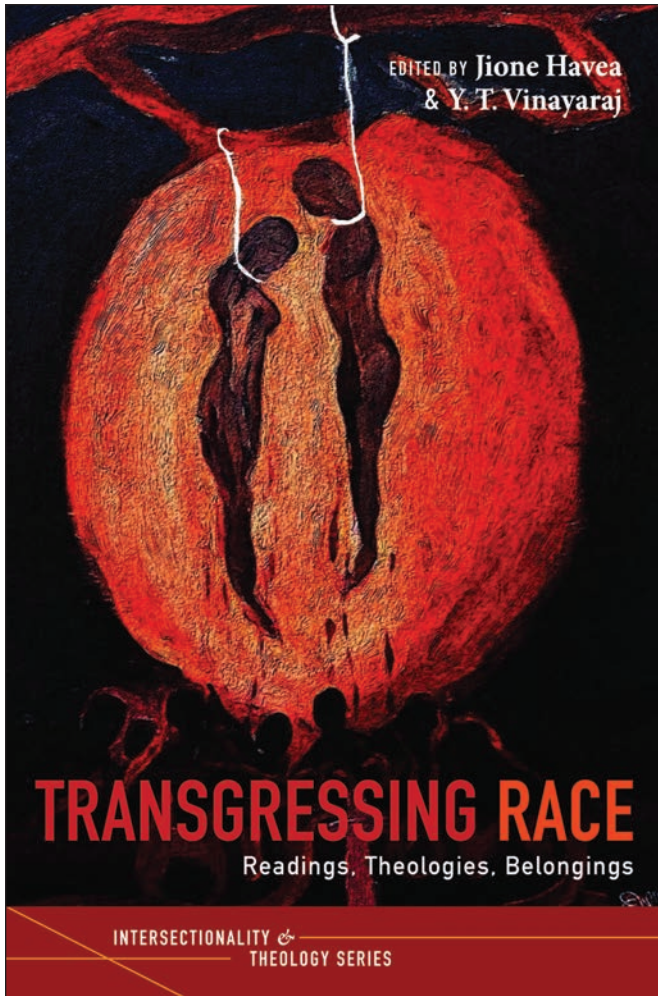
—Gustavo Gutiérrez, OP, professor emeritus of theology, University of Notre Dame

“*A Prophet to the Peoples* brings together an extraordinary group of scholars and practitioners to engage and honor the life of an extraordinary person. It makes clear Paul Farmer's legacy is not a simple isolated moment captured in time but was deeply informed by and an extension of a rich historical tradition of theological ethics. *A Prophet to the Peoples* reminds us that matters of global public health are matters of theological ethics—it will be of immense help to those working for health justice.”

—Patrick T. Smith, associate research professor of theological ethics and bioethics, Duke Divinity School

“*A Prophet to the Peoples* offers a moving and thought-provoking tribute to the life and legacy of Dr. Paul Farmer. The theological themes in these essays—accompaniment, hope, mercy, and structural violence—shaped his teachings and inspired the founding of Partners In Health, whose mission is rooted in the practices of liberation theology and the inherent dignity and value of every person. This book uplifts those values, inviting us all to commit to living change in the world.”

—Sheila Davis, CEO, Partners In Health



Transgressing Race

Readings, Theologies, Belongings

INTERSECTIONALITY AND THEOLOGY SERIES

EDITED BY JIONE HAVEA AND Y. T. VINAYARAJ

978-1-6667-4129-2 | 178 p. | \$27

Transgressing is an appropriate response to race as “a crime against humanity.” No one chooses their race at birth, yet many suffer because of their race. And while many people choose to change citizenship, their accents and faces can give them away as outsiders. Racism thrives on the categorization of people according to their race. Like the Black and White dichotomy, other racial and ethnic discriminations such as casteism, antisemitism, Zionism, xenophobia, and Islamophobia undergird and promote segregation all around the world. Dismantling racism requires challenging racialized oppressions and segregations in sacred texts and contexts, in beloved traditions and hallowed theologies. This book offers such biblical and theological discourses in order to transgress the discriminative segregations of racism in connection with other forms of exploitative systems (or shitstems). The book engages with racialized biblical texts and religious theologies, with acts of racial discrimination in connection with slavery and colonialism, with agonies of people in diaspora, struggles of postcolonial minoritized people, courage of indigenous people to subvert, and with the race-insensitive practices of theological and religious education. The contributors are located in Africa, Asia, North America, Europe, and Oceania.

“*Transgressing Race* engages the intertwined oppressions of racism in its many forms by attacking it from many angles all at once. It begins by helpfully de-centering US-centric accounts of race and its Black-White binary with perspectives from the Global South and North that unpack its complexity, including its religious manifestations. In doing so, contributors reveal not only how religious traditions have been used to inscribe racism, they also unveil new threads to fuel its overthrow.”

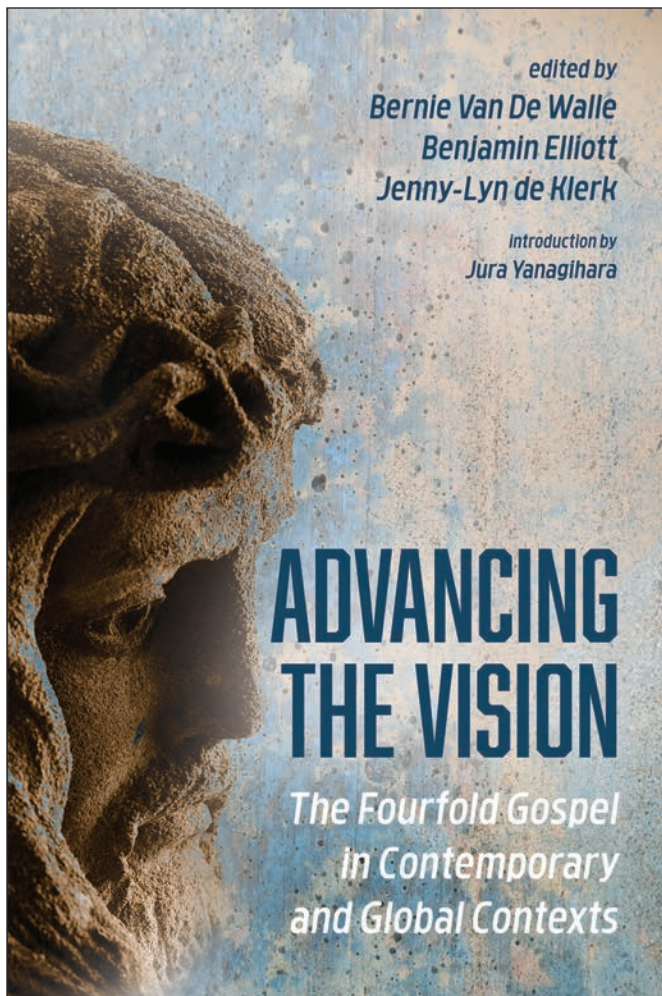
—Bryan Cones, honorary postdoctoral researcher, Pilgrim Theological College

“When the struggle seems long and endless, it’s inspiring and empowering to have a group of theologians/activists who offer creative ways of transgressing racism in various contexts and manifestations and on multiple fronts. I’m truly grateful for this contextually timely work!”

—Eleazar S. Fernandez, president, Union Theological Seminary, Philippines

JIONE HAVEA is senior research fellow with Trinity Methodist Theological College (Aotearoa New Zealand) and with Centre for Religion, Ethics, and Society (Charles Sturt University, Australia).

Y. T. VINAYARAJ is the director of Christian Institute for the Study of Religion and Society, Bangalore, India.



Advancing the Vision

The Fourfold Gospel in Contemporary and Global Contexts

EDITED BY **BERNIE VAN DE WALLE, BENJAMIN ELLIOTT, AND JENNY-LYN DE KLERK**

978-1-5326-5713-9 | 252 p. | \$34

After more than 130 years, the Fourfold Gospel—Jesus Christ, our Savior, Sanctifier, Healer, and Coming King—continues to find a ready following and creative expression around the world. Its success, however, means that it has come to be understood, expressed, and practiced in ways somewhat differently than it originally was. This volume, written by scholars from across the globe, explores these emphases in detail, articulating how the passage of well over a century and the crossing of oceans has resulted in the advancing of the original vision.

“*Advancing the Vision* is a fine tending to the fertile soil that is the Fourfold Gospel, the deeper life, and the centrality of Jesus for life, ministry, and mission. With rich experience and scholarship, each essay opens surprising pathways for new contexts and cultural challenges. It is a volume that speaks to the vibrancy of the Jesus-filled message that lies at the core of the Christian and Missionary Alliance worldwide.”

—David Fitch, Northern Seminary

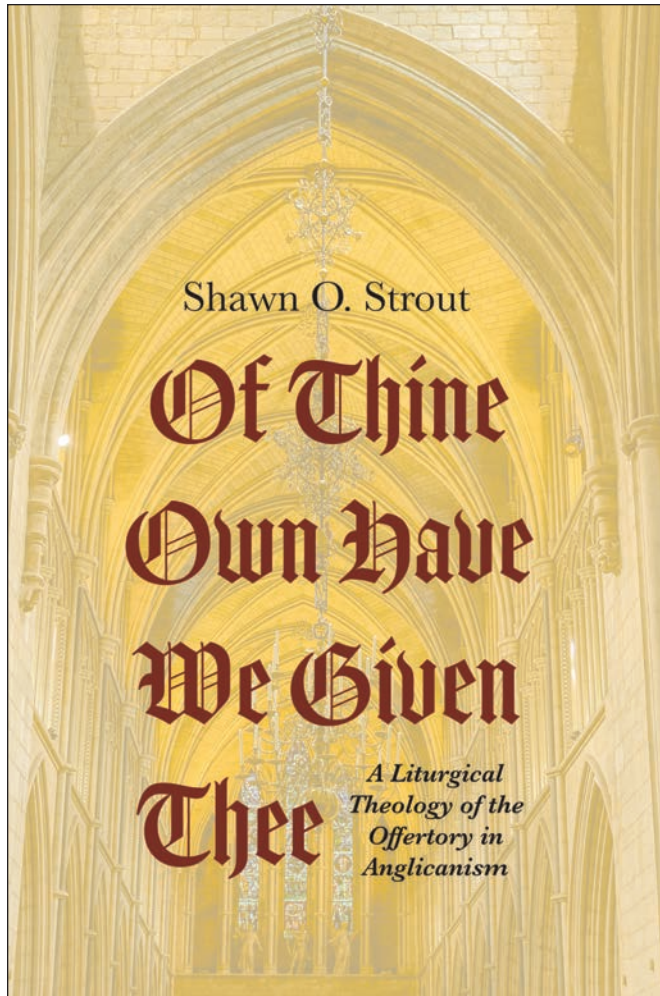
“This excellent book edited by Bernie Van De Valle is essential reading for those interested in the development of the Christ-centered movement of Deeper Life and Missions started by A. B. Simpson. Written by different authors to address different topics, the book presents a common motif (the understanding of the true gospel) and a common motivation (its faithful living and proclamation). This book will help you to do both.”

—Jura Yanagihara, president, Alliance World Fellowship

“The Christian and Missionary Alliance, a small and relatively unknown denomination in Canada and the United States of America, is a thriving and vibrant movement in many countries around the world. Its ordinary theology, expressed as ‘the Fourfold Gospel,’ continues to unite Christians as they participate in God’s mission. This book represents a timely and necessary formulation of Alliance thought and practice. A significant contribution to the literature on the worldwide configuration of the Christian faith.”

—Tite Tiéno, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

BERNIE A. VAN DE WALLE is the former Professor of Historical and Systematic Theology at Ambrose University in Calgary, Canada. Today, he serves as the District Superintendent of the Canadian Midwest District of the Christian and Missionary Alliance.



Of Thine Own Have We Given Thee

A Liturgical Theology of the
Offertory in Anglicanism

SHAWN O. STROUT

978-1-6667-3586-4 | 282 p. | \$38

Every Sunday around the world, Christians offer money and in-kind gifts to the church, traditionally known as alms. For communities that celebrate the Eucharist regularly, bread and wine, traditionally known as oblations, often accompany these gifts. What does it mean theologically for Christians to offer gifts to God, who first offered the greatest gift of Jesus Christ? This question regarding the role of alms and oblations in the liturgy was among the most controversial questions of the English Reformations in the sixteenth century. While the eucharistic prayer proper has often been the site of this theological controversy, the offertory rite has also received great attention. The 1552 English Book of Common Prayer excised all references to oblation in the offertory rite, but oblationary language and actions, such as the offertory procession, returned in full force by the twentieth century. The movement from the near elimination of oblation in the offertory rite to its widespread usage in the churches of the Anglican Communion is a remarkable liturgical and theological development. Using liturgical theology's tools of historical, textual, and contextual analyses, this book explores how this development occurred and why it is important for the church today.

"Shawn Strout presents a compelling examination of the offertory in Anglicanism by a thorough and penetrating historical analysis coupled with a profound theological exposition. This comprehensive study guides the reader through a fascinating development that facilitates a tradition-based understanding of this rite in today's church."

—Mark Morozowich, The Catholic University of America

"Shawn Strout's book provides an excellent overview of the offertory reform in sixteenth-century Anglicanism. This important book also studies the new and dynamic ritual development that followed. This evolution was nourished by a variety of cultural contributions in Anglican Communion. *Of Thine Own Have We Given Thee* catalogues these developments and uncovers their theological roots and implications. It will serve as an indispensable resource for future study of the Anglican offertory for years to come."

—Dominic E. Serra, The Catholic University of America

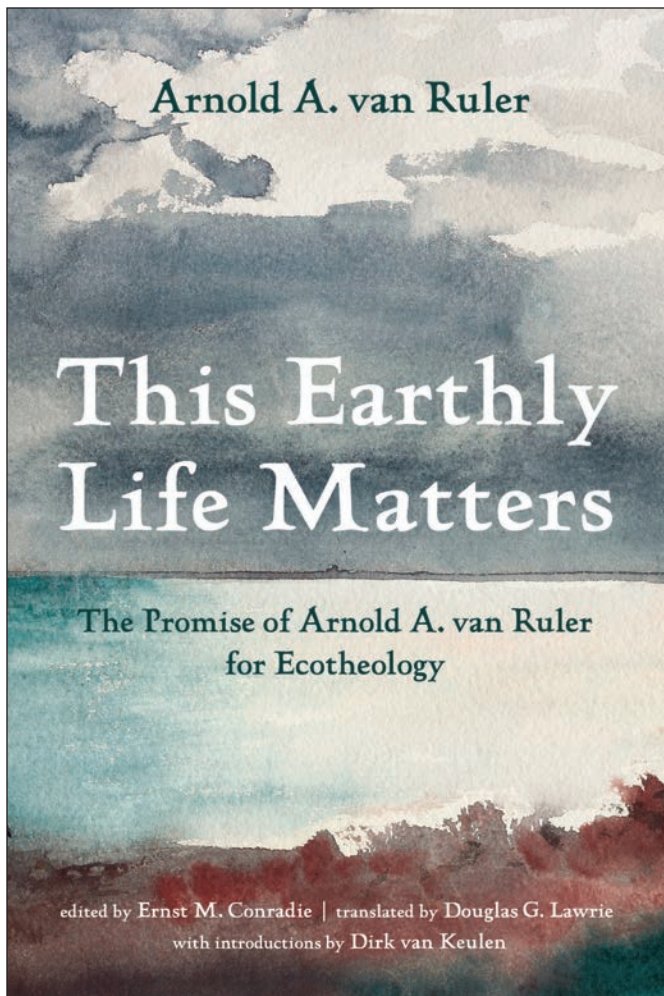
"This is a theologically life-changing book. For many, the 'collection' or the 'offertory' is simply the chance for the church to get some money to cover the costs of running the congregation. Shawn Strout's masterful survey of the acts of oblation invites readers to see how this tradition evolved. Every congregational leader should read this book and ensure that the place of 'giving to God' is truly given an appropriate liturgical and theological place."

—Ian S. Markham, Virginia Theological Seminary

"The treatment of offering and presence in the Anglican tradition has tended to center on the Prayer of Consecration. However, the 'offertory' was also a contested liturgical unit at the Reformation, and it has not received the extended treatment it deserves. In this study, Shawn Strout has filled the gap with a full historical and theological treatment of this liturgical unit as it has progressed and developed in Anglican prayer books. Scholars and students will benefit greatly from this study."

—Bryan D. Spinks, Yale Divinity School, emeritus

SHAWN O. STROUT is assistant professor of worship and associate dean of chapel at the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, VA. He completed his PhD in liturgical studies/sacramental theology at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. He is a member of the North American Academy of Liturgy, Societas Liturgica, and the Society of Scholar Priests. He serves on the editorial board for *Studia Liturgica* and has published several peer-reviewed articles.



This Earthly Life Matters

The Promise of Arnold A. van Ruler for Ecotheology

ARNOLD A. VAN RULER

EDITED BY ERNST M. CONRADIE

978-1-6667-6441-3 | 284 p. | \$38

Arnold A. van Ruler was one of the most original Dutch Reformed theologians of the twentieth century. Through the term “re-creation” (Dutch: *herschepping*) he offers a radical affirmation of God’s sustained loyalty to that which is material, bodily, and earthly. God’s work of salvation and of consummation is necessary but then for the sake of creation. The path that he followed was diametrically opposed to that of Karl Barth and is also distinct from that of Jürgen Moltmann (who was influenced by Van Ruler). As an early exponent of Christian ecotheology, Van Ruler’s oeuvre provides exceptionally rich resources for contemporary debates.

This volume offers an English translation of selected essays by Van Ruler on the themes of God, creation, providence, humanity, sin, this earthly life, and animal protection. It includes some famous essays, for example, on God and chaos, the “sunny side of sin,” joy as the fundamental Christian attitude to life, and this earthly life. The selection is based on volume 3 of the Dutch scholarly edition of Van Ruler’s *Collected Works* (published in 11 volumes). Few of Van Ruler’s texts are available in English, so this volume provides a welcome addition.

“With this excellent collection of essays, expertly translated by Douglas G. Lawrie, leading eco-theologian Ernst Conradie offers a much-needed and long-awaited retrieval of ecotheological themes in the work of the Dutch reformed theologian Arnold van Ruler (1908–70). What emerges is a theology that puts humanity’s need for divine grace at work towards the affirmation of the integrity of earthly life, precisely in its creatureliness. This book is an indispensable resource for Protestant ecotheology!”

—Hilda P. Koster, associate professor in ecological theology, Regis St. Michael’s College, University of Toronto

“First it was Kuyper, then Bavinck followed—and now it is time for a third Dutch theologian to be rediscovered and appropriated by the American audience: Arnold van Ruler. This selection of his theological essays, sketching the contours of an ecologically sensitive Christian doctrine of creation, could not be timelier. Indeed, as editor Ernst Conradie rightly points out, Van Ruler’s theology displays ‘the most radical and consistent affirmation of creatureliness imaginable.’”

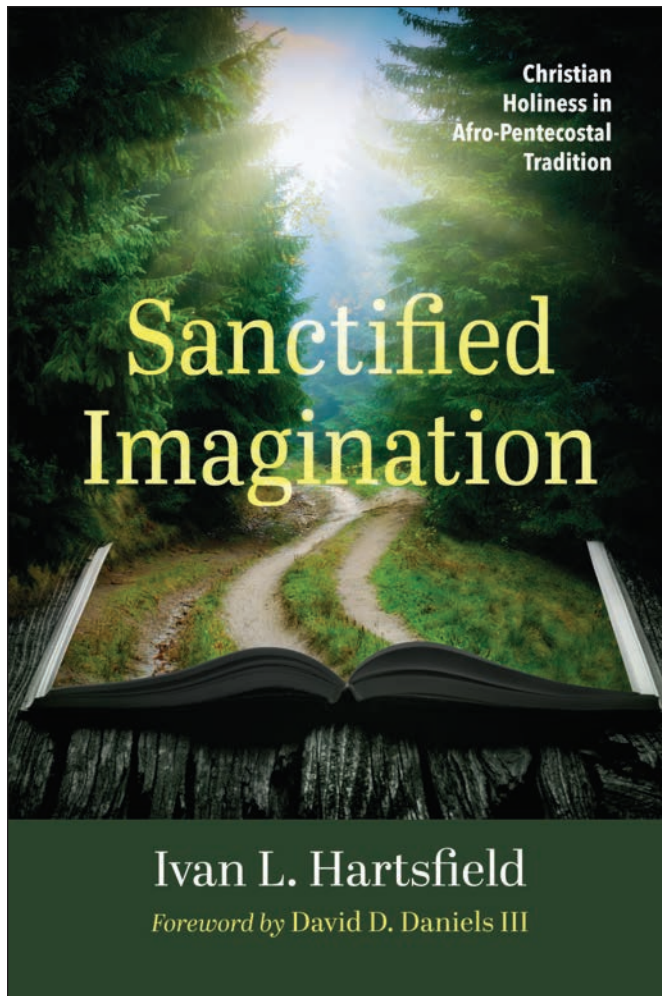
—Gijsbert van den Brink, professor of theology and science, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

“Welcome to a promising series! A wise choice as first volume. More of this intriguing thinker still so silent in English. This volume includes helpful introductions, well-chosen essays, instructive annotations, inspired translation (from wordplays to hymns), fascinating thoughts on joy and play and chaos and life (indeed, to proto-ecotheology), and talk about ‘the marvel of existence,’ ‘matter is holy,’ ‘sin’s sunny side,’ ‘this earthly life matters,’ and yes, ‘reality as God’s joke—and a good one.’ Creative, challenging, and more than welcome!”

—Dirk Smit, professor of reformed theology and public life, Princeton Theological Seminary

ARNOLD VAN RULER (1908–70) was a major Dutch Reformed systematic theologian based at the University of Utrecht in The Netherlands.

ERNST M. CONRADIE (1962–) is based at the University of the Western Cape in South Africa. He is currently working on a series of twelve envisaged edited volumes in the field of Christian ecotheology, entitled *An Earthed Faith: Telling the Story amid the “Anthropocene.”*



Sanctified Imagination

Christian Holiness in Afro-Pentecostal Tradition

IVAN L. HARTSFIELD

978-1-6667-5433-9 | 280 p. | \$38

The first of its kind, this seminal work charts the unlikely theological quest for Christian holiness by founder Charles Harrison Mason and the Wesleyan-Holiness Pentecostal tradition known as the Church of God in Christ (COGIC), the largest Pentecostal denomination in the United States. Through fresh research and critical analysis, this book challenges existing assumptions by scholars and reveals how little-known black renewal movements informed Mason's theological understanding and that of the movement.

The rich theological resources of this historically marginalized movement are not primarily accessible in academic journals, position papers, or theological treatises. Instead, these resources function as "lived religion," where the theological presuppositions are embedded in primitive worship, ecstatic religious practices, and countercultural distinctives.

By unpacking the "lived religion" of this self-professed sanctified church, this book explores how sanctification and the practice of Christian holiness shaped and empowered the COGIC, its people, and its practices in creative and profound ways—resulting in a radical holiness ethic that emerged from an inexhaustible exilic vitality with personal, social, and political implications. Given the challenge of Christian nationalism today, this book provides a framework that informs Christian identity and faithful living for the broader Christian community.

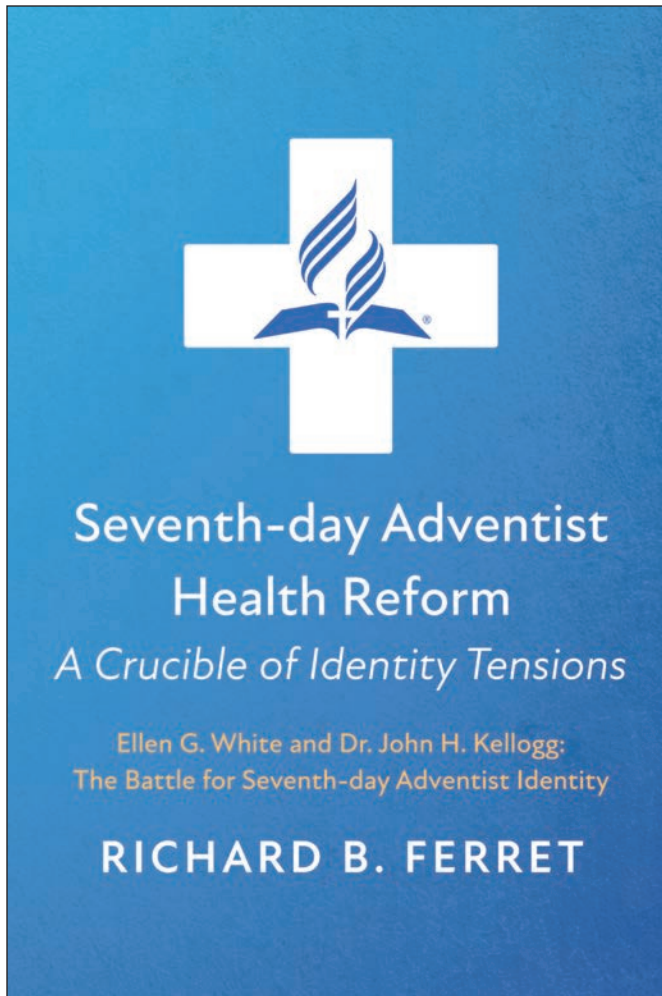
"For academic theologians, it is sometimes easy to forget that the church's theological wisdom is not conveyed primarily through books, but rather through the preaching, worship, and embodied praxis of her living members. In this insightful work, Ivan Hartsfield provides a compelling analysis of Christian holiness as it came to be understood and practiced within the church of God in Christ. Readers will discover here not only a rich theological history, but also an invaluable resource for faithful reflection upon the doctrine of sanctification today."

—David Luy, associate professor of systematic theology, North American Lutheran Seminary

"*Sanctified Imagination* is part of a new stream of vibrant black Pentecostal scholarship. In this timely book, Ivan Hartfield reminds us of the importance of a sanctified mind in an age where spiritual holiness, formation, and virtue have been substituted for wealth, online popularity, and media celebrity."

—Clifton R. Clarke, president, Alliance for Black Pentecostal Scholarship

IVAN L. HARTSFIELD previously served as academic dean and adjunct professor at Northern Seminary. He is an ordained pastor-theologian, church planter, and entrepreneur. He and his wife founded and pastor Thrive Christian Ministries. Ivan is an advisory board member and business director for the Alliance for Black Pentecostal Scholarship. He has authored numerous articles and is heavily involved in planting churches, preaching, and teaching in a global context. Read more from Hartsfield at www.ivanhartsfield.com.



Seventh-day Adventist Health Reform: A Crucible of Identity Tensions

Ellen G. White and Dr. John H. Kellogg: The Battle for Seventh-day Adventist Identity

RICHARD B. FERRET

978-1-6667-7455-9 | 162 p. | \$25

The Seventh-day Adventist church, formally organized in America in 1863, is today one of the fastest-growing Protestant movements in the world and defines itself as a prophetic remnant, raised up and commissioned by God to teach and preach a final message of warning to the world before the imminent return of Christ. From its beginnings, however, a sense of failure was built into the success of the fledgling movement. In order to preserve the message (the imminent return of Christ), Adventists had to erect institutions based on continuity and permanence. A dilemma emerged: medical institutions built to be conducive for separation from the world faced a this-worldly reality filled with requirements from various state entities: registration, approval, and so forth. Thus, Adventist medical institutions confronted constant challenges to their denominational and theological uniqueness. The emergence of this dilemma between aspirations of separateness and this-worldly reality was especially evident in the battle for Adventism's sectarian identity, ethos, and future at the turn of the twentieth century—between Ellen G. White (a cofounder of the movement) and Dr. John H. Kellogg (an Adventist administrator and surgeon who sought to desectarianize the movement).

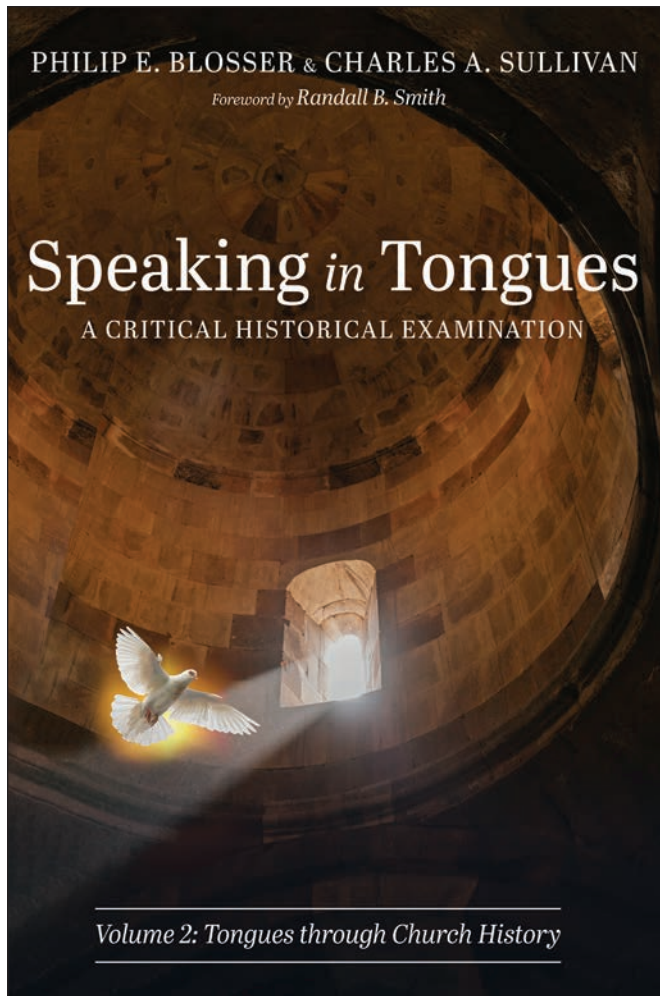
“Richard Ferret’s work shines a new light on a dynamic and challenging era of Adventist history, viewing it through the lens of identity. He demonstrates the strongly divergent visions for Adventism’s future between Ellen White and John Harvey Kellogg, thereby underscoring perhaps what was really at stake in the Kellogg controversy in the early twentieth century.”

—Mark J. P. Pearce, director, Ellen G. White/SDA Research Centre, Avondale University

“This is a fascinating study of two leading figures of nineteenth-century Adventism—Ellen White and John Kellogg. Richard Ferret outlines White’s and Kellogg’s radically different visions of the role of health in Adventism and, indeed, of the nature of the church itself. He provides tantalizing glimpses of where their trajectories may have led the church. If White’s vision led to a biblicist, fundamentalist denomination, Kellogg’s would have aligned the church more closely with liberal Christianity.”

—David Thiele, retired dean of theology, Pacific Adventist University

RICHARD B. FERRET is a retired lecturer from Avondale University in New South Wales, Australia, and has a background in nursing, cross-cultural ministry, hospital chaplaincy, and administration. His major research discipline is sociology and religion. He is the author of *Charisma and Routinization in a Millennialist Community* (2008) and several journal articles.



Speaking in Tongues: A Critical Historical Examination, Volume 2

Tongues through Church History

PHILIP E. BLOSSER AND CHARLES A. SULLIVAN

978-1-6667-3778-3 | 224 p. | \$31

In three carefully researched volumes, this ground-breaking study examines the gift of tongues through two thousand years of church history. Starting in the present and working back in time, these volumes consider (1) the modern redefinition of “tongues” as a private prayer language; (2) the church’s perennial understanding of “tongues” as ordinary human languages; and (3) the Corinthian “tongues,” which, in light of Jewish liturgical tradition, turn out to have been a Semitic liturgical language requiring bilingual interpreters.

This second volume tracks the perception and practice of tongues back through the first eighteen hundred years of church history, demonstrating that “tongue-speaking” was always active but puzzlingly different from today’s *glossolalia*. From Pope Benedict XIV’s detailed treatise in the 1700s, it works back through long-forgotten scholastic and patristic debates to the earliest Christian writers such as Irenaeus. No other resource on the subject approaches the depth and scope of the present volume.

“Here is a book I wish we had fifty years ago when I came into the Catholic charismatic renewal, for it sheds a clear light on the history of ‘praying in tongues’ within the Pentecostal and charismatic movements. Its critical but sympathetic treatment of the subject illuminates and clarifies what a vibrant charismatic spirituality truly is. It is a must-read.”

—Adrian Reimers, professor of philosophy, Holy Cross College

“The fruits of the study of Philip Blosser and Charles Sullivan are a great gift to the Church and an excellent help to anyone who seeks a deep understanding of the gift of speaking in tongues.”

—Cardinal Raymond Leo Burke, prefect emeritus, Apostolic Signatura

“If the notion of tongues as *glossolalia* or some form of ecstatic utterance is indeed an invention of nineteenth century higher critical thought that then filtered down to the popular level where early Pentecostals adopted it, then Pentecostals should admit the novelty of such a theory.”

—Dale M. Coulter, professor of historical theology, Pentecostal Theological Seminary

“Philip Blosser and Charles Sullivan demonstrate with comprehensive erudition that the Christian tradition as a whole—Eastern and Western, Catholic and Protestant—has had a very different conception of these ‘tongues’ than the one assumed or asserted in modern exegetical, Pentecostal, and Charismatic circles. The breadth and depth of research the authors bring to the table is astonishing.”

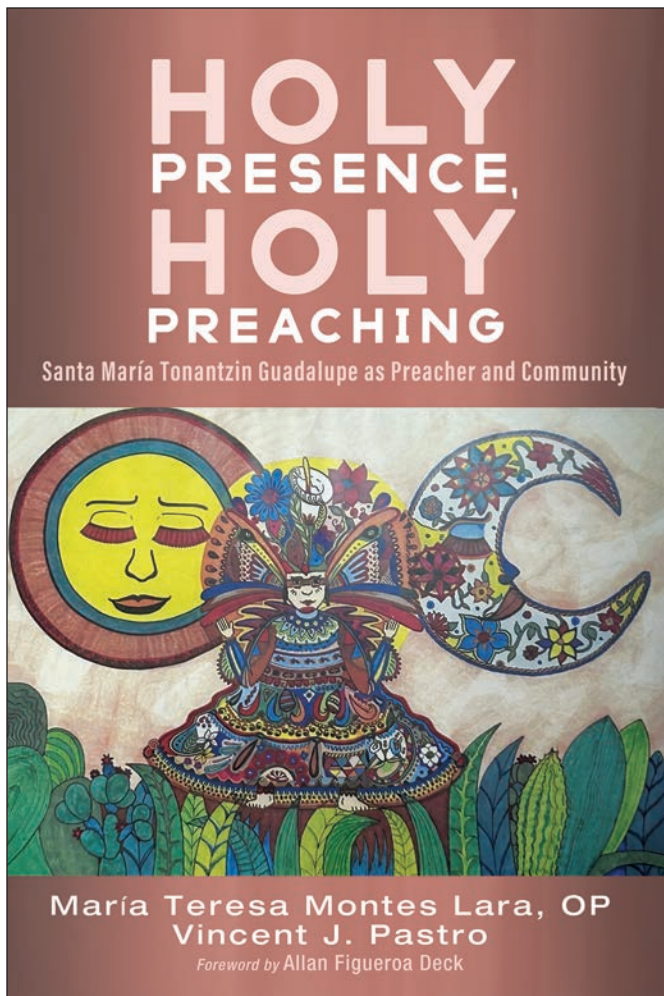
—Peter A. Kwasniewski, fellow, St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology

“At last, an authoritative yet accessible history of the charismatic gift of ‘tongues’! This meticulously researched and even-handed study peels back layer after layer of church history to reveal the fascinating metamorphosis of the ‘gift of tongues’ since the earliest Hebrew Scriptures and the Christian New Testament. A most worthy and welcome successor to Ronald Knox’s classic *Enthusiasm!*”

—Neil J. Roy, STL, former editor, *Antiphon: A Journal for Liturgical Renewal*

PHILIP BLOSSER is professor of philosophy at Sacred Heart Major Seminary (Detroit).

CHARLES A. SULLIVAN is an independent scholar and linguist with interests in church history.



Holy Presence, Holy Preaching

Santa María Tonantzin Guadalupe
as Preacher and Community

MARIA TERESA MONTES LARA, OP
AND **VINCENT J. PASTRO**

978-1-7252-5461-9 | 182 p. | \$27

Almost 500 years ago, a *Mexica* survivor of the *conquista* was on his way to catechism lessons just outside present-day Mexico City. He experienced a holy presence on the hill of Tepeyac that changed the hermeneutic of the dignity of the poor forever. This book is about Our Lady of Guadalupe under her popular title “Santa María Tonantzin Guadalupe.” It centers on her indigenous and feminine identity as the “Preaching Woman.” She and the people she animates, the Hispanic-Latino community, are “icons” of the presence of the Holy Trinity. As Sacrament of the Holy Spirit and bearer of the Sacramental Word, she enables the *pueblo*, the people of God, to exercise their baptismal ministry as holy preachers.

“María Teresa Montes Lara and Vincent Pastro offer a refreshing and consoling combination of ‘theology on its knees,’ the wisdom of pastoral practice, and the rich traditions of the Church as they contemplate the power and efficacy of our Lady of Guadalupe who, guided by the Spirit, continues to mediate grace among the poor and marginal. She animates the Hispanic-Latino community by encouraging people to realize their baptismal dignity, preaching in word and action the life given them as the daughters and sons of God.”

—George R. Murphy, SJ, adjunct lecturer in Christian spirituality, Jesuit School of Theology

“The Spirit always leads the faithful to the pueblo of the poor. This book tells the story of the living stones whom the powerful negate but who recognize themselves in Santa María Tonantzin Guadalupe. Where evil is legion, a poor brown, indigenous woman bears God’s Word and Spirit, rousing the pueblo to baptismal dignity and resistance and the Church to baptismal respect and synodality. This richly textured theology is a Mariology for our time.”

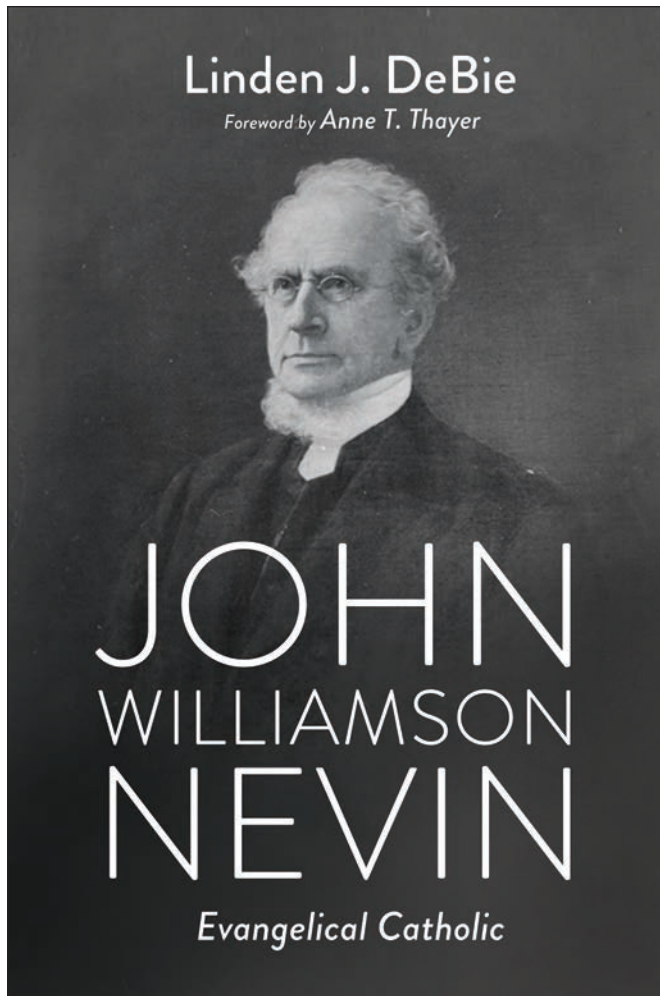
—Gregory Heille, OP, professor of preaching and evangelization, Aquinas Institute of Theology

“This book is rich, ample, and holistic. It reviews the history, the philosophy, and various theological perspectives of Mary of Guadalupe. The narrative intertwines a critical approach supported by the great mothers and fathers of the Church and a variety of contemporary theologians, both women and men. The sense, symbol, word, and preaching of the Guadalupana are presented as living realities.”

—Georgina Zubiría Maqueo, RSCJ, Sisters of the Sacred Heart International Leadership Team

MARÍA TERESA MONTES LARA is a Dominican sister who has ministered in Latino communities for over thirty years. She now works with Latin American sisters through Catholic Extension and is on the faculty of the *Camino* program with the University of Notre Dame.

VINCENT J. PASTRO is a Catholic presbyter from the Archdiocese of Seattle who has ministered extensively with immigrants, especially in Latino communities. He is presently a Delaplane Preaching Scholar with Aquinas Institute of Theology and resides in California.



John Williamson Nevin

Evangelical Catholic

LINDEN J. DEBIE

978-1-7252-6953-8 | 392 p. | \$49

John Williamson Nevin's life has never been given the full attention that it deserves. That may be due in part to the controversial nature of his thinking. Yet in many respects, his enormous contribution to American religious history is acknowledged by those who have read him. He stood out as the great advocate of evangelical catholicism, and his call for a thorough examination of the place of the church in nineteenth-century theology was revolutionary. It was Nevin who first saw the threat to the church in the erosion of faith in the church as a divine institution sacramentally entrusted by God with the reclamation of the whole world—an erosion that occurred well before the Civil War in the hypersubjectivity of Protestant America.

“This volume performs an invaluable and rare service for anyone interested in the history of theology in the nineteenth century. Linden DeBie deftly weaves together themes from John Williamson Nevin's personal and professional life, his philosophical orientation and evolution, and his theological commitments. In these pages Nevin emerges as a unique and significant force in the speculative, sacramental, and ecumenical strand in American theology.”

—Lee C. Barrett, professor of theology, Lancaster Theological Seminary

“The case can be made that John Williamson Nevin was the most creative conservative Protestant theologian of nineteenth-century America. Linden DeBie's thorough and nuanced account depicts a theologian seeking to transform American Christianity by overcoming its endemic individualism. DeBie brings to this task an impressive knowledge of Christian tradition, German philosophy, and nineteenth-century views of history. He also locates Nevin within a setting riven by debates over politics, sectarian piety, and sacramental worship as well as slavery and social order. This is an impressive work.”

—E. Brooks Holifield, professor emeritus of American church history, Emory University

“In this critical appraisal of the life and work of John Williamson Nevin, Linden DeBie lucidly explains Nevin's theological ideas, idealist orientation, and the controversies and influences that shaped his views. It is a highly readable volume that addresses an overlooked figure in nineteenth-century American religious history. A most welcomed new biography, it should be essential reading for anyone interested in Nevin and his era.”

—Annette G. Aubert, lecturer of historical theology and church history, Westminster Theological Seminary

LINDEN J. DEBIE received his PhD from McGill University. His books include *Speculative Philosophy and Common-Sense Religion* (Pickwick, 2008), *The Mystical Presence, by John W. Nevin* (coedited; Wipf & Stock, 2012), and *Coena Mystica* (coedited; Wipf & Stock, 2013). He has taught at New Brunswick Theological Seminary and Seton Hall University and is currently pastor of the Colonial Church of Bayside, New York.

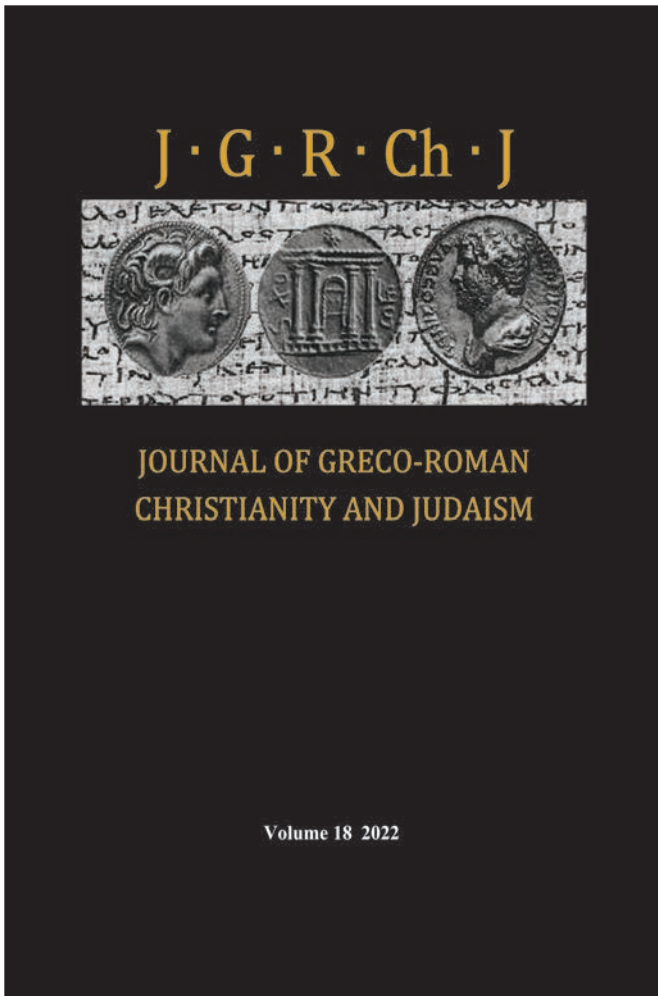
Journal of Greco-Roman Christianity and Judaism, Volume 18

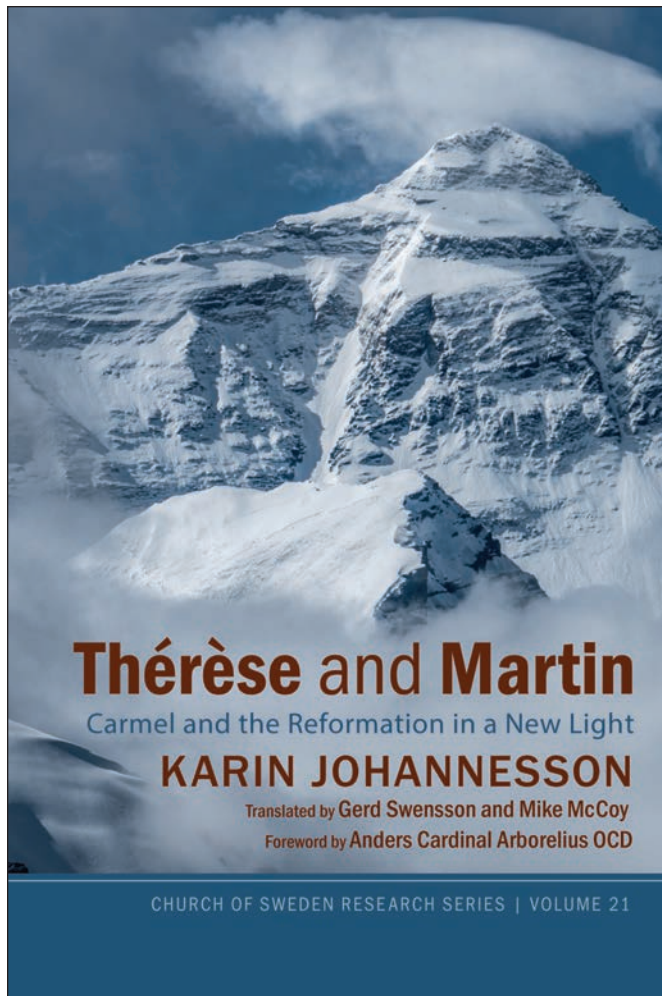
EDITED BY **STANLEY E. PORTER, MATTHEW BROOK O'DONNELL, AND WENDY J. PORTER**

978-1-6667-8100-7 | 220 p. | \$46

Volume 18, 2022

This is the eighteenth volume of the hard-copy edition of a journal that has been published online (www.jgrchj.net) since 2000. As they appear, the hard-copy editions replace the online materials. The scope of JGRChJ is the texts, language and cultures of the Greco-Roman world of early Christianity and Judaism. The papers published in JGRChJ are designed to pay special attention to the larger picture of politics, culture, religion and language, engaging as well with modern theoretical approaches.





Thérèse and Martin

Carmel and the Reformation in a New Light

CHURCH OF SWEDEN RESEARCH SERIES

KARIN JOHANNESON

978-1-6667-4619-8 | 196 p. | \$29

The Carmelite nun Thérèse of the Child Jesus (1873-1897) lived a contemplative monastic life. Through her writings, she continues to help people who live in completely different contexts to discover that God is always present in the middle of everyday life. Like Martin Luther (1483-1546), Thérèse clearly distances herself from the idea that we can earn our salvation from God.

This book begins by highlighting the extensive similarities between Thérèse's teaching and Martin Luther's theology. With the help of the three Carmelite Doctors of the Church – Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Teresa of Avila (1515-1582) and John of the Cross (1542-1591) – the discussion develops further, and a receptive ecumenical study is carried out.

The overall question is how the Carmelite tradition can enrich the Evangelical-Lutheran tradition in a way that contributes to the renewal of the church. It is argued that such a renewal is of vital importance if people today are to receive the spiritual guidance that they are longing for.

"Karin Johannesson has given us a spiritual gift. In her interpretation of such crucial concepts as grace and justice, Johannesson tries new keys in old locks. Simply and naturally—and with rich results—she converses with her readers about the search for spiritual immersion from a perspective on life as a pilgrimage. . . . The different church traditions have a lot to learn from each other with a receptive approach—for example, through this book!"

—Gunnar Weman, archbishop emeritus, Church of Sweden

"It is a great gift to the whole church that *Thérèse and Martin* is now available in English translation. In this brilliant work of receptive ecumenism, Karin Johannesson demonstrates with theological acuity and pastoral sensitivity how the Carmelite Doctors of the Church, Teresa of Jesus, John of the Cross, and Thérèse of Lisieux can help the Reformation to continue to flourish in the contemporary world and beyond. Johannesson's lucid and compelling book will captivate Christians across the denominational spectrum."

—Michelle Jones, The Australian Institute of Theological Education

"In this immensely readable book, with examples from the life-and-death experiences of famous mountaineers, the author draws upon the wisdom of Martin Luther and the Carmelite saints (especially Thérèse, Teresa, and John of the Cross) to guide us 'on the steep slopes of the mountains of life.' While recognizing their differences, Bishop Karin Johannesson brings out their surprising

complementarity, helping today's believers address the challenge of 'secularism from within' and live a more vibrant Christian faith."

—Steven Payne, OCD, professor of historical and systematic theology, Catholic University of America

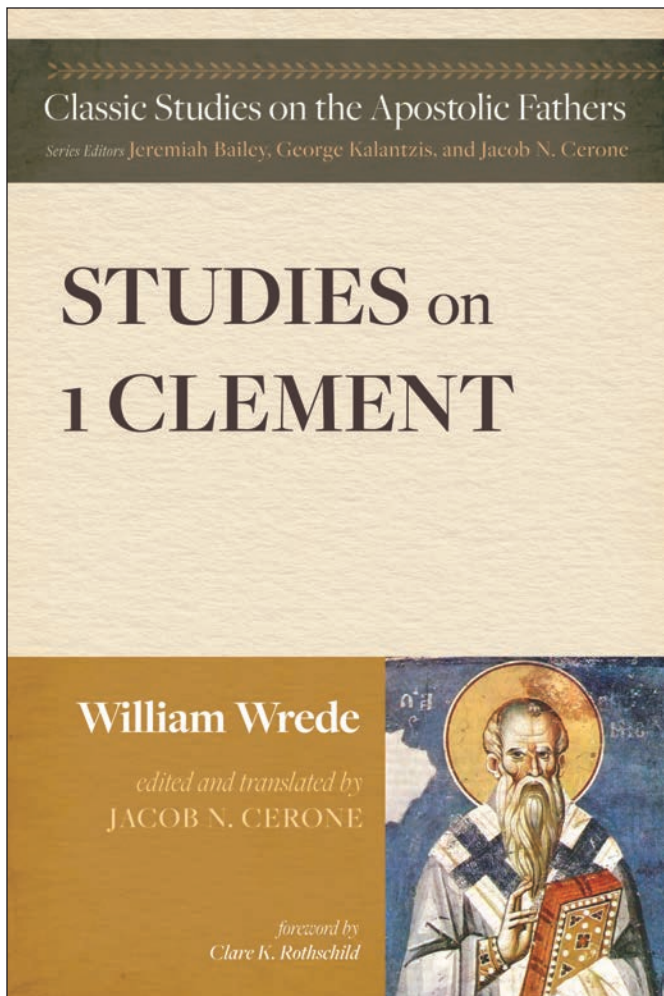
"The superficial character of modern secular life is a problem that occupies Christians of various traditions. The Swedish Lutheran Bishop Karin Johannesson asks for help from the Carmelite tradition. Her book is a spiritual quest and an intellectual treatise, embracing Thérèse of Lisieux and Martin Luther as lights that lead to a deepened Christian vision."

—Risto Saarinen, professor of theology, University of Helsinki

"A pioneer in spiritual theology in Sweden, Karin Johannesson invites the reader on a spiritual mountaineering adventure with the Carmelite teachers and Martin Luther as the guides. Identifying the widespread experience of 'secularization from within' as a particular form of despair, or a demon for contemporary Christians to face, she draws from the wisdom of the desert mothers, the monastics, and the reformers of the church to imagine a way forward towards a healthy and holistic religiosity."

—Kirsi Stjerna, professor of Lutheran history and theology, Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

KARIN JOHANNESON is bishop in the diocese of Uppsala and associate professor in philosophy of religion at Uppsala University. She is the author of the book *God Pro Nobis* (2007).



Studies on First Clement

CLASSIC STUDIES ON THE APOSTOLIC FATHERS

WILLIAM WREDE

EDITED BY JACOB N. CERONE

978-1-7252-9944-3 | 180 p. | \$27

Inspired by the advice of his former teacher and mentor, Adolf von Harnack, William Wrede committed himself to the task of writing a dissertation on 1 Clement, which was originally published under the title *Untersuchungen zum 1. Clemensbrief* and has now been published here in English translation for the first time under the title *Studies on 1 Clement*. In this volume, Wrede investigates the ecclesiastical structure of the early church as well as the significance and function of the Old Testament in 1 Clement. Though overshadowed by his later work, *The Messianic Secret*, Wrede's work on 1 Clement served as a tempered and solid basis for later investigations of the letter, even when those investigations part ways with Wrede's conclusions.

"Over a century after his *Messiasgeheimnis*, the name of Wrede continues to be well-known to students of the New Testament. His insightful work on 1 Clement is less well-known; Jacob Cerone has done us a great service by rescuing this text from obscurity and presenting it in a clear and usable English translation."

—Alistair C. Stewart, senior lecturer in biblical studies, Codrington College

"This new translation of Wrede's classic work on 1 Clement makes this perennially important volume available to a wider audience. The topics under discussion remain as central to the study of 1 Clement as when Wrede addressed them in 1891. For serious students of the Apostolic Fathers, this edition is invaluable and permits a fuller understanding of landmark scholarly developments. The translator, Jacob Cerone, is to be commended for his fine work."

—Paul Foster, professor of New Testament and early Christianity, University of Edinburgh

"Jacob Cerone's translation of Wrede's classic studies on 1 Clement is fresh, careful, and a welcomed contribution to English-speaking students today! Indeed, Wrede's insights are as relevant for contemporary scholars as when first offered at the end of the nineteenth century. I am confident Cerone's efforts will be much appreciated by those who engage the fruits of his work."

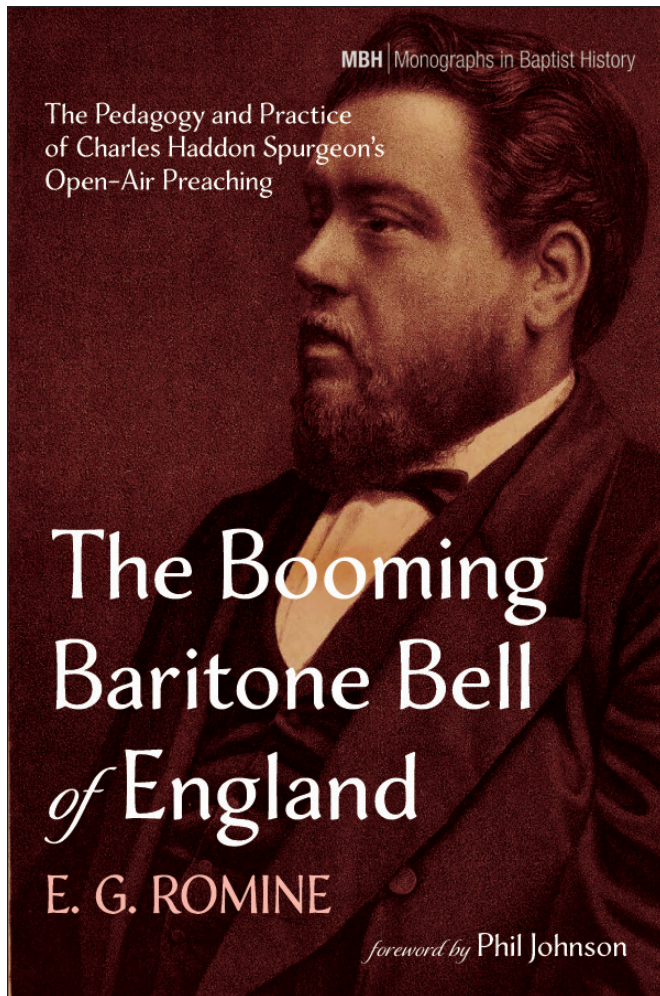
—Clayton N. Jefford, professor of Scripture, Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology

"Jacob Cerone presents a valuable translation for an important work on 1 Clement, particularly with respect to the place of the Old Testament in the letter. This volume will serve as a vital resource to Anglophone scholars."

—Janelle Peters, lecturer of theological studies, Loyola Marymount University

WILLIAM WREDE (1859–1906) was a professor of the New Testament at the University of Breslau. He is best known for his work on the Gospel of Mark entitled *The Messianic Secret*, which remains a mainstay in Historical Jesus Studies, as well as his work entitled *Paul*.

JACOB N. CERONE is a doctoral candidate at the university of Erlangen-Nuremberg. He is co-author of *Daily Scriptures: 365 Readings in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin*, the editor of *Strack and Billerbeck's A Commentary on the New Testament from the Talmud and Midrash* and Adolf von Harnack's *The Letter of the Roman Church to the Corinthian Church from the Era of Domitian: 1 Clement*, and co-editor of the *Apostolic Fathers Greek Reader*.



The Booming Baritone Bell of England

The Pedagogy and Practice of Charles Haddon Spurgeon's Open-Air Preaching

MONOGRAPHS IN BAPTIST HISTORY

E. G. ROMINE

978-1-6667-5448-3 | 172 p. | \$26

When the Prince of Preachers steps into the open air, the result will change his ministry forever.

Using Charles Spurgeon's own words, as well as contemporary accounts, E. G. Romine digs deep into the legendary pastor's unexamined legacy of open-air preaching. In *The Booming Baritone Bell of England*, Romine argues that Spurgeon's open-air preaching was a profound influence not only on his audience, but on Spurgeon himself. A thorough and thoughtful exploration of a neglected area of Spurgeon's ministry, Romine's exhaustively-researched book will appeal to casual readers and scholars alike.

"E. G. Romine has captured the spirit, zeal, theology, and love of Charles Spurgeon in this volume. If anything showed the true passion of Spurgeon for truth and for people, it was his open-air preaching. His polemics throughout his ministry manifested his love for orthodox, evangelical, and, yes, Calvinistic truth. All of that, however, was in service of the purity of the gospel preached to the lost. This excellent work explores the theology, practice, and pedagogy of preaching in the open air. Romine has given it a charming presentation."

—Tom J. Nettles, senior professor of historical theology, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

"E. G. Romine is one of the most passionate and convictional Christians that I know. Thus, it's fitting that he's produced this volume on Charles Haddon Spurgeon, one of the most passionate and convictional Christians who has ever lived. Romine's *The Booming Baritone Bell of England* is sure to bless every minister who will read it."

—Jason K. Allen, president, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary & Spurgeon College

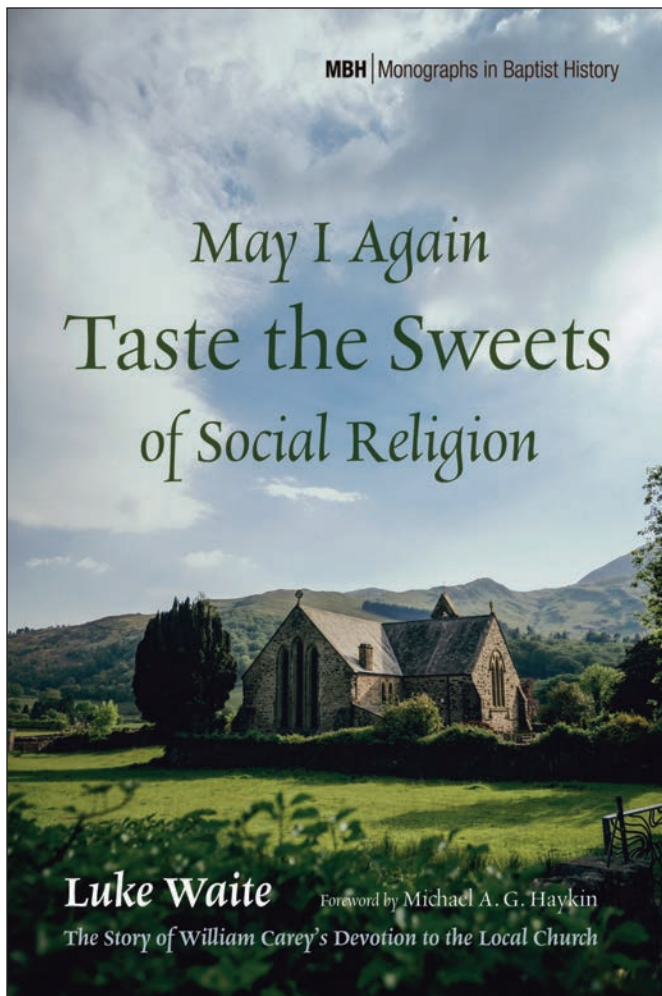
"I have considered myself somewhat a student of Charles Spurgeon for many years. That is until I met E. G. Romine. His dedication to the works of the prince of preachers causes mine to appear as simple fandom. This book is evidence of that dedication. In these pages you will find conviction, encouragement, and a glimpse into the heart that Spurgeon had for the lost. It has my unreserved recommendation. Read and be encouraged."

—Josh Lofthus, co-host, The Reformatory Podcast

"Whether one adopts Spurgeon's practice of open-air preaching or not, E. G. Romine's work is valuable for at least two reasons: First, it highlights the role that open-air preaching played in Spurgeon's pastoral training. Second, it argues for the formative role that open-air preaching played in Spurgeon's evangelistic preaching, particularly in emboldening him. Open-air preaching may not be the right strategy in your context. But the boldness and initiative shown in such preaching will always be strategic for the gospel. Romine's work can help you grow in those qualities."

—Geoff Chang, assistant professor of historical theology, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

E. G. ROMINE received his BA from Henderson State University. He holds an MDiv and a ThM from The Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, as well as a ThM and PhD from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He serves as the pastor of education and evangelism at First Baptist Church of Provo, Utah.



May I Again Taste the Sweets of Social Religion

The Story of William Carey's Devotion to the Local Church

MONOGRAPHS IN BAPTIST HISTORY

LUKE WAITE

978-1-6667-6959-3 | 92 p. | \$19

For two hundred years, Christians have been inspired by William Carey's commitment to obey the Great Commission. Few know of his devotion to the local church. Yet Carey's ecclesiology warrants our attention. While many works helpfully illuminate aspects of Carey's ministry, this book pushes past his methods and strategies and examines his ecclesiological faithfulness. By explaining this element of Carey's doctrine and demonstrating the ways it revealed itself throughout his life, the author argues that Carey's devotion to the local church was undeniably linked to his God-given success in reaching the lost.

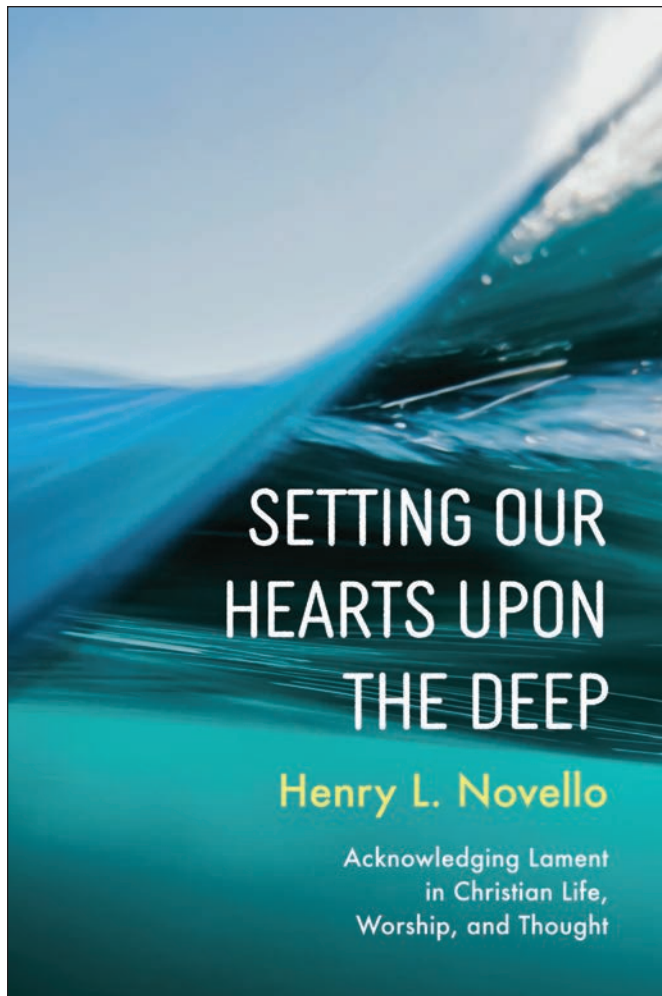
"William Carey is rightly recognized as the 'father of modern missions,' but for too long the *ecclesiology* that fueled his *missiology* has gone unnoticed and uncelebrated. Luke Waite convincingly demonstrates that what Carey believed about missions cannot be divorced from what he believed about the local church. Read this book to better understand William Carey. Even more importantly, pastors, church members, and missionaries should read it to strengthen their missiology by sharpening their ecclesiology."

—M. Hopson Boutot, lead pastor, Poquoson Baptist Church

"Local churches are not optional in missions work. Luke Waite's work provides a much-needed reminder of the biblical and baptistic convictions of William Carey concerning ecclesiology. Sending churches and missionaries will benefit by taking the time to learn from Carey, 'the father of modern missions,' on the matter."

—Ryan Robertson, president, Reaching & Teaching International Ministries

LUKE WAITE has served in pastoral ministry in the United States and overseas since 2012. He and his wife, Emily, have two sons, and together they love ministering in the context of the local church and seeking to build up the body of Christ.



Setting Our Hearts upon the Deep

Acknowledging Lament in Christian Life, Worship, and Thought

HENRY L. NOVELLO

978-1-6667-5291-5 | 284 p. | \$35

In Christian churches, the “Why Lord?” and “How long Lord?” prayers of the Jewish lament tradition have fallen silent. This is astonishing given that Jesus’ fidelity to the cause of God culminates in his lament cry on Calvary, which was “heard” by God (Heb 5:7), who did not hide his face (Ps 22:24) but responded by raising him up in glory. In Christ’s paschal mystery, grief (lament) and joy (praise) are inextricably intertwined. So why is lament not incorporated into praise in church usage? How can we not lament as we strive to embody Christ in an unredeemed world? The book examines reasons for the neglect of lament in the New Testament and theological tradition. The pivotal section of the work situates Jesus in the tradition of the suffering righteous in which Psalm 22 stands and it proposes a theological (not juridical) interpretation of Jesus’ cry, which refutes the God-abandonment thesis: Jesus’ cry reveals his abandonment *to* God, not his abandonment *by* God! Because God was “for” and “with” Jesus, we know that God is “for” and “with” us in our own cries, which are joined to Jesus’ cry, and we are redeemed. Redemption, then, consists in human and divine suffering coming together to transform grief and evil into joy and newness of life.

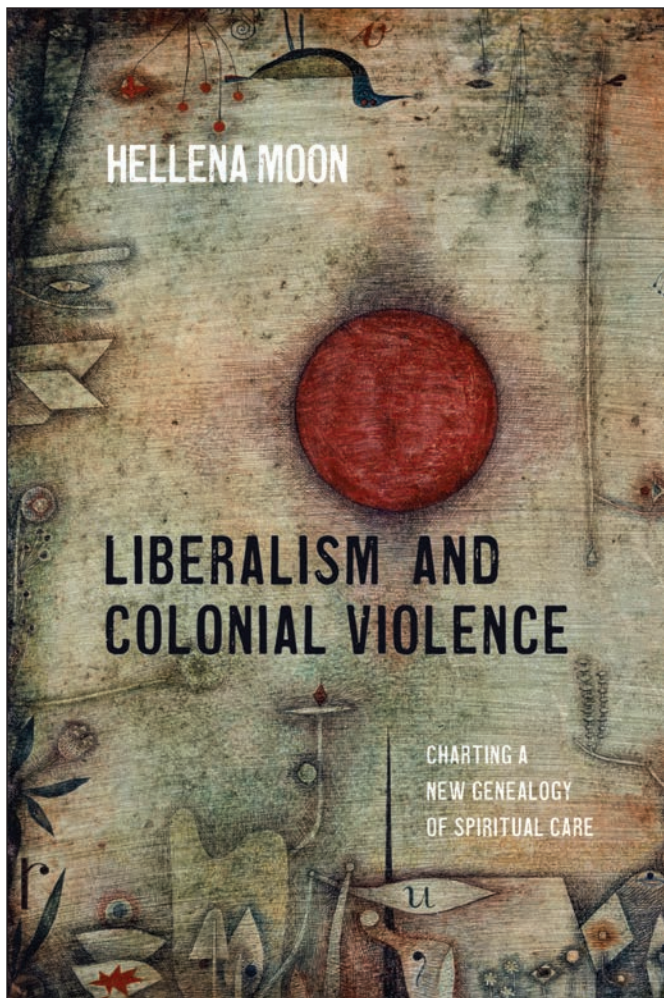
“A sequel to *Passionate Deification*, this new book by Henry Novello explores a rare theme in Christian theology: human and divine lament, that is, the faithful’s lament before God and God’s lament before people. *Setting Our Hearts upon the Deep* presents a deeply moving spirituality for our times when there is so much suffering and pain. I most strongly recommend it for meditative reading and classes on Christian spirituality.”

—Peter C. Phan, Georgetown University

“In this retrieval of a significant biblical motif, Novello shows that lament is not complaint but leads to intensification of relationship with God. The central discussion of Christ’s lament upon the cross through Psalm 22 is an original contribution to Christology in its own right. In the present situation of the church and the world, it is hard to think of a timelier theological offering than this readable and well-informed work.”

—Brendan Byrne, SJ, University of Divinity, emeritus

HENRY L. NOVELLO is lecturer in theology in the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, Flinders University. He is the author of *Death as Transformation: A Contemporary Theology of Death* (2011), and *Passionate Deification: The Integral Role of the Emotions in Christ’s Life and Christian Life* (2019).



Liberalism and Colonial Violence

Charting a New Genealogy of Spiritual Care

HELLENA MOON

978-1-7252-5266-0 | 260 p. | \$35

This book explores the aporias of liberal democracy, freedom, care, and justice—with the seemingly at-odds ideas of neoliberal fascism, racism, sexism, and other forms of violence. As Derrick Bell and others have argued that racism is inherent in US democracy, I examine the intertwined concepts of justice and freedom with fascist ideas that unsettle democratic practices of freedom and political equality. There is ongoing tension that uproots democratic practices driven by the very ideals of democracy itself. Freedom is acquired for one group while circumscribing it for others. In analyzing the troubling neoliberal fascist leanings of our times, I explore the origins of US liberalism to diagnose our current state of politico-theological abyss. In that regard, our own field of pastoral care needs to address its complicity in the current devolving situation of the neoliberal fascist ideologies in US society. Fascist and nationalist ideologies rely foremost on perpetuating mythic ideologies, masking reality, and controlling our epistemologies. In charting a new genealogy for spiritual care, I argue that the image of care as articulated by W. E. B. Du Bois—one of Third World liberation that addresses the decoloniality of the entombed soul—should be the primary genealogy of spiritual care for our field today.

“An imaginative and daring rendering of postcolonial spiritual care that challenges the supremacy of ‘pastoral’ metaphors and calls instead for the repair of ‘immured spirits.’ A deeply challenging book that urgently demands the decolonization of Western ‘pastoral’ care.”

—Susan Abraham, Pacific School of Religion

“It is hard to imagine a more necessary, and compellingly written, book for the field. Hellena Moon has pulled the colonial thread to unravel the hold that Western thought has wielded in pastoral theology and care. This is decolonial theology that dismantles at the deepest roots. Moon convincingly asserts that such work is necessary to articulate a pastoral theology that liberates the discipline and its practices of care.”

—Phillis Isabella Sheppard, Vanderbilt Divinity School

“With her breathtaking command of Western philosophy, colonial history, and pastoral theology, Hellena Moon has taken a sledgehammer to the still-dominant European epistemological foundations underlying ‘traditional’ pastoral theology and care, calling us to deconstruct, and then radically reimagine our history and practices, in order to rebuild our field from its very ruins for the sake of the flourishing of all people everywhere. This book is a must-read.”

—Pamela Cooper-White, Union Theological Seminary

“Spiritual care and its correlates—pastoral care and shepherding—invite scrutiny in this complex and rewarding study. Intertwined are Eurocentric assumptions and claims of exceptionalism and universalism, the sacred and the secular, colonialism and self-determination, Native and Western epistemologies, and historicism and postcolonialism. Discursive interrogation gives way to rehabilitation, deconstruction to reconstruction, revealing promising paths toward liberation.”

—Gary Y. Okiihiro, Columbia University, emeritus

HELLENA MOON is part-time assistant professor in the Interdisciplinary Studies Department at Kennesaw State University. She is co-editor of *Postcolonial Images of Spiritual Care: Challenges of Care in a Neoliberal Age* (2020). She is also co-editor of *Postcolonial Practices of Care: A Project of Togetherness During COVID-19 and Racial Violence* (2022).

Jimmy Boon-Chai Tan



How Then Shall We Guide?

A Comparative Study of Ignatius of Loyola and John Calvin as Spiritual Guides

“This welcome book is a reminder that history always impacts theology and in turn shapes spirituality. Jimmy Tan’s insightful comparative study of Ignatius of Loyola and John Calvin provides rich wisdom for both Christian spirituality and spiritual direction. I hope this excellent resource will guide ecumenical conversations in spiritual direction. The church will be the healthier for it. Strongly recommended!”

—Tom Schwanda, associate professor emeritus of Christian formation and ministry, Wheaton College

“In this comparative study of Ignatius Loyola and John Calvin as spiritual guides, Jimmy Tan has shown that there are deep spiritual affinities as well as significant differences. The study is especially important in our day when spiritual guides tend to be rather careless in their use of sources. They would do well, following the lead of the author, to engage in some spiritual exercises in Ignatian and Calvinist discernment.”

—Simon Chan, editor, *Asia Journal of Theology*

“This is a very important, substantial, and well-written book in the area of spiritual direction and formation. It clearly and helpfully describes and compares the spiritual guidance approaches of Ignatius of Loyola and John Calvin from

How Then Shall We Guide?

A Comparative Study of Ignatius of Loyola and John Calvin as Spiritual Guides

JIMMY BOON-CHAI TAN

978-1-6667-3525-3 | 270 p. | \$36

There has been a marked increase of interest in the art of spiritual direction in recent decades. Yet in many circles, especially in ecumenical and interfaith contexts, it is unclear what grounds the practice of this ancient art. As a tradition’s practice of spiritual direction expresses its particular theology, which, in turn, is shaped by its unique history, this work explains that ecumenical spiritual direction must make and retain the tri-perspective of history, theology, and method that faithfully reflects each tradition’s distinctives as requisite for true ecumenical enrichment. The importance of this trinocular vision is brought into sharp focus through a comparative study of Ignatius of Loyola and John Calvin, where points of continuity and discontinuity between the Ignatian and Reformed traditions underscore the importance of this work’s thesis.

the tri-perspective of history, theology, and method. Highly recommended as essential reading!”

—Siang-Yang Tan, senior professor of clinical psychology, Fuller Theological Seminary, and senior pastor emeritus, First Evangelical Church Glendale

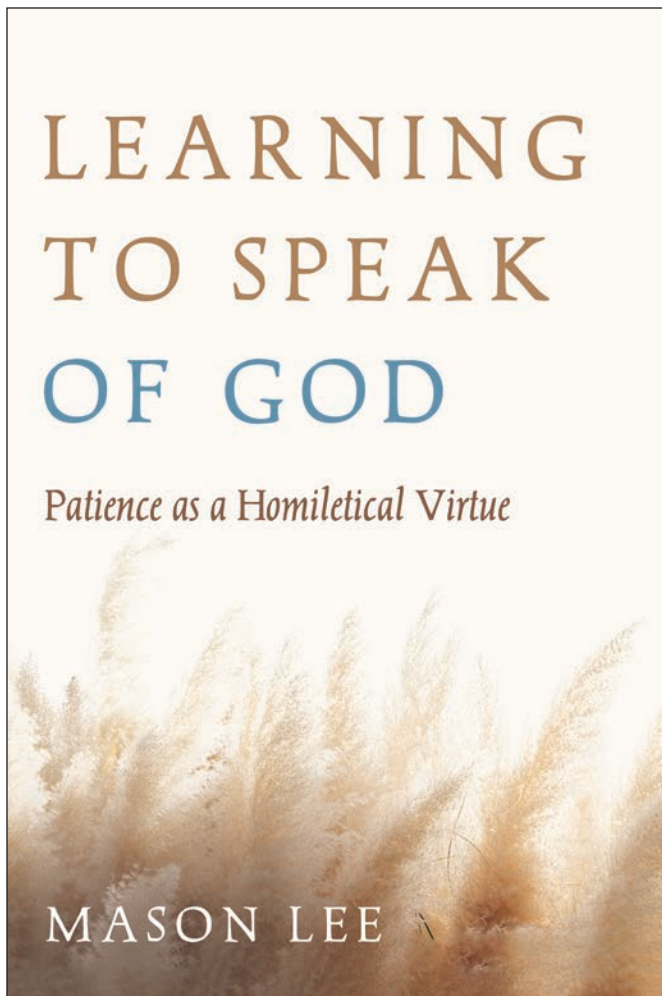
“In response to the common tendency to take a smorgasbord approach to a buffet spread of spiritual direction practices, Jimmy Tan’s timely and essential book offers an approach that takes seriously the historical and theological roots of various models so that these can be faithfully and effectively employed. He demonstrates this by examining the Ignatian and Reformed traditions, showing their similarities and differences, and how bridges can be built for mutual enrichment.”

—Robert Solomon, bishop emeritus, The Methodist Church in Singapore

“We urgently need a recovery of biblical spirituality and a rediscovery of spiritual disciplines, unencumbered by misconception and prejudice. In this book, Jimmy Tan helps us navigate our way through the Catholic and Protestant milieu, bringing history, theology, and methodology into what he calls ‘a trinocular vision’ arising from both Ignatian and Reformed traditions.”

—David Wong, general secretary, Bible-Presbyterian Church in Singapore

JIMMY BOON-CHAI TAN is lecturer of pastoral and practical theology and chaplain at Trinity Theological College in Singapore.



Learning to Speak of God

Patience as a Homiletical Virtue

MASON LEE

978-1-6667-3782-0 | Forthcoming

What difference does the virtue of patience make for our ability to engage deeply in the practice of patience? And how does patience help us grasp the *something more* that is at the heart of preaching excellence? *Learning to Speak of God* argues that the virtue of patience is vital to our faithful and deep preaching practice; that patience is a *homiletical virtue*. In doing so, this volume asks us to consider the role of character in preaching and the work of specific virtues as we go about our preaching practice. Along the way, it names the importance of patience as a long-acknowledged Christian virtue and considers anew how this virtue shapes and empowers the practice of those who desire to preach in ways that participate in God's transforming work. For those who study, practice, or care about preaching, this volume identifies how any notion of what it means to preach well calls for those whose practice is infused with the virtue of patience.

"We are indebted to Mason Lee for this discerning work on the homiletical virtue of preaching. This is the kind of vision we need if preaching and the life of preachers are to recover their rightful place within the larger work of God and the formative activity of the Holy Spirit. In this insightful book, we don't have to choose between God or ourselves but are invited to patiently wait upon divine grace in all our speaking and living."

—Michael Pasquarello III, professor of Methodist divinity, Beeson Divinity School

"Mason Lee has produced a fine work that challenges homiletics' primary dependence on the discipline of rhetoric. He makes convincing arguments for the place of patience in the practice of preaching that goes beyond just the public presentation. This virtue enables the preacher to rise above the vices of pride and hastiness. In turn, patience equips the preacher to allow the text to speak on its own, respect listeners' responses, and take a long-range view of how preaching shapes a congregation."

—Dave Bland, professor emeritus of homiletics, Harding School of Theology

"Mason Lee revisits one of homiletics' oldest debates: how does preacherly virtue (or its lack) relate to the credibility of sermons? After reviewing with us the state of play, Lee expands the question itself: What virtue most crucially sustains theological integrity as we engage the web of interpretive practices that carry us to the pulpit? Lee's surprising answer: patience. The path of patient curiosity Lee traces works to energize and liberate preachers, all the way to Sunday."

—Sally A. Brown, professor emerita of preaching and worship, Princeton Theological Seminary

MASON LEE is assistant professor of practical theology and director of contextual education at the Abilene Christian University Graduate School of Theology.

RETHINKING GENDER IN ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY



edited by

Ashley Purpura Thomas Arentzen Susan Ashbrook Harvey

“This timely volume offers voices on a wide array of topics concerning religion and gender from the often-overlooked minority communities of Eastern Orthodox Christians (broadly conceived) in North America and Europe. Tapping sources that inform ‘tradition’—historical, scriptural, hagiographical, liturgical, and theological texts, as well as lived experience—these essays challenge the historically conditioned, preservationist instincts of Orthodox Christianity’s hieratical and patriarchal traditionalism concerning gender norms.”

—Vera Shevzov, professor of religion, Smith College

“This splendid book serves as an extremely important resource for the whole Orthodox communion as it belatedly faces up to the pressing reality of its manifold needs to address the status, roles, and ministries of women in the Church. Its gathering together of acute and first-rate scholars of antiquity, along with psychology, sociology, and gender studies, makes this accessible book essential reading for all who wish to take the discussion out of the tired trajectories it has hitherto followed.”

—John A. McGuckin, professor of early Christianity, University of Oxford

Rethinking Gender in Orthodox Christianity

EDITED BY **ASHLEY PURPURA,**
THOMAS ARENTZEN,
AND **SUSAN ASHBROOK HARVEY**

978-1-6667-5526-8 | Forthcoming

What is the role of gender in Eastern Christianity? In this volume, Orthodox experts of different disciplines and cultural backgrounds tackle this complex question. They engage critically with gender issues within their own tradition. Rather than simply accepting pervasive assumptions and practices, the authors challenge readers to reconsider historically or theologically justified views by offering nuanced insights into the tradition. The first part of the book explores normative positions in Orthodox texts and contexts. From examinations of Scripture and hagiography to re-evaluations of monastic, patriarchal, and legal sources, it sheds new light on gender issues in Orthodox Christianity. The second part considers how gendered expectations shape individuals’ participation in Orthodox liturgical life and how ecclesial contexts inflect gender theologically. The chapters reflect diverse Orthodox voices brought together to foster new understandings of the ways gender shapes Orthodox religious lives and beliefs. Rethinking what has been inherited from tradition, the authors proffer new perspectives on what it means to be a man or woman within Orthodoxy in the twenty-first century.

“This book approaches gender in Orthodox Christianity from a wide range of fresh perspectives. Whether irenic or provocative, they show Orthodox theology in the broadest sense, practiced by historians, liturgists, hagiographers, and lawyers as well as theologians, engaging with a key contemporary challenge. In its serious, historically grounded attempt to bring contemporary prompts into conversation with Orthodox tradition, reading this book is seeing living theology in action.”

—Nadieszda Kizenko, professor of history, University at Albany

“These essays demonstrate what it means to think like a Tradition, as they explore a timely contemporary issue within the contours of the history of Orthodox theology and practices. These bold and insightful essays have much to teach specialists and non-specialists, as well as Orthodox and non-Orthodox alike, on how to approach our present-day questions around gender.”

—Aristotle Papanikolaou, chair in Orthodox theology and culture, Fordham University

ASHLEY PURPURA is Associate Professor of Religious Studies in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies at Purdue University.

THOMAS ARENTZEN is Reader in Church History and Researcher in Greek Philology at Uppsala University, and Senior Lecturer in Eastern Christian Studies at Sankt Ignatius College (Stockholm).

SUSAN ASHBROOK HARVEY is Willard Prescott and Annie McClelland Smith Professor of Religion and History at Brown University.



Journal of Biblical and Theological Studies, Issue 7.1

EDITED BY DANIEL S. DIFFEY, RYAN A. BRANDT, AND JUSTIN MCLENDON

979-8-3852-0224-9 | 198 p. | \$29

The Journal of Biblical and Theological Studies (JBTS) is an academic journal focused on the fields of Bible and Theology from an inter-denominational point of view. The journal is comprised of an editorial board of scholars that represent several academic institutions throughout the world. JBTS is concerned with presenting high-level original scholarship in an approachable way.

Academic journals are often written by scholars for other scholars. They are technical in nature, assuming a robust knowledge of the field. There are fewer journals that seek to introduce biblical and theological scholarship that is also accessible to students. JBTS seeks to provide high-level scholarship and research to both scholars and students, which results in original scholarship that is readable and accessible.

As an inter-denominational journal JBTS is broadly evangelical. We accept contributions in all theological disciplines from any evangelical perspective. In particular, we encourage articles and book reviews within the fields of Old Testament, New Testament, Biblical Theology, Church History, Systematic Theology, Practical Theology, Philosophical Theology, Philosophy, and Ethics.



Journal of Biblical and Theological Studies, Issue 7.2

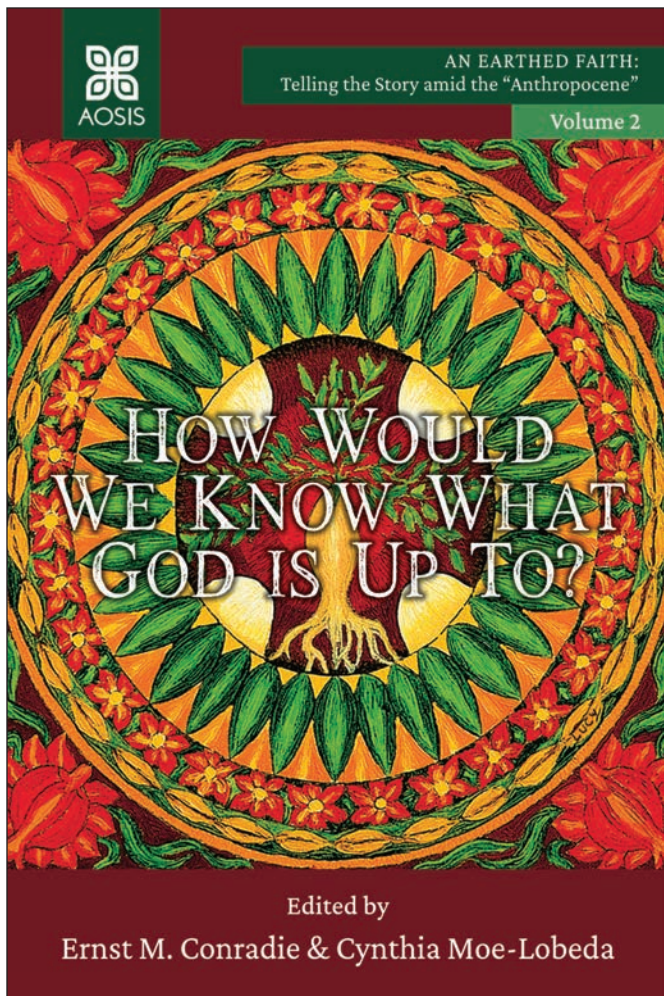
EDITED BY DANIEL S. DIFFEY, RYAN A. BRANDT, AND JUSTIN MCLENDON

979-8-3852-0227-0 | 158 p. | \$29

The Journal of Biblical and Theological Studies (JBTS) is an academic journal focused on the fields of Bible and Theology from an inter-denominational point of view. The journal is comprised of an editorial board of scholars that represent several academic institutions throughout the world. JBTS is concerned with presenting high-level original scholarship in an approachable way.

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How Would we Know what God is up to?

An Earthed Faith, Volume 2

AN EARTHED FAITH

EDITED BY **ERNST M. CONRADIE**
AND **CYNTHIA D. MOE-LOBEDA**

978-1-6667-8272-1 | 258 p. | \$35

“Academic (finite) co-travellers who will dare to accept are invited in the eco-theological ‘Anthropocene period’ to journey together (without a roadmap), exploring the probing and unnerving question, ‘What is God up to?’ This question is exploringly posed and rigorously pursued in the book. The reader will find themselves enraptured by the breadth, depth, and height of a methodological approach to the uncharted landscape of the mystery of an (infinite) God, as well as sense-making narratives of our world—contextually and receptively and constructively, as well as sensitively.”

—Prof. Danie Veldsman, Department Systematic and Historical Theology, Faculty of Theology and Religion, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa

“Since we live on a ‘planet in peril’, this proposed ecotheology summa is both timely and significant. This book and the series as a whole engage the perennial themes of systematic Christian theology from the perspective of the multiple strands of ecological reflection. I look forward to reading all the volumes of the ‘*An Earthed Faith: Telling the Story amid the “Anthropocene”* book series.”

—Prof. Susan Rakoczy, St. Joseph’s Theological Institute, Cedara, South Africa

THE FUTURE RESTORATION OF ISRAEL

A Response to Supersessionism



Edited by

Stanley E. Porter *and* Alan E. Kurschner

The Future Restoration of Israel

A Response to Supersessionism

MCMASTER DIVINITY COLLEGE PRESS GENERAL SERIES

EDITED BY **STANLEY E. PORTER** AND **ALAN E. KURSCHNER**

978-1-5326-3976-0 | 448 p. | \$55

This volume is the most extensive of its kind as a major set of collected essays from a wide range of scholars on the question of the promises of God to Israel. These essays put forward the position that unconditional promises were given to Israel, which have not been fulfilled in the church or any other entity. At the consummation, there will be a continuing role for the Jews, realized through their national and territorial hope of a restored-redeemed Israel. This volume contains an eclectic group of contributors who have reached this position from various approaches to interpretation. The essays exhibit both positive argumentation and engagement with supersessionist literature.

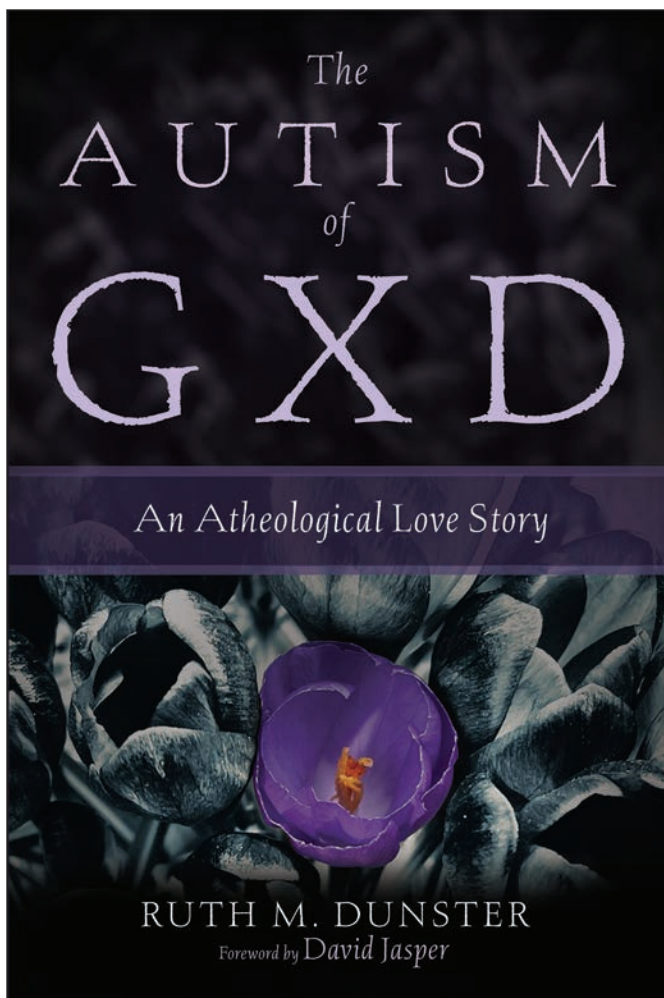
“Tectonic plates are shifting. Scholarly discussion of a future restoration of Israel once was the preserve of a tiny few despised by the rest of the academy. This fascinating collection shows that more and more distinguished scholars from many different disciplines see in Scripture and theology signs of this once-taboo subject that can no longer be ignored.”

—Gerald McDermott, Anglican Chair of Divinity, Beeson Divinity School

“Here scholars of various fields present and analyze the many views and interpretations as to how the role of Israel forms an essential part of New Testament theology. Important biblical texts, key historical perspectives, and current understandings of Christianity and Judaism receive illumination through a variety of scholars and men and women of faith. This excellent contribution is now the starting point for discussions of the relationship between Israel and the church.”

—Richard S. Hess, professor of Old Testament and Semitic languages, Denver Seminary

STANLEY E. PORTER has a PhD from the University of Sheffield and is president, dean, professor of New Testament, and holder of the Roy A. Hope Chair in Christian Worldview at McMaster Divinity College, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. He has edited nearly one-hundred volumes, authored thirty-two books on topics in New Testament studies and related areas, and published over five hundred articles, chapters, and related writings.



The Autism of Gxd

An Atheological Love Story

RUTH M. DUNSTER

978-1-7252-6835-7 | 440 p. | \$57

The Autism of Gxd: An Atheological Love Story is truly a love story—the story of Ruth Dunster’s autistic search for an authentic, personal, and theological “Gxd.” In this, it resembles Augustine’s *Confessions*, as a theological autobiography. It becomes *atheological*, however, as Dunster reckons with what Denys Turner terms “The Darkness of God.” This awareness leads her through the poetry of Medieval mystics to the mythic “death of God” theology of Thomas J. J. Altizer. The search for faith is nonetheless very real in this strange territory. Dunster hears her autistic Gxd speaking in art, poetry, novels, and music; and this further leads her into the territory of Literature, Theology, and the Arts, where, in Blanchot’s words, “the answer is the poem’s absence.” Indeed, Dunster calls the book “a strange poem, or even a hymn.” Weaving an autistic mythology out of a rigorous survey of clinical autism, this book abounds in challenge and paradox. It offers a fascinating view into how an autistic poet becomes a theologian; and what more mainstream theologies might learn from this “disabled Gxd.”

“This book is about two great mysteries—God and that human condition which we call autism—and how they are linked. As we read this extraordinary work, our narrow band of social normality and comprehension is expanded and we are called to be attentive to new, broader, and more profound ways of seeing and knowing.”

—David Jasper, University of Glasgow

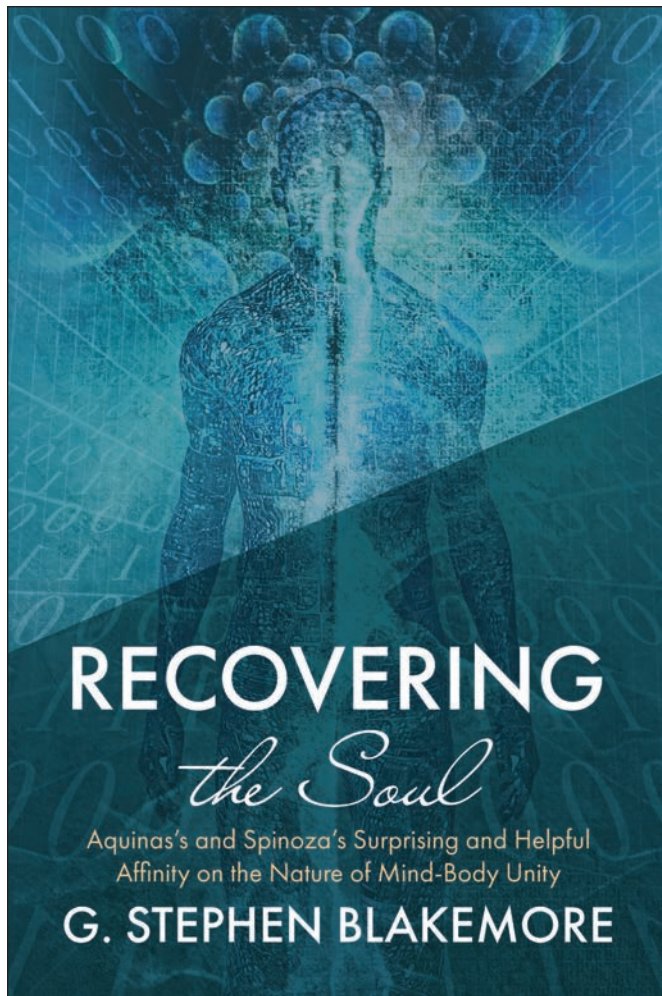
“Ruth Dunster has written a profoundly rewarding and challenging book. . . . She crafts a contemporary hermeneutic to consider the question that if autism is an aspect of being human, and if humans are made in the image and likeness of God, what might this say about the nature of God? Dunster’s use of language will be unfamiliar to many, but for all it will open new and valuable insights.”

—Robert A. Gillies, University of Glasgow

“Ruth Dunster is a leading light within the growing area of theology and autism. This book is fascinating, deep, challenging, and revealing. When you put it down, you see both theology and autism in a different light. That is no small gift. This work is an important addition to the field.”

—John Swinton, King’s College University of Aberdeen

RUTH M. DUNSTER, a poet, teacher, and theologian, was diagnosed with autism in her forties. Her theological journey has been, firstly, to liberate herself from theologies which have failed her, and secondly, to make sense of the hidden autism in her own work. She continues to research autism, theology, and the poetics of theology, and to suggest ways in which mainstream theologies can learn from marginal spaces. She is most comfortable describing herself as an atheologian. She lives in the Highlands of Scotland.



Recovering the Soul

Aquinas's and Spinoza's Surprising and Helpful Affinity on the Nature of Mind-Body Unity

G. STEPHEN BLAKEMORE

978-1-5326-9812-5 | 260 p. | \$35

Recovering the Soul explores an area of historical philosophy that few if any others have attempted by critically comparing the metaphysical doctrines of Thomas Aquinas and Baruch Spinoza on the identity of mind and body. The central premise is that the hylomorphism of Aquinas's understanding of soul and body has a surprising affinity with Spinoza's own understanding of how human beings are enabled to exist as a single entity that is both mind and body. In the process of making the case that hylomorphism can apply to Spinoza's philosophy as much as Aquinas's, the book carefully exegetes the work of each philosopher and indicates how each is internally consistent within his own system of thought. The hylomorphic reading of Spinoza helps to address some interpretive challenges that his commentators have noted and struggled to harmonize with other aspects of this monist ontology. Beyond the historical and interpretive interests the book addresses, it also makes the case that hylomorphism as a metaphysical theory of human constitution best harmonizes with contemporary studies in the human genome and provides a more comprehensive starting point for the philosophy of mind than reductionism or substance dualism.

they are interpreting Aquinas, and vice versa. But Blakemore makes an impressive and unexpected case that the two share some remarkable affinities, particularly on the mind-body issue. This is a great example of a surprising project in the history of philosophy that has interesting implications for the contemporary discussion."

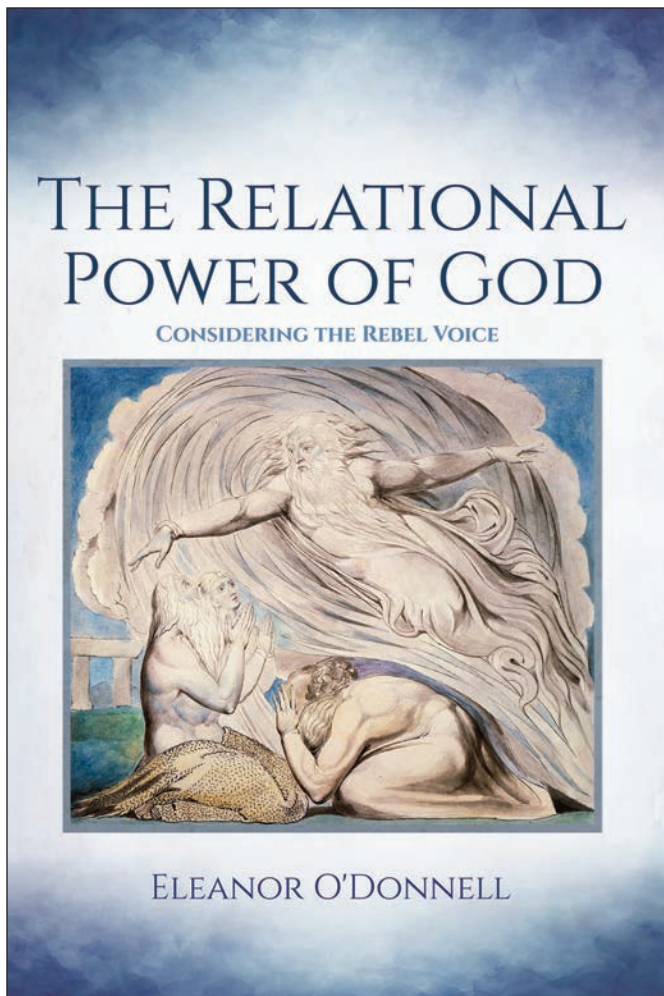
—Jerry L. Walls, Houston Baptist University

"The relationship of medieval to modern metaphysics is both important and sometimes difficult to discern. . . . This book by G. Stephen Blakemore takes an unusual approach; here he argues that there is more common ground between Thomas Aquinas and Baruch Spinoza than is often recognized. His work does not make things easier, but it does highlight the importance. Theologians and philosophers alike will benefit by grappling with Blakemore's argument."

—Thomas H. McCall, Asbury Theological Seminary

"Most philosophers, I would wager, are not likely to think of Spinoza when

G. STEPHEN BLAKEMORE is the professor of Christian thought at Wesley Biblical Seminary in Ridgeland, Mississippi, where he teaches philosophical theology.



The Relational Power of God

Considering the Rebel Voice

ELEANOR O'DONNELL

978-1-6667-3368-6 | 226 p. | \$31

When we find the courage to allow our rebel voice to speak, many of us question traditional Christian beliefs about God's power and how it is exercised in the world and in the church. We ask: What if God is not in omnipotent control of everything? What if God's exercise of power is relational and noncoercive instead? What if it is the quality rather than the quantity of God's power that really matters? This book focuses on the theology of power that emerges when we ask such questions. It draws on the social Trinitarian theology of Jürgen Moltmann and the process thought of Charles Hartshorne to image God as a Social Trinity in process. This vision of God understands the Holy Trinity to be fully relational and thoroughly with us and all creation. To think of God and God's power this way ensures freedom for creature and creation and enables a viable response to the problem of evil and suffering. It also leads to the conclusion that human relationships in the world and in the church are best modeled on the power-sharing solidarity of the Triune God.

"O'Donnell clearly outlines how the doctrine of the Trinity highlights the relational nature of God. The relationship of love and mutual respect that exists between the persons/members of the Trinity becomes the model for how humans should relate to one another and to creation—with deep love and profound respect—seeking the well-being of the other that seeks only for the other to flourish."

—James Collins, rector, St Paul's Anglican Church, Burwood

"Omnipotence as 'God in control of everything' issues in an intractable theodicy problem and an implicit sanction for power in the mode of domination and control. O'Donnell offers a coherent and compelling alternative shaped by panentheism, process relational thought, and Moltmann's social Trinitarian theology. This book is more than a merely theoretical exploration. It has grounding in lived experience of human trauma and tragedy, which press the question: If God is in control, what kind of God is this?"

—Anna Case-Winters, McCormick Theological Seminary

"Is it the quality or the quantity of power that matters? O'Donnell offers an intelligent and compassionate view of God for a scientific age that questions God's power as omnipotent. Rather, she gives us a view of divine power as it arises from God's goodness and love—noncoercive, relational, and alluring. I highly recommend this book for its contribution to theology and to healthier human relations."

—Heather Thomson, Charles Sturt University

ELEANOR O'DONNELL is a priest and school chaplain in the Anglican Church of Australia. She has served in the Dioceses of Tasmania, Melbourne, Ballarat, and the Archdiocese of Perth. Eleanor maintains that the key to school chaplaincy, and to ministry in general, is finding a way to talk about God that makes sense to contemporary thinkers. Her desire to interpret God for those who cannot find faith through traditional theism underpins this book.



A Sacerdotal Poetics

Yves Bonnefoy's Reforging of W. B. Yeats

KATHRYN WILLS

978-1-6667-0826-4 | 272 p. | \$37

This book offers a new way of understanding the old conflict between iconophiles and iconoclasts by exploring the way images in poetry are used by one poet, W. B. Yeats, and his translator, Yves Bonnefoy. Using the phenomenology of Jean-Luc Marion as a tool of interpretation, the book suggests further that translation is a significant act in which one entire theological world of a Protestant poet may become a completely different, Catholic one when the translation is performed by a culturally Catholic poet. For Bonnefoy, therefore, the act of translation becomes a profound act of hope.

"*Sacerdotal Poetics* invites readers on a luminous journey into what occurs when one poet discovers another, and, in the process of translating their work, finds themselves 'discovered' in the act of translation, as it were. We are in Wills's debt for the ways she lures us into the complex labyrinth where poetics, theological reflection, and translation mingle and even on occasion sing."

—Mark S. Burrows, translator of *The Wandering Radiance: Selected Poems by Hilde Domin*

"This fascinating book celebrates the divine 'given flesh' in the world. This 'incarnation' is encountered in poetics, translation, and the myriad 'everyday sacraments' that grace living and embody hope. It presents a scholarly yet intimate picture of one poet reaching out to another and generating, out of this encounter, new poetry that reconfigures, blesses, and exceeds the original creation."

—Heather Walton, author of *Not Eden: Spiritual Writing for This World*

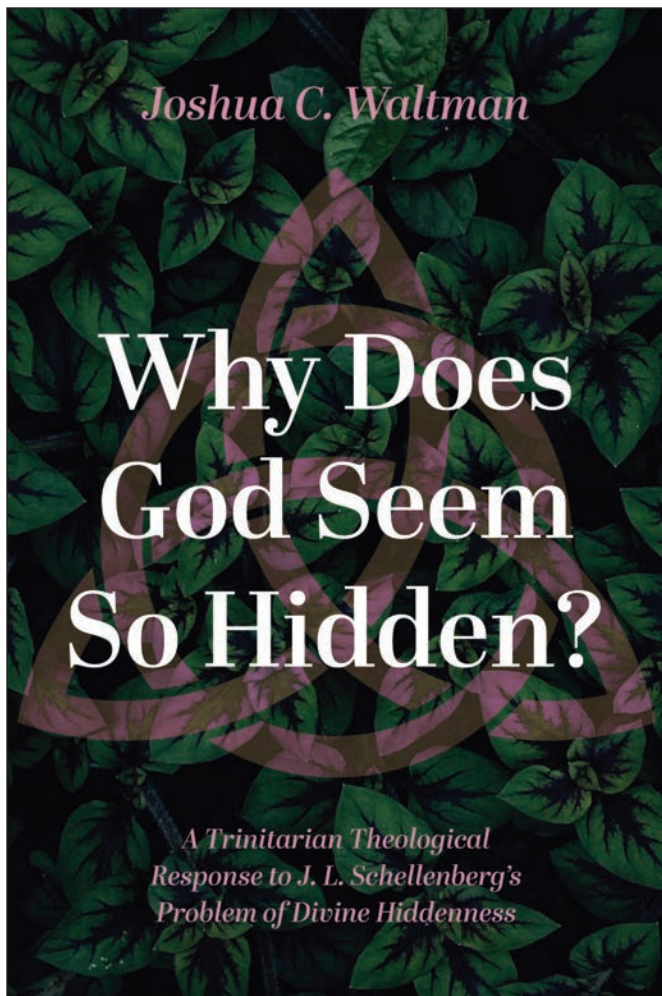
"This book offers a fascinating investigation of the translation of W. B. Yeats's poetry by a major French poet, Yves Bonnefoy (1923–2016). Opening up a space for reflection on the role of a 'sacramental poetics' in the translation process, beyond spiritual and metaphysical divergences, the discussion leaves the reader with a renewed sense of hope."

—Olivier Salazar-Ferrer, author of *De la compréhension musicale à la métaphysique de l'instant: écrits sur la danse*

"This original book draws together an astonishing wealth of thought and scholarship. At its heart is a study in poetics and the vision of two great poets, W. B. Yeats and Yves Bonnefoy, as one translates the verse of the other. Two great sacramental visions are revealed, Protestant and Catholic in their origins, each explored through the thought of the French philosopher Jean-Luc Marion."

—David Jasper, author of *The Sacred Community: Art, Sacrament, and the People of God*

KATHRYN WILLS is a teacher, academic researcher, and review editor, who has written research articles and conference papers in the area of literature and theology. Her recent article, "The Beloved Woman in Dante, Yeats and Bonnefoy," was published in *In Wonder, Love, and Praise: Approaches to Poetry, Theology, and Philosophy* (2019).



Why Does God Seem So Hidden?

A Trinitarian Theological Response to J. L. Schellenberg's Problem of Divine Hiddenness

JOSHUA C. WALTMAN

978-1-6667-6085-9 | 194 p. | \$29

Why does God seem so hidden, obscure, and silent? Why doesn't he make himself known in a more explicit way to those who dispute his existence? This line of questioning presents a perplexing conundrum for Christian theologians. On the one hand, Christians affirm that God's revelation of himself is sufficient, but, on the other hand, it appears that some genuine seekers remain unconvinced of his existence. In recent decades, philosopher J. L. Schellenberg has proposed an argument for atheism that attempts to exploit this apparent contradiction.

This book offers a new take by approaching the conversation using a Trinitarian theological lens. The character of Trinitarian love shapes the way God communicates in pursuit of relationships. Namely, God desires spiritually oriented, communal divine-human relationships, and this endeavor necessarily entails hiddenness. This work proposes five spiritual criteria that an individual must meet to be open to having a relationship with the triune God, and these are the criteria that atheists have failed to consider. Articulating these five is exactly what is needed to resolve the vexing theological puzzle of divine hiddenness.

"Though many works have been written on divine hiddenness, *Why Does God Seem So Hidden?* stands out by offering an impressive and uniquely Trinitarian response to J. L. Schellenberg's argument from nonresistant nonbelief. Joshua Waltman engages in theologically rich and philosophically rigorous argumentation, while remaining irenic in tone. This book is essential reading for anyone troubled by the thorny problem of divine hiddenness. Highly recommended!"

—Ronnie P. Campbell, professor of theology and apologetics, Liberty University

"Joshua Waltman's approach in *Why Does God Seem So Hidden?* is both scholarly and pastoral, offering a detailed (and unique) Trinitarian response to J. L. Schellenberg's problem of divine hiddenness while also serving as balm to those who have struggled with the issue themselves. As someone who has personally wrestled with the problem of divine hiddenness, I highly recommend this book!"

—Stephen S. Jordan, director of spiritual life, First Presbyterian Day School, Macon, GA

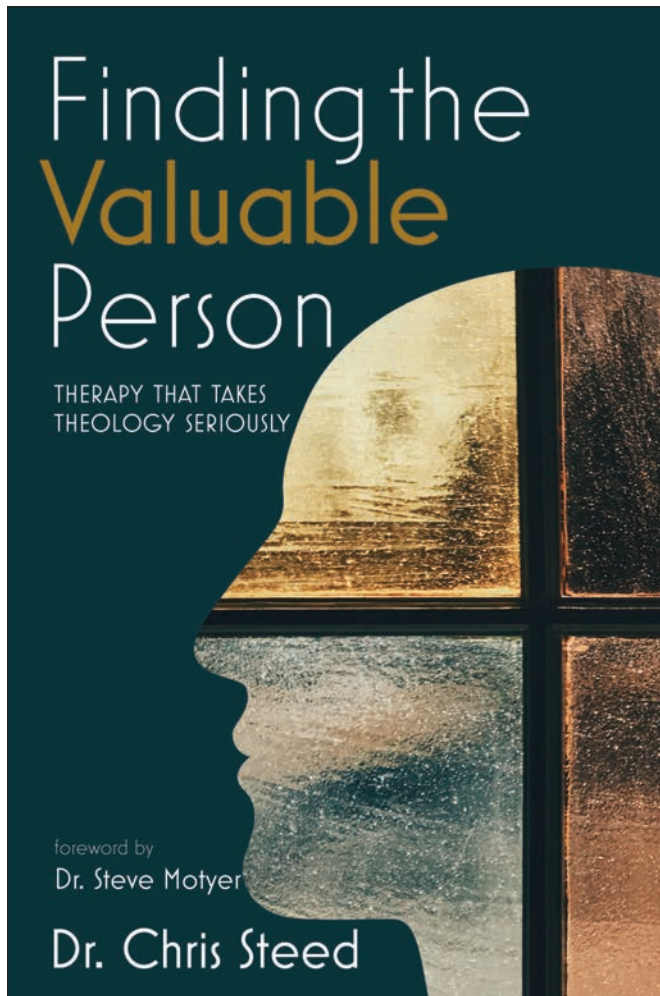
"*Why Does God Seem So Hidden?* is a valuable contribution to the recent discussion of the 'problem of divine hiddenness.' Joshua Waltman develops a novel rebuttal to J. L. Schellenberg's atheistic argument that is based in Trinitarian theology. Waltman argues that if God is triune in the way orthodox Christian theology holds, the 'hiddenness' of God's being should be expected. This work will be of interest to Christian pastors, theologians, apologists, and philosophers."

—Jonathan Reibsam, professor of philosophy, Columbia International University

"Joshua Waltman has produced an admirably clear, well-researched treatment of the problem of divine hiddenness. He seeks to provide a new and improved formulation of a controversial solution to that problem, arguing that nonresistant nonbelief does not actually exist. He develops that solution in dialogue with a wide assortment of sources from both philosophy of religion and systematic theology, such that the work will be of interest to scholars from both disciplines."

—Travis Dumsday, associate professor of philosophy, Concordia University of Edmonton

JOSHUA C. WALTMAN is the coordinator of the Learning Commons at the Jerry Falwell Library and an adjunct professor of apologetics and theology at the Rawlings School of Divinity at Liberty University.



Finding the Valuable Person

Therapy That Takes Theology Seriously

CHRIS STEED

978-1-6667-9086-3 | 328 p. | \$42

Finding the Valuable Person proposes a new form of therapy. The big theme is that experiences of being devalued when we are not seen or heard, diminished or suffer indignities evoke responses that show up in distress clients bring. These reactions show a prime human need for our personhood to be valuable and validated that generates soul-hungers (for connection, desire, significance, and hope) that are largely unconscious. It is a fundamental drive that can be explored with clients in the way we are relational, embodied makers of meaning and respond to agency and dignity. This constitutes four domains of the REMA approach to therapy developed in this book. Every counseling approach has its presuppositions: most describe the human person as an individual entity, separated from social context. REMA pays attention to both. REMA is theologically attuned but also incorporates realities such as gender and race that have reshaped society profoundly. For the alignment of biblical faith and counseling psychology, it is profoundly important to be attuned in both directions. REMA is not only an innovative theoretical approach, it is a working model, currently offered in a community setting but of wider application. Anyone can use it!

“Chris Steed and his team at LST have achieved a remarkably adroit reworking of the concept of integration in counseling and psychotherapy theory and practice. It arises from a rich and deep conception of the essential nature of personhood born out of constructive dialogue between theology, sociology, and psychology. What follows is a masterly presentation of a holistic approach to therapy that situates itself in the intersection of these constructs, with a restorative dynamic. This book will challenge therapists to re-evaluate their understanding of the therapeutic endeavor.”

—Kathy Spooner, CEO, Association of Christians in Counselling and Linked Professions

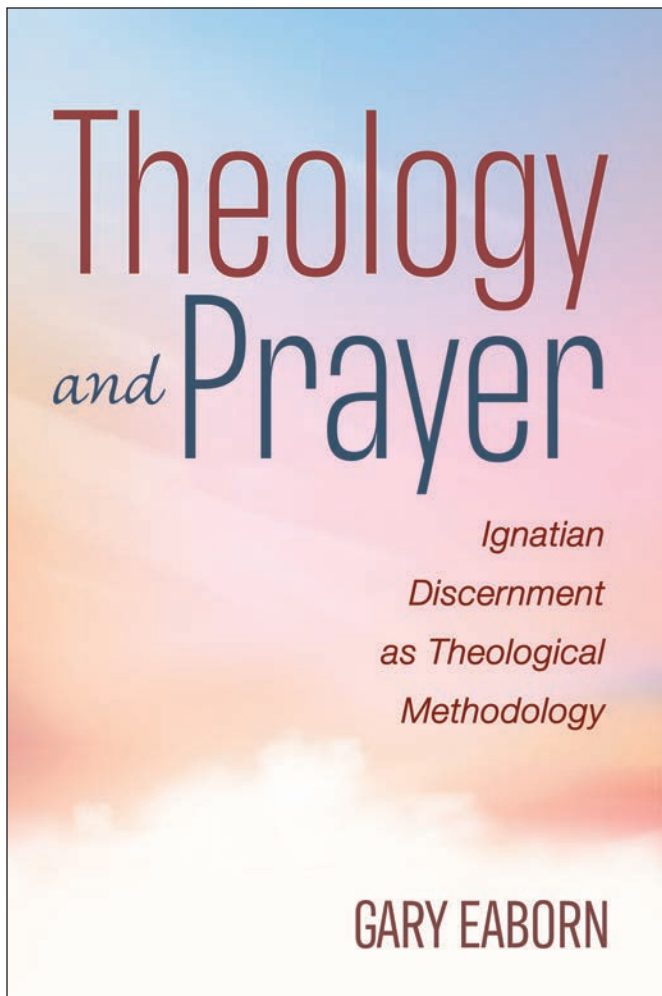
“This excellent book is a genuine step forward in therapy-faith integration, an elegant, broadly informed, genuine dialogical integration of theological and therapeutic threads. Chris Steed pulls off something very impressive which is likely to become a seminal work in moving the field forward.”

—Roger Bretherton, associate professor of psychology, University of Lincoln

“This book covers a comprehensive range of theory and theology, resulting in a practical model for effective counseling based on an exploration of human functioning. It discusses how our spiritual nature may be integrated into the process and the impact of feeling devalued on the unique individuality of each person.”

—Lynette Harborne, psychotherapist and practical theologian

CHRIS STEED is head of theology and counseling at London School of Theology. He is the author of a dozen books on society, psychology, and theology.



Theology and Prayer

Ignatian Discernment as
Theological Methodology

GARY EABORN

978-1-6667-5320-2 | 222 p. | \$31

What does it mean for rigorous thought about God to be guided by prayer? What do Ignatius of Loyola's Spiritual Exercises teach us about discernment? How can that discernment become a spiritual discipline which guides our choices throughout life? How can that discipline guide the theological choices we all make, including those of academic theologians?

This book moves beyond the abstract notion that theology should be prayerful to bring theology together with a particular spiritual practice. It argues that the Spiritual Exercises are a system of prayerful discernment which already provide for reason to be used alongside an openness to all experience and all the ways that we can be guided by the Holy Spirit. This book provides a constructive interpretation of the Exercises as a path of prayerful discernment which can be used throughout life. It sees, in the Exercises, a way of active receptivity to all experience, treating all experience as worthy of attention but also approaching that experience with humility and caution. This book sees theology practiced in this way—as a discerning spiritual discipline—as more resistant to the challenges of modernity than theology which has been sundered from our spiritual life.

“Gary Eaborn’s *Theology and Prayer* is a genuinely significant and distinctive contribution to the growing academic literature on the relationship between theology and prayer. At once learned, insightful, encouraging, and deeply experientially reflected, it deserves to be widely read by any who are interested in the practice of theology as vocation and in theological epistemology.”

—Paul D. Murray, professor of systematic theology, Durham University

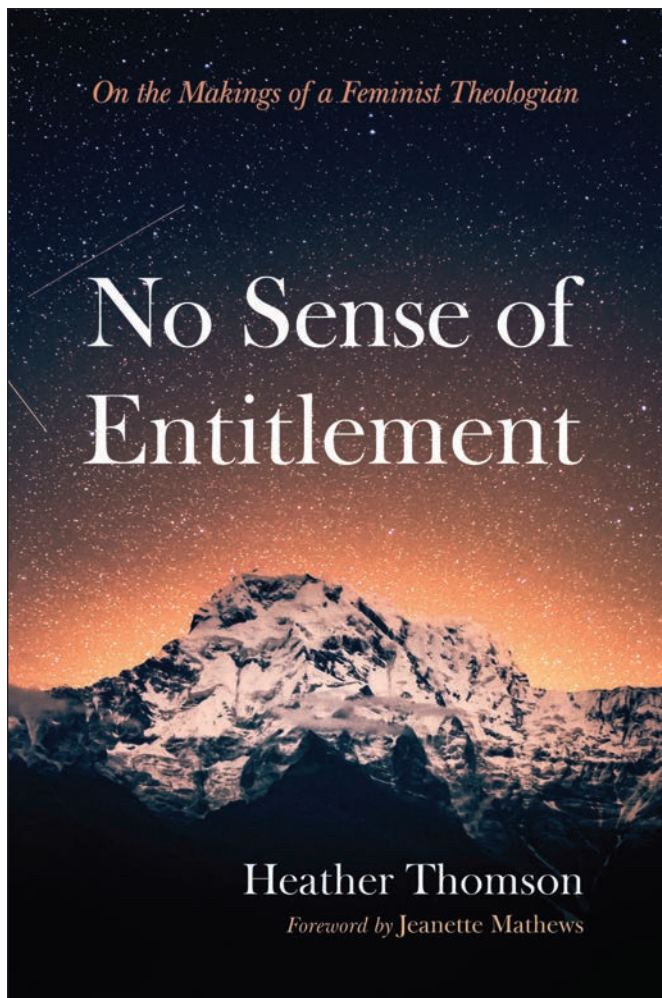
“This book does theologians an unusual service. It is common to find authors writing about the connections between theology and prayer, but rare to find such rich and specific guidance as Gary Eaborn gives here. With striking clarity and compelling insight, he shows that Ignatian prayer might enable theologians to grow in spiritual discernment and wean themselves from dreams of mastery.”

—Mike Higton, professor of theology and ministry, Durham University

“It is easy to lament the gap between theology and spirituality, and it is not too hard to make broad claims about bringing theology and prayer together. But what does it actually look like to do so? I don't know of anyone who addresses this question as seriously and responsibly as Gary Eaborn has done in this wonderfully clear and reliable work.”

—Karen Kilby, professor of Catholic theology, Durham University

GARY EABORN is assistant curate at St. John's Wood Church in the Church of England Diocese of London.



No Sense of Entitlement

On the Makings of a Feminist Theologian

HEATHER THOMSON

978-1-6667-5906-8 | 226 p. | \$31

How might we keep alive the interests and concerns of protest theologies and the constructive contributions they make? Feminist, liberation, and postcolonial theologies offer guiding questions for this task: “What is the purpose of theology?” “Whose interests are being served?” “What might be the public effects of this theology?” This book attends to these questions through a collection of publications over the lifetime of one feminist theologian.

Growing up in Australia as these new protest theologies were emerging, Thomson recalls the influences that went into forming her as the theologian she became. She specialized in hermeneutics, looking for stars and compasses that might guide her theology into these new territories, with a willingness to listen to the Christian tradition for its life-giving words, and a willingness to critique it for the ideologies it carried. This double hermeneutic can be seen throughout her work. The chapters in this book are divided thematically into five parts: Theology and Teaching, Public Theology, The Church, The Atonement, and Being Human. Her interests in feminist and liberation theologies inform each theme, so that she might pass on theology better than she received it.

“Heather Thomson offers the reader the fruits of her theological work over two decades as a lay feminist theologian teaching, writing, and engaging with key issues for the contemporary believer. There is a breadth and depth to the essays that address key themes for theology and the church—justice, violence, power, atonement, peace, aging, and vocation. *No Sense of Entitlement* is an apt title for a refreshing, creative, and persuasive account of the faith of a feminist theologian.”

—Stephen Pickard, adjunct professor of theology, Charles Sturt University

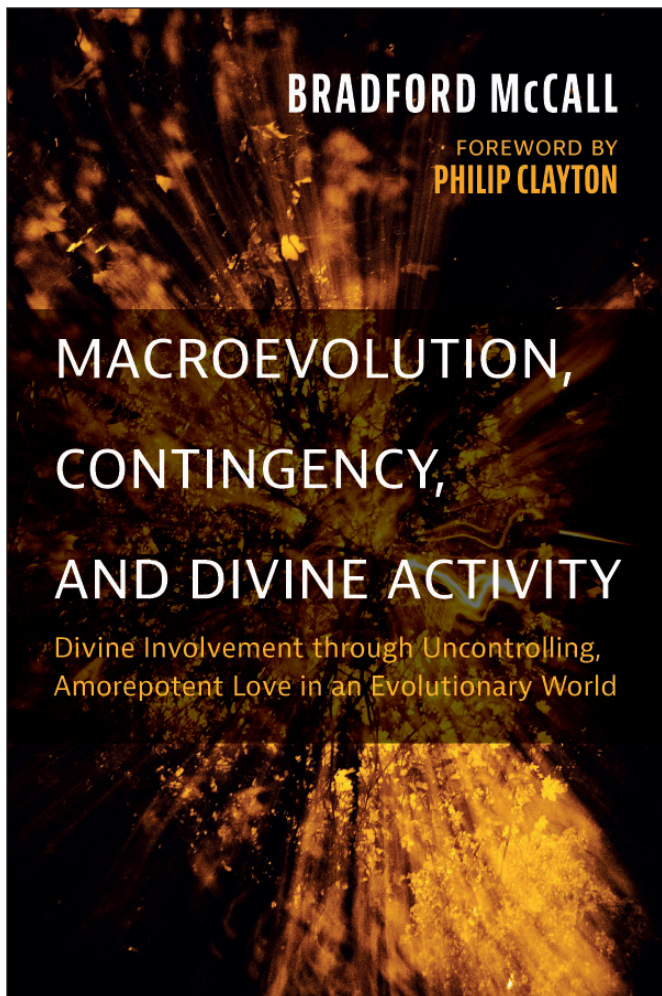
“Heather Thomson is a wise teacher whose work continues to both challenge and encourage the church and the academy. We are in serious need of exactly the sort of considered, careful theology that Thomson offers in this inspiring collection of essays.”

—Jane Foulcher, adjunct senior lecturer in theology, Charles Sturt University

“How can theology speak redemptively in a world often rightly critical of Christianity? Only with ‘no sense of entitlement.’ The title of Heather Thomson’s book refers to her personal journey to become a feminist theologian, but the humility and integrity with which she has learnt to receive, critique, and live her tradition is a model for all theology worthy of the name. An inspiring, generative, and important work.”

—Sarah Bachelard, spiritual director, Benedictus Contemplative Church

HEATHER THOMSON is a retired senior lecturer in theology from Charles Sturt University, Australia. She is the author of *The Things That Make for Peace* (2009).



Macroevolution, Contingency, and Divine Activity

Divine Involvement through Uncontrolling, Amorepotent Love in an Evolutionary World

BRADFORD MCCALL

978-1-7252-7852-3 | 284 p. | \$38

What are the things that God values in the creative process? How does one define God's activity in such a world? How is God's involvement different from a contingent—what I label contingentist—instance? Why do we need a God-idea at all? Herein, I address how divine, amorepotent love works *with* and *within* a contingentist (i.e., radically contingent) evolutionary theory and worldview. Within the course of this project, I reach a *via media* between the (somewhat) radical formalist position of Simon Conway Morris and the veritably radical contingentist position of Stephen Jay Gould. But . . . How is the contingentist amorepotent and uncontrolling love of God understood as purposeful? I argue in detail that there in fact is some sort of purposiveness that is nevertheless working in a chastened Gouldian position, and I distinguish between contingency and veritable divine involvement. I contend God does not insist upon a particular outcome, but merely allows propensities to work themselves out. God amorepotently loves the population of the natural world into greater forms of complexity, relationality, and beauty in varied and multifarious forms, along with the extension of diversity. I use the term “loves” herein verbally, and not as a statement of fact.

“Few contest the notion that God is God precisely in being able to redeem the pain and suffering of human history and its innumerable underdetermined actions. This work provides a preliminary account of how an undergraduate degree in biology is being redeemed, through the tragic and fluke circumstances involving traumatic brain injury, for contemporary theology in a scientifically understood world. More precisely, Bradford McCall also invites consideration of how divine redemption of the contingencies over the long arc of evolutionary history is occurring, especially as the latter is narrated in the geological, paleontological, and biological sciences.”

—Amos Yong, professor of theology and mission, Fuller Seminary

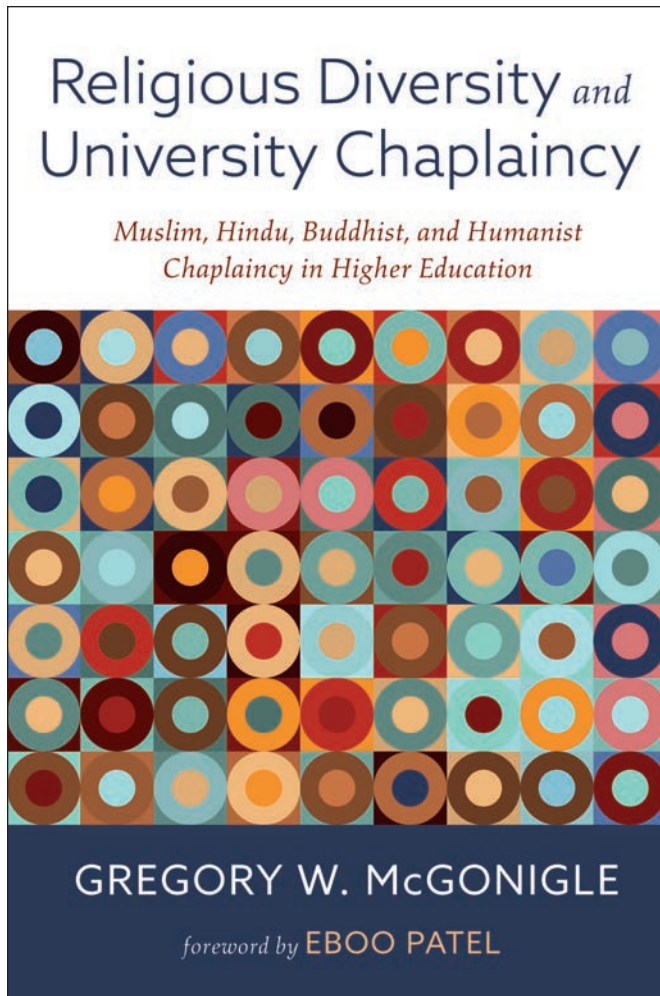
“In this creative and erudite work, Bradford McCall tackles big questions about God's actions. And in conversation with key voices and ideas, he proposes an appealing vision. I'm especially attracted to the ways McCall privileges divine love and understands divine activity in light of it. This is an important book!”

—Thomas Jay Oord, professor of open and relationship theology, Northwind Theological Seminary

“*Macroevolution, Contingency, and Divine Activity*, by Bradford McCall, is one of the most interesting books I have read in a long time. Dealing with important issues about God's involvement in the world, McCall shows an impressive ability to draw on biology, philosophy, history, and theology as partners in the quest for understanding. This is an important book for both seasoned scholars and beginning students. Highly recommended.”

—Michael Ruse, retired professor of philosophy, Florida State University

BRADFORD MCCALL holds a PhD in Process Philosophy Studies from Claremont School of Theology. He is the author or editor of four previous books: *The God of Chance and Purpose* (Wipf & Stock, 2022); *Evolution* (Wipf & Stock, 2020); *God and Gravity* (edited; Wipf & Stock, 2018); and *A Modern Relation of Theology and Science Assisted by Emergence and Kenosis* (Wipf & Stock, 2018).



Religious Diversity and University Chaplaincy

Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, and Humanist Chaplaincy in Higher Education

GREGORY W. MCGONIGLE

978-1-6667-3820-9 | Forthcoming

Since the 1990s, the religious diversity of United States universities has increased, with growing numbers of students, faculty, and staff who are Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, and Humanist. To support these demographics, university chaplaincies and spiritual life programs have been expanding beyond their Christian and Jewish compositions to include chaplains and programs for these traditions. Through interviews with these new chaplains, this book examines how these chaplaincies developed, the preparation the chaplains needed, their responsibilities, and the current challenges and the future prospects of these programs. It provides valuable advice for university leaders about how and why to develop spiritual life programs to support today's religious diversity.

"As American higher education continues to evolve, colleges and universities must recognize that their purpose goes beyond simply shaping careers or industries. The true purpose of higher education is to improve our understanding of what it means to be human. This new book offers many valuable and practical lessons for those who care about the question of *how* to advance a meaningful and relevant religious, spiritual, and ethical life on campus and beyond."

—Greg M. Epstein, humanist chaplain, Harvard University

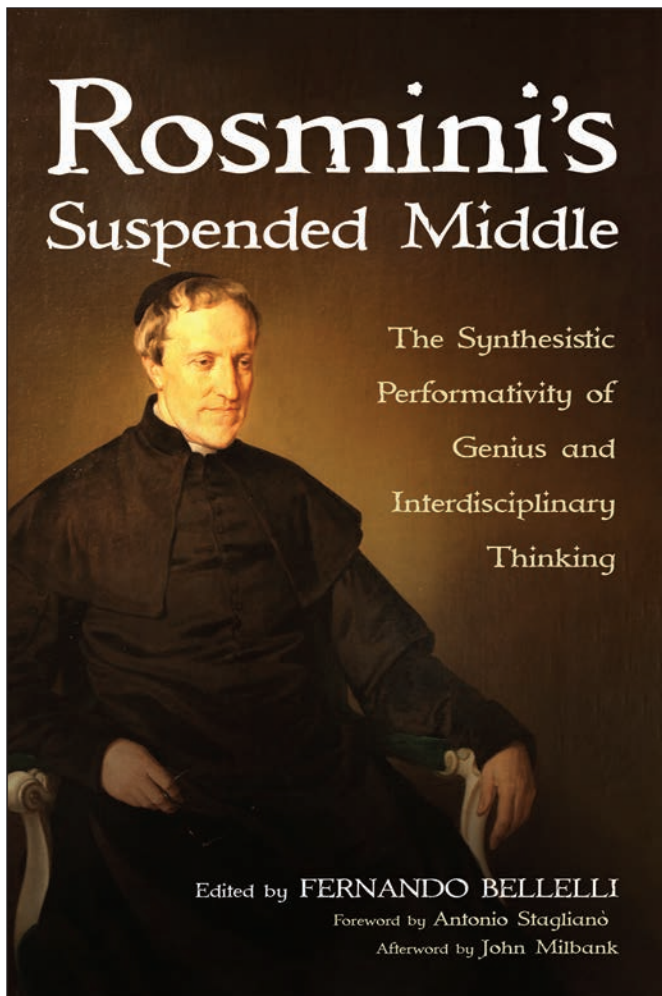
"A nation with architectural and legal capacity to welcome and protect religious identity was radically framed into the eighteenth-century blueprint of the United States. Gregory McGonigle's insightful new ethnography, *Religious Diversity and University Chaplaincy*, captures essential twenty-first-century work to construct multifaith academic chaplaincies. We hear from hidden visionaries and designers who now illuminate the nation's original manuscripts and secure campus space for burgeoning spiritual, cultural, and ethnic diversity amid swift currents of global and national politics."

—Janet M. Cooper Nelson, chaplain of the university, Brown University

"Drawing upon the wisdom of chaplains, Gregory McGonigle opens windows into the changing patterns of religious life in colleges and universities. The need for such a book, especially one focused on traditions beyond Judaism and Christianity, has grown exponentially in recent years as the student population diversifies, spiritual hungers grow, and the need for multireligious understanding spreads into every aspect of public life. This book is a must-read for university chaplains."

—Mary Elizabeth Moore, dean emerita of the school of theology and education, Boston University

GREGORY W. MCGONIGLE is dean of religious life and university chaplain at Emory University, where he has built a multifaith team and is designing an interfaith center. He previously developed multifaith programs at Tufts, Oberlin, and UC-Davis. He is a Unitarian Universalist minister and holds degrees in religion from Brown, Harvard, and Boston University. He has been a researcher for the Harvard Pluralism Project and is past president of the National Association of College and University Chaplains.



Rosmini's Suspended Middle

The Synthesistic Performativity of Genius and Interdisciplinary Thinking

EDITED BY **FERNANDO BELLELLI**

978-1-6667-5427-8 | Forthcoming

Antonio Rosmini (1797–1855) was a genius who combined science and sanctity. His contribution turns on the theory of the *suspended middle* of the original relationship between the natural and the supernatural, which he experienced and elaborated. The device of the relationship between the original metaphysical-affective-symbolic structure of the believing conscience and the affective turn in metaphysics, intrinsically linked to his trinitarian ontology, allowed Rosmini to elaborate theories and epistemologies from a unitary perspective in various fields of knowledge. This volume indicates the implications of the unbreakable bond between Rosmini's philosophy and theology in disciplines such as pedagogical science, political science, and juridical science. Following the favorable resolution of the "Rosminian question" the Catholic Church beatified Rosmini in 2007 and in 2018 indicated his theoretical-practical approach as a universal education model to be followed. Through essays by major experts in Rosmini's thought, this curatorship offers an international public a brief, reasoned overview of Rosmini's thinking on these disciplines, finally translated into English, so that this perspective can be understood and explored with particular regard to the possibility of encouraging ecumenical comparison between Rosmini's *suspended middle* and, for example, that of Radical Orthodoxy.

"Pope Francis calls upon the strategic significance of Rosmini's intellectual testimony and epistemic proposal in the Proemio of *Veritatis gaudium* concerning the reform of ecclesiastical studies made necessary by the changing times we are witnessing. It is an invitation not to be overlooked: to exercise the service of philosophical and theological intelligence of faith in its ontological intentionality—as Rosmini writes—'from the viscera' of the truth offered to us in Christ the Word made flesh."

—Piero Coda, secretary general, International Theological Commission

"The volume edited by Fernando Bellelli achieves the significant result of symphonically orchestrating the contributions, written by the most authoritative experts of Rosmini's thought, in a theoretical framework that, probably for the first time, constructs the overall *weltanschauung* of Rosmini's interdisciplinary thought and effectively establishes a dialogue with the contemporary *status quaestionis* of the disciplines addressed."

—Paolo Heritier, professor of philosophy of law, Eastern Piedmont University

FERNANDO BELLELLI is founder and coordinator of the Cenacolo Rosminiano Emiliano-Romagnolo, lecturer at the universities of Modena e Reggio Emilia and Verona, and coordinator of the Sodality of Ascribed Members "Plenitudo Charitatis" of Istituto della Carità.



Of Prayers and Tears

ESSAYS ON POLITICAL THEOLOGY

Saitya Brata Das

Of Prayers and Tears

Essays on Political Theology

SAITYA BRATA DAS

978-1-6667-8427-5 | 152 p. | \$24

Eschatology is generally understood to be the doctrine of last things, but understood rigorously eschatology actually speaks of the inauguration of a new, redeemed world to come and of the coming of God himself. To speak of eschatology in this way is to speak of the very possibility of the future in the radical sense, the future that is not a mere attenuated variation of presence. Eschatology speaks of a coming that comes only to pass away into a past; rather it speaks of the coming of the Holy itself, which is the very origin of time and is thus the event par excellence. This book attempts to make manifest the question that eschatology itself poses: that eschaton has something essential to do with the beginning. This work intervenes in contemporary debates on “postsecularism” and “the return to religion.” By introducing the question of eschatology anew, this book reintroduces the problem of transcendence that effectively calls into question the logic of sovereign power and rethinks the place of “religion” as an affirmation of what lies beyond, which does not function as the legitimizing principle of sovereignty in today’s world of mass consumption.

“In *Of Prayers and Tears*, Saitya Brata Das presents a discourse on eschatology. A revelation of his thought over time, these essays are about a new, coming, redeemed world—a revelation toward the *coming* of God himself. This collection is needed especially at this historical moment that is rife with unsettling conflicts and melancholy because it provides an alternative vision—a revelation that announces an end of despair and a radical renewal of hope that awaits the coming of the ‘Holy itself.’”

—Annette Holba, professor of rhetoric, Plymouth State University

“Saitya Brata Das is one of the top philosophers of religion in the world today, and this book continues his powerful engagement with political theology. More significantly, these essays are animated with existential passions of life, love, sorrow, serenity, and joy. Read them, sit with them, and be transformed.”

—Clayton Crockett, professor of philosophy and religious studies, University of Central Arkansas

“Every book by Saitya Brata Das not only demands we think in new ways, but in his articulation of political theology as poetics, facilitates us to do so. Via his rare command of both deep thought and emancipatory language, in this latest offering we are confronted by what transformation can and does mean—if we are prepared to be accept it. This is a tremendous tour de force of thought and depth and insight.”

—Mike Grimshaw, associate professor of sociology, University of Canterbury

“Saitya Brata Das reminds us that the most radical thought facing political theology today is that of the end that does not return us to a beginning but inaugurates the unprethinkable new (the biblical eschaton) and the heterogeneous politics of nonviolence which it promises. An important contribution to an already impressive oeuvre.”

—Sean J. McGrath, professor of philosophy, Memorial University

SAITYA BRATA DAS teaches literature and philosophy at the Centre for English Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi. He was postdoc fellow at UFR Philosophie at the University of Strasbourg (France) in 2006–2007 and a fellow at the Indian Institute of Advanced Study in Shimla, India, between 2009 and 2011. He is the author of *Political Theology of Life* (Pickwick Publications, 2023).

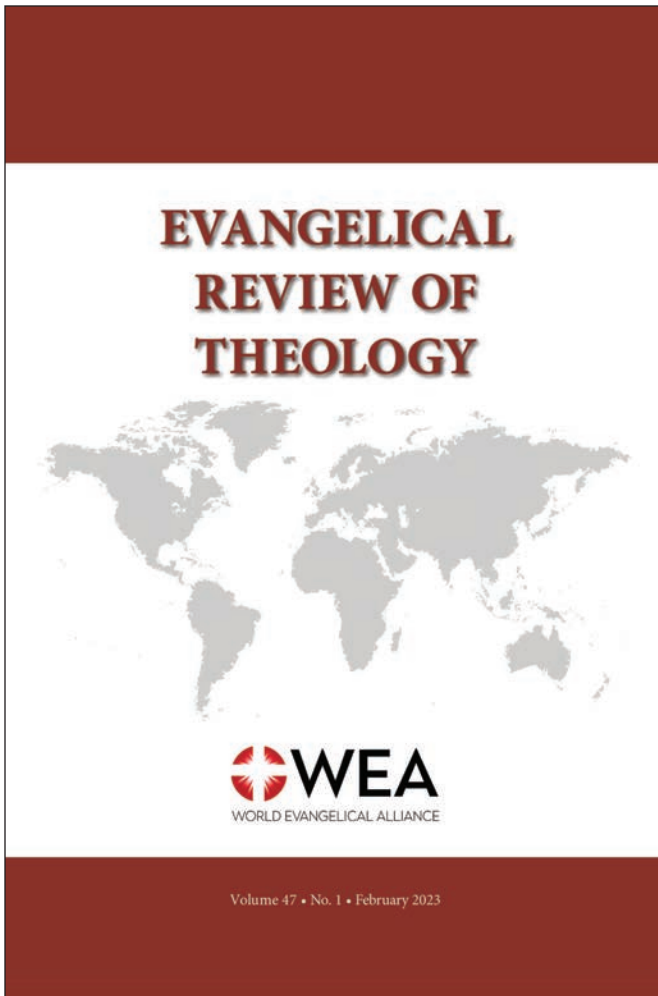
Evangelical Review of Theology, Volume 47, Number 1

EDITED BY **THOMAS SCHIRRMACHER**

978-1-6667-6930-2 | 96 p. | \$19

ERT publishes quality articles and book reviews from around the world (both original and reprinted) from an evangelical perspective, reflecting global evangelical scholarship for the purpose of discerning the obedience of faith, and of relevance and importance to its international readership of theologians, educators, church leaders, missionaries, administrators and students.

The journal is published as a ministry rather than as a commercial project, seeking to be of service to the worldwide spread of the gospel and the building up of the church and its leadership, in co-ordination with the World Evangelical Alliance's broader mission and activities.



The World Evangelical Alliance's Journal
of Theology and Contemporary Application

EVANGELICAL REVIEW OF THEOLOGY



Volume 47 • No. 2 • May 2023

Evangelical Review of Theology, Volume 47, Number 2

EDITED BY **THOMAS SCHIRRMACHER**

978-1-6667-7836-6 | 96 p. | \$19

ERT publishes quality articles and book reviews from around the world (both original and reprinted) from an evangelical perspective, reflecting global evangelical scholarship for the purpose of discerning the obedience of faith, and of relevance and importance to its international readership of theologians, educators, church leaders, missionaries, administrators and students.

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Volume 23 (2021-2022)

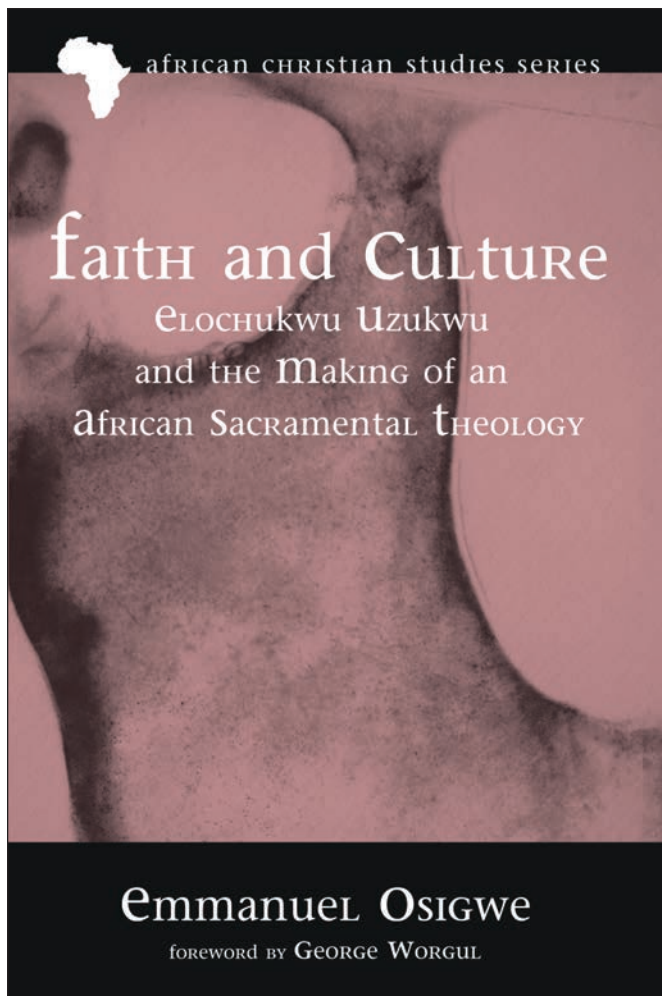
McMaster Journal of Theology and Ministry: Volume 23, 2021–2022

EDITED BY JOHN J. H. LEE

979-8-3852-0485-4 | 144 p. | \$24

The McMaster Journal of Theology and Ministry is an electronic and print journal that seeks to provide pastors, educators, and interested lay persons with the fruits of theological, biblical, and professional studies in an accessible form. Published by McMaster Divinity College in Hamilton, Ontario, it continues the heritage of scholarly inquiry and theological dialogue represented by the College's previous print publications: the *Theological Bulletin*, *Theodolite*, and the *McMaster Journal of Theology*.





Faith and Culture

Elochukwu Uzukwu and the Making of an African Sacramental Theology

AFRICAN CHRISTIAN STUDIES SERIES

EMMANUEL OSIGWE

978-1-6667-1000-7 | 238 p. | \$33

The recognition of the intersection of faith and culture has become a significant trend in contemporary theology. Cultures are locations of divine activity. *Faith and Culture: Elochukwu Uzukwu and the Making of an African Sacramental Theology* brings freshness to the dominant Catholic sacramental thinking by offering an African appropriation of the Christian faith through African cultures. It demonstrates the historical interaction of the Christian faith with multiple anthropologies that resonates with different peoples to celebrate rituals that convey divine activity. This work engages the theology of Elochukwu Uzukwu, a recent African sacramental/liturgical theologian whose work reflects the elements of sacramental and liturgical renewal of the Second Vatican Council, especially in its openness to a plurality of cultures. This book retrieves resources from the African universe to offer a contextual appropriation of the interface between faith and African cultures. It highlights the African view of the body in its expressive worship and significance of relationality as an undergirding existential philosophy of life.

Consequently, it offers a flexible theological methodology that avoids polarities. It provides an additional resource to the philosophical and theological approach to the perennial problem of duality and theologies constructed on this template. This study moves beyond monocultural sacramental expression to engage symbols and indigenous resources to articulate an African sacramental theology.

“The evangelizing mission of the church today is frustrated by deep social, political, and ecclesial fractures. Osigwe expertly offers up the wisdom of African scholar Uzukwu, whose contributions to the study of human cultures and Christian faith exemplify God’s gift of Blackness reflected in local churches throughout the African diaspora—good news for the whole people of God.”

—Kathleen Dorsey Bellow, Xavier University of Louisiana

“Emmanuel Osigwe has made a decisive case for the need to critically engage Elochukwu Uzukwu’s work on the inculturation of Catholicism in Africa. He demonstrates with compassionate zeal why African theological perspectives matter in current efforts to institutionalize inculturation. . . . This is a refreshing contribution on the intersection of anthropology and theology.”

—Jude Fokwang, Regis University

“This work sheds light on the ways the sacramental life of the church in Africa can be reimagined to allow for the centering of African cultural and epistemological heritages. This work captures the best of the spirit of Vatican II—a spirit that demands from Catholics today to read the signs of the times. Osigwe has offered the academe and the church a new way of doing sacramental theology that births forth life for all.”

—SimonMary Ahiokhai, University of Portland

“Osigwe’s work opens a wide door into the great gift of theological brilliance accomplished in the sacramental theology of Elochukwu Uzukwu. His careful treatment of Uzukwu’s insights invites the reader to understand the capaciousness of African theology. . . . Scholars working in the areas of pneumatology, sacramentology, liturgy, and ecclesiology will no doubt find a challenging rethinking of the human encounter with the divine.”

—Rufus Burnett Jr., Fordham University

REVEREND EMMANUEL OSIGWE obtained a PhD in Systematic Theology from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He serves at Sacred Heart of Mary and Saint Martin de Porres Church in Boulder. He also serves as an adjunct lecturer at Saint John Vianney Seminary, Denver.

Towards a Christian Theology of African Ancestors

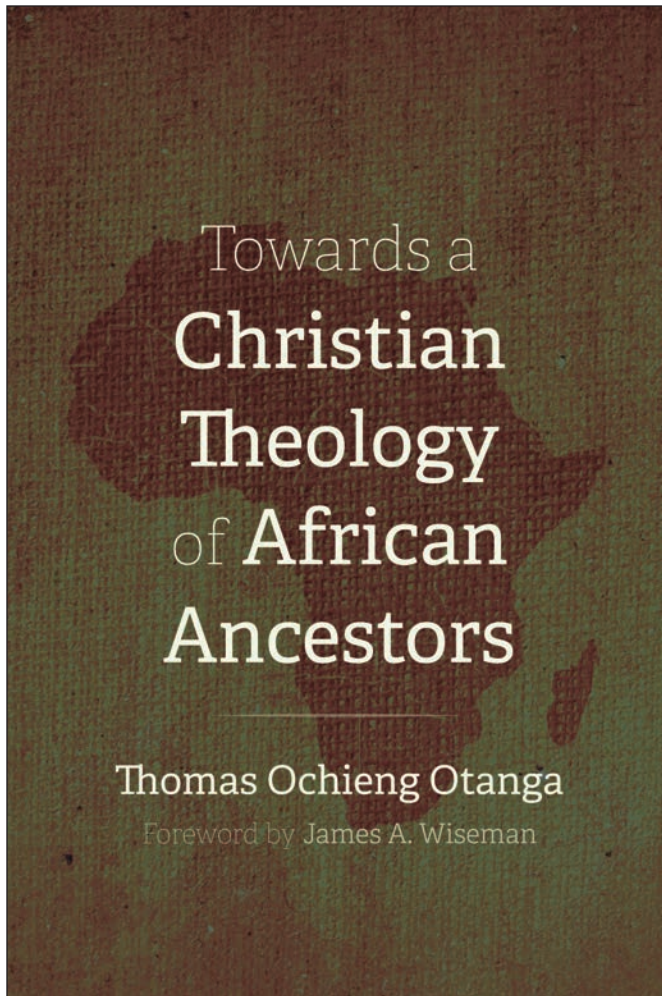
THOMAS OCHIENG OTANGA

978-1-6667-3306-8 | 238 p. | \$33

This book examines the similarities and relationship between Christian saints and African ancestors. Further, it analyzes the deep cultural roots of African peoples and the ancestral frame as a point of departure for developing an indigenous African theology. Questions dealt with include: Does the conversion of Africans to Christianity require a break with their African cultural heritage? Who is an African ancestor? Is syncretism a good thing for an African Christian? What contribution can the African church make to the universal church? The author argues that rather than being antithetical to formal Christianity, an African Christian theology of ancestors is an example of how an indigenous African tradition can best express Christianity as well as make considerable impact on world Christianity.

“Early missionaries often condemned African reverence for deceased forebears (‘mababu’ in Kiswahili) as primitive ‘ancestor worship.’ In this important new study, the author explores this fundamental feature of African traditional religions. He argues that the traditional African veneration of ancestors can be placed in fruitful dialogue with the Christian tradition of the ‘communion of saints.’ The resulting ‘mababu theology’ allows contemporary Africans to claim a fully African Christian identity while greatly enriching the global Church.”

—Steven Payne, OCD, The Catholic University of America



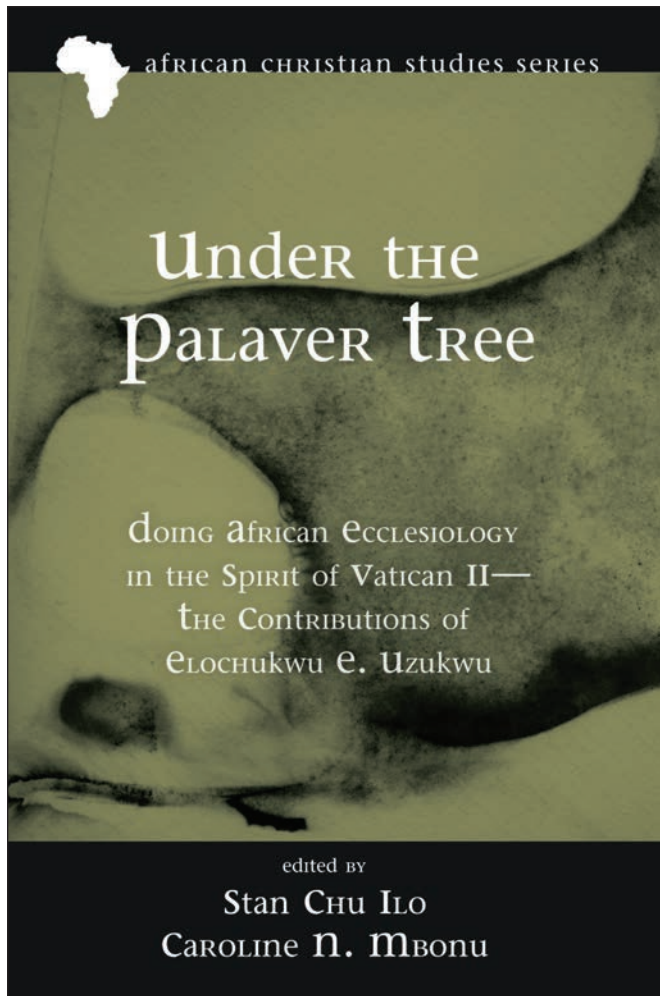
“Thomas Otanga has expertly organized a wealth of material and clearly expressed his findings. The work is especially significant in this era of continuing growth of Christianity in Africa. In particular, Otanga’s reflections on Mababu theology are a stimulus for other scholars studying the role of the veneration of ancestors in various traditions.”

—James A. Wiseman, OSB, The Catholic University of America, emeritus

“A product of wide research and rigorous critical analysis, this book presents the pitfalls of early Christian evangelization in the most clear, balanced, and captivating style. The author brilliantly demonstrates the religious parallels in the African ancestor veneration and Christian saint veneration cults, setting the stage for a dialogue of equals between Christianity and African religious traditions. This book is a mandatory read for whoever wishes to unassumingly interact with the two traditions of spirituality.”

—Theophilus Chando, The Technical University of Kenya

FR. THOMAS OTANGA (PhD) is an accomplished religion and culture researcher and scholar. He has pursued these interests in Kenya and in the United States of America.



Under the Palaver Tree

Doing African Ecclesiology in the Spirit of Vatican II—the Contributions of Elochukwu E. Uzukwu

AFRICAN CHRISTIAN STUDIES SERIES

EDITED BY **STAN CHU ILO** AND **CAROLINE N. MBONU**

Doing theology *Under the Palaver Tree*, in honor of one of Africa's foremost theologians, Elochukwu E. Uzukwu, is a momentous undertaking, which draws from the diverse African continent, her various peoples and rich natural resources. A down-to-earth God-talk that evokes the reign of God among us, the book is a theological treasure trove. The quality, depth, and range of the conversation partners in this volume represent a high-water mark of the best scholarship in Africa today on ecclesiology and the future of the African church and the world church. The authors, through dialoguing with multidisciplinary dimensions of theological thoughts, offer new language with which to engage foundational issues in theology, liturgical practices, communion and community, leadership and charisma, the relationship between the local and universal church, and social engagement and cultural questions as well. In exploring the depth of this tome, with its methodological approaches in interpreting, understanding, and evaluating the changing faces of Christianity, scholars and theologians will be challenged to reflect on some of the most pressing current questions and issues facing the church in Africa and the world, in rebirthing the image of the people of God, and a synodal church under the iconic and symbolic African palaver tree.

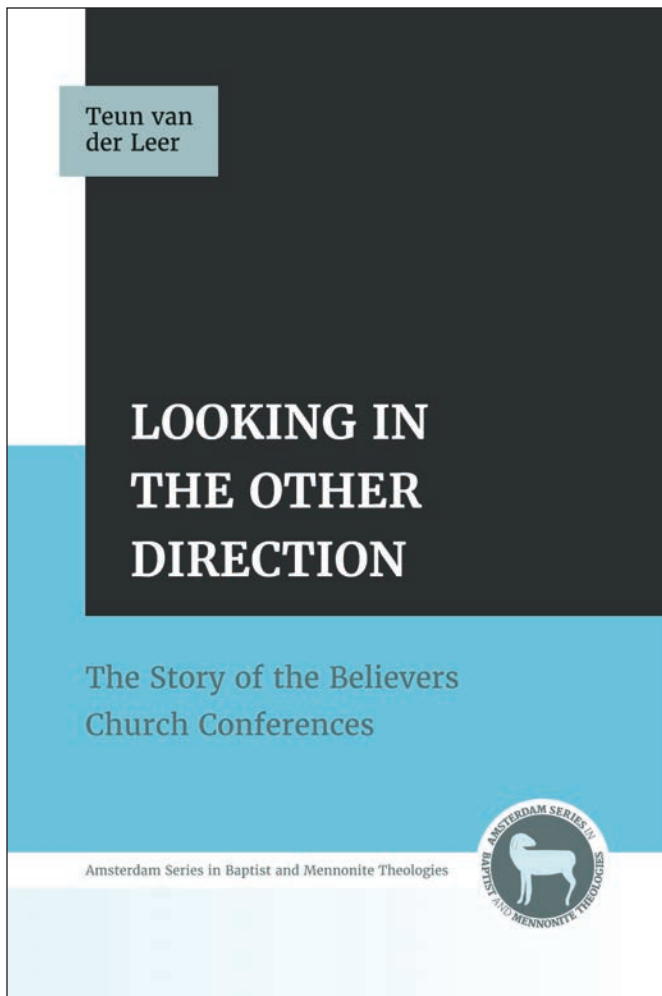
"Every theologian needs to sit with *Under the Palaver Tree* and read, listen, and absorb the wisdom of this crucial text. Elochukwu E. Uzukwu's theological work opened a pathway for exchange, dialogue, and transformation between Western theology and African theology. The many essays in Uzukwu's honor express the enrichment and challenges of his research and insights. *Under the Palaver Tree* will transform your theology."

—George Worgul, Duquesne University

"Elochukwu E. Uzukwu has been one of the most creative contributors to the development of African theology since Vatican II. He is an 'African theologian' par excellence, given the comprehensiveness of his interests in all aspects of the discipline and the originality and depth of his contributions to all of theology, especially from the African perspective. This book is an important introduction to the thoughts and works of this theological giant, and it is a clear mirror into the world church through the eyes of one its original talents and theological shapers."

—Paulinus I. Odozor, University of Notre Dame

STAN CHU ILO is a research professor of world Christianity and African studies at the Center for World Catholicism and Intercultural Theology at DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois. He is also the coordinator of the Pan-African Catholic Theology and Pastoral Network and the editor of the *Handbook of African Catholicism* (2022).



Looking in the Other Direction

The Story of the Believers Church Conferences

AMSTERDAM SERIES IN BAPTIST AND MENNONITE THEOLOGIES

TEUN VAN DER LEER

978-1-6667-6679-0 | 528 p. | \$64

In this study, Teun van der Leer tells the story of the Believers' Church Tradition, a tradition, mainly rooted in the so-called Radical Reformation, which prefers to be called a movement, or rather a renewal movement. Its name is a program, a vision, and a way of being church. Based on extensive source research, this book describes and analyzes the defining characteristics of this so-called "third type of church" and investigates its ecumenical value. With an extensive description of its nature of faith, the church, hermeneutical discernment, and mission, this book colors a movement within the church landscape that has never been mapped in such detail before. As such, the book provides an in-depth introduction to this ecumenically important but still a bit underexposed movement and makes a substantial contribution to the ecumenical ecclesiological debate about the church and its future.

"As a scholar who has been an active participant in the Believers' Church Conferences for over three decades, I was delighted to read Teun van der Leer's excellent study on the topic. This work is the only study of its kind and offers an important history and theology of this unique ecclesiological and ecumenical movement within the Free Church, Anabaptist, and 'Believers' Church' traditions. I heartily recommend it."

—Scott Holland, professor emeritus of theology and culture, Bethany Theology Seminary

"As supervisor of the dissertation of Teun van der Leer, reading the growing chapters of his research project was an exciting experience of getting acquainted with an until-then unknown movement. Van der Leer's outstanding analysis of the history of Believers Church Conferences offers not only a fascinating reading, but it will also become the standard reference work for the Believers Church Movement."

—E. A. J. G. Van der Borgh, faculty of religion and theology, Vrij Universiteit Amsterdam

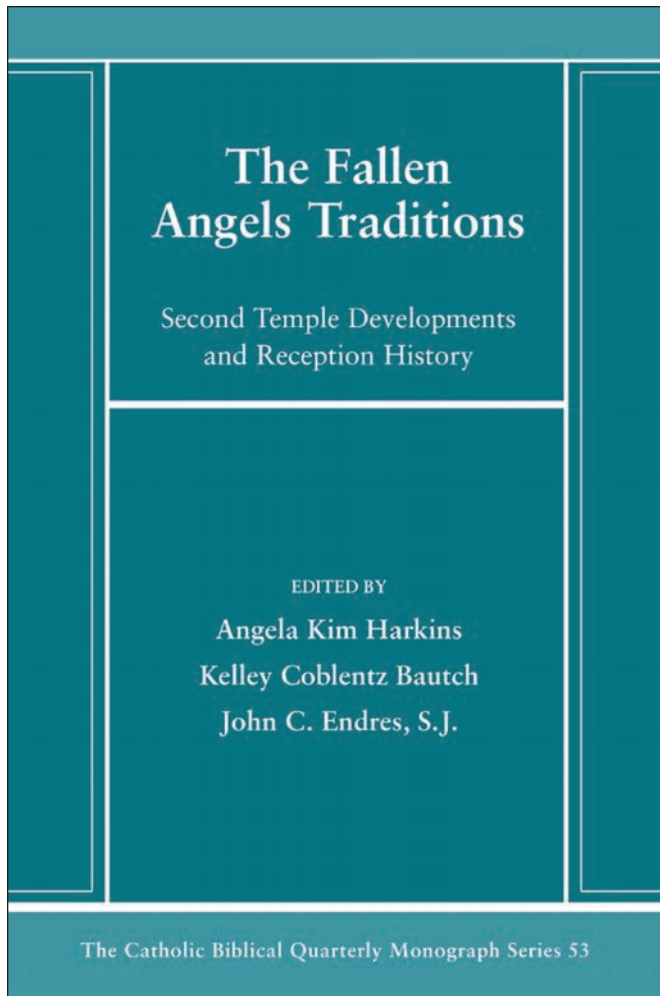
"*Looking in the Other Direction* is a fitting title for a book which takes the reader on a fascinating, unexpected, and deeply enriching theological journey. The book breaks new ground and provides a deeply challenging counterpoint to much ecumenical ecclesiology. It is meticulously researched, full of real theological gems, and yet highly readable by its clear thematic approach. I particularly appreciated its final advocacy of a pneumatological ecclesiology; the church is indeed 'a people of the Spirit.'"

—Andrew Rollinson, retired Baptist minister

"This work contains a great deal of original research on an area that is not often well understood (that of the Believers' Church Tradition), but which is of great significance in understanding the landscape of faith communities. Van der Leer has amassed a significant amount of material, and his analysis is important in enabling those who are part of the tradition to understand their own story, trace the contours of the community, and identify both strengths and weaknesses."

—Ruth Gouldbourne, co-author of *On Being the Church*

TEUN VAN DER LEER is a tutor at the Baptist Seminary, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. He is the editor of *Seeds of the Church: Towards an Ecumenical Baptist Ecclesiology* (Cascade 2022). Since 1984 he has been on the editorial board of *Inspirare*, a quarterly on charismatic and evangelical theology.



The Fallen Angels Traditions

Second Temple Developments
and Reception History

CATHOLIC BIBLICAL QUARTERLY MONOGRAPH SERIES

EDITED BY **ANGELA KIM HARKINS,**
KELLEY COBLENTZ BAUTCH,
AND **JOHN C. ENDRES SJ**

978-1-6667-8742-9 | 216 p. | \$30

This collection presents new research in angelology, giving special attention to the otherworldly beings known as the Watchers who are able to move between heaven and earth. According to the pseudepigraphic Book of the Watchers (1 Enoch 1-36), these angels descend to mate with women. The collection begins by examining Watchers traditions in biblical and non-biblical writings (e.g., Gen 6:1-4, the Qumran Hodayot, Book of Jubilees, and Book of Revelation). The collection also surveys Watchers traditions among late antique writings, including the Apocryphon of John, Manichean and Islamic writings, testamentary literature, the Pseudo-Clementines, and medieval Scholastic texts.

ANGELA KIM HARKINS, Marie Curie International Incoming Fellow, European Commission, University of Birmingham, Department of Theology and Religion (2014-2016).

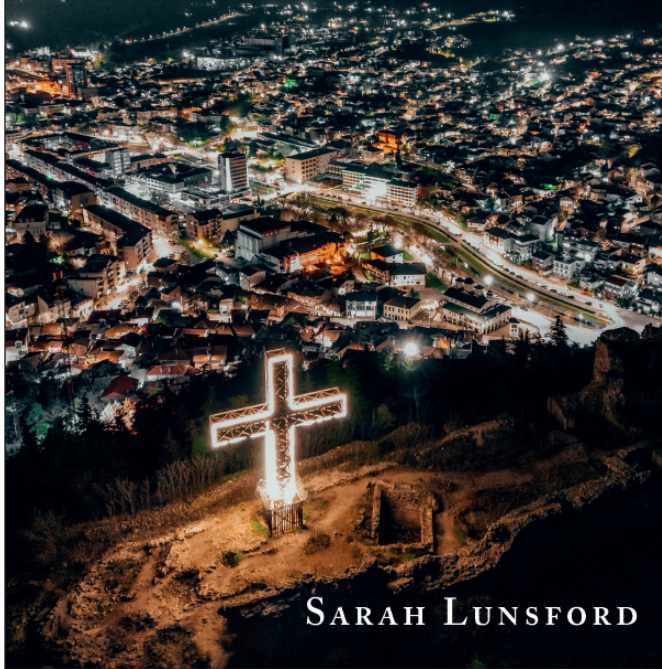
KELLEY COBLENTZ BAUTCH, Associate Professor of Religious and Theological Studies, St. Edward's University, Austin, TX.

JOHN C. ENDRES, Professor of Scripture, Jesuit School of Theology, Santa Clara University.

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Missiological Triage

*A Framework for Integrating Theology and
Social Sciences in Missiological Methods*



SARAH LUNSFORD

Missiological Triage

A Framework for Integrating Theology and
Social Sciences in Missiological Methods

EVANGELICAL MISSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY MONOGRAPH SERIES

SARAH LUNSFORD

978-1-6667-5933-4 | 186 p. | \$28

Most of what we *do* in missions can be categorized as our missiological methods. As important as our mission methods are, we usually look to the social sciences to guide us, as we seek to find effective and reproducible methods for sharing the gospel and planting churches cross-culturally. The lack of theological reflection on our missiological methods bears consequences. We tend to look to Scripture and theology for our missiological purpose and goals, but we often struggle to know *how* theology speaks to the social sciences or to our pragmatic methods. The social sciences have contributed to undeniable advances in our methodologies. At the same time, we want our methods to be anchored in our theology and the fruit of our missional efforts to be theologically healthy. *Missiological Triage* provides a solid foundation for a holistic integration of theology, missiology, and the social sciences, and offers practical steps for applying the social sciences to our mission methods in a theologically faithful manner. Professors and students of missiology, mission leaders, and missionary practitioners will benefit from this framework for theo-

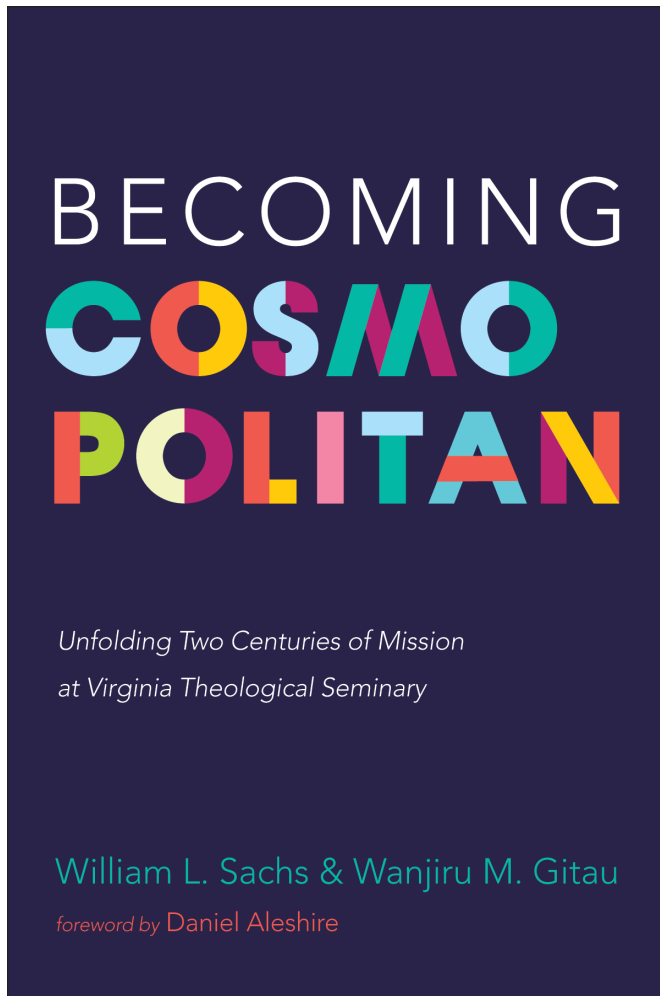
“The question of ‘Does it work?’ often outpaces the question of ‘Is it right?’ in missiological practice. Sarah Lunsford significantly contributes to the ongoing discussion of biblical and theological faithfulness and mission strategies. *Missiological Triage* helps us consider a more robust way to learn from the social sciences while maintaining biblical moorings.”

—Greg Mathias, associate professor of global missions, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

“Sarah Lunsford in *Missiological Triage* presents a well-argued thesis on a biblical and theological critique of the social sciences in mission. The bridging of theological reflection and missiological practice is an always relevant and, in today’s context, particularly pertinent topic. This is a needed and welcomed contribution to theology and missions that successfully gives a thorough study on a biblical reflection of social science-based mission methodologies.”

—Robert L. Gallagher, professor emeritus of intercultural studies, Wheaton College

SARAH LUNSFORD has been an instructor of global studies for Liberty University Online since 2010. She studied at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (MA, MDiv, ThM) and at Columbia International University (PhD) and served as an international church planter with the IMB. Sarah and her four children (Abigail, Elysa, Zachary, and Emilia) live in the metro-Atlanta area.



Becoming Cosmopolitan

Unfolding Two Centuries of Mission
at Virginia Theological Seminary

WILLIAM L. SACHS AND WANJIRU M. GITAU

978-1-7252-8354-1 | 242 p. | \$33

The legacy of Christian mission seems beyond dispute. Western churches carried imperialist and racist assumptions as they evangelized and encouraged the formation of indigenous churches. Amid those realities a different sensibility took root. As the history of Virginia Theological Seminary illustrates, missionaries who were alumni adapted to contextual circumstances in ways that challenged Western presumptions. Mission encouraged cosmopolitan ties featuring mutuality and reciprocity. The path to such relations was not straight nor always readily taken. Yet, over the seminary's two-hundred-year history, the cosmopolitan direction has become evident on several continents.

As missionaries came home, and leaders and students from abroad visited the seminary, the ideal of cosmopolitan relations spread. It became evident as mission churches took indigenous form and control. It was reinforced as Western churches explored the dimensions of social justice. American theological education affirmed the reality of diversity and recast its pedagogies in appreciative ways. This book traces an epic shift in mission and theological education measured by the rise of cosmopolitanism in the life of Virginia Theological Seminary.

“Observing two hundred years of Virginia Theological Seminary through the lens of Christian mission, *Being Cosmopolitan* shows mission—as both teaching and learning, formation and reaching out, evangelism and social justice, and mutuality and collaboration rather than strictly flowing from a ‘giver’ to a ‘receiver’—has always been central to this great theological education institution. This book is more than a historical account; it is an invitation to creatively practice Christian mission in the twenty-first century, postcolonial world.”

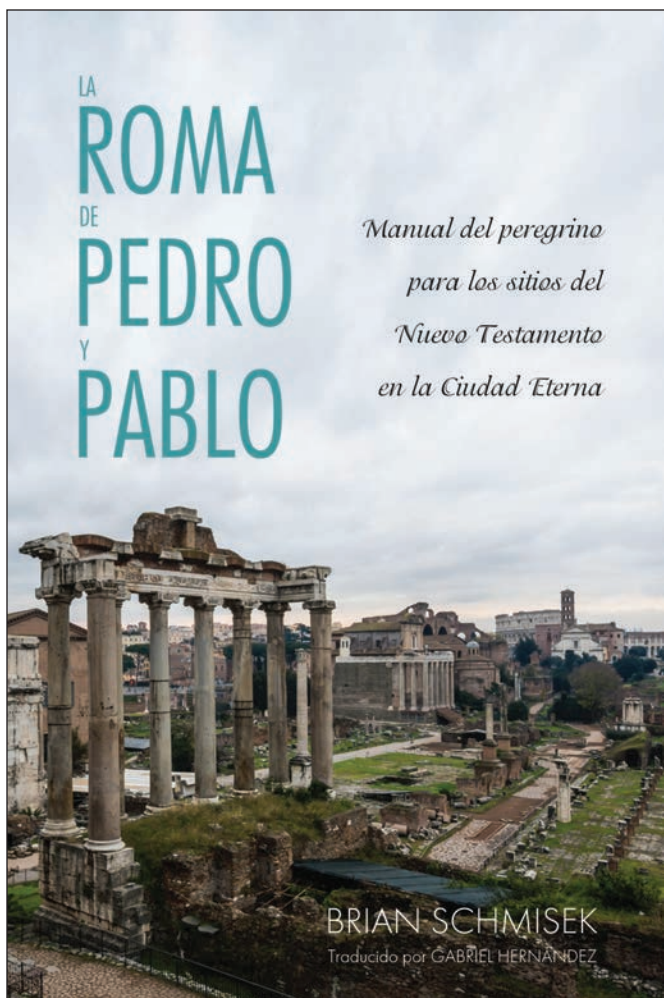
—Muthuraj Swamy, director, Cambridge Centre for Christianity Worldwide

“This innovative history of Virginia Theological Seminary uncovers its legacy of training the pioneer missionaries who founded the Episcopal Church around the world. By locating ‘cosmopolitanism’ at the center of the story, the authors show how theological institutions engaged the social and intellectual issues of the day, and in so doing, shaped their founding denominations. This book is a stellar example of analyzing how educational institutions can function as nodes on the network of global Christianity. I recommend it very highly.”

—Dana L. Robert, director, Center for Global Christianity and Mission

WILLIAM L. SACHS is an author, teacher, and Episcopal priest. He has written or edited ten books and over two hundred articles, chapters, reviews, and essays. He serves a consultant and board member to various religious and nonprofit organizations. He lives in Richmond, Virginia.

WANJIRU M. GITAU is assistant professor of world Christianity at Palm Beach Atlantic University. She lives in West Palm Beach, Florida.



La Roma de Pedro y Pablo

Manual del peregrino para los sitios del Nuevo Testamento en la Ciudad Eterna

BRIAN SCHMISEK

978-1-6667-7970-7 | 182 p. | \$27

El presente manual es una breve guía para aquellos interesados en los lugares romanos que tienen que ver con el Nuevo Testamento, y en particular con Pedro y Pablo. Por más de 10 años el Dr. Schmisek ha dirigido Programas de Educación para el Ministerio en la Ciudad Eterna. Este libro ha tomado forma gracias a las preguntas, aportaciones y comentarios hechos por alumnos a lo largo de esos años. Si bien no se abordan todas y cada una de las edificaciones referidas por el Nuevo Testamento en la ciudad de Roma, el manual más bien se enfoca en lugares e iglesias significativas que guardan una cierta relación con algún relato petrino o paulino: se incluyen lugares tales como San Pedro en el Vaticano, San Pablo Extramuros, lo mismo que San Pedro en el Montorio y las Tre Fontane.

En este libro hay dos partes primarias: la primera consiste en un sondeo de lo que se sabe (y no se sabe) en referencia con el tiempo que Pedro y Pablo transcurrieron en Roma. En este sondeo se incluyen también las diversas fuentes de los relatos paulino y petrino ya que estas resultan clave para entender muchos de los sitios por visitar, así como su significado. La segunda parte del libro se parece más a una guía turística presentada en cuatro secciones, mismas que se corresponden de manera general con las áreas de la ciudad. Este breve manual será una guía valiosa para aquellos que buscan un mayor entendimiento del contexto histórico y legendario de los sitios históricos petrinus y paulinus en Roma.

vez accesible y educativa, y representa un compañero maravilloso para aquellos que visitan la Ciudad Eterna”.

—Theodore James Whapham, Decano, Escuela de Ministerio “Ann and Joe O. Neuhoff”, Universidad de Dallas

“Esta deliciosa guía escrita por Brian Schmisek la cual nos lleva a los tiempos de la Roma del Nuevo Testamento (en especial de la de san Pedro y san Pablo) ofrece una mezcla perfecta de historia, interpretación bíblica, espiritualidad y fe. Relatos intrigantes, investigación de actualidad y trasfondo literario-arqueológico se dejan llevar por la voz narrativa y fácil de leer de Schmisek. Un gran libro para quienes visitan Roma por primera vez o para aquellos cristianos interesados en su pasado”.

—John M. Norris, profesor adjunto de Teología, Universidad de Dallas

“En italiano diríamos ‘vale su peso en oro’. Esta expresión coloquial me parece particularmente apta para poner en palabras lo que opino de este libro, el cual es la guía perfecta para lectores/viajeros deseosos de redescubrir sus raíces en la historia cristiana en Roma. ¡Tolle et lege – y disfruta el viaje!”

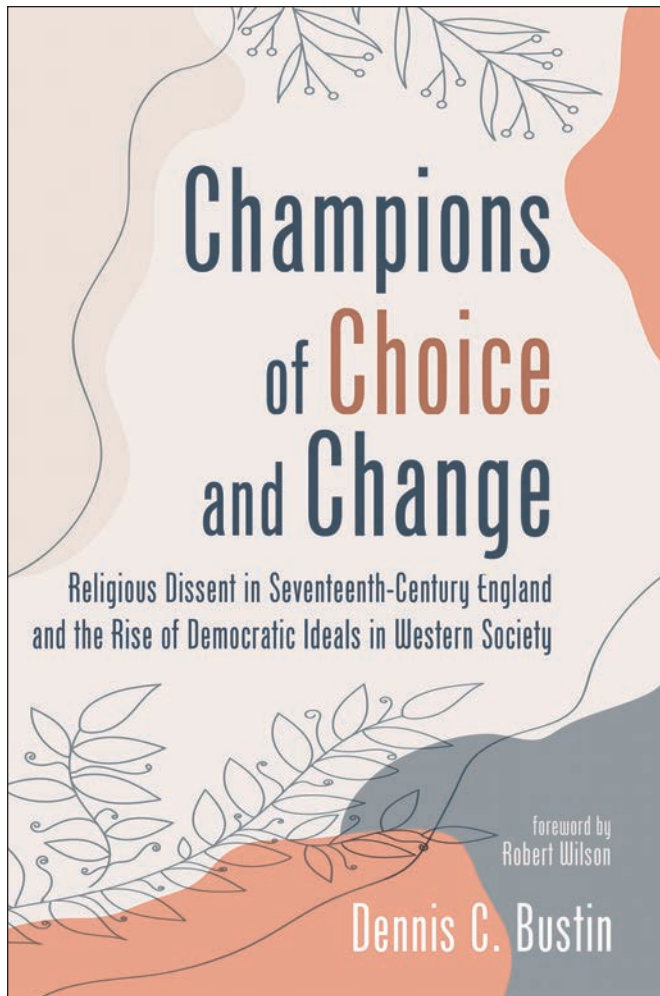
—Edmondo F. Lupieri, Profesor de Nuevo Testamento y Cristianismo Primitivo, Director del fondo de teología “Cardenal John Cody”, Universidad Loyola de Chicago, Presidente de ITALCULTURA.

“El autor echa mano del profundo conocimiento de la Roma Antigua adquirido tras haber dado cursos de verano en la ciudad por muchos años. A la vez que va mezclando en una narrativa continua datos obtenidos de muchas fuentes, compara material bíblico, medieval y científico para ofrecer así un tratado multi-nivel de nombres, lugares y fechas. Un repaso perfecto de la Roma católica para estudiantes y demás viajeros serios, se trata de un libro para leerse dos veces—una, antes de viajar a Roma y, otra, ya en Roma.

—Joseph Martos, Instituto de Teología “Aquinas”, Saint Louis, Missouri, autor de *Doors to the Sacred: A Historical Introduction to Sacraments in the Catholic Church*

“Brian Schmisek echa mano de los años que dirigió peregrinaciones curriculares en Roma para ofrecer a sus lectores una mirada a la ciudad a través de los ojos de sus santos más importantes. Esta útil introducción a la ciudad es a la

BRIAN SCHMISEK fue decano del Instituto de Estudios Pastorales de la Universidad Loyola de Chicago, donde frecuentemente impartía el curso de verano en el Centro John Felice de Roma. Anteriormente fue el decano fundador de la Escuela de Ministerio de la Universidad de Dallas, donde regularmente impartía cursos en su campus de Roma.



Champions of Choice and Change

Religious Dissent in Seventeenth-Century England and the Rise of Democratic Ideals in Western Society

DENNIS C. BUSTIN

978-1-7252-7354-2 | 192 p. | \$28

Champions of Choice and Change examines the role of seventeenth-century English dissenting religious groups and the rise of democratic ideals in western society. Many people assume that the French philosophers whose ideas and writings gave rise to the Revolution in France were the creators and initiators of the democratic theories which would shape, order, and give direction to modern Western society as it developed. This work argues otherwise, claiming that such advances—ideas related to equality, choice, political involvement, education, enabling and inclusion of women, religious liberty/tolerance—occurred first, not in the secular context of late eighteenth-century Enlightenment France, but in the spiritual context of radical and/or dissenting religious groups in Stuart England over a century earlier, shaped by previous ideas of the European Reformers.

“In a day when religious freedom is at the forefront of current political concerns in Western culture, Dennis Bustin’s examination of the roots of Western democracy is indeed timely. He argues that various Christian dissenting communities played a major role in establishing a passion for liberty in the West. This provocative thesis belies a favored narrative of Western secularism—namely, that the Christian religion is intrinsically authoritarian. Read it and judge for yourself! Highly recommended.”

—Michael A. G. Haykin, Chair and Professor of Church History, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

“*Champions of Choice and Change* is a thoughtful and engaging work very deeply indebted to Bustin’s comprehensive research and discerning mind. He clearly shows that many of the roots of democracy that modern secular nations highly value—liberty, equality for both men and women, and religious

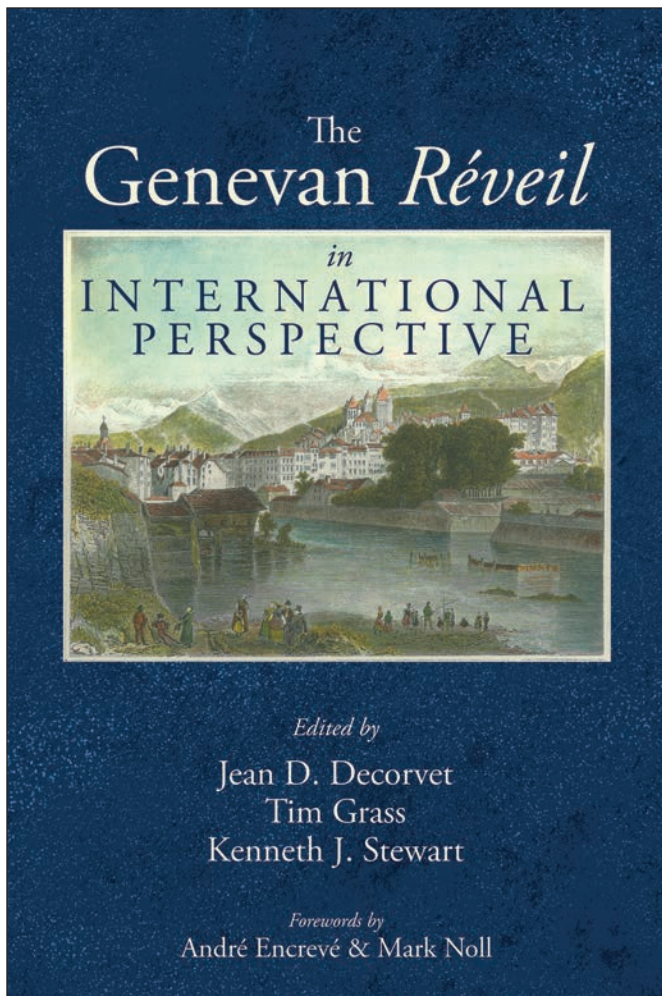
toleration—have religious roots in the ‘dissenting’ Christian groups of seventeenth-century England. From George Fox’s view that equality results from human beings made in the image of God to Katherine Sutton’s prophetic writings, Bustin provides compelling evidence for his thesis in this well-crafted, lucid study.”

—Stephen G. Dempster, Professor of Religious Studies, Crandall University

“Dissenters from the Church of England were pioneers of religious liberty. They championed principles and practices that advanced education, equality, and individualism, in many cases wanting to extend freedom to Jews and women. Here Dennis Bustin makes out the case that the roots of democratic values in the modern world are to be found before the eighteenth-century Enlightenment in the Nonconformity of the seventeenth century.”

—David Bebbington, Professor emeritus of History, University of Stirling

DENNIS C. BUSTIN’S early academics focused on New Testament studies and backgrounds (Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, MDiv; Harvard University, ThM), later shifting to Reformation and British/European history (Queen’s University in Kingston, ON, Canada, MA and PhD). His research concentrates on the Stuart era, particularly on dissenting religion. His book, *Paradox and Perseverance* (2006), examined the life and thought of Hanserd Knollys, a founder of the Particular Baptists in London. Dennis is currently associate professor of history (on leave) at Crandall University in Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada, where he resides with his wife Diane.



The Genevan Réveil in International Perspective

EDITED BY JEAN D. DECORVET, TIM GRASS, AND KENNETH J. STEWART

978-1-7252-5654-5 | 544 p. | \$66

The nineteenth-century international religious movement known as the *Réveil* had a major impact on Protestantism, and particularly on Evangelicalism. That impact is still evident today. Yet as a multi-faceted phenomenon, this movement has not received its due share of scholarly attention. This book offers a collection of essays exploring the international dimensions of the Genevan strand of the *Réveil*, providing an overview of events and trends, outlining the careers of some of its key figures, and highlighting some of the areas in which it made a contribution to contemporary society. As the first such collection to focus on this movement, it brings together scholars from several countries, with expertise in its various aspects.

“This groundbreaking volume describes a religious revival that spread far beyond Geneva—and which became the fulcrum for some of the most important developments in Evangelical cultures on both sides of the Atlantic. Including work from a wide range of experts, this volume balances definitive commentary with important new lines of enquiry.”

—Crawford Gribben, professor of history, Queen’s University Belfast

“The *Réveil* of Geneva in the years from 1817 onwards marked a revitalization of the city’s Protestantism in a distinctly Evangelical form that was touched by the Romantic spirit. Led by strong personalities, the movement spread through much of western Europe and, by means of foreign missions, affected many parts of the world beyond. In this volume, twenty-one contributors—French-speaking as well as English-speaking—demonstrate its remarkable international influence.”

—David Bebbington, emeritus professor of history, University of Stirling

“An important work by an impressive team of international scholars analyzing the broad reach of the *Réveil* in Switzerland and among the Reformed churches in southwestern France. The contributors show the wide reach of the movement beyond French-speaking territories and its implications for churches, missions, and agencies such as the Red Cross.”

—Martin I. Klauber, affiliate professor of church history, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

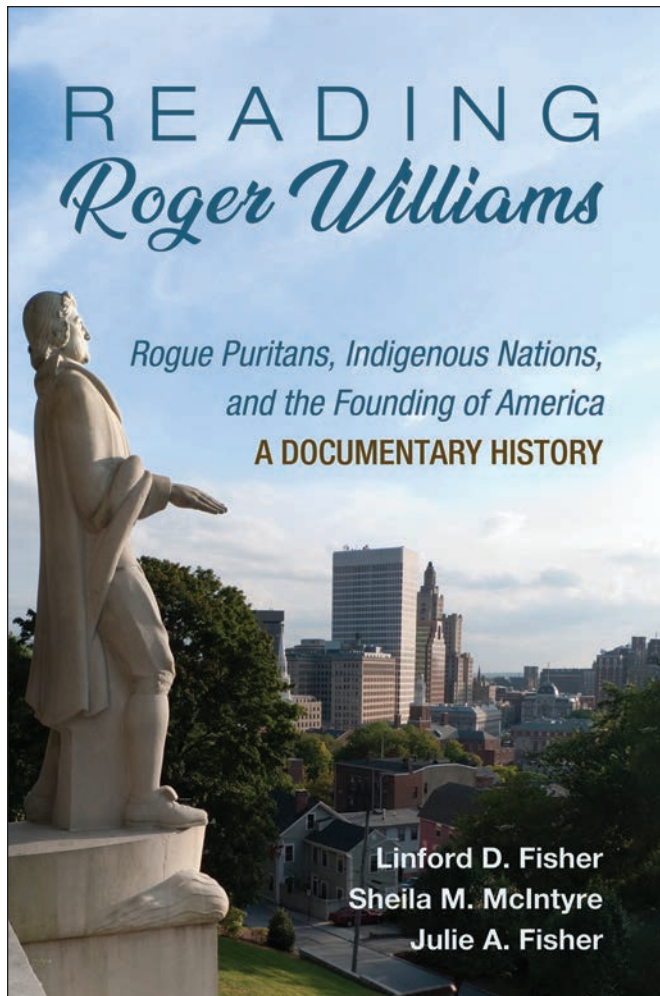
“The landscape for studying the history of the Awakenings of Europe and America from the eighteenth into the nineteenth centuries will benefit immensely from the contribution of this groundbreaking book that traces the unfolding global reach of the francophone *Réveil* in Geneva, France, and beyond. Through the contributions of international experts, this volume provides refreshing insight and careful nuance to guide, illumine, and complicate our understanding of Protestant evangelization in the global story of Christianity.”

—Jennifer Powell McNutt, associate professor of theology and history of Christianity, Wheaton College

TIM GRASS is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society. Until 2023 he was assistant editor for the Ecclesiastical History Society, and is a senior research fellow at Spurgeon’s College, London.

KENNETH J. STEWART is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society. Until 2019, he was professor of theological studies in Covenant College, Lookout Mountain, Georgia.

JEAN DECORVET is president and professor of theological studies at the *Haute école de théologie*, St-Légier, Switzerland. He is also a visiting professor in historical studies at the *Faculté Jean Calvin*.



Reading Roger Williams

Rogue Puritans, Indigenous Nations, and the Founding of America—a Documentary History

LINFORD D. FISHER, SHEILA M. MCINTYRE, AND JULIE A. FISHER

978-1-5326-3943-2 | Forthcoming

Roger Williams is best known as the founder of Rhode Island who was banished from Massachusetts in 1636 for his dangerous thoughts on religious liberty. But the city and colony Williams helped to found was deep in Native country situated between the powerful Narragansett and Wampanoag nations. The Williams that emerges from the documents in this collection is immersed in a dynamic world of Native politics, engaged in regional and trans-Atlantic debates and conversations about religious freedom and the separation of church and state, and situated at the crossroads of colonial outposts and powerful Native nations. Williams lived among and relied on the generosity of his Narragansett neighbors and yet he was a Native enslaver and part of a process that dispossessed regional Indigenous populations. He could establish a colony based on full religious freedom and yet bitterly complain and campaign against residents with whom he disagreed, such as Samuel Gorton or the Quakers. For the first time, *Reading Roger Williams* offers readers the opportunity to explore the many facets of Williams's life by including selections from all of his writings, starting with his life in London and ending with one of his final letters, written when he was nearly eighty years old. Each document includes an introduction and annotations to help the reader better understand the text and context.

cruelties of the seventeenth-century English colonial world.”

—Tisa Wenger, professor of American religious history, Yale Divinity School

“*Reading Roger Williams* is no mere compilation of an icon's works. Drawing on the best recent scholarship and placing carefully selected excerpts of Williams's public and private writings alongside the words of his contemporaries, the authors embed a very human Williams in rich historical contexts. Readers hoping to understand the religious, political, and personal underpinnings of English attempts to colonize Indigenous America can find no better guide on their journey.”

—Daniel K. Richter, professor emeritus of American history, University of Pennsylvania

“Roger Williams is well known for his insistence on religious freedom. This careful, intelligent anthology highlights another major aspect of his long life as writer, activist, and citizen in New England, his understanding of local Native Americans, and his relationship to the policies—endorsed (or criticized)—of his fellow colonists towards those people. Filled with unexpected evidence at every turn!”

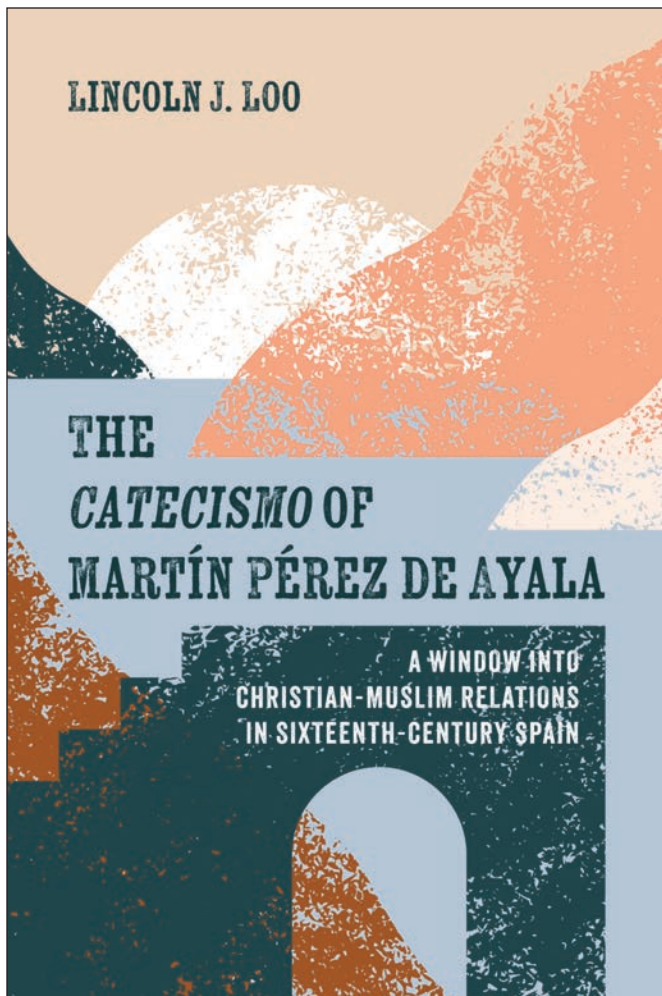
—David D. Hall, professor of New England church history emeritus, Harvard Divinity School

“Who was Roger Williams? You will learn to know him in this carefully curated collection both as a radical puritan who worked for the liberty of conscience as he understood it, and as a self-proclaimed ‘friend of the Indians’ who joined in the settler colonial conquest of Narragansetts, Pequots, and other Native peoples. This is an essential guide to Williams and to the contradictions and

LINFORD D. FISHER is associate professor of history at Brown University. He is the author of *The Indian Great Awakening: Religion and the Shaping of Native Cultures in Early America* and co-author of *Decoding Roger Williams: The Lost Essay of Rhode Island's Founding Father*. He is the principal investigator of the Stolen Relations: Recovering Stories of Indigenous Enslavement in the Americas project, which is a tribal community-centered collaborative project that seeks to create a public, centralized database of Native slavery throughout the Americas and across time.

SHEILA M. MCINTYRE is associate professor of history at the State University of New York at Potsdam, and is the co-author of *Correspondence of John Cotton, Jr, 1640-1699*.

JULIE A. FISHER is an educator and historian of early America currently at the National Historical Publications and Records Commission of the U.S. National Archives. She has previously worked with the Yale Indian Papers Project, the National Park Service, the American Philosophical Society, and Bard High School Early College in Washington, DC. She is the co-author of *Ninigret, Sachem of the Niantics and Narragansetts: Diplomacy, War and the Balance of Power in Seventeenth-Century New England and Indian Country*.



The *Catecismo* of Martín Pérez de Ayala

A Window into Christian-Muslim Relations in Sixteenth-Century Spain

LINCOLN J. LOO

978-1-6667-3805-6 | Forthcoming

It is important for Christians and Muslims to engage in respectful dialogue. However, it is not easy. The present book delves into the past for wisdom and guidance. Spanish theologian Martín Pérez de Ayala (1504–66) wrote a catechism or *Catecismo* that was not published until more than three decades after he had passed away. Why was the *Catecismo* published posthumously? The search for answers to this question involved evaluating the *Catecismo* against thirteen other catechisms written in sixteenth-century Spain. This assessment generated timeless principles that can be used today by those who wish to have cordial conversations about Islam and biblical Christianity with their Muslim friends.

“Straddling the border of the Islamic and Christian worlds, Spain is a fascinating historical case study for Muslim-Christian relations. This book immerses us in the Iberian Peninsula of the Late Middle Ages for a rich, nuanced, and sympathetic investigation into the evangelistic writings of Father Martín Pérez de Ayala, reluctant missionary to the Morisco Muslims. We emerge with timeless lessons for positive Christian engagement with Muslims.”

—Richard Shumack, director, Arthur Jeffery Centre for the Study of Islam, Melbourne School of Theology

“The history of Spanish Catholic-Muslim relations is often seen characterized as either military confrontation or the *Convivencia*. Lincoln Loo—in a lucid and accessible work—demonstrates that attitudes and relations were far more complex than often imagined. Another option was present—peaceful apologetics. Loo has engaged in extensive, good quality research on what might otherwise to modern Westerners be an obscure subject and demonstrates that ordinary mission and catechizing were also features of interreligious encounter.”

—Anthony McRoy, retired lecturer in Islamic studies

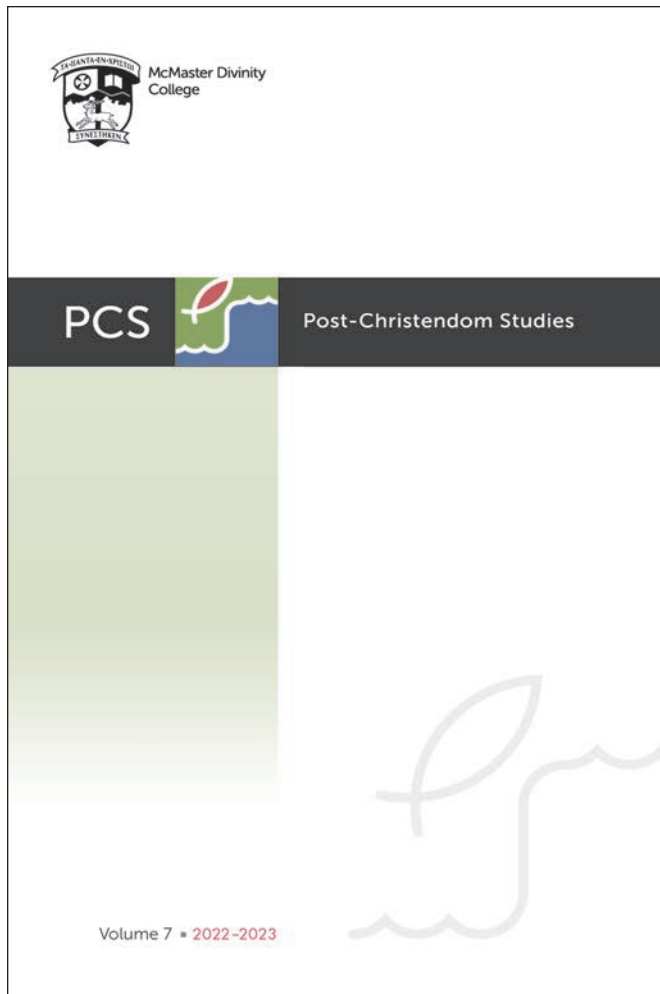
“This book is an excellent example of cross-disciplinary research. Firmly grounded in historical method, Lincoln Loo takes his readers back to Early Modern Spain, a period of dramatic change following the Reconquista and the end of Muslim rule. He opens windows into church politics, interreligious relations and persecution, and literature of the period of the notorious Inquisition. Having the fascination of a novel and the rigor of a dissertation, this book is a must-read for Christians and non-Christians alike.”

—Peter G. Riddell, senior research fellow, Australian College of Theology

“A treasure. Lincoln Loo has produced a beautiful work presenting the context, structure, content, reception, and effect of an important work of theological outreach written by the sixteenth-century Spanish cleric Martín Pérez de Ayala. Loo has done a great service by his careful study. It has opened my eyes to greater details of a time when the essential truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ were gently but firmly reasserted against a deviant theology.”

—Daniel Brubaker, president, Think and Tell

LINCOLN J. LOO conducts research, writes, and teaches about Islam. He lives in Hong Kong.

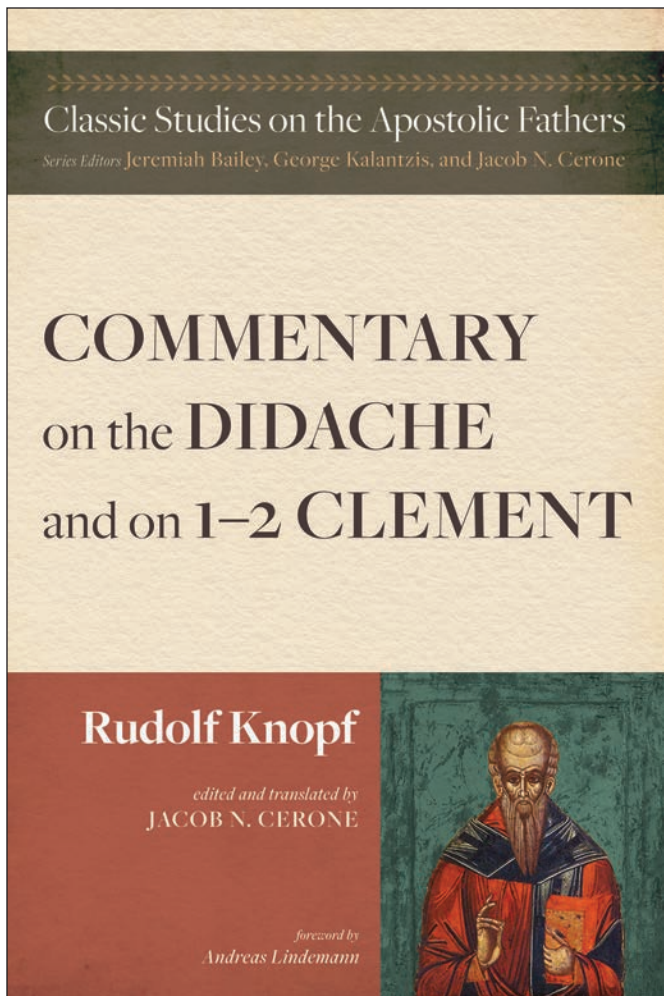


Post-Christendom Studies: Volume 7

EDITED BY **STEVEN M. STUDEBAKER, LEE BEACH, AND GORDON L. HEATH**

978-1-6667-8883-9 | 118 p. | \$21

Post-Christendom Studies publishes research on the nature of Christian identity and mission in the contexts of post-Christendom. Post-Christendom refers to places, both now and in the past, where Christianity was once a significant cultural presence, though not necessarily the dominant religion. Sometimes “Christendom” refers to the official link between church and state. The term “post-Christendom” is often associated with the rise of secularization, religious pluralism, and multiculturalism in western countries over the past sixty years. Our use of the term is broader than that however. Egypt for example can be considered a post-Christendom context. It was once a leading center of Christianity. “Christendom” moreover does not necessarily mean official public and dominant religion. For example, under Saddam Hussein, Christianity was probably a minority religion, but, for the most part, Christians were left alone. After America deposed Saddam, Christians began to flee because they became a persecuted minority. In that sense, post-Saddam Iraq is an experience of post-Christendom—it is a shift from a cultural context in which Christians have more or less freedom to exercise their faith to one where they are persecuted and/or marginalized for doing so.



Commentary on the Didache and on 1-2 Clement

CLASSIC STUDIES ON THE APOSTOLIC FATHERS

RUDOLF KNOPF

EDITED BY JACOB N. CERONE

978-1-6667-4773-7 | 348 p. | \$44

Knopf's commentary on the Didache and 1-2 Clement was originally entitled *Die Apostolischen Väter. Band 1: Die Lehre der zwölf Apostel. Die zwei Clemensbriefe* and was published in the *Handbuch zum Neuen Testament. Ergänzung-band* in 1920. The volume contains introductory information for the Didache and 1-2 Clement, a translation of these texts, and accompanying critical commentary which proceeds verse by verse.

"Jacob Cerone has provided English readers a gift—a readable translation of Knopf's classic commentary on the Didache and 1-2 Clement. As scholars of the Didache and Clement continue to study these ancient texts, English-only-speaking students will be able to engage with this classic study more easily. Cerone's translation is deeply welcomed, and students are encouraged to use this book."

—Shawn J. Wilhite, California Baptist University

"The English edition of this classic commentary is most welcome. The translator and the publisher deserve our thanks. Although scholarship in the last century has revised some assumptions that were common when Knopf wrote (e.g., on possible uses of New Testament writings and the "gnostic" opponents' theology), his excellent philological and rhetorical analyses remain useful and thought-provoking."

—James A. Kelhoffer, Uppsala University

RUDOLF KNOPF (1874–1920) was a professor of Protestant theology at the University of Bonn. His most influential works include *Das nachapostolische Zeitalter. Geschichte der christlichen Gemeinden vom Beginn der Flavierdynastie bis zum Ende Hadrians* (1905) and *Einführung in das neue Testament* (1919).

ems monograph series 16

Exporting Progressivism to Communist China



HOW NEW YORK'S UNION SEMINARY LIBERALIZED
CHRISTIANITY IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY CHINA

Christopher D. Sneller

foreword by ALISTER E. McGRATH

Exporting Progressivism to Communist China

How New York's Union Seminary Liberalized
Christianity in Twentieth-Century China

EVANGELICAL MISSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY MONOGRAPH SERIES

CHRISTOPHER D. SNELLER

978-1-6667-5927-3 | 258 p. | \$35

Using new archival research, this book shows how Union Theological Seminary exported progressive Christianity to Communist China. Founded in 1836, the New York seminary disseminated its version of Christianity to China through its alumni. From 1911 to 1949, 196 Union alumni went to China. Thirty-nine of these former students were Chinese nationals. Many of these Chinese students—such as Y. T. Wu (*Wu Yaozong*), K. H. Ting (*Ding Guangxun*), John Sung (*Song Shangjie*), and Timothy Tingfang Lew (*Liu Tingfang*)—became key leaders in the Sino-Foreign Protestant Establishment and the Three-Self Patriotic Movement. The school became a dense hub of influential Chinese and American Christians. Union's role in liberalizing and indigenizing Christianity in twentieth-century China has been largely unnoticed, until now.

“This remarkable book breaks new ground in exploring the critical role those American Christian institutions and individuals played in shaping the development of Protestantism in China in the first half of the twentieth century.”

—Alister E. McGrath, professor of science and religion, Oxford University

“Christopher Sneller is a gifted storyteller. Based upon meticulous research of published and unpublished sources, he traces the previously largely untold story of the history of the impact Union Theological Seminary in New York had on the Protestant church in China in the first half of the twentieth century. This is a fascinating narrative which missiologists, historians, sociologists, and theologians will find helpful.”

—Glenn R. Kreider, professor of theological studies, Dallas Theological Seminary

“Focusing on the developments of Chinese Christianity, Christopher Sneller provides an insightful book that gives a window to wider Christian movements over the last century. Sneller draws the story of Union Theological Seminary and Chinese Christianity together with the likes of Bonhoeffer and the Modernist-Fundamentalist debates, resulting in an accessible and engaging account of how these cross-cultural interactions continue to influence events today. You'll learn as much about American Christianity as that of Chinese Christianity.”

—Ben C. Blackwell, professor of early Christianity, Houston Theological Seminary

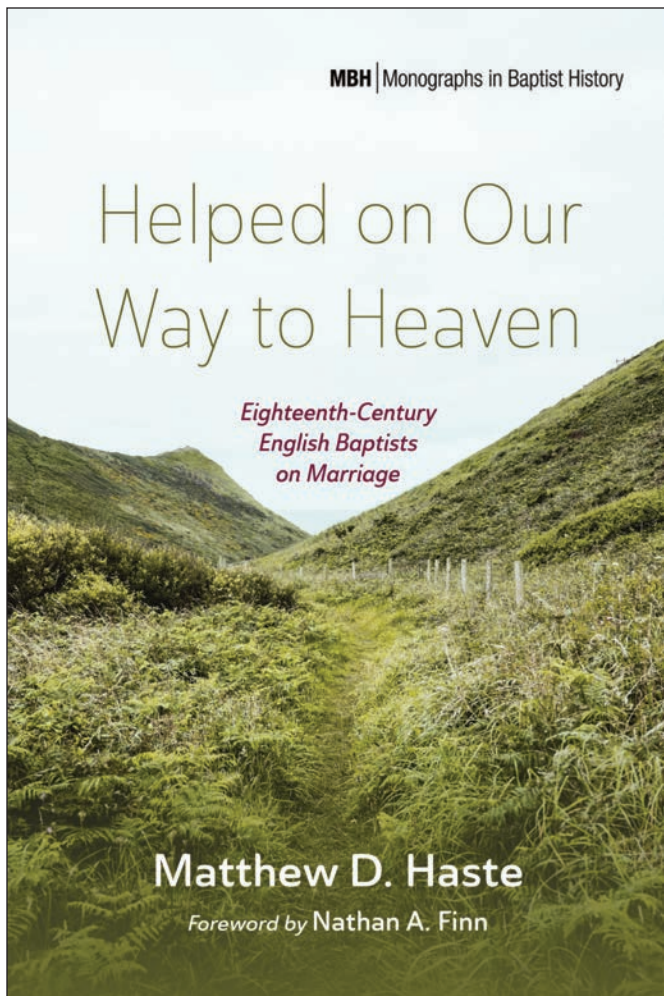
“Modern histories of Chinese Christianity largely ignore any influence by Union Seminary (New York). Christopher Sneller not only demonstrates the profound impact of the seminary on the shaping of modern Chinese Christianity, but he also makes a persuasive case for intentionality. More than enlightening history, this book is a clarion call to the vital role of seminaries in shaping leadership, culture, and the direction of the church.”

—E. Randolph Richards, research professor of New Testament, Palm Beach Atlantic University

“This seminal work, based on archival research, unpacks for the first time the complex relationships between theological education at Union Theological Seminary in New York and its formative impact on diverse expressions of emerging Chinese Protestant Christianity in mainland China, especially the Three-Self Patriotic Movement. It demonstrates how these ‘Sino-American relationships’ sustained, enlivened, and even expanded Chinese Christianity during revolutions; now Chinese Christianity is vibrant and enhances world Christianity. This book deserves highest recognition.”

—Daniel Jeyaraj, professor emeritus of world Christianity, Liverpool Hope University

CHRISTOPHER D. SNELLER is a lecturer in missional theology at Houston Christian University and director of innovation at Bridges International.



Helped on Our Way to Heaven

Eighteenth-Century English Baptists on Marriage

MONOGRAPHS IN BAPTIST HISTORY

MATTHEW D. HASTE

978-1-6667-3394-5 | 232 p. | \$32

This work is an academic study of marriage in the lives and theologies of eighteenth-century English Baptists. It explores the historical context of marriage laws and practices in eighteenth-century England and demonstrates the theological continuity that existed between the English Puritans and the Particular Baptists on the subject of marriage. The study concentrates on four specific Baptist leaders of this era: John Gill, Anne Dutton, Samuel Stennett, and Andrew Fuller. This work will benefit students of history and readers interested in the spirituality of marriage.

“*Helped on Our Way to Heaven* is a fine example of retrieval of the development of doctrine in history for the sake of contemporary renewal. Matthew Haste’s examination of eighteenth-century English Baptists is a delight to see, and a help to all who will read it.”

—Jason G. Duesing, professor of historical theology, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

“Matthew Haste offers a masterful historical introduction to the doctrine and practice of marriage among eighteenth-century Baptists (focusing on John Gill, Anne Dutton, Samuel Stennett, and Andrew Fuller), who inherited a renewed biblical appreciation for the blessed state of matrimony from the Reformers and Puritans. Readers of this well-researched study will find it both informative and inspiring.”

—Joel R. Beeke, president, Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary

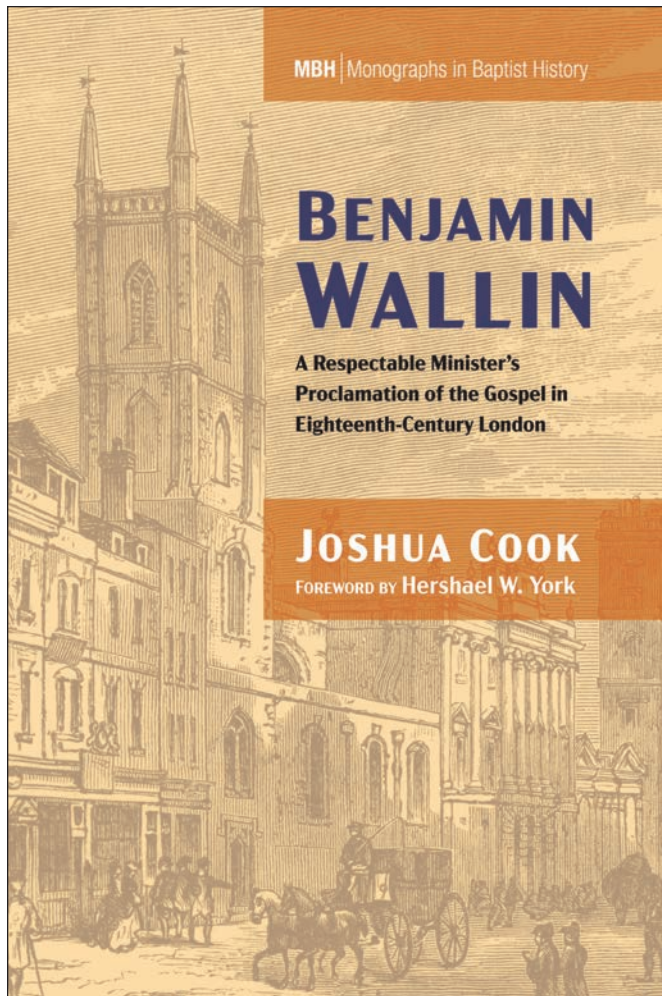
“*Helped on Our Way to Heaven* is a delightful book from the pen of a devoted husband, parent, scholar, and author. Matthew Haste combines academic muscle, practical concern, and winsome writing in a gripping narrative that reaches beyond the academy and into the hearts and homes of everyday readers. Haste’s book doesn’t simply tell us about history and marriage, it provides examples that help us to look back as a means of finding our way forward.”

—Ray Rhodes Jr., author of *Yours, till Heaven: The Untold Love Story of Charles and Susie Spurgeon*

“There is nothing quite like Matthew Haste’s new book on marriage among eighteenth-century Baptists. Haste shows, without descending into hagiography, that great attention was given to personal relationships and that Baptists sought to live out their faith in private as well as in public. This work is a great resource and highly recommended. It adds to our understanding of this vital historical period and challenges Christian readers about what it means to live as a Christian disciple today.”

—Peter Morden, senior pastor, Cornerstone Baptist Church

MATTHEW D. HASTE is associate professor of biblical spirituality and biblical counseling at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He is the co-author of *Held in Honor: Wisdom for Your Marriage from Voices of the Past* (2015) and the co-author of *The Pastor’s Life: Practical Wisdom from the Puritans* (2019).



Benjamin Wallin

A Respectable Minister's Proclamation of the Gospel in Eighteenth-Century London

MONOGRAPHS IN BAPTIST HISTORY

JOSHUA COOK

978-1-6667-5445-2 | 210 p. | \$30

How did the gospel survive in an age fraught with rationalism and High Calvinist theology that frowned upon preaching salvation to all? What shifts in preaching were evident that could have signaled that the preaching of the day was straying from the heritage of the past? Who was Benjamin Wallin and why should this once-famous but now-forgotten preacher be studied yet again? *Benjamin Wallin* seeks to answer these questions as it reintroduces the modern reader to this remarkable Particular Baptist preacher who remained steadfast in his insistence that the gospel be preached to all.

"Studies on the eighteenth-century Particular Baptist community have tended to focus on a few individual figures, such as John Gill, and interpreted that world through the eyes of these figures. As this fresh and original study of the London Baptist Benjamin Wallin reveals, that is a capital mistake. Joshua Cook ensures that Wallin, an industrious author, is cited in future monograph studies on the world of the British Particular Baptists. A fine study of a neglected figure."

—Michael A. G. Haykin, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

"I owe Joshua Cook a debt of gratitude for introducing me to Benjamin Wallin. This work has warmed my heart, challenged my mind, encouraged my preaching, and stirred my soul. The clear, gentle way that this steadfast evangelical pastor taught his congregation and engaged others is a masterclass in pastoral leadership, theological clarity, and Christian charity. Wallin's example is as desperately needed in the twenty-first century as it was in the eighteenth."

—Hershael W. York, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

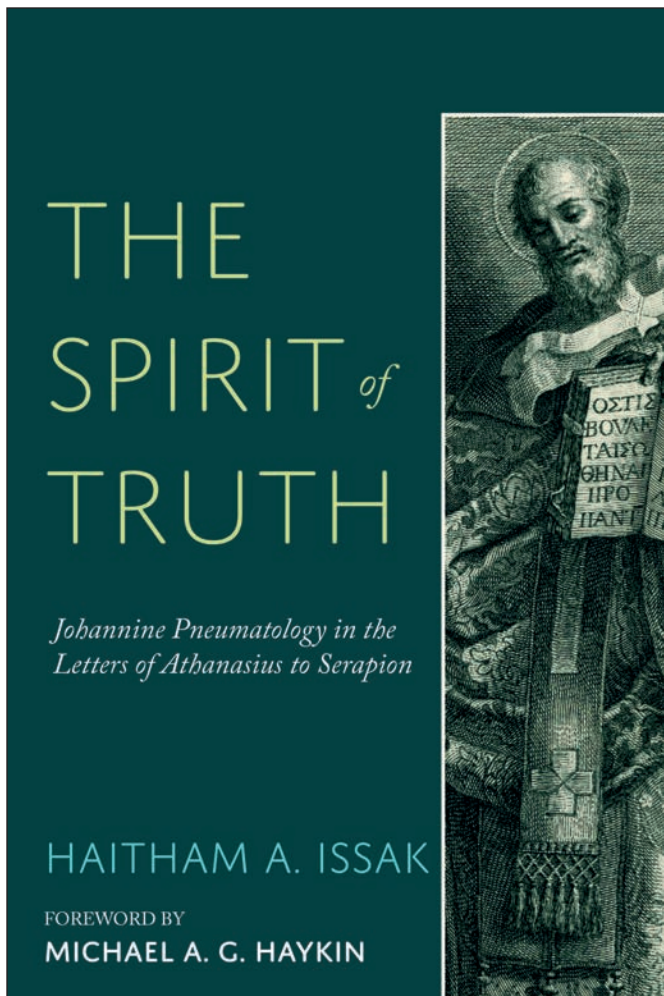
"Joshua Cook writes an informative and enjoyable biography that acquaints the reader with a Baptist minister relatively unknown to us. This work serves well the student of history, the scholar, and everyone in between, providing a broad and compelling picture of Benjamin Wallin's life and ministry while also assessing critically his teaching, preaching style, and positions on some of the important issues of his day."

—Ryan Hanley, University of the Cumberland

"Joshua Cook provides an equal parts historical and theological analysis of Benjamin Wallin, the most comprehensive and complete to date. His quality and pace of writing serve to showcase the eighteenth-century Baptist's twin emphases on divine sovereignty and the free offer of the gospel in salvation, motivating the confident and promiscuous spread of the good news of Jesus Christ to all."

—Andrew S. Ballitch, pastor of preaching and ministries, Westwood Alliance Church

JOSHUA COOK is the senior pastor at Our Savior Lutheran Church (LC-MS) in Louisville, Kentucky. He has combined his interests in Reformation history and homiletics to study influential-but-forgotten preachers of the past. He holds a PhD in Christian preaching from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.



The Spirit of Truth

Johannine Pneumatology in the Letters of Athanasius to Serapion

HAITHAM A. ISSAK

978-1-6667-7467-2 | 234 p. | \$32

The fourth century was different than the previous centuries due to two big heresies. The first one was the heresy of Arius, who denied the divinity of the Son. This heresy led to the Council of Nicaea in 325 in which the church fathers affirmed the divinity of the Son of one substance with the Father. The second heresy was that of the *Tropici*, who denied the divinity of the Holy Spirit and said that the Holy Spirit was a creature or an angel. At that time, Athanasius was one of the most important leaders in the life of the church. He wrote against the Tropici, as he addressed them in his letters to Serapion. These letters are the major work of Athanasius concerning the Holy Spirit.

The Spirit of Truth explains the way that Athanasius dealt with the heresy and elucidates the pneumatology of Athanasius's use of the Gospel of John and 1 John. It also discusses Athanasius's understanding of tradition, Scripture, and hermeneutical principles in his defense of the Godhead, particularly the divinity of the Holy Spirit. For Athanasius, the Holy Spirit is eternal, divine, uncreated, and one with the Father and the Son.

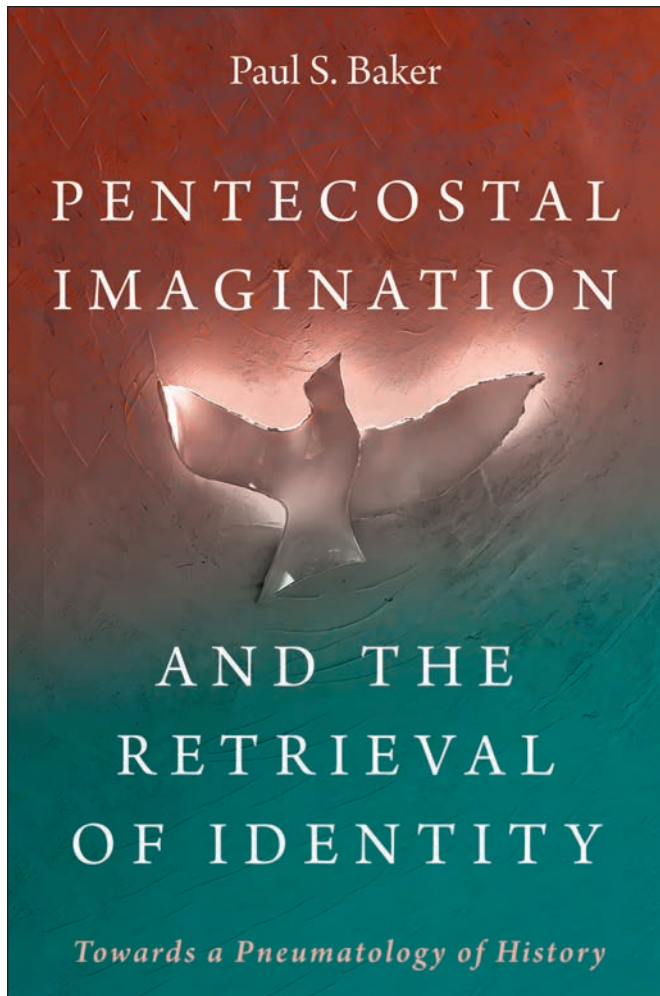
"Athanasius is usually remembered for the key role that he played in the defense of the deity of Christ during the so-called Arian Controversy. But his small work on the divinity of the Holy Spirit is also eminently worthy of examination, as this new study demonstrates. Haitham Issak shows beyond a shadow of doubt that at the heart of the Alexandrian bishop's pneumatology was scriptural exegesis."

—Michael A. G. Azad Haykin, chair and professor of church history, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

"Haitham Issak has done the indispensable but difficult work of identifying Athanasius's usage of Johannine writings in his response to Serapion's questions regarding the deity of the Holy Spirit. He also provides a helpful framework for further theological and historical analysis of Athanasius's pneumatology."

—Gordon L. Heath, professor of Christian history, McMaster Divinity College

HAITHAM A. ISSAK (PhD, McMaster Divinity College) has taught patristics in Syriac Orthodox seminaries in Mosul, Iraq, and Damascus and has served as a director in the Syriac Orthodox Seminary in Mosul. Issak regularly participated in the programs of the Pappas Patristic Institute program at the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. His ongoing research projects are focused on Syriac and Syriac church fathers, Ephrem, Aphrahat, and Jacob of Serugh.



Pentecostal Imagination and the Retrieval of Identity

Towards a Pneumatology of History

PAUL S. BAKER

978-1-6667-4851-2 | 256 p. | \$35

How does identity survive the passage of time? How can we be sure that our church community in the *present* is a faithful representation of the originating community in the *past*? This book explores how Pentecostalism—the world’s fastest-growing expression of Christianity, since its inception at the beginning of the twentieth century—can identify as the *same* community that birthed the church in the first century. A community that spans two millennia of church history presents numerous challenges, which raise crucial questions. In the case of Pentecostalism, these questions concern the criteria we might employ in order to recognize various instances of that community: both in the present, and throughout the past. The Pentecostal emphasis on the Holy Spirit as the founding force behind the early church suggests some exciting possibilities. By bringing together Pentecostal theology and hermeneutical philosophy, this volume develops a model which attempts to discern the Pentecostal Spirit from within history. Rather than arriving at a historical survey of various theologies of the Spirit, this book instead advances a historiography which is itself inherently Spirit-oriented: a *pneumatology of history*.

“Through creative and sophisticated engagement with the work of theologian Amos Yong and philosopher Paul Ricoeur, Paul Baker’s superb book, *Pentecostal Imagination and the Retrieval of Identity*, provides powerful new theological and hermeneutical resources for Pentecostals as they grapple with questions of identity, continuity, and apostolicity.”

—Michael Gladwin, St Mark’s National Theological Centre

“Paul Baker’s new book is a highly imaginative and creative answer to the question: How can the Pentecostal church (or any church for that matter) ensure that they are an authentic expression of the church as it is found in Scripture? A brilliant work that will serve many future scholars of Pentecostal theology as a valuable resource and dialogue partner.”

—Ockert Meyer, United Theological College

“Paul Baker presents a tour de force of Pentecostalism and philosophical hermeneutics to develop his unique pneumatology of history. Drawing on the key interlocutors of Yong and Ricoeur, he skillfully addresses this significant gap in current Pentecostal theology.”

—Jacqueline Grey, Alphacrucis University College

PAUL BAKER lives in Sussex, England with his family, where he teaches philosophy, religion, and ethics.



HOUSE CHURCHES

in Post-Communist

EUROPE

*Qualitative Interviews from
Poland with a View to Informing
Missiological Practice*

Randy Hacker

House Churches in Post-Communist Europe

Qualitative Interviews from Poland with a View to Informing Missiological Practice

RANDY HACKER

978-1-6667-4003-5 | 340 p. | \$43

This is an exploration of house churches, especially in Poland. The book begins with a review of literature about the “global house church movement” and continues with an article on the early Christian transition from house churches to purpose-built buildings for churches. Next is an article regarding the concept of “sacred space” in relation to house churches. The first half concludes with a chapter on methodology of research for a qualitative interview approach to studying house churches. The thesis then presents a theological method for using the qualitative interviews to develop ecclesiology. Sixteen interviews from thirteen house churches are presented. The thesis continues the theological method by attempting to answer the question “why is it going on” and presents a thematic analysis from the qualitative interviews that includes input from sociological research done in Poland. The thesis concludes by using scriptural and academic sources in conversation with house church interviews from the interviews and global house church literature to present four primary conclusions in a practical-prophetic ecclesiology.

“One of the compelling and reassuring promises of Jesus to his disciples is that he will build his church. The author presents a thorough work of research to help us understand the house church movement in Poland. I highly commend Randy Hacker’s work and insights to church leaders for further learning and reflection on what the church can be in their contexts and communities. This is a valuable contribution in our understanding and experience of church.”

—Jeff Denlinger, president, WorldVenture

“Randy Hacker has done us a great service in mapping out terrain where no cartographer has gone before. Yet he has given us more than the lay of the land; he has also provided us with a window into the ecclesiology of these burgeoning house churches. We get to glimpse what the members of these groups believe and how they came to believe it. There are insights here that are of wider significance than Post-Communist Europe.”

—Ben Pugh, Cliff College

RANDY HACKER has been living in Lublin, Poland, since 1999. He is married, with three sons and a daughter. He is currently pastor of the Lublin Baptist Church, a Polish Baptist Church, in Lublin, Poland, and co-pastor of the International Christian Fellowship of Lublin, Poland; regional training coordinator for WorldVenture in Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa; and lecturer in missiology in England, the Netherlands, Poland, and Ukraine.

PREACHING ON SOCIAL SUFFERING

*Formulating a Homiletical Theology for the
Contemporary Korean Context*

JEREMY KANGSAN KIM

foreword by Sally A. Brown

Preaching on Social Suffering

Formulating a Homiletical Theology for
the Contemporary Korean Context

JEREMY KANGSAN KIM

978-1-6667-4313-5 | 244 p. | \$33

In this book, Jeremy Kim criticizes current Korean and Asian American homiletical strategies for their lack of a theological point of view on social suffering. He argues that preachers must develop an alternative theological-homiletical viewpoint on social suffering, one that has pastoral and prophetic approaches. These two approaches offer people a refuge and a voice, not only in the church community but also in the larger social community. Thus, the author suggests that preachers adopt the biblical lament, highlighting its dual tasks of compassion (the pastoral dimension) and resistance (the prophetic dimension). The author, who is a non-Western Asian American preacher, also incorporates East Asian philosophical and hermeneutical research on *ren*, a positive element of Confucianism, into his argument. He applies this core concept of Confucianism to the preacher's homiletical strategy toward social suffering. Thus, the author proposes that Korean preachers should recover *ren*, which contains sincere compassion for others as well as a voice of resistance that reveals unjust social structures as the cause of social suffering and expresses both within *Uri* (we), the community.

"Jeremy Kim offers deep insight into an issue that is timely not only for the Korean church but also for churches all over the world: social suffering. Kim suggests a theologically insightful, constructive, homiletical, and pastoral response, urging the church to lament with those who suffer, and as such, to engage in a response of compassion and resistance. This book is a must-read for any preacher who wants to mourn with those who mourn and raise their voice against injustice."

—Armand Léon van Ommen, senior lecturer in practical theology, University of Aberdeen

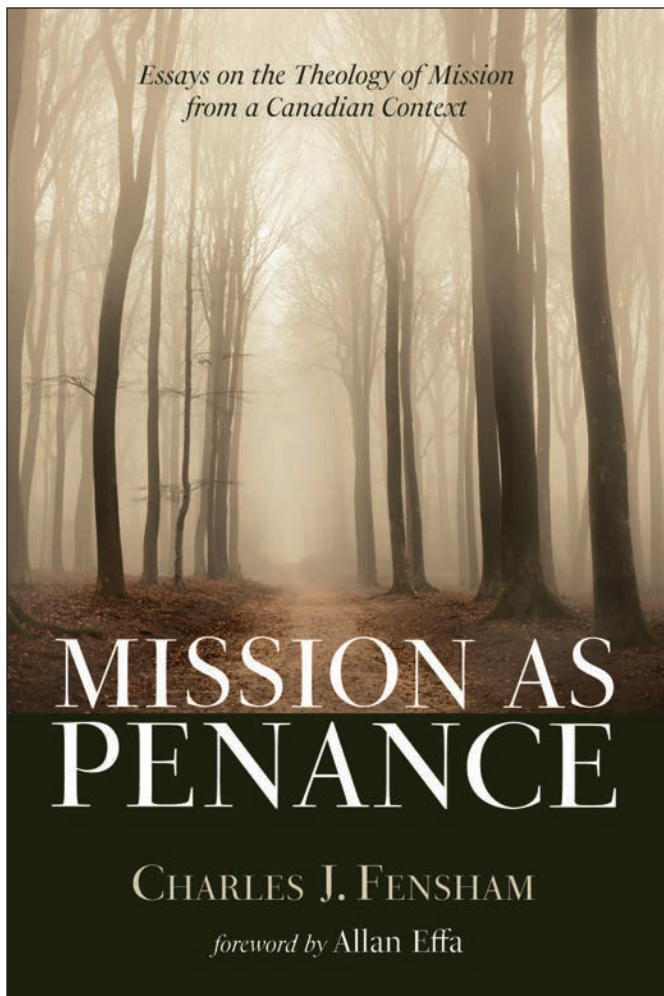
"This book is a theological and homiletical response to social suffering in South Korea through an intercultural dialogue between the Christian practice of lament and the Confucian virtue of *ren*. It is a valuable resource for scholars and preachers, not only in Korea, but also in other parts of the globe when they critically engage the issue of social suffering in their particular sociocultural contexts."

—Eunjo Mary Kim, professor of homiletics, Vanderbilt Divinity School

"*Preaching on Social Suffering* helps deepen the work of preaching the gospel in times of shared crisis. By detailing the historical nature of suffering in the Korean context, Jeremy Kim helps preachers to see, in a more profound way, the role memory plays in the way social suffering is both understood and addressed contextually in the pulpit. Kim's book embodies real homiletical-theological depth and a deep, abiding love for suffering hearers."

—David Schnasa Jacobsen, Boston University; director, Homiletical Theology Project

JEREMY KANGSAN KIM received a PhD degree in practical theology (homiletics) at the University of Aberdeen. His academic interests center on homiletical theology based on Western/East Asian philosophy and hermeneutics, sociology, and psychology, especially in the socio-political and socio-cultural issues in both North American and Korean context, hoping to reshape contemporary Asian-American and Korean preaching.



Mission as Penance

Essays on the Theology of Mission
from a Canadian Context

CHARLES J. FENSHAM

978-1-6667-3760-8 | 262 p. | \$35

Mission as Penance explores the posture of Christian mission in Canada, while also uncovering the theological roots that gave birth to the sense of cultural and religious superiority that led to profound harm to others and to God's creation. The story begins by an examination of Johan Bavinck's famous 1954 claim that "mission is thus the penance of the church which is ashamed before God and man." By drawing on his work through forty years in theological education and pastoral ministry, Fensham prescribes a pathway that liberates the church from power games, numerical growth, and preoccupation with programs and technology, to focus instead on genuine listening, solidarity, and love in action. True penance is never satisfied with passivity, nor should it result in a state of paralysis. For a posture of humble penance to be fruitful, it must lead toward concerted action toward change, advocacy for justice, compassion for the marginalized, and care for creation. If mission in Canada is engaged in this way, the Christian faith might cease to do harm and build a new life-giving community of healing.

"The collected essays by Reformed theologian Charles Fensham contribute to important conversations about public missiology. Fensham applies the lens of 'penance' to urgent issues such as settler colonialism and the oppression of First Nations peoples, gender identities, ecology and climate change, and the legacies of Canadian eurocentrism. Theologically astute and engaging, this thoughtful volume furthers the decolonization of North American missiology. I look forward to using it in classes on mission theology."

—Dana L. Robert, director, Center for Global Christianity and Mission, Boston University

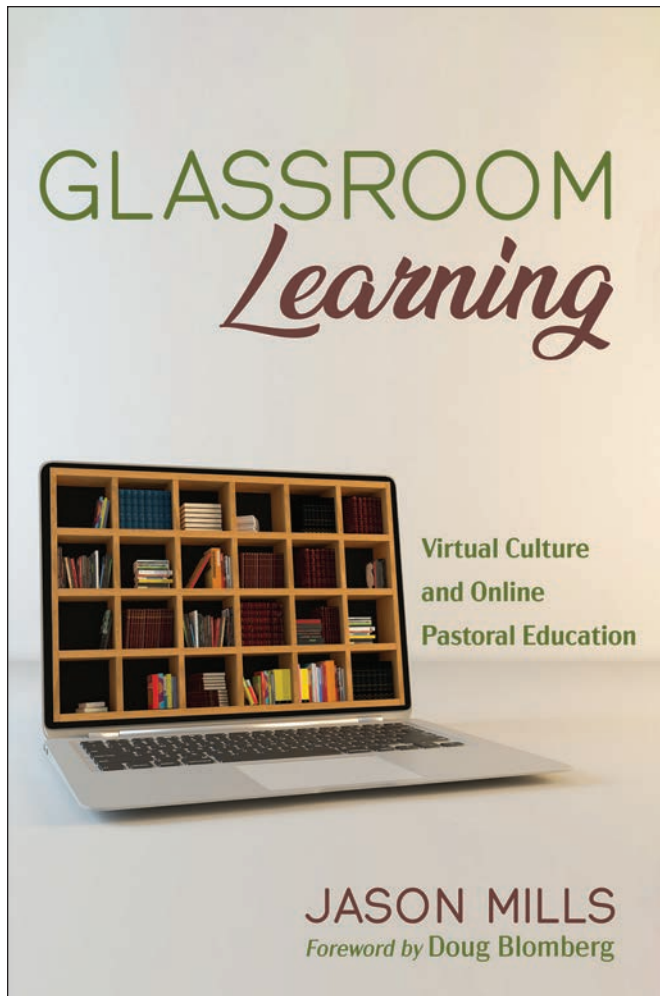
"If we can speak of mission as transformation, as some have done, or mission as reconciliation, as others have done, then Charles Fensham's call for mission as penance moves us to account for the nuanced implications of both. Nourished in the Christian tradition and guided by the biblical witness to God's ultimate purposes, he encourages (even goads!) his readers to a fresh imagination and practice of the way of penance. This book promises to renovate the character of Christian faithfulness in today's world."

—George R. Hunsberger, professor emeritus of missiology, Western Theological Seminary

"Charles Fensham's *Mission as Penance* is a necessary addition to contemporary Christian missiology. His masterful opening sections give clarity and depth to the call for penance as central to contextual Christian witness. The closing sections then bring this perspective into dialogue with missiological discourse in the midst of social and ecological crisis. I recommend this work for both academic courses in missiology and study by anyone engaged in Christian mission."

—Robert Hunt, professor of Christian mission and interreligious relations, SMU Perkins School of Theology

CHARLES J. FENSHAM is professor of systematic theology at Knox College, Toronto School of Theology, University of Toronto. He is the author of *Emerging from the Dark Age Ahead: The Future of the North American Church* (2008); *To the Nations for the Earth: A Missional Spirituality* (2013); and *Misguided Love: Christians and the Rupture of LGBTQI2+ People* (2019).



Glassroom Learning

Virtual Culture and Online Pastoral Education

JASON MILLS

978-1-6667-5849-8 | 212 p. | \$30

Christian higher education institutions across North America are experimenting with radical shifts in educational content and delivery. Cyber education is becoming a common supplement or replacement for embodied learning, especially since the global coronavirus pandemic. Most theological educators have embraced the shift online, finding ways to leverage technology to enhance teaching; very few consider how technology itself impacts theological students, particularly those being educated for pastoral ministry. What effect do shifts toward online courses have on those enrolled in programs of pastoral formation? Are future ordinands being adequately trained? When developed well, Web-based learning can strengthen intellectual virtues. However, it can also inhibit character virtue formation and self-differentiation. Internet usage has been shown to negatively affect social well-being, resulting in higher rates of anxiety, depression, and isolation in students; furthermore, it alters behavior, making learners more distracted, less empathetic, and less able to concentrate and contemplate. Theological schools should, therefore, articulate clearer standards for student formation and strengthen aspects of embodied learning to prepare clergy for ministry in an increasingly complex church and world.

“Jason Mills has produced a timely book on the strengths and weaknesses of online learning for theological education. He wrestles with the goals of theological education which include both the development of knowledge and character formation and how these goals are met or not met with online learning. This book is a must-read for anyone involved in theological education, and I believe, in any form of education. I strongly endorse it.”

—Thomas St. James O’Connor, professor emeritus, Martin Luther University

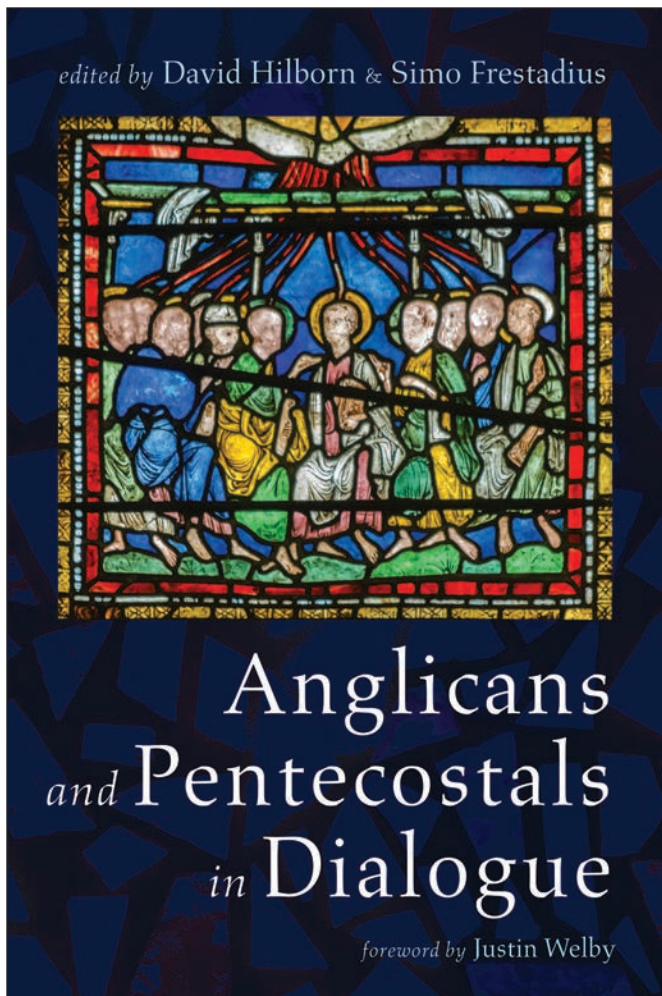
“Internet-based distance education in theological education is pilloried by some and celebrated by others. Jason Mills does neither. He provides a valuable map for assessing distance education in terms of theological education goals. While this educational approach is effective for some, it appears ineffective for others, and perhaps least effective at some of the qualities most important for religious leadership. *Glassroom Learning* provides much-needed analysis apart from advocacy or indictment.”

—Daniel Aleshire, former executive director, Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada

“*Glassroom Learning* is a must-read for theological educators and those serving in accrediting bodies for theological education. Jason Mills challenges the prevailing trends toward online education in training for ministry. While affirming its convenience and accessibility, he examines how online learning is affecting the formation of persons for pastoral ministry and offers much food for thought. A timely and wonderfully written volume!”

—Pamela R. McCarroll, vice-principal and professor of practical theology, Emmanuel College

JASON MILLS is dean of the seminary and assistant professor of spiritual theology at Briercrest College and Seminary, Saskatchewan, Canada. He teaches and writes about spiritual theology, human formation and technology, education, and chaplaincy/spiritual care. He holds a PhD in theological studies from St. Michael’s College, Toronto School of Theology where he received the Governor General’s gold medal. He and his wife are both ordained Free Methodist pastor-chaplains and parents to two amazing adults. You can find Jason’s blog at www.jasonmills.ca.



Anglicans and Pentecostals in Dialogue

EDITED BY DAVID HILBORN AND SIMO FRESTADIUS

978-1-6667-3573-4 | 356 p. | \$45

This is the first comprehensive book on Anglican and Pentecostal ecumenical relations. It introduces both movements with a particular focus on their approaches to ecumenism, before exploring sacraments, ministry, ecclesiology, pneumatology, and mission with respect to both traditions. As well as providing more theological and historical discussion, the book also offers personal accounts of local, national, and international ecumenical engagement by both Anglicans and Pentecostals. It is written predominantly—although not exclusively—from a British perspective. Even so, as the first major published dialogue between these two global Christian traditions, the book will be of value to all interested in Anglicanism, Pentecostalism, and ecumenism.

“I warmly welcome the publication of *Anglicans and Pentecostals in Dialogue* as an invaluable and timely resource from which all who wish to see a deepening of the friendship between our two Christian families may draw inspiration. The International Pentecostal-Anglican Dialogue in particular will benefit greatly from the scope and depth of ecclesiology in the collection of essays contained in this book.”

—Anthony Poggio, secretary general, Anglican Communion

“Privileged to be one who is currently engaged in the International Pentecostal-Anglican Commission, I found myself stimulated, broadened, and challenged by the multiple insights offered by those who had participated in dialogue within the UK. *Anglicans and Pentecostals in Dialogue* provides a means to deepen Anglicans and Pentecostals in their relationships and shared kingdom ministry.”

—David Wells, general superintendent, The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada

“In theological dialogue between two church families, the moment often comes when each can clearly see the body of Christ in the other. This was the experience of Anglicans and Pentecostals in the historic dialogue whose fruits are set forth in this valuable volume. These sets of paired essays by Pentecostal and Anglican authors will help to spread this moment of recognition more widely and provide a unique resource for national and local groups to take up the challenge and privilege of conversation and cooperation.”

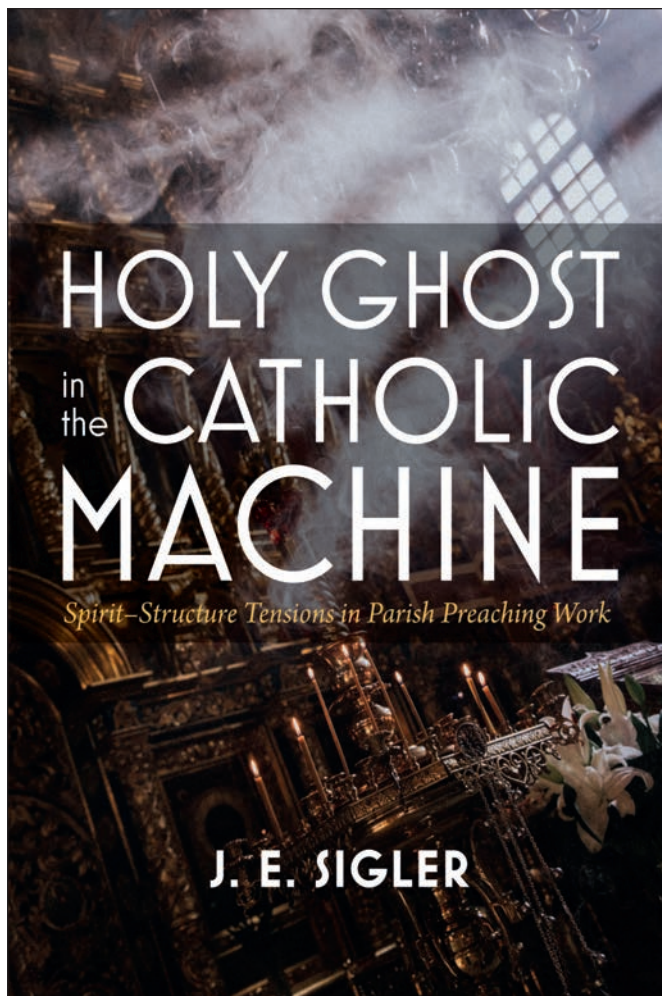
—Paul Avis, editor-in-chief, *Ecclesiology*

“This book is long overdue. In 1907, Alexander Boddy, an Anglican priest in Sunderland, England began Whitsuntide gatherings for Pentecostal leaders that regularized Pentecostal teaching around the world. In 1915, Azusa Street’s pastor, William J. Seymour, published *Doctrines and Discipline* and included twenty-four of the thirty-nine Anglican Articles of Religion. Since 1922, Anglicans and Pentecostals have largely lost contact with one another. I join Archbishop Justin Welby in recommending this book to all who care about the unity of the church for the sake of Christ’s mission.”

—Cecil M. Robeck Jr., senior professor of church history and ecumenics, Fuller Theological Seminary

DR DAVID HILBORN is the academic dean of the London School of Theology, and an ordained Church of England minister.

DR SIMO FRESTADIUS is the dean of research at Regents Theological College, West Malvern, UK, and an ordained minister in the Elim Pentecostal Church.



Holy Ghost in the Catholic Machine

Spirit–Structure Tensions in
Parish Preaching Work

J. E. SIGLER

979-8-3852-0003-0 | 498 p. | \$61

Books on Catholic preaching from theological, biblical, rhetorical, and mechanical angles abound. This book is nothing like those.

Using interviews with thirty-nine parish priests, Sigler exposes the deep roots of the Catholic preaching problem in the church's own organizational structures, revealing how seminary education, working conditions, parish norms, and even beliefs about God constrain priests from preaching well. Along the way, three preacher profiles emerge, capturing the array of preaching-related ambivalence, exhaustion, frustration, and anxiety that plague the vast majority of priests.

Thankfully, not every priest suffers. Through the example of one preacher profile, Sigler shows how priests who fully embrace their cooperation with the Spirit in preaching steer clear of the preaching-related pressures and tensions that grind so many of their brother preachers down. Exploring these priests' exceptional approaches to their vocational identities, day-to-day parish work, and relationships with the Spirit provides every other priest with surprisingly practical guidance for finding peace in preaching.

In the voices of priests that fill these pages, a rare conversation about the cold, hard realities of preaching in the Catholic Church begins. Out of their vast experience, intriguing disagreements, and profound insights, *Holy Ghost in the Catholic Machine* draws hope for better preaching.

“As a passionate preacher, I have learned a lot from this study of charismatic and bad preachers' self-image, preparation, and ‘blindness’ to structural tensions. Its realistic ecclesiology, reflecting both Weberian structures and the Holy Spirit, gives a better understanding of the ‘overwhelmed’ preacher. As such, it is a relevant aid for the formation of priests and a ‘must’ for bishops, those responsible for formation, and preachers themselves. The laity will also read it with profit.”

—Fr. Józef Niewiadomski, professor for systematic theology, University of Innsbruck

“Frankly, Catholic clergy seldom deliver homilies worthy of the sacraments we celebrate: vibrant, relevant, life-changing. J. E. Sigler brilliantly explains why that is and, more, what to do about it: stop regarding preachers as lightning rods or (at best) conduits of the Holy Spirit, and instead enable them to be reservoirs of inspiration. If only homilists would adopt Sigler's method, the faithful would at last truly be nourished by the word of God.”

—Fr. Tom Margevicius, director, Office of Worship, Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis

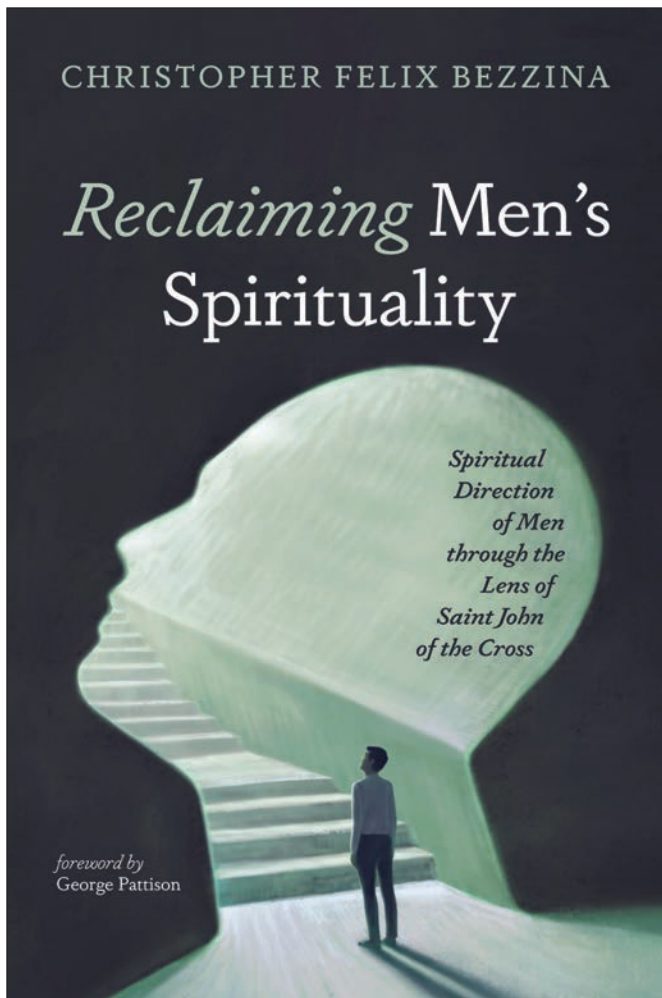
“In a Church looking for solutions to problems, this book is a step in the right direction. The interviews and real-life answers from priests in the trenches are relatable and inspirational; the research is enlightening—a great read for seminarians, priests, and the laity!”

—Fr. Jonathan P. Meyer, pastor, All Saints Parish

“Drawing from interviews with parish priests, J. E. Sigler invites the reader into a discussion about the interaction between pastoral practice and ecclesial context. Those interested in fostering a culture of Catholic homiletic excellence will find a number of points for ongoing exploration and implementation.”

—Fr. Andrew Ricci, rector, Cathedral of Christ the King

J. E. SIGLER earned her PhD in organizational communication from Purdue University, specializing in work and vocation, particularly how organizational structures influence people's experience of work. Her research has been published in *Homiletic & Pastoral Review*, the *Journal of Communication and Religion*, and the *Journal of Media and Religion*. She currently lives in Falls Church, Virginia, where she conducts research on employees' experience of work and organizations' efforts to improve that experience.



Reclaiming Men's Spirituality

Spiritual Direction of Men through the Lens of Saint John of the Cross

CHRISTOPHER FELIX BEZZINA

978-1-6667-6352-2 | Forthcoming

Reclaiming Men's Spirituality is a study that investigates men's spirituality by exploring three research questions: Can a form of spirituality about men be identified and described, how can this spirituality be examined, and what is it that needs to be reclaimed? To answer these questions and at the same time remain committed to the importance of lived experience, this study opted to investigate the lives of men by attending to ten spiritual histories. The study is situated in Malta, and the ten spiritual histories provide access to various features, expressions, and contours that relate closely to men's being. Semi-structured interviews were also conducted with ten spiritual directors who have men as spiritual directees. Their contribution clarifies the structure of men's spirituality, the effort required when directing male spiritual directees and the impact generated in the lives of men thanks to spiritual direction. To provide a frame of reference for the examination of all the gathered data, John of the Cross's spiritual framework has been chosen as the mystical instrument against which men's spiritualities are studied, leading to richer insights into the operations, motives, goals, and problems of such spiritualities.

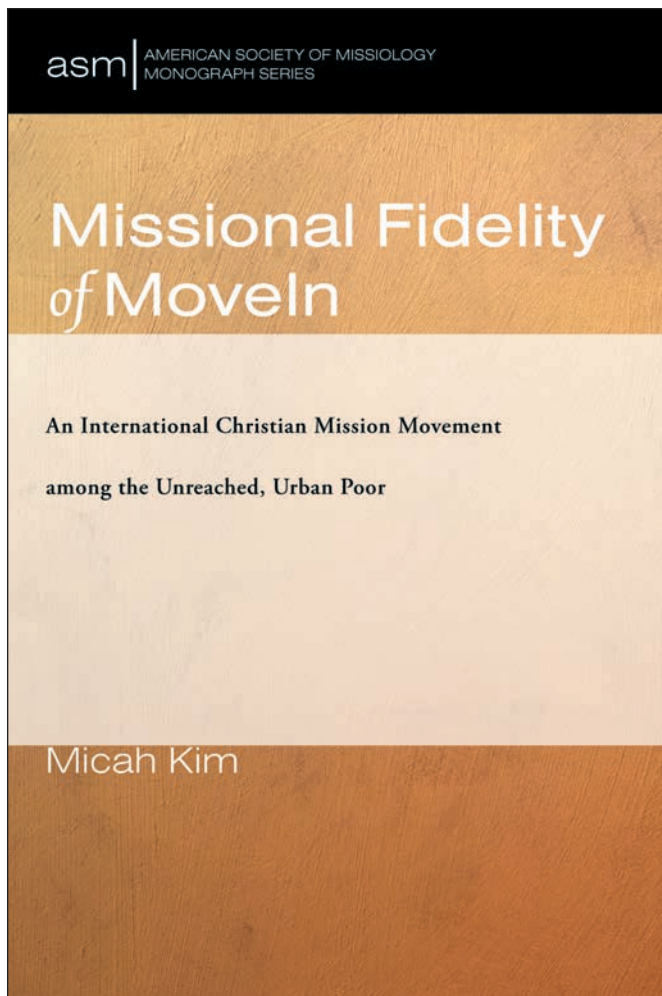
"In a time of radical changes in masculinity and spirituality, Christopher Bezzina's erudite study offers a fresh and impassioned approach to the perennial 'Who am I?' question which is at the back of both the perception of self and the existential understanding of the human spiritual dimension. Combining spiritual theory from John of the Cross and real-life attentive reading of men telling their stories, Bezzina manages to convincingly throw light on the dynamics at play in the painful process of the transformation of desire."

—Charló Camilleri, OCarm, senior lecturer in moral and spiritual theology, University of Malta

"In this rich and nuanced study, Christopher Bezzina draws on the spiritual doctrine of St. John of the Cross to explore the life stories of men engaging in spiritual direction and their relationship to their spiritual directors. Bezzina offers important insights into men's spirituality and the spiritual aspects of the construction of masculinities. His study is also relevant for anyone interested in the processes of spiritual direction more generally."

—Charlotte Methuen, professor of ecclesiastical history, University of Glasgow

CHRISTOPHER FELIX BEZZINA holds a BA in social work and an MA in spirituality from the University of Malta. In 2022 he completed his doctoral research in theology and religious studies at the University of Glasgow.



Missional Fidelity of MoveIn

An International Christian Mission Movement among the Unreached, Urban Poor

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MISSIOLOGY MONOGRAPH SERIES

MICAH KIM

978-1-6667-3286-3 | 148 p. | \$24

How can the church go beyond mere social services to having an incarnational, evangelistic impact on unreached, urban immigrants? This work explores how MoveIn, a global prayer movement of regular lay Christians, has become a model for how the church can authentically and radically share the gospel with unreached neighbors.

“Micah Kim’s accessible and engaging ethnographic research offers readers a close look at the history, values, theology, and impact of MoveIn, a global movement and intentional Christian community living among recently displaced immigrants from diverse religious and cultural backgrounds in Toronto. Her study adds value to the critical conversations about missional fidelity, mutual hospitality, and the need for theological and intercultural training in holistic missions.”

—Susangeline Patrick, Nazarene Theological Seminary

“Rich in practical ecclesiology, immersed in an urban immigrant context, and building theory from ethnography, Micah Kim offers a vivid picture of an intentional missional community. This book answers the question of how to live out Christian mission in authentic community among urban poor immigrants in two words: Move In. Missional fidelity to moving in provides the rich context for sustained obedience to loving neighbors and faithful obedience to making disciples.”

—Stanley John, Alliance Theological Seminary

MICAH KIM holds an MA in cross-cultural studies from Fuller Theological Seminary and a PhD in intercultural studies from Asbury Theological Seminary. She resides with her family in Austin, Texas.

TOWARD *an* ANABAPTIST-PENTECOSTAL VISION

Exploring Ecclesial Identities
in North American Mennonite Mission
with Pentecostal-Type Churches
in Southern Africa

Joseph C. L. Sawatzky

Toward an Anabaptist- Pentecostal Vision

Exploring Ecclesial Identities in North
American Mennonite Mission with Pentecostal-
Type Churches in Southern Africa

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MISSIOLOGY MONOGRAPH SERIES

JOSEPH C. L. SAWATZKY

978-1-6667-3910-7 | 258 p. | \$35

What does Pentecostalism, the fastest-growing Christian expression worldwide, have to do with Anabaptism, whose Mennonite adherents have sometimes been called “the quiet in the land?” In this groundbreaking study, Joseph C. L. Sawatzky explores a mission history of North American Mennonites working with African Initiated and Pentecostal-type churches in southern Africa, illuminating points of divergence and convergence between Anabaptist and Pentecostal streams.

Placing testimonies of African and North American participants in this history within a broader biblical and theological framework, this study proposes bases for an emerging Anabaptist-Pentecostal vision, with implications for the church, its leadership, and its witness in the world. This lively, interdisciplinary study will interest students of mission, interculturality, and the Christian faith itself.

“Sawatzky presents a stimulating case for an integration of a Mennonite focus on ‘horizontal’ discipleship and a Pentecostal ‘vertical’ spirituality. His argument develops from an examination of North American Mennonite partnerships with AICs in South Africa. For Sawatzky, if North Americans are genuinely going to embrace a ‘learner-teacher’ model of mission, then they need to learn from their partners’ focus on the Holy Spirit, prayer, and worship.”

—Jamie Pitts, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

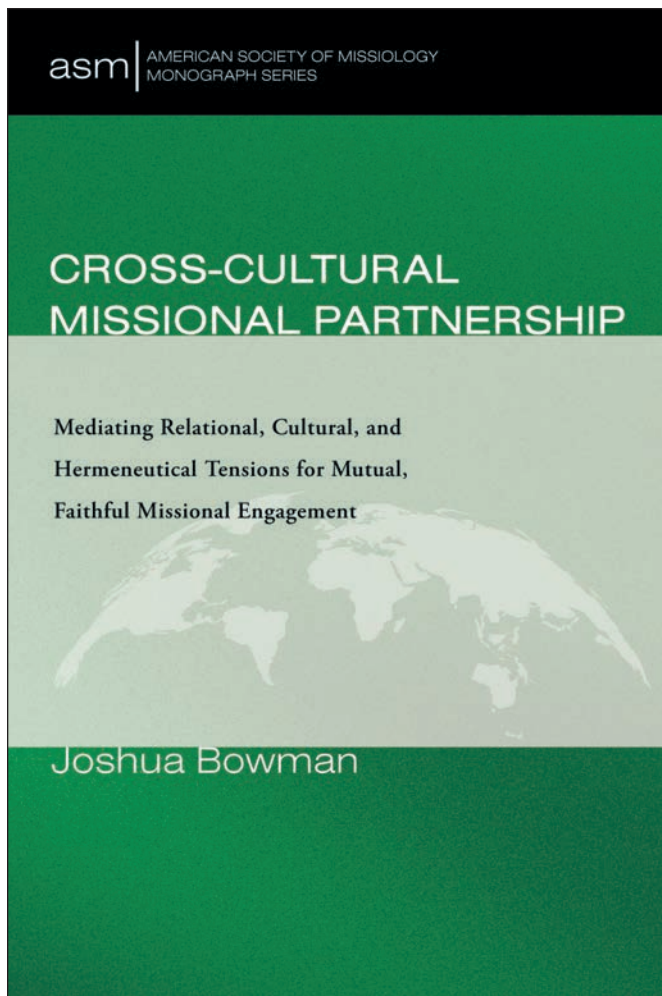
“I heartily commend this highly original work in its conception, scope, and the range of material drawn upon. It brings together mission history and praxis, Anabaptist theology and ecclesiology, African theology and ecclesiology, and New Testament exegesis in a thoughtful, coherent whole, so making an important contribution to mission history and engagement, as well as intercultural interaction, which, given the fraught legacy of mission history in the South African setting, are vital areas of discourse for the health of church and community relations.”

—Gillian M. Bediako, Akrofi-Christaller Institute of Theology, Mission, and Culture

“This book provides a detailed and highly informed account of one of the most exemplary expressions of incarnational Christian mission in Africa. ‘My beloved friends’ was how George Schmidt, the natural ancestor of the Mennonite mission to Africa, greeted the Khoisan community when he arrived in Baviaanskloof in 1737. Sawatzky’s sojourn with African Pentecostals is imbued with the same sentiment and will inspire in all its readers the same vision.”

—Anthony Balcomb, University of Kwazulu-Natal

JOSEPH C. L. SAWATZKY is a training and resource specialist for Mission Education for Mennonite Mission Network, and a core adjunct professor at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana.



Cross-Cultural Missional Partnership

Mediating Relational, Cultural, and Hermeneutical Tensions for Mutual, Faithful Missional Engagement

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MISSIOLOGY MONOGRAPH SERIES

JOSHUA BOWMAN

978-1-6667-5102-4 | 228 p. | \$32

Cross-cultural partnerships in today's global environment are both challenging and necessary. Misunderstanding and miscommunication often lead to conflict between culturally diverse groups. Christians must understand and evaluate their own culture, the culture of others, and the text of Scripture itself, while remaining faithful to Scripture and relevant to culture. Unmediated tensions combined with relational isolation lead to a myriad of problems.

This study proposes cross-cultural missional partnership as a relationship that mediates these tensions, thereby encouraging mutual, faithful engagement in the mission of God. Cross-cultural tensions may never disappear, but within a healthy partnership, partners can assist one another in understanding and responding faithfully to Scripture. Partners help one another more faithfully interpret and apply Scripture, leading to obedience to God's will and engagement in God's mission within unique and diverse contexts.

"I am convinced we must partner with other believers around the world if we want to reach the nations. Joshua Bowman, a missionary scholar with a heart for the nations, helps us recognize and address tensions inherent within these partnerships so they might function best in fulfilling the Great Commission. Whether you are forming partnerships around the world or within our increasingly diverse context of North America, you will find the insights and principles in this book helpful."

—Chuck Lawless, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

"While cross-cultural partnership presents unique difficulties and plenty of opportunities for misunderstanding, Joshua Bowman provides a rich theological and practical articulation of why it remains not only worthwhile but necessary for missions to be conducted in terms of partnership. I commend his work to you and trust that it will bear much fruit."

—Matthew Bennett, Cedarville University

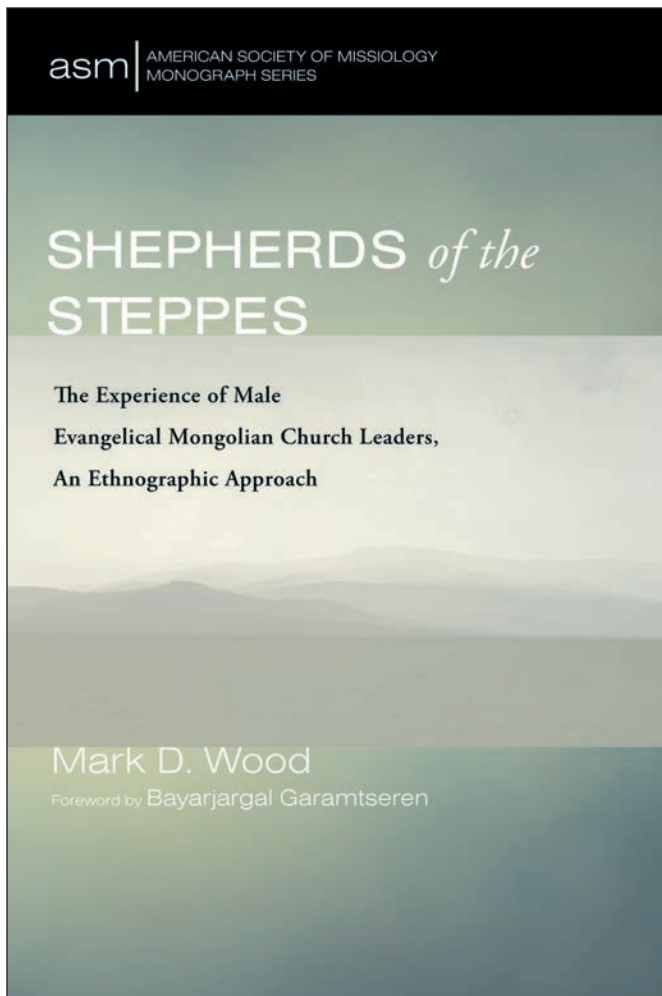
"This book reflects the practical wisdom of a missionary practitioner and the thoughtful analysis of a missionary theologian. Bowman recognizes the tensions that arise in cross-cultural missionary partnerships and gives a thoughtful strategy for mediating them, along with a theological basis for such partnerships. This is a book highly recommended for those who plan to engage or who are currently engaged in cross-cultural ministry."

—John S. Hammett, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

"During his many years as a missionary in an African context and then a South Asian context, Bowman witnessed the destructive nature of lopsided cross-cultural relationships. In this monograph, he interjects a much-needed voice into the conversation about the place of Western missionaries in a world where the center of Christianity has shifted to the Global South. I heartily endorse Bowman's careful analysis, deep concern for the health of the global church, and gospel-informed suggestions."

—Joe M. Allen III, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

JOSHUA BOWMAN holds a PhD in missiology from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and is assistant professor of missions and theology at Cedarville University. He served with his wife Amy and their four children in Zambia and South Asia with the International Mission Board for seventeen years as a church planter, church-strengthening strategist, and team leader.



Shepherds of the Steppes

The Experience of Male Evangelical Mongolian Church Leaders, An Ethnographic Approach

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MISSIOLOGY MONOGRAPH SERIES

MARK D. WOOD

978-1-6667-9959-0 | 298 p. | \$40

The evangelical Mongolian church has experienced significant growth since the country opened to the world in 1990. Despite the growth and emergence of the evangelical church in Mongolia, relatively little has been written on the church from the perspective of the leaders themselves. This ethnographic study seeks to express the experience of male, evangelical, Mongolian church leaders in their own words. The book focuses specifically on the leaders' experiences of conversion, discipleship, navigation of Mongolian culture and traditions, and theological education. Readers will hear from evangelical church leaders why they became Christians and what their experience with discipleship was like for them. The issue of contextualization for evangelical Christians is also a central focus. In particular, the translation of the term for God in Mongolian and the perspective of the church leaders are explored. This book will be of interest to those exploring Christianity in Asia and post-socialist contexts as well as seeking to better understand contemporary Mongolian culture.

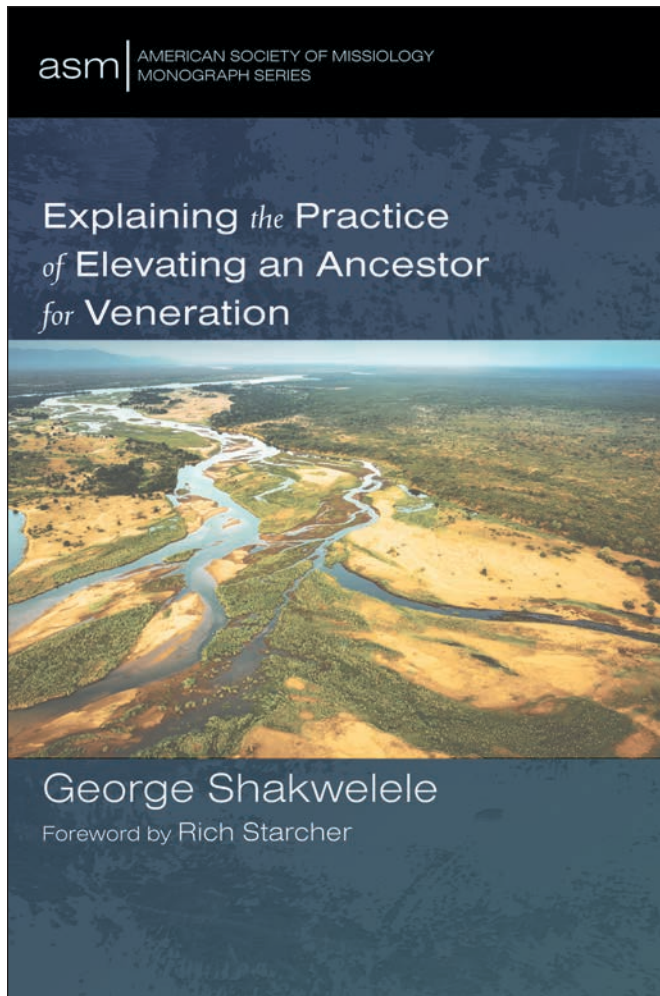
"This study is a helpful resource for all involved in intercultural discipleship and leadership development ministries, especially where these involve male Christian leaders. It demonstrates the crucial importance of listening to the stories of how men experience conversion, discipleship, leadership development, and the relationship between their culture and the Christian faith. Such listening will provide important insights that would facilitate the contextualization of discipleship, theological education, and leadership development."

—Pieter F. Theron, pastor, South Umpqua Community Church

"How does Jesus build his church in a culture previously untouched by the gospel and profoundly shaped by nomadism, socialism, Buddhism, and Shamanism? He has raised up *Shepherds of the Steppes*, and Mark Wood helps us to begin to share their experiences of conversion, discipleship, cultural negotiation, and theological education. Fascinating, insightful, thought-provoking, and challenging—there is so much to learn from what the Lord of the church is doing in Mongolia!"

—Graham Aylett, general secretary, Increase Association

MARK D. WOOD is the director of Kingdom Leadership Training Center. He is an international worker with the Christian and Missionary Alliance and has served in Mongolia since 2008.



Explaining the Practice of Elevating an Ancestor for Veneration

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MISSIOLOGY MONOGRAPH SERIES

GEORGE SHAKWELELE

978-1-6667-1408-1 | 220 p. | \$31

The Bisa people of Nabwalya, Zambia love their culture and gladly celebrate all their traditional festivals. This book presents exciting research into Kusefya pa ngena, rituals through which the Bisa elect ancestors for veneration. The Bisa speak freely of how their belief in ancestor veneration does not conflict with their worship of God. For them, the two work hand in hand. Traditional practices are considered vital to the community because they enhance life, reinforce cultural values, and explain life events. Those questioned said ancestor veneration should continue because it benefits current and future generations. For example, their most celebrated ancestor, Kabuswe Yombwe, when petitioned, provides rain and a good harvest for the community. People affirmed that rain fell each time they petitioned Kabuswe. One woman, who is married to an elder in a Pentecostal church, vowed not to give up ancestor veneration, to which she attributed the healing of her son and daughter. She pledged her allegiance to both Jesus Christ and to her family's ancestors. In another story, an ancestor appears in a dream to an expectant woman demanding that her child be given a feminine name. The mother obeys to avoid the child being born with a sickness . . .

“This book clearly documents the importance of ancestor-veneration rituals among the rural Bisa people of Zambia. . . . This wide-ranging interreligious study is of special relevance to local clerics and curative practitioners as well as those working in similar cultural settings where the deceased are believed to vitally interact in various ways with the living.”

—Ernst R. Wendland, Stellenbosch University

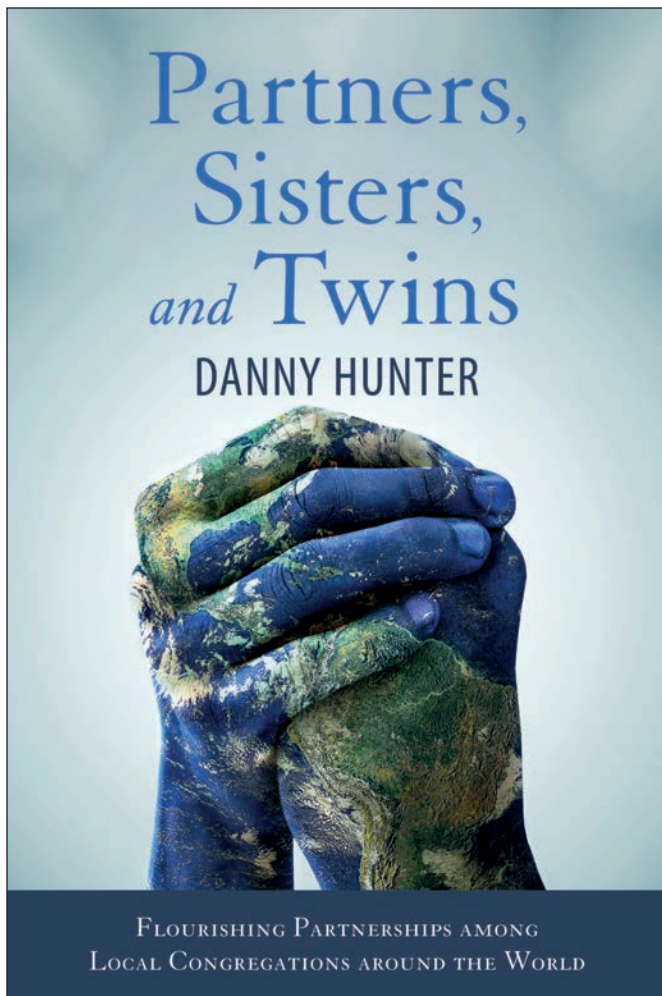
“Shakwelele’s book is a real masterpiece of anthropological research. It supplies missiologists, theologians, and church leaders with a readable account of why ancestor veneration needs to be taken seriously in the interpretation of Christianity. In a carefully and deeply researched study, Shakwelele shows the ways in which African traditions offer insights into the unity of creation and the relationship between living ancestors and today’s human race. A truly exciting book.”

—William R. Burrows, former managing editor, Orbis Books

“Shakwelele has made a significant contribution to scholarship on global Christianity. He has not only enhanced our understanding of the Bisa people of Zambia, but he also has advanced our comprehension of ancestor veneration as practiced throughout the world. However, perhaps more importantly, his study illustrates beautifully the narrow divide between syncretism and ubiquitous hybridity among newer adopters of the Christian faith. I recommend this work to all scholars and practitioners interested in the expansion of contemporary Christianity.”

—Rich Starcher, editor in chief, *Missiology: An International Review*

GEORGE SHAKWELELE has been a pastor with a Baptist church for over twenty years in Zambia, and he also served as a professor at the Theological College of Central Africa, now Evangelical University in Zambia. He has spoken at missions conferences in Germany, Africa, and the USA. He has published some articles with Evangelical Missions Society. Shakwelele is currently serving as a missionary with Liebenzell USA. He serves as professor at the Global Impact Academy and is also in charge of training and mobilization on the West Coast.



Partners, Sisters, and Twins

Flourishing Partnerships among Local Congregations around the World

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MISSIOLOGY MONOGRAPH SERIES

DANNY HUNTER

978-1-6667-6733-9 | 202 p. | \$28

Congregations are increasingly developing partnerships as a way of engaging directly in global missions. One of the most common ways they do this is forming relationships with congregations in other parts of the world. This book looks at the reasons that churches seek out missions partners, how the partnership phenomenon developed, and what beliefs, concepts, structures, and practices inform the healthiest mission partnerships. With insights drawn from a survey of churches from across the country and around the world, this book provides data-driven insights to guide the practice of international congregational partnerships.

"International church partnerships help knit global Christianity together. Congregations do not always, however, successfully navigate the many cultural, logistical, and communication-related challenges that such partnerships bring. In this original and carefully researched study, Daniel Hunter provides insights into how such partnerships can be healthier theologically, relationally, and operationally. *Partners, Sisters, and Twins* is thus an invaluable resource for the global church. It should be read widely."

—Stephen Offutt, professor of development studies, Asbury Theological Seminary

"For more than a century, missiology has been hamstrung by a vague definition of one of its central concepts: partnership. Daniel Hunter's *Partners, Sisters, and Twins* builds on solid research and complexity theory to provide clarity of meaning, theological grounding, and practice for the burgeoning phenomenon of congregational twinning. Mission scholars and practitioners alike will find this masterful volume quite useful."

—B. Hunter Farrell, director, World Mission Initiative, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

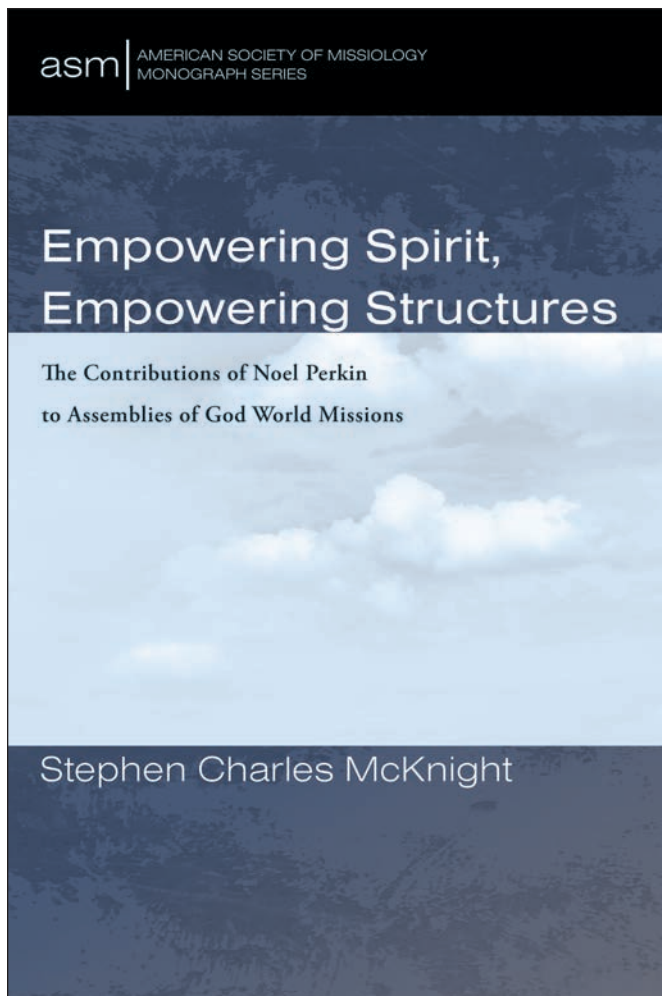
"If you want to learn what makes a healthy partnership between churches, this book is for you. In this data-driven study, Daniel Hunter sheds light on how patterns of beliefs, thinking, and behavior of both US churches and their global partner churches influence the partnership. This book will be a valuable guide on how to improve our current and future partnerships."

—S. Balajiedlang Khylllep, associate director, World Mission Initiative, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

"Over the last generation especially, international congregational partnerships (ICPs) have become a dominant model of transnational missiological engagement within world Christianity. But before now, the study of such partnerships was largely limited to case study and other qualitative methods. Daniel Hunter's groundbreaking book stands in the gap, offering an illuminating analysis of quantitative data about ICPs. Without denying context-specific complexity, Hunter draws on the rich data he has gathered to point scholars and practitioners alike to salient theological beliefs, concepts, and practices that promote thriving ICPs."

—Janel Kragt Bakker, professor of mission and culture, Memphis Theological Seminary

DANIEL RICHARD HUNTER is adjunct faculty at Bethel University and Pacific Islands University. He also consults with mission agencies and churches interested in the intersection of church, partnership, and mission. Find out more at globalchurchpartnerships.org.



Empowering Spirit, Empowering Structures

The Contributions of Noel Perkin to
Assemblies of God World Missions

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MISSIOLOGY MONOGRAPH SERIES

STEPHEN CHARLES MCKNIGHT

Noel Perkin, a banker-turned-missionary, led Assemblies of God World Missions (AGWM) for more than thirty years (1927–59). His life exemplifies the missionary zeal historians have noted within the early Pentecostal movement. Perkin's experience of the Holy Spirit and his experiences as a missionary in Argentina led him to create systems intended to empower others to fulfill Christ's commission to make disciples of all nations.

Perkin's empowering leadership played a significant part in AGWM's remarkable growth into a leading Pentecostal mission-sending agency which currently sends over 2,000 missionaries to 140 countries. As one of the principal architects of AGWM's missiology and operation, Perkin transformed a two-person office relying on envelope boxes for its accounting system into a well-structured, strategic mission agency and laid a foundation for AGWM's continued growth. *Empowering Spirit, Empowering Structures* uses the foundation of a biographical study to examine the concept of empowerment through Perkin's life and the impact that Perkin and his missiology had and continues to have upon AGWM.

“Empowering Spirit, Empowering Structures presents a historical account of missionary statesman Noel Perkin, who shaped the missiological foundations of what became the largest mission agency in the Pentecostal world. Stephen McKnight's volume fills a historical gap and ensures that the legacy of Perkin, as a pioneer in Pentecostal mission, will not be lost to history.”

—Doug Petersen, professor of world missions and intercultural studies, Vanguard University

“While there have several significant works on the history of Pentecostal missions, especially related to the Assemblies of God (USA), the key figure of Noel Perkin has dwelled in relative obscurity. *Empowering Spirit, Empowering Structures* pulls back the veil to bring to light this pivotal man and his work in setting the foundations for what is now called Assemblies of God World Missions (USA).”

—Paul W. Lewis, associate dean, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

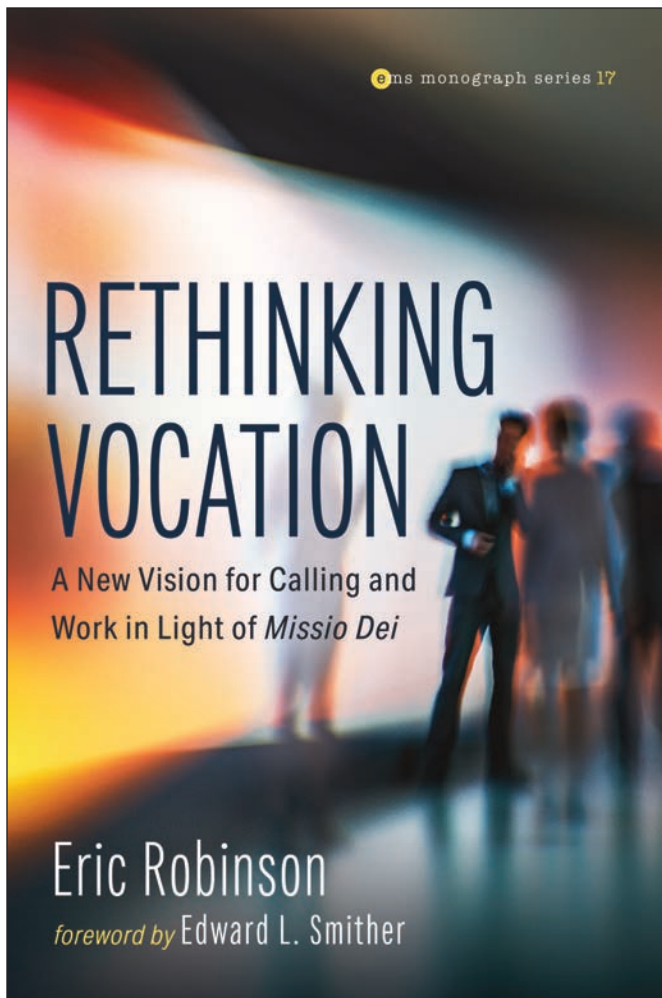
“Empowering Spirit, Empowering Structures offers a meticulously crafted and inspiring biography of the missionary statesperson Noel Perkins and his impact on Assemblies of God World Missions. If ministerial life pulls us in the direction of leadership plateauing or discouragement, McKnight's stirring view gives us a firm compulsion towards a riveted hope and divine affirmation. This book makes me call upon the Lord Jesus to take my stand as a follower of the Way.”

—Robert L. Gallagher, professor of intercultural studies emeritus, Wheaton College

“Stephen McKnight skillfully brings to light missiological insights from the life and ministry of Noel Perkin, a critical crafter of Assemblies of God philosophy of missions. Perkin's leadership channeled Pentecostal missionary zeal in missional structures and activities grounded in Scripture, tested in the field, and empowered by the Spirit that yielded much fruit in the worldwide missionary endeavor. These insights provide a prophetic challenge to the church and the missionary enterprise today.”

—DeLonn Rance, professor of intercultural studies, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

STEPHEN CHARLES MCKNIGHT is an Assemblies of God missionary with more than twenty years of experience. He holds a PhD in intercultural studies from the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary and has taught intercultural studies at Evangel University as missionary-in-residence. Currently, Stephen and his family serve in the Philippines, partnering with local churches to minister to impoverished communities.



Rethinking Vocation

A New Vision for Calling and Work in Light of *Missio Dei*

EVANGELICAL MISSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY MONOGRAPH SERIES

ERIC ROBINSON

978-1-6667-5728-6 | 270 p. | \$36

What does it mean to be called? How does one discern his or her calling? There has been much discussion about these topics within the church, and perhaps much confusion as well. What if we could root the nature of the believer's calling and vocation from a missional perspective? This book seeks to understand how a deeper understanding of God's mission can help believers discern the work to which they are called and equip them for missional witness in and through their work. Importantly, rooting our understanding of vocation and calling in God's mission gives space for new emphases within the conversations related to faith and work, including theologically and contextually grounded emphases on creativity, vocational freedom, and vocational discernment, along with innovative educational models which can support believers as they navigate their work as participants in God's mission. When believers connect their gifts, talents, and creativity with God's work in and for the world in a way that is contextually relevant, it opens up opportunities for transformative witness for both believers and for the organizations they serve.

"Eric Robinson has crafted an exceptional study, casting a new vision for faith leaders and congregations across denominational lines. This is a compelling call to action for emerging and evolving ministries interested in establishing and nurturing relationships by connecting vocation with *missio Dei*. As one who participated in the surveys conducted by the author, I can vouch for his meticulous investigation and commitment to producing a work that is timely and relevant for the Christian community."

—Sonja Lee, pastor emerita, Unity Fellowship Church Charlotte

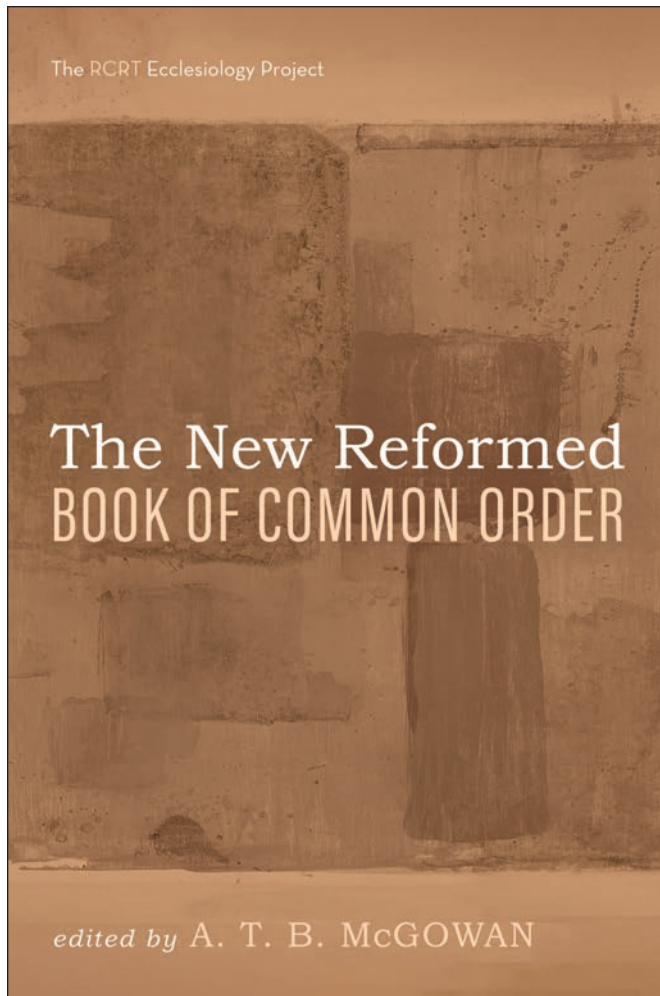
"*Rethinking Vocation* is a timeless must-read for clergy, laity, and any person interested in discerning God's call to ministry in its diverse capacities. Eric Robinson does a phenomenal job bringing clarity to the nuances of theology and vocation. His work is informative, profoundly engaging the reader and creating a deeper understanding what it means to be called by God and how to respond through new lenses of interpretation."

—Brent La Prince Edwards, senior pastor, St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church, Asheville, NC

"With deep historical and theological exploration, Eric Robinson has given us a gift of reimagining the theological and practical concept of calling and vocation undergirded by *missio Dei*. This new vision of vocation impacts how believers see their calling in and through their daily work. Reading this book will enrich and deepen your understanding of vocation."

—David Mayo, director of library, Union Presbyterian Seminary, Charlotte Campus

ERIC ROBINSON holds a PhD in intercultural studies from Columbia International University and a master's in Christian education from Union Presbyterian Seminary. He is the author of numerous journal articles related to mission theology, including its important connection to calling and vocation. Additionally, he is a career K-12 educator. Eric is married to his wonderful wife, Letarshia. He enjoys spending time with his family, running, photography, and playing the guitar.



The New Reformed Book of Common Order

THE RCRT ECCLESIOLOGY PROJECT

EDITED BY **A. T. B. MCGOWAN**

978-1-6667-2858-3 | 204 p. | \$37

This is a *Book of Common Order* for use by ministers and others leading worship, containing various prayers as well as orders for baptism, communion, funerals, weddings, etc.

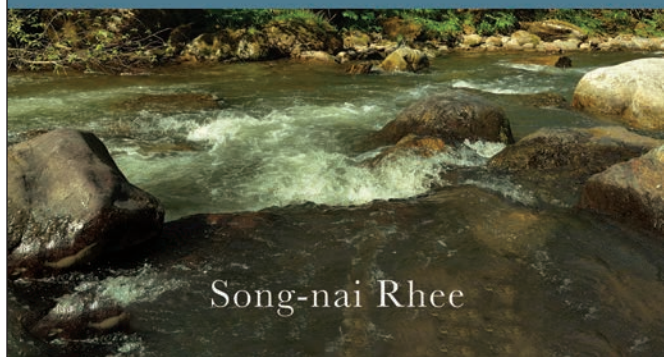
“I have been looking forward to the publication of *The New Reformed Book of Common Order* for many years. My copy of the first edition, purchased during my postgraduate days in Scotland, is thoroughly worn, and has helped me through many weddings, funerals, baptisms, communions, and more. Pastors from the whole worldwide Reformed family will benefit from this resource in the conduct of their public ministry.”

—Ligon Duncan, Reformed Theological Seminary



Meaningful Connections in
My Long Journey between

a Pine Grove of Songki-ri
and the Bank of the Siuslaw River



Song-nai Rhee

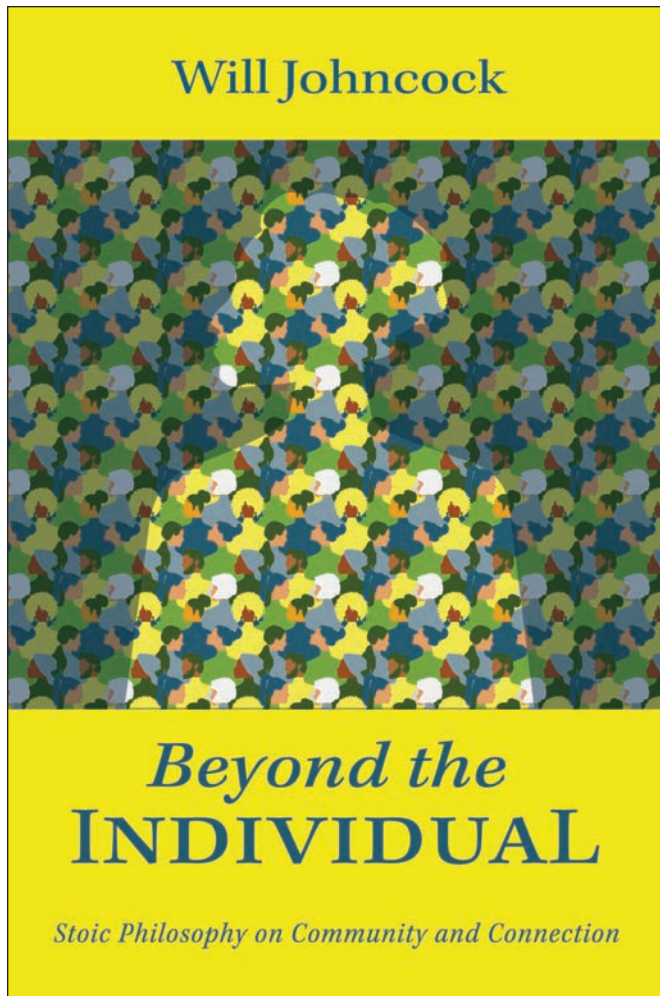
Meaningful Connections in My Long Journey between a Pine Grove of Songki-ri and the Bank of the Siuslaw River

SONG-NAI RHEE

978-1-6667-5164-2 | 308 p. | \$31

This is Song-nai Rhee's personal memoirs of an eighty-seven-year-long life between a pine grove of Songki-riin, Korea and the bank of the Siuslaw River on the West Coast, covering his early life during World War II; his existential crisis during the Korean War; his life transformation from Confucian to Christian; coming to America and Northwest Christian College; his formal education in America (resulting in two bachelors, four masters, and two PhD degrees); thirty-seven years of professional service at NCC (now Bushnell University) as a professor of history, Bible, and archaeology, as well as academic vice president/dean; and as a father, grandfather, and writer/publisher, retiring as a farmer/fisherman on the bank of the Siuslaw River. Most of all, this book is about the people, beginning with Bill Peterson in a war zone, who helped make all this and Rhee's life possible—the meaningful connections.

SONG-NAI RHEE grew up in Korea during World War II and served as a translator for the US Army during the Korean War. He came to the US in 1955 for higher education, earning two bachelor's degrees, four master's degrees, and two PhDs. He became a professor, academic vice-president, and academic dean of Northwest Christian College (now Bushnell University) in Eugene, OR. His academic specialties include ancient Israel, the Near East, China, Korea, and Japan. He is the author of *Beautiful as the Rainbow: Nashimoto Masako, a Japanese Princess against All Odds for Love, Life, and Happiness* (2013) and *Archaeology of Toraijin: Human, Technological, and Cultural Flow from the Korean Peninsula to the Japanese Archipelago, c. 800 BC—AD 600* (2021).



Beyond the Individual

Stoic Philosophy on Community and Connection

WILL JOHNCOCK

978-1-6667-5936-5 | 196 p. | \$29

Do you believe you think independently? Do you alone control your actions? Stoic philosophy asserts that your mind, thoughts, and actions are traces of a world which shapes you, and everyone else, together. Our personal nature is part of a system, not independent. This book studies how a Stoic thinks and acts as part of a community and in service of a world, rather than separately or for themselves alone.

This is not just another book about Stoic philosophy. Stoicism has been popularized as a way to primarily serve personal benefits, promising mental resilience in an uncontrollable world of people and events.

This book instead explores how for the Stoics we only benefit personally by being aware of how we are entangled with our fellow humans and the world. This perspective reveals anti-individualistic conditions for the well-being that individuals seek from the philosophy.

By studying features that might seem to define us as separate individuals—our mind, body, self-preserving instinct, knowledge, and happiness—we find that everything about each of us is interconnected and shared. The theoretical analysis, suitable for general and academic readers, involves all ancient Stoic eras, comparisons with pre-Socratic, Platonic, and Aristotelian positions, and modern Stoic debates.

“Stoicism is not, and has never been, a philosophy of self-help hacks. Stoicism is the art of living a life worthy of being lived. If you wish to learn how to paint your own journey to true happiness, Will Johncock’s *Beyond the Individual* is an important addition to your bookshelf.”

—Kai Whiting, co-author of *Being Better: Stoicism for a World Worth Living In*

“Well-grounded in study of the ancient Stoic texts and thinkers, as well as recent academic and popular literature, this book provides persuasive reinterpretations of central Stoic themes, fleshing out their implications and significance for our contemporary settings. Johncock engages the reader with thought-provoking analyses of individuals and communities, rationality and freedom, materialism and metaphysics, cosmopolitanism and care for self and others, and the nature of genuine happiness.”

—Gregory Sadler, editor of *Stoicism Today*

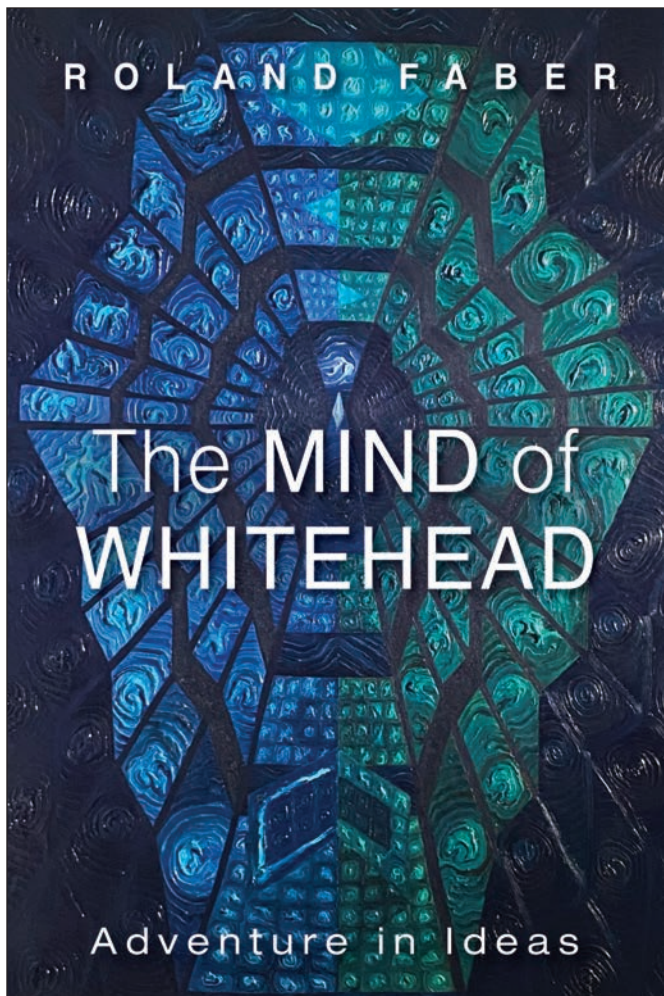
“*Beyond the Individual* is a challenging but accessible study which stresses the importance of the idea of the collective or whole in Stoic thought rather than that of unique individual personality. The book combines a wide-ranging study of Stoic ideas with suggestive readings of salient writings (including those of Epictetus, Hierocles, and Musonius) and will interest readers looking for life-guidance as well as more specialist scholars.”

—Christopher Gill, author of *Naturalistic Psychology in Galen and Stoicism*

“Modern Stoicism has become individualistic and sometimes devolves into an egoistic search for resilience against a harsh world. Will Johncock shows in this important counterweight in the growing Stoic literature that the ancient Stoics were, as Seneca says, the most sociable of the ancient philosophers, recommending that we prioritize our interconnectedness with others in order to live well ourselves, given the kinds of rational social creatures who we are.”

—Matthew Sharpe, author of *The Other Enlightenment: Self-estrangement, Race, and Gender*

WILL JOHNCOCK is the author of the books *Stoic Philosophy and Social Theory* (2020) and *Naturally Late* (2019). He has taught at UNSW Sydney and the Melbourne School of Continental Philosophy. His research on continental philosophy, Stoic philosophy, and social theory has featured in academic journals and public periodicals.



The Mind of Whitehead

Adventure in Ideas

ROLAND FABER

978-1-6667-3548-2 | 744 p. | \$69

If one believes the French philosopher Gilles Deleuze, Alfred North Whitehead's work is one of the most important events in the exploration of the universes of thought in recent times. Whitehead's text confronts us with the feeling of existing in a world that cannot be defined by any creed or method, but offers us unexpected friends: ideas—ideas that unleash and alleviate, play and mitigate despair, swim in the rough waters, but without effort let go of us if we cannot fathom them. For adventurers who risk the encounter with Whitehead's text, its treasures feel like balm on the overheated, burning sensation of wounds of division. A way out. A new way. A revolution—not of violent overturning, but of gentle reorientation in which compassionate thinking breathes. It is not about systems, but permeated with musical rhythms and harmonics, composing significance with impermanence. It does not arrive at a promised land, but perhaps is a harbinger of things to come, sensing a universe that will surprise our descendants. It does not reveal a mind in which we can live, but one that challenges all rest.

“The mind of Faber pours forth its own genius in this munificent engagement with Whitehead's—and thereby with all that is.”

—Catherine Keller, Drew University

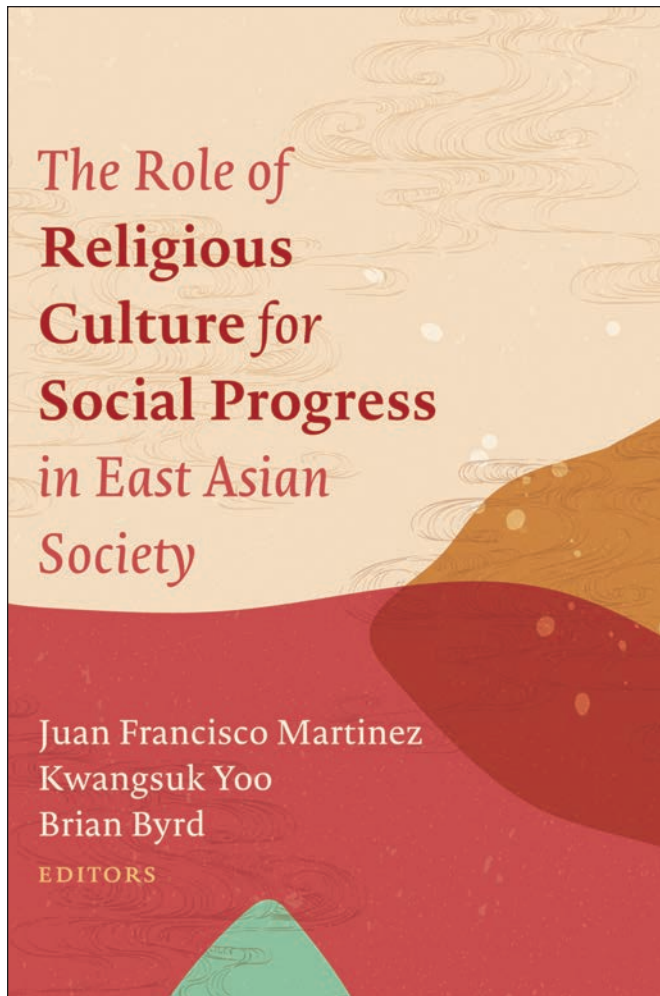
“Alfred North Whitehead is one of the most original thinkers of the past century, but also one of the most difficult. In this lucidly argued book, Roland Faber cuts the Gordian knot of Whitehead's thought, pulling strands apart and then carefully following all their convolutions and interrelations. Faber makes Whitehead newly available to us in the twenty-first century.”

—Steven Shaviro, Wayne State University

“Roland Faber . . . is the first to offer us a comprehensive picture of the mind of Whitehead. He understands Whitehead deeply and comprehensively and combines first-rate scholarship with great skill in explanation. In a time when Whitehead is still excluded from all the academic disciplines but interest in his integrating thinking is exploding, this may be the breakthrough we need to have his voice appreciated in our educational system.”

—John B. Cobb Jr., Claremont School of Theology, emeritus

ROLAND FABER is the Kilsby Family/John B. Cobb, Jr., Professor of Process Studies at Claremont School of Theology, the founder and executive director of the Whitehead Research Project, and codirector of the Center for Process Studies. His publications include *God as Poet of the World* (2008), *The Divine Manifold* (2014), *The Becoming of God* (Cascade, 2017), *The Garden of Reality* (2018), *The Ocean of God* (2019), *Depths As Yet Unspoken* (Pickwick, 2020), *The Cosmic Spirit* (Cascade, 2021), and *Divine Appearances* (2022).



The Role of Religious Culture for Social Progress in East Asian Society

EDITED BY **JUAN FRANCISCO MARTINEZ,**
KWANGSUK YOO, AND BRIAN BYRD

978-1-6667-3005-0 | 184 p. | \$27

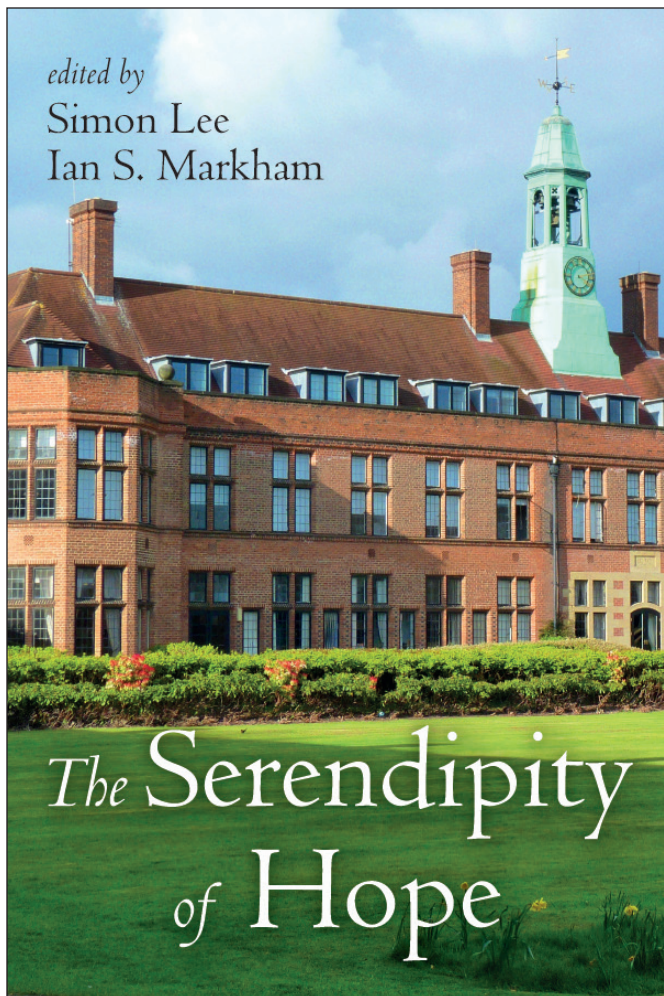
Religious culture is an important keyword for understanding rapidly changing East Asian society, especially China, Japan, and Korea. Despite the common influence of Confucian culture on these countries, each has shown a very different pattern of social progress in modern and postmodern times. Although surveys report a low ratio of religious identification and membership in this region, people in this area are religious in a different way from Western societies, and religious culture is closely related to political, economic, and social subsystems. A real force of changing East Asian society is not only political powers or economic classes, but also an invisible culture based on religious belief and practice. This book focuses on the dynamic relationship between social progress and religious culture, organization, or movements in each society since 1945.

“Westerners should listen to these stories of how Christians of East Asia are hearing the call to renewal and breaking down inherited walls of division, both across the churches and between Christians and citizens. They are developing visions of mission rooted in worship and prayer, and they are creating multifaceted ministries alongside the often painful lives of ordinary people. They seek a solid theology and practice grounded in God’s presence with us until the final coming of the kingdom.”

—Alan M. Suggate, retired senior lecturer of theology, University of Durham

JUAN F. MARTINEZ served as vice president for diversity and international ministries and professor of Hispanic studies and pastoral leadership at Fuller Theological Seminary.

KWANGSOK YOO is a research professor at Kyung Hee University in Seoul.



The Serendipity of Hope

EDITED BY SIMON LEE AND IAN S. MARKHAM

978-1-6667-3706-6 | 292 p. | \$39

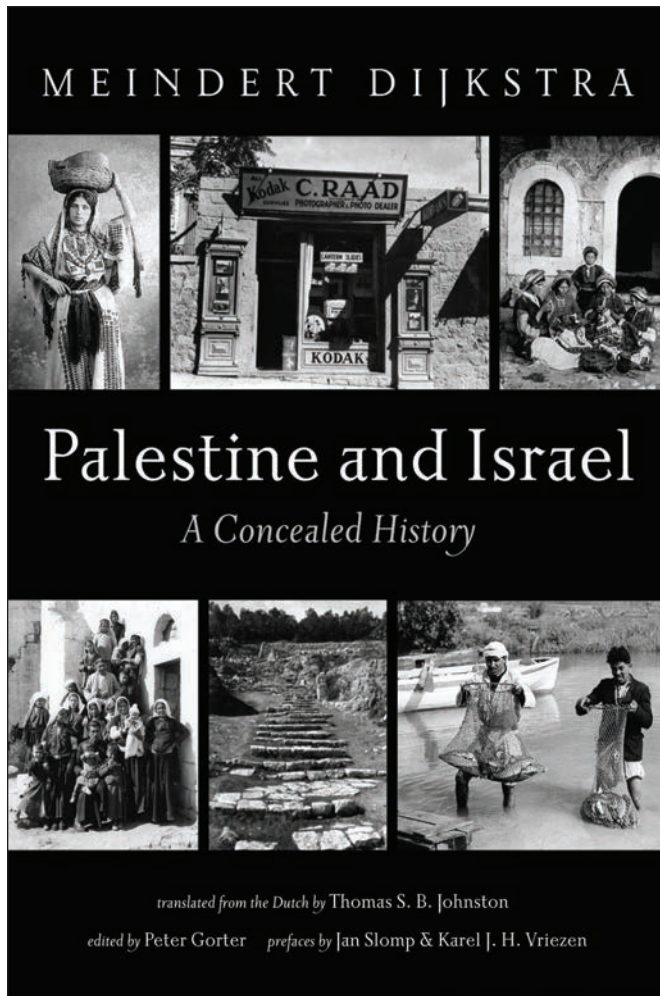
Institutions are very precious. If any idea is going to persist into the future, then it needs an institution to keep it going. Each of us comes to understand, often only gradually over the decades, how some influences from our earlier life have affected us. Some will have been inspiring. Some will have given us direct models of how to behave or how not to behave. Indeed, it is often the case that the deeper an influence turns out to have been, in the long run, the less likely it is that we noticed it at the time it was happening. For this reason, it has become necessary to find the time to reflect on and express gratitude for the institutions that helped form who we are and the work that we do. This collection of essays explores the impact of one institution on twenty-five participants, twenty-five years after we worked together. The Institution was Liverpool Hope University College and is now Liverpool Hope University. By telling and reflecting on our stories, we aim to encourage others to think about their own experiences and, ultimately, our earnest hope is that a greater awareness of this aspect of university life will help to transform our collective understanding of the nature of universities in particular, and of communities, institutions, or societies in general. But there was something special about belonging to a community called Hope.

“Christian educators need hope right now, and the contributors in this intelligent, humane volume offer a shrewd range of places to find it. Pragmatic yet pushing back against the creeping exclusion of religion from higher education, *The Serendipity of Hope* offers a compelling vision of what our colleges and universities might look like if they rediscover—and honor in action—their founding values and legacies.”

—Gareth Jones, theological education advisor to the archbishop of Hong Kong

SIMON LEE is professor of law at Aston University in Birmingham, England, and emeritus professor of jurisprudence at Queen’s University Belfast. He is the author of five books, including *Law and Morals*.

IAN S. MARKHAM is the dean and president of Virginia Theological Seminary and professor of theology and ethics.



Palestine and Israel

A Concealed History

MEINDERT DIJKSTRA

978-1-6667-4878-9 | 378 p. | \$48

Republished in an English edition as the modern state of Israel prepares to celebrate its seventy-fifth anniversary in 2023, this book presents a history of Israel and Palestine up to the foundation of that modern state. Stretching from the thirteenth century BCE until the First World War, it is a concealed history of a mixed multitude of winners and losers living in the same land. It can be read as a regional history of the Southern Levant, written in light of modern historical and archaeological research. But it can also help shed light on the Israeli–Palestinian question. It contributes to a better understanding of why the Palestinians—regardless of where they live—have remained rooted in their patrimony, Palestine, and why they as a people, now as ever, are entitled to a land and state of their own.

“In this welcome book, Meindert Dijkstra has painstakingly traced the long complex demography of the land of promise. By an appeal to historical and archaeological evidence, Dijkstra shows the continued existence of other non-Jewish peoples in the land of promise, including Palestinians. Long habitation in the land is sufficient, in the judgment of this author, to justify a Palestinian state alongside the Jewish state of Israel. This important study requires that we fully face the reality and demand of a people too long neglected in their right to a land of promise.”

—Walter Brueggemann, author of *Chosen? Reading the Bible amid the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*

“Historical Palestine was and continues to be a land filled with diversity and beauty, similar to many places around the world. Archeological findings confirm the country as a mixture of cultures, religions, and languages. This book helps the land to share its untold and sometimes unpopular story.”

—Naim Stefan Ateek, author of *A Palestinian Theology of Liberation: The Bible, Justice, and the Palestine-Israel Conflict*

MEINDERT DIJKSTRA (1946–2020) served as a minister in Reformed churches in the Netherlands before he was appointed as a lecturer in Old Testament Studies at the Seminary of the Coptic Evangelical Church in Cairo, for nine years. Returning to the Netherlands, he was appointed at Utrecht University as a lecturer in Old Testament and in ancient Near Eastern epigraphy.

The ODYSSEY of EIDOS

Reflections on Aristotle's Response to Plato



Mark J. Nyvlt

The Odyssey of Eidos

Reflections on Aristotle's Response to Plato

FORO DI STUDI AVANZATI

EDITED BY MARK J. NYVLT

978-1-6667-4833-8 | 186 p. | \$28

Aristotle sets the horizons of our inquiry: What is it when we say we know something? And is the object of knowledge a universal or particular [*tode ti*] object? Aristotle's critique of Plato's theory of form/Forms in light of his notion of actuality has generated a variety of topics that frame our inquiry: "Understanding *Eidos* as Form in the Works of Aristotle as Plato's Critical Student"; "Aristotle on Plato's Forms as Causes"; "Notes on the Relationship between Plato's *Parmenides* and Aristotle's *Metaphysics Alpha*"; "'Separate' and 'Inactive' Aristotle's Most Challenging Critique of Plato's 'Forms'"; "Too Much Unity in a City Is Destructive of the City: Aristotle against Plato's Unification Project of the Polis"; "Aristotle on the Soul as Actuality"; "Delphic Piety in the *De Anima* of Alexander of Aphrodisias"; "Aristotle and Plotinus: Act and Potency and the Two Acts"; and "Al-Fārābī on Habit and Imagination." Here, the Peripatetic readings of form and actuality are parsed from the precipice of historical, analytic, and continental approaches to the mind/language/object problem, with advocacy of the importance of Aristotle's contribution to this inquiry for the present age.

"Few concepts have been so central in our philosophical tradition, since its Greek origins, as that of *eidos*—'form.' This useful collection of papers is a set of soundings into that tradition. It ranges over a timespan of more than a millennium, from Plato to al-Farabi, and over a wide spectrum of subjects: metaphysics and theology, but also ethics, politics, physics, biology, and psychology: an odyssey indeed!"

—John Thorp, professor emeritus of philosophy, Western University

"*The Odyssey of Eidos* explores the rich and multifaceted relationship between the Aristotelian *eidos* and the Platonic forms. Editor Mark Nyvlt has brought together distinguished scholars in the field and has invited them to address this fascinating and challenging issue. It is a valuable collection of articles, each of which, in its own way, sheds new light on the Aristotelian *eidos*. This most welcome addition to Aristotelian scholarship has certainly met the challenge."

—Catherine Collobert, professor of philosophy, University of Ottawa

MARK J. NYVLT is full professor and dean of the Faculty of Philosophy at the Dominican University in Ottawa, Canada. He is the author of *Aristotle and Plotinus on the Intellect* (2012). He is also a musician.

In PHILEBUM

A Speculative Reflection



Francis K. Peddle

“Francis K. Peddle’s *In Philebum* gives us an original and masterful reading of Plato’s *Philebus*. This dialectical pathway to speculative philosophy is a welcome departure from the influential dialogical ethics of Hans-Georg Gadamer and Donald Davidson of the last century. The evocation of Renaissance Platonist Marsilio Ficino suggests further thought on order by means of four. I hope so. This work is a stellar contribution to Foro di Studi Avanzati, a delightful series of studies in philosophy.”

—Craig Cramm, lecturer and adjunct professor of philosophy, Memorial University of Newfoundland & Labrador

In Philebum

A Speculative Reflection

FORO DI STUDI AVANZATI

FRANCIS K. PEDDLE

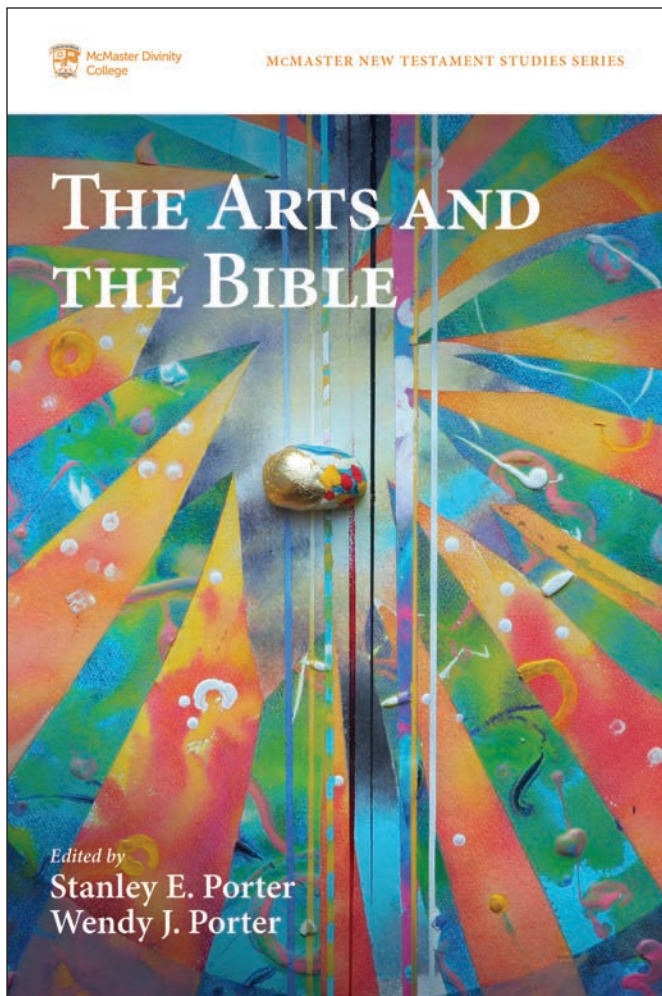
978-1-6667-6135-1 | 192 p. | \$28

This commentary on Plato’s *Philebus* reconciles a close analysis of the text with a new interpretation of the dialogue. *In Philebum* focuses on the overarching metaphysical and cosmological coherency of the dialogue rather than its ethical import. This interpretation contrasts with the more common segmented philological analysis of this most evocative of Platonic dialogues. Plato’s late ontology and theory of an immanent Good portray a very different philosophical terrain than that of the transcendental visions of the Good found in other dialogues. The final chapter of *In Philebum*, entitled “The Life of the Speculative Philosopher,” extends this analysis of the dialogue to contemporary speculative philosophy. Based on Plato’s portrayal of a fourfold onto-cosmology and of the Good as measurability, proportionality, and intelligence, *In Philebum* makes connections between the doctrine of measured order-relations, triadicity, quadratic structure, and self-explanation that figure predominantly in contemporary speculative philosophy. It is intended for a broader audience of readers of Plato as well as for graduate students and commentators on Plato. *In Philebum* contains a Prolegomenon on the controversies surrounding the structural divisions of the *Philebus* as well as an up-to-date bibliography and general index.

“At the root of Francis K. Peddle’s reflections on Plato’s *Philebus* lies the thesis that this late dialogue is fundamentally an outline of an integrated onto-cosmology that provides a detailed framework for the good life. The individual, understood as a complex of measure-relations, is given a thoroughgoing firmament in the *Philebus* for achievement in the arts and sciences as well as a roadmap for a balanced practical ethics. *In Philebum* adds significantly to the tradition of philosophical interpretation of this extraordinarily rich dialogue.”

—Mark Nyvlt, North American director, Foro di Studi Avanzati

FRANCIS K. PEDDLE is professor of philosophy at Dominican University College, Ottawa, Canada.



The Arts and the Bible

MCMASTER NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES SERIES

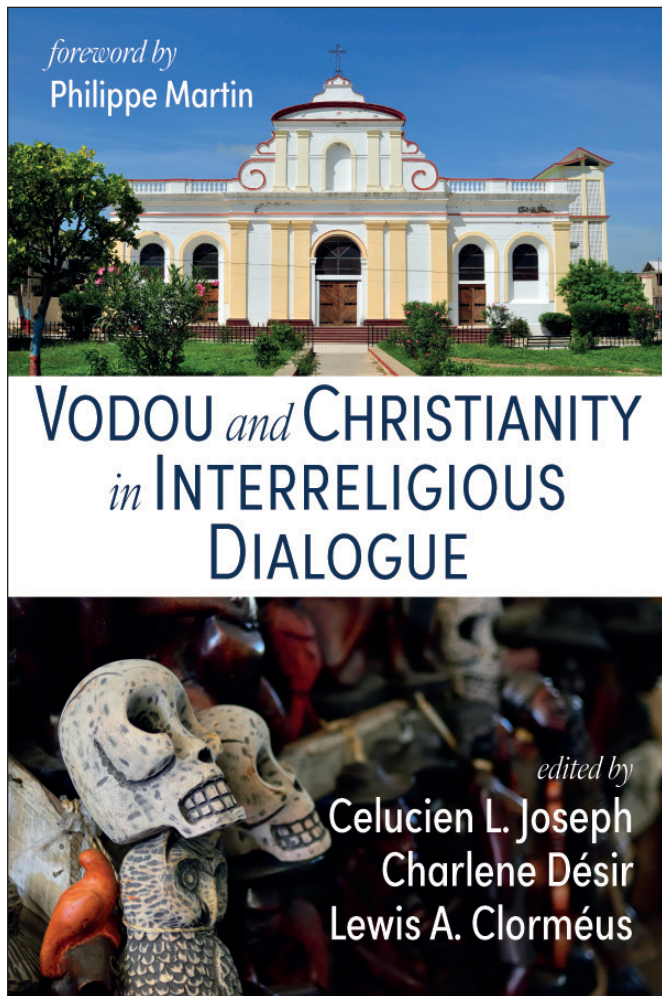
EDITED BY **STANLEY E. PORTER AND WENDY J. PORTER**

978-1-7252-7976-6 | Forthcoming

Throughout its history, the Christian church has had a troubled relationship with the arts, whether literature, poetry, music, visual arts, or other forms of artistic expression. This volume is not designed to resolve the issues, but it is designed to present a number of different statements about various dimensions of the arts in their relationship to the Bible. The Bible is the document that stands behind the Christian church as an inspiration to it and to its arts. As a result, we have divided this volume into six parts: perspectives on the arts, culture and art, visual enactments, contemporary interpretations, music, and the Bible and literature. Many of the issues that the history of the interaction of the arts and the Bible within the Christian church have uncovered are insightfully and artfully addressed by this book. The wide range of contributors runs the gamut from practicing artists of various media to scholars within varied academic fields.

STANLEY E. PORTER is president, dean, and professor of New Testament, as well as holder of the Roy A. Hope Chair in Christian Worldview, at McMaster Divinity College, Hamilton, ON, Canada. Besides his research and writing in Greek language and linguistics, he is a keen advocate for the arts within the Christian church. In particular, he is very interested in how literature can help to enlighten and elevate Christian faith.

WENDY J. PORTER is associate professor of music and worship at McMaster Divinity College, Hamilton, ON, Canada. She is an accomplished musician in both classical and contemporary idioms. She has recorded three CDs of contemporary Christian music and done major research on most areas of church music, from the earliest Christian hymn to contemporary worship music. She recently published *Early English Composers* and *the Credo*.



Vodou and Christianity in Interreligious Dialogue

EDITED BY **CELUCIEN L. JOSEPH,**
CHARLENE DESIR,
AND **LEWIS A. CLORMEUS**

978-1-6667-4241-1 | 282 p. | \$38

Vodou and Christianity in Interreligious Dialogue addresses both historical factors and ideological issues that created antagonism and conflict between Christians and Vodouists in Haiti. The book offers practical solutions and strategies to help create a harmonious and peaceful environment between religious practitioners associated with Vodou and Christianity. Toward this goal, this volume considers various perspectives and theories, such as autobiography, anthropology, ethnographic fieldwork, religious experience, and gender to examine the subject matter. This volume offers practical examples and resources on how to engage in interreligious dialogue and promote interreligious education in Haiti.

There are three philosophical and practical ideas underlying this book project: (1) it is grounded on the belief that religion has value, and it could bring social goods to different communities and enhance human dignity and justice; (2) it is premised on the idea that dialogue and cooperation are necessary for nation-building and human development (as democratic ideals) and that one of the leading functions of the world's religious traditions is to promote both cooperation and dialogue through mutual understanding and for the common good; and (3) that the power and public role of religion in society can be used as a major force of unification and peace-building among divergent factions and schools of thought, and to promote reconciliation, mutual respect, and friendship in the world.

“Within the context of a long history of religious tensions in Haiti and repeated persecutions of Vodou, this book offers prime opportunity to reflect on Haiti’s multi-religious traditions. Contributing authors address important interreligious dialogues that can inspire and promote self-growth, education, and development and alleviate the social ills that plague various sectors of Haitian society. Ultimately, such work may help uplift Haitian religious citizens at this historical juncture.”

—Claudine Michel, editor, *Journal of Haitian Studies*

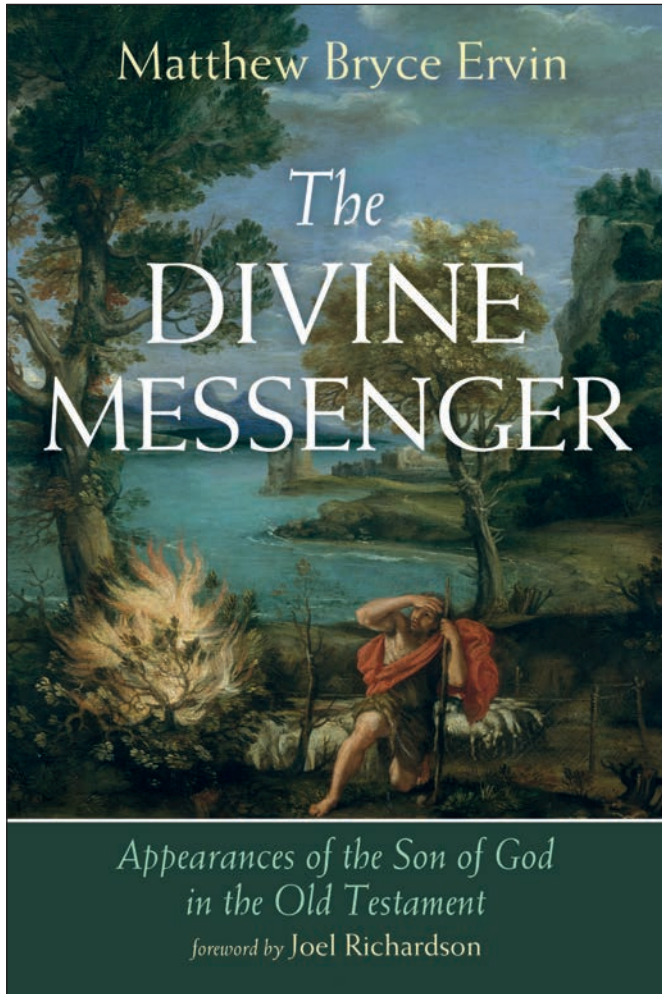
“Joseph, Désir, and Clorméus’s co-edited volume offers major contributions to interreligious dialogue in Haiti. The collection assembles valuable contemporary scholarship on the fraught historical relationship between practitioners of Christianity and Vodou, the epistemological and ideological developments necessary for meaningful interreligious dialogue, and important ideas for implementing reconciliation and ensuring constructive coexistence. These essential Haitian case studies critique imperial religious miscalculation while laying conceptual and practical foundations for dialogue, healing, and mutual respect.”

—Benjamin Hebblethwaite, associate professor in Haitian Creole and French studies, University of Florida

CELUCIEN L. JOSEPH is professor and chair of the department of English at San Jacinto College. His most recent book is *Theological Education and Christian Scholarship for Human Flourishing: Hermeneutics, Knowledge, and Multiculturalism* (Pickwick, 2022).

CHARLENE DÉSIR is professor at Nova Southeastern University’s Abraham S. Fischler College of Education. Her most recent publications include a 2015 co-edited text entitled *Comparative International Perspectives on Education and Social Change in Developing Countries and Indigenous People in Developed Countries*.

LEWIS A. CLORMÉUS is a professor of sociology of religion at State University of Haiti. His most recent book is *Le vodou, le prêtre et l’ethnologue : Retour sur la polémique Joseph Foisset / Jacques Roumain* (Haïti, 1942) (HÉMISPHERES ÉDITIONS, 2021).



The Divine Messenger

Appearances of the Son of God
in the Old Testament

MATTHEW BRYCE ERVIN

978-1-6667-7161-9 | 226 p. | \$30

The Son of God didn't first come onto the scene in the final quarter of the Bible. He appeared as a fascinating and sometimes mysterious figure throughout the Old Testament. He is called by many names and referred to in many ways. He appeared as the Word of the Lord, as the presence within the Glory of the Lord, as the personification of Wisdom, as the Angel of the Lord, as the Captain of the Lord's army, and as Yahweh on earth. Some of his appearances were dramatic, while others were subtle. Each of them highlights the Son's role as the Father's messenger. And the appearances all foreshadowed the Incarnation, when the Son of God would become a man and more fully reveal the Godhead to his creation.

"*The Divine Messenger* is the book I always wanted to write! Taking his cue from one of my favorite church fathers, Justin Martyr, Matthew Ervin examines the possible appearances of Jesus in the OT. He offers a convincing case that Jesus was not only predicted by the prophets, but made personal visits to those prophets and patriarchs. His bibliography evidences his thorough research. Enjoy the fruits of an extensive analysis of a subject that has been neglected for too long!"

—William Varner, professor of biblical studies, The Master's University

"Who was it that wrestled with Jacob in Genesis 32 or spoke with Joshua before the battle of Jericho in Joshua 5? Matthew Ervin argues that it was the Son of God himself, claiming that the divine Son did not suddenly appear on the scene in the Gospels for the first time, but that he was always active in human history, serving as the visible revelation of God to humanity. Dig into this book and go on a fascinating journey through biblical history and theology."

—Michael L. Brown, author of *Answering Jewish Objections to Jesus* (5 vols.)

"For those of us who are Jewish believers in Messiah Jesus, this excellent book fills a critical need: that of demonstrating to our own people that God has intervened powerfully in our biblical history by his own presence. The arrival of Messiah Jesus fits that same pattern, and Matthew Ervin lays that out so powerfully for us in this important book. Thanks so much for this!"

—Mottel Baleston, director, Messengers Messianic Jewish Fellowship

MATTHEW BRYCE ERVIN is lead pastor at Oakfield-Alabama Baptist Church in Oakfield, New York. He serves as a seminary instructor and is the director of Apple Eye, a Bible-teaching ministry. Ervin is the author of *One Thousand Years with Jesus* (2017).



Here Comes the Dreamer

The Joseph Story

SHAUL BAR

978-1-6667-6551-9 | 188 p. | \$27

The Joseph story starts when he was seventeen years old and ends with his death at one hundred and ten. These years included near death experiences, hatred among brothers, jealousy, a bizarre world of dreams, temptation, imprisonment, and his rise to power as grand vizier of Egypt. All of these events led to a change—once an arrogant young man with grandiose dreams, now he became a down to earth man with a sense of humility and a basic sentiment of religion. There was no more hatred among brothers, but love, which led to their eventual reconciliation. Joseph's life as portrayed in the book of Genesis was the starting point of many legends and commentaries found in the Talmud, Midrashim, and medieval commentaries. His behavior was an exemplary prototype of a righteous man; it served as a model for how a person should conduct himself.

“Shaul Bar provides us once again with a brilliant analysis of this biblical saga. He thoroughly analyzes Joseph's personality from childhood to death and studies the reception of the story through the generations. Particularly unique is his dealing with a long and old list of Jewish perceptions of the story, including Late Roman, medieval, and modern interpretations and commentaries. In a clear and rich language, the book appeals to students and scholars alike.”

—Rami Arav, professor of religion, University of Nebraska at Omaha

SHAUL BAR is the Bornblum Chair of Excellence in Judaic studies at The University of Memphis. He is the author of *A Letter That Has Not Been Read: Dreams in the Hebrew Bible* (2001), *I Deal Death and Give Life* (2010), *God's First King: The Story of Saul* (2013), *Daily Life of the Patriarchs* (2014), *A Nation Is Born: The Jacob Story* (2016), *The Samson Story: Love, Seduction, Betrayal, Violence, Riddles, Myth* (2018), *Isaac: The Passive Patriarch* (2019), and *Samuel: The Man of God* (2022).

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS

David J. Garrard



The Epistle of Paul to the Ephesians

DAVID J. GARRARD

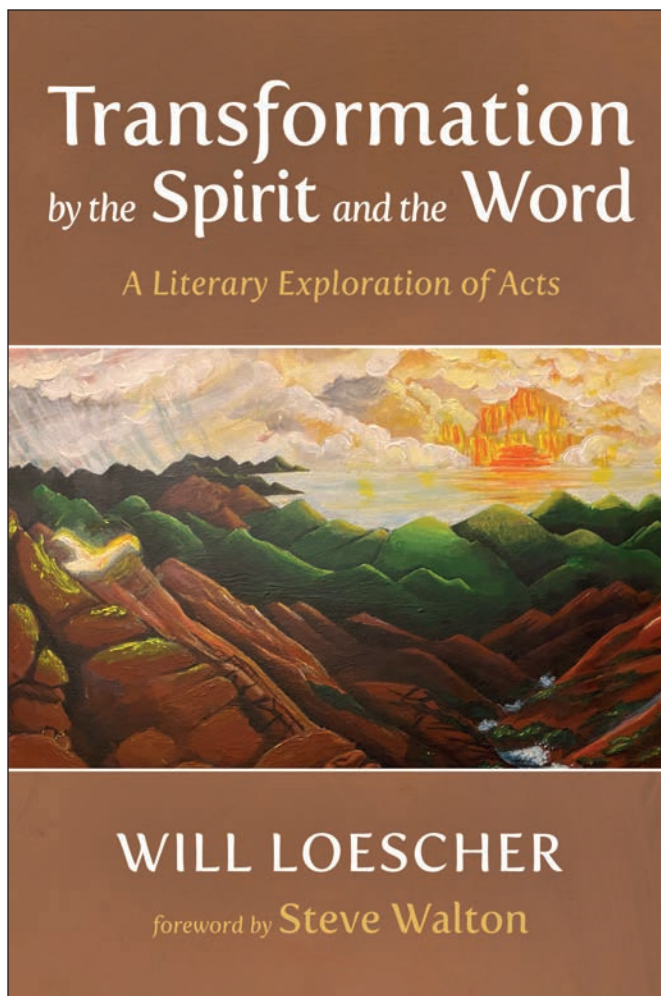
978-1-6667-4271-8 | 156 p. | \$23

Ephesians' high Christology means that it is impossible to read without making the individual aware of the absolute supremacy of the One who took on flesh for mankind's salvation. Yet it is no simple study and one which requires careful examination of the numerous topics covered by Paul. The purpose of this book is to develop, not only Ephesians' interpretation, but facilitate a better understanding of the factors which have bearing upon everyday Christian living. It is vital to grasp how these factors influence our relationship with what Christ has already made available for his followers and assure them of the perfection which is yet to be fully established at Christ's return. The letter is full of unique material, including the fascinating section on spiritual warfare in the last chapter. As westerners our worldview tends to limit our understanding of the unseen world so that we often wrestle with such concepts as angels, the Devil, and demons, but Paul makes it very clear that not only are these powers quite real but that at every level Christ is supreme. This should give each of his followers the fortitude to aim at victorious living "in him."

"This exegetical treatment of the Epistle to the Ephesians provides an excellent way for anyone to introduce themselves to this New Testament masterpiece. David Garrard combines critical thinking, Christian faith, personal experience, and pastoral application in a succinct and easy-to-read style. This publication will undoubtedly add to the reader's understanding and appreciation of this relatively small but essential New Testament letter."

—Glenn Balfour, Missio Dei College

DAVID J. GARRARD is a missionary educator who has also been professor at the Assemblies of God Bible College at Mattersey Hall in the United Kingdom and associated lecturer attached to four British universities as well as two universities in Central and Southern Africa. He is also executive director of CAM International, a British missionary organization. He is the author of *The Epistle of Paul to the Galatians*, several chapters in edited books, and numerous articles in journals, and is a contributor to *The New International Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements*. His career began in 1973.



Transformation by the Spirit and the Word

A Literary Exploration of Acts

WILL LOESCHER

978-1-6667-5349-3 | 214 p. | \$29

This book is a distillation of reading Acts for over fifty years, preaching it for twenty-five years, and studying it in-depth for five years. My aim is for students, church leaders, preachers, and missionaries to join me on a journey of narrative theology—a literary exploration of transformation by the Spirit and the Word in Acts. As with every part of God’s inspired Scriptures, there is always more to discover and apply. As a Reformed Charismatic I believe that Acts is our story. However, rather than just attempting to copy it, I suggest that the book’s unexpected literary shape reveals a challenging missional significance. The need for world gospel mission continues today. However, like the early church, we often contain the Holy Spirit within our own structures and are reluctant to move out of our comfort zones. Acts shows the church’s priority is to be God’s mission instrument in the world. Let’s study, lead, preach, and go from Acts so that we realize Jesus’s promise “that you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and to the end(s) of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

“This book provides a refreshing and substantial insight into the rollercoaster ride we know as Acts. Having witnessed how Will’s study of Luke’s record shaped his understanding and expectations in ministry, my prayer is that you would similarly embrace his central theme of the Spirit and Word as God’s primary means to bring transformation to individuals, churches, society, and nations.”

—Gareth Lloyd-Jones, senior pastor, Ridgeway Community Church

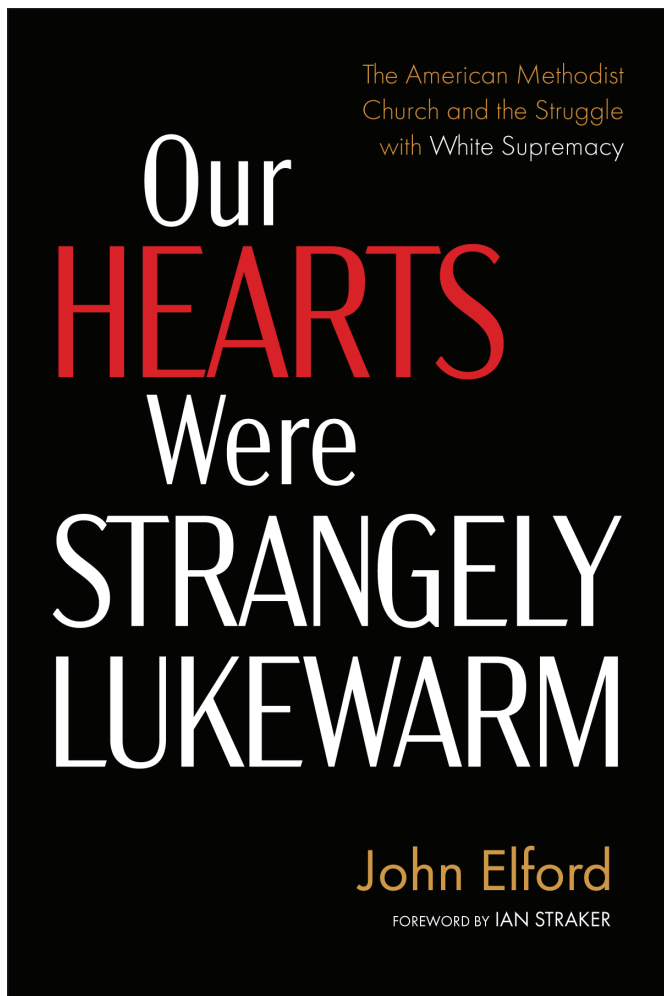
“Will Loescher has written a readable yet scholarly analysis of the Acts of the Apostles which will help exegetes to grasp the overall purpose of Luke’s carefully crafted literary work. Readers will gain fresh insights that will sharpen their understanding, preaching, and teaching of Acts, but more importantly, renewed passion for mission, hope in the transforming power of the gospel, and longing to experience the power of the Holy Spirit.”

—John Stevens, national director, Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches

“Will Loescher is a scholar, teacher, and pastor who is deeply committed to the church and its good news. Written with great clarity, this book will help Christians understand God’s work in the first century and pursue that work with confidence in the twenty-first. I commend it warmly.”

—John Proctor, former general secretary, The United Reformed Church

WILL LOESCHER is the present director of Kinetic Network’s Academy. He completed his PhD, “The Literary Shape and Missional Significance of Acts. An Invitation to be an Instrument for the Kingdom of God” (2017), with ARU, Cambridge, UK. Previously, he was the pastor of Walsall Independent Evangelical Church, Bath Street, Walsall, UK.



Our Hearts Were Strangely Lukewarm

The American Methodist Church and the Struggle with White Supremacy

JOHN ELFORD

978-1-6667-6754-4 | 186 p. | \$27

Our Hearts Were Strangely Lukewarm summons the reader on a most unusual journey through Methodist history. Along the way, we discover how the White American Methodist Church became deeply entangled with White supremacy. From the founding of the church in the late eighteenth century to the present, we have too often been silent bystanders or active accomplices in the enormous harm caused by racism. It's a complicated and shameful story few Methodists know. And yet, if we want to transform the world toward a different and better future for all, one free of the stranglehold of racism, we must come to terms with the story of our past—the whole story! *Our Hearts Were Strangely Lukewarm* is a trustworthy guide into the church's troubled history. It's also a present-day call to action that finds inspiration in those Methodists who stood against the tide and those guiding the church today toward the horizon of racial justice.

"Like a surgeon plying the scalpel, John Elford lays bare where and how our nation's original sin of racism infected American Methodism. At this critical juncture in our denomination, we have the opportunity to reconstruct a church more faithful to Wesley's original vision. But that starts by confronting our past, else we're doomed to keep repeating it. A must-read for all of us who yearn to deconstruct our own racism."

—John A. Wright, retired United Methodist district superintendent

"As mainline churches struggle to remain relevant in American culture, this book takes a needed look into the racial history of Methodist churches, asking why white Methodists did not work for racial justice with the same enthusiasm that their founder John Wesley had for spiritual truth. A must-read for anyone working to reclaim the prophetic voice of radical Christianity."

—Chad E. Seales, associate professor of religious studies, University of Texas at Austin

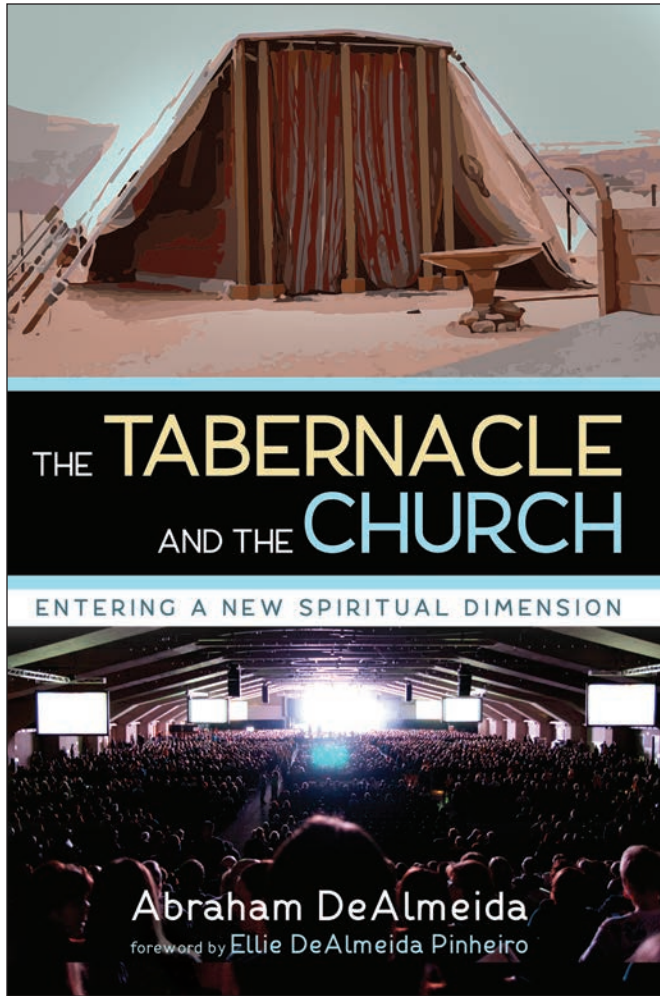
"John Elford provides us with a contemporary critical history of (United) Methodism's complicity with racism and its problematic upholding of white supremacy. His overall message is quite needed in our current moment of discerning our future as United Methodists. Will we finally take a page from the history books and dismantle the systemic racism that continues to seep into and through our structure? This book is a necessary addition to the conversation of how United Methodism should reshape itself."

—Ashley Boggan Dreff, general secretary, General Commission on Archives and History of The United Methodist Church

"John Elford's new book is more than a historical account of racial injustice; it constitutes an act of confession that we Methodists must make. This well-researched and exquisitely written book can be helpfully read as liturgy: much as supplicants prayerfully trace the stations of the cross and the indignities Christ suffered on the way to his redemption, so are we invited to relive the ignominies of black folks on the way (still) to racial justice. Only from clear-eyed confession and repentance may Methodists find a way forward in Christian hope."

—David F. White, professor of Christian education and Methodist studies, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

JOHN ELFORD is a retired United Methodist pastor. He served several churches in southwest Texas and is currently pastor emeritus at University United Methodist Church in Austin, Texas. John continues to engage in social justice issues and is slowly learning how to be a better BIPOC ally. See more at johnelford.com.



The Tabernacle and the Church

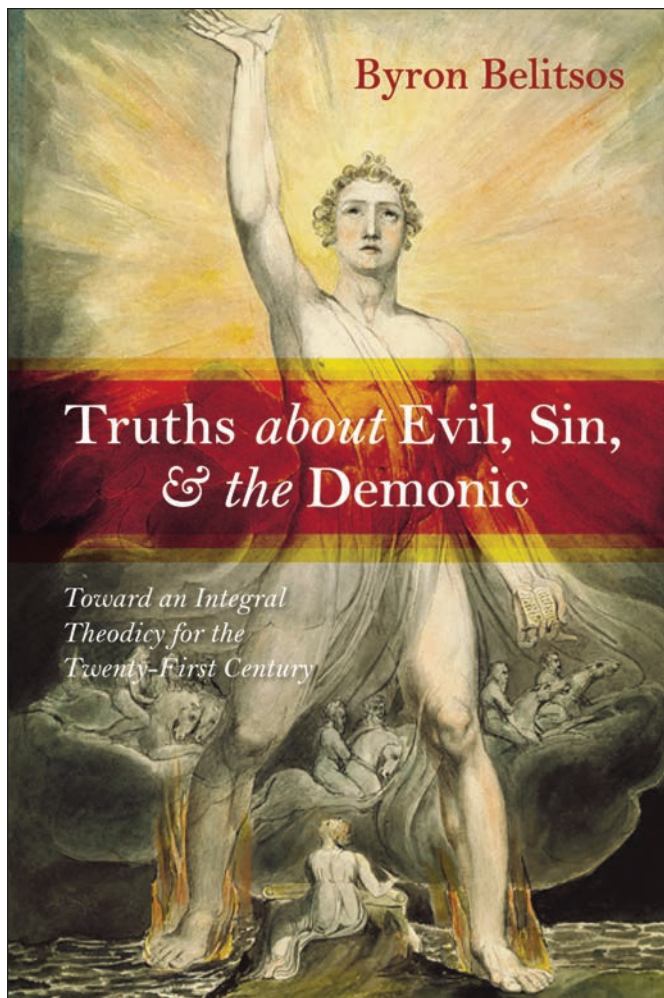
Entering a New Spiritual Dimension

ABRAHAM DEALMEIDA

978-1-6667-4643-3 | 188 p. | \$27

The temple built by Moses in the desert is the most extraordinary of all the Old Testament ritual types. As a prefiguration of the facts of the New Covenant, DeAlmeida finds as antitypes not only Jesus and the Christian but also the church as a whole, since “Christ did not enter a sanctuary made with human hands, a replica of the true one, but heaven, that he may now appear before the face of God on our behalf.” The author, in a simple and enlightening way, presents in this work abundant references to the divisions of the tabernacle, its rich furniture, the materials used in its construction, the four colors indicating the four gospels, the different offerings, the numbers applied to the pieces, the sacrifices, and so forth. These typological riches, associated with the great annual feasts and the Levitical priesthood, constitute precious and practical lessons on how to live the true Christian faith today. The strong presence, in this book, of the number five—which indicates divine grace—shows us that in the tabernacle, the glory of the church shines. This book purports to be original, as it focuses on the subject from a spiritual point of view.

ABRAHAM DEALMEIDA is a pastor with three PhDs in theology and is a specialist in the Old Testament, Bible prophecies, divinity, church history, numerology, and typology, with more than thirty-five books written about these topics. He considers it one of his greatest achievements to have been one of the scholars who revised and noted the Brazilian bibles “Almeida Corrigida” and “Almeida Século 21,” and helped to translate the New International Version Bible into Portuguese. Born in 1939 on a humble farm with ten siblings, he remembers owning his first pair of shoes at the age of ten. He developed a love for learning, and at the age of seventeen, he became a communist. His eloquent speeches attracted large crowds, but deep inside he felt empty, and his longing for God only continued to grow. His life changed dramatically one night as he entered a church and dedicated his life to God. Ever since, he has been on a relentless path to knowing God better. The love of his life, Lucia, to whom he was happily married to for fifty-seven years, has recently passed away, although her legacy will be remembered for generations to come. The Sunshine State has become his home, living in Tamarac with his son, Junior.



Truths about Evil, Sin, and the Demonic

Toward an Integral Theodicy for
the Twenty-First Century

BYRON BELITSOS

978-1-6667-1300-8 | 314 p. | \$35

The Problem of Evil and the Predicament of Theodicy

As Christians or theists we are moved to share the truth of God's love for humankind. But how can we speak of such providential care in a world rife with crime, war, racism, genocide, and even ecocide? In response to this predicament, a theodicy proposes a rational "defense" of God's goodness that offers consolation to victims and hope to all believers. *Truths about Evil, Sin, and the Demonic* provides a sweeping history of the discipline of theodicy that focuses on its strategic turning points and its possible future. Belitsos argues that, because of the atrocities of the last century and the threat of horrendous evils in the coming century, we need to marshal the most explanatory elements of all previous theodicies and then drive toward an "integrative" model based on a creative synthesis. The author also turns to a modern revelatory source that supports his argument for such a "meta-theodicy." He concludes by critically engaging with this source and the entire tradition in his call for an apophatically informed integral theodicy.

"Belitsos offers a unique synthesis that combines an advanced theological-ly grounded discourse with a subtle discussion of the spiritual teachings of Christianity throughout its history. His argument finds its completion in the Christ-centered evolutionary panentheism of *The Urantia Book*, the integral metatheory of Ken Wilber, and postmodern apophatic theology. This book should find an easy pass to the heart and mind of any student of historical theology, philosophy, and spirituality."

—Sergey Trostyanskiy, coeditor of *The Mystical Tradition of the Eastern Church*

"There is no greater theological challenge than the question—the perpetual crisis—of evil. And there is no more lucid and gracious an account of this problem of theodicy than Belitsos here offers. Both scholarly and general readers will find his historical exposition invaluable. He then invites us into the revelatory adventure, cosmically scaled and intimately relevant, of an answering integral vision."

—Catherine Keller, professor of constructive theology, Drew University

"Belitsos offers a fresh and wonderfully insightful overview of theodicy—brilliantly done!—and explains a philosophy we would do well to learn more about from *The Urantia Book*. The questions about good and evil that Belitsos

raises are the pressing ones of our time, and his book is a substantial and impressive contribution to addressing them."

—Marcia Pally, author of *Commonwealth and Covenant*

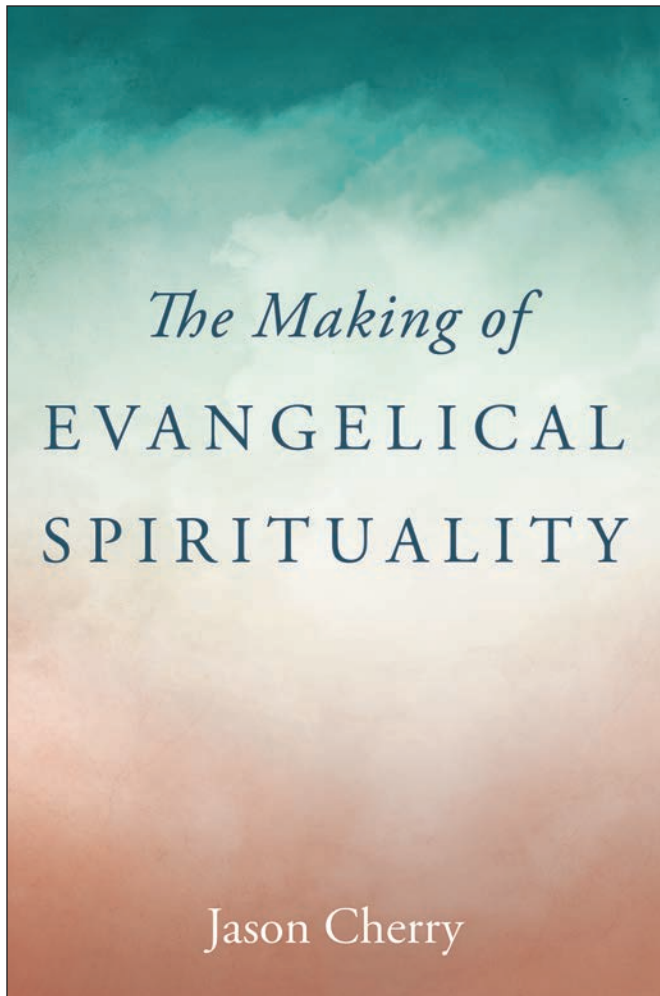
"Evil is a problem for theists; it compounds the mystery of God. In a selective but accurate way—beginning with the book of Job—Belitsos highlights turning points in the history of theodicy. His approach is open and ecumenical. He leaves ample room for mystery and yet brings clarity that transcends the typical claim of an 'impasse.' This well-written and thorough theological treatise really touches on topics vital to every thinking Christian at some point in their lives."

—Roger Haight, SJ, former president, Catholic Theological Society

"Belitsos constructs an integrative theodicy which unequivocally embraces the goodness of God. This good God guides us along the path of soul-making until all potentials have become actuals and any remaining trace of evil and sin have disappeared from the grand universe. This is a remarkably comprehensive and thoughtful update on the problem of evil."

—Ted Peters, distinguished research professor of systematic theology and ethics, Graduate Theological Union

BYRON BELITSOS holds a BA in history of ideas from the University of Chicago and an MA in systematic theology from Union Theological Seminary in New York City. For several decades Belitsos has been an independent scholar and an award-winning book publisher, editor, and author. His previous acclaimed books include *Your Evolving Soul* (2017), *A Return to Healing* (2009), and *One World Democracy* (2005).



The Making of Evangelical Spirituality

JASON CHERRY

978-1-6667-5382-0 | 186 p. | \$27

How did it come to be that evangelicals expect individualized, extrabiblical revelation from God? What has happened culturally, historically, and theologically to make this the ubiquitous assumption of evangelical spirituality? *The Making of Evangelical Spirituality* is a compound of history and theology applied to the subject of evangelical spirituality—specifically, the phenomenon of evangelicals thinking “God spoke to me” in a still, quiet voice. The story is complex, multifaceted, and urgently in need of telling. Few Christians know the history of the spiritual expectations heaped upon them. Few know the individuals who gave shape to evangelical spirituality, spiritual chieftains who were often guided by uniquely ephemeral, social, and cultural forces. There is no towering figure like Martin Luther that stands as the lone front man for the esoterica of evangelical spirituality. Instead, it’s the osmosis of many fascinating people struggling through life in the storm of worldly and cultural momentum. This book is the story of those hermits, monks, reformers, heretics, politicians, outcasts, and preachers who gave shape. Failure to tell the story now risks

“Thomas Chalmers once asserted, ‘The Spirit guides us unto all truth and all truth is to be found in the Bible; the Spirit therefore guides us unto the Bible.’ This once widely understood principle has been obscured and all but forgotten by the peculiarities of evangelical mysterialism. In this brilliant book, Jason Cherry not only shows us why this is, he shows us the sure pathway back to biblical orthodoxy.”

—George Grant, pastor, Parish Presbyterian Church

“Have there ever been people who can generate heresies with the insouciance of American evangelicals? Perhaps it has something to do with our ‘spiritual populism’ and ‘mysterialism.’ Those are terms that Jason Cherry employs in this helpful book as he examines the inversion of authority in evangelical Protestantism—once the basis for authority was Scripture, now for many people it is some form of personal revelation. How did it happen, and what can be done? Jason can help answer those questions.”

—C. R. Wiley, author of *In the House of Tom Bombadil*

“As Jason Cherry shows, the biblical portrait of the Spirit’s work has been distorted by the lust for spontaneity, the elevation of the self, an unbiblical dualism between the head and the heart. Cherry has done the historical and theological spadework to help us distinguish genuine intimacy with the living Spirit from the distortions of ‘esotericism’ and ‘mysterialism.’”

—Peter Leithart, Theopolis Institute

JASON CHERRY is an elder at Trinity Reformed Church in Huntsville, Alabama, as well as a teacher and lecturer of literature, American history, and economics at Providence Classical School in Huntsville. He graduated from Reformed Theological Seminary with an MA in religion and is the author of the book *The Culture of Conversionism and the History of the Altar Call*.

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