In this little volume, Anthony Thiselton makes an impassioned appeal for closer attention to the philosophy of hermeneutics. Emilio Betti provocatively observes that hermeneutics ought to constitute an obligatory course for most degrees in the humanities. Hermeneutics, he insists, teaches patience, tolerance, respect for other views, understanding, and humility, while holding one's own views with firmness and generosity. Yet many teaching institutions do not yet recognize this. With this in mind, Thiselton first considers and responds to those who argue that hermeneutics is not necessary. Then he considers anew more sophisticated thinkers on the subject. Types of texts and hermeneutical models, he argues, are almost infinite, a fact many biblical scholars do not recognize. In the field of biblical hermeneutics, too many view the Bible as one thing, or as a monochrome landscape—it is not. The culmination of Thiselton's case consists in a sustained reflection on the impressive work of Paul Ricoeur, selecting thirteen points of genuine advance his work makes. With a glossary of fifty technical terms this is a volume that will prove helpful to student and scholar alike.

"I have learned much from Thiselton about the fundamental importance of hermeneutics for the study of the Bible. I hope others will do likewise!"
—Walter Moberly, Durham University

“Christians must focus on hermeneutics, and this book provides the opportunity for conversation with a master, someone who has devoted his life to the discipline. Tony Thiselton has done more than anyone to lay bare the issues and the history of the discussion, and his latest offering on the topic focuses on the importance of hermeneutics and the main contours of the discipline, especially with regard to Paul Ricoeur.”
—Klyne Snodgrass, North Park Theological Seminary

“Anthony Thiselton’s Why Hermeneutics continues to expand our horizons of understanding about what is involved in reading texts. . . . Thiselton here presents the most compelling case I have yet come across for viewing hermeneutics as a relevant if not essential component of university education—in the humanities and divinity alike.”
—Kevin J. Vanhoozer, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

Anthony Thiselton is Emeritus Professor of Christian Theology in the University of Nottingham and the University of Chester. He is also Emeritus Canon Theologian of Leicester, and of Southwell and Nottingham, and a Fellow of the British Academy. He has published over thirty books, including The Two Horizons (1980), New Horizons in Hermeneutics (1992), and Thiselton on Hermeneutics (2006).
Conversations with Calvin: Daily Devotions

By Donald K. McKim

ISBN: 9781532650970
Pages: 186
Publication Date: 9/17/2019

Conversations with Calvin: Daily Devotions provides extracts from the commentaries of John Calvin. The short devotion that follows explains the meaning of Calvin’s quotation in light of his overall writings. It also explores the meanings of Calvin’s thought for contemporary Christian living. The goal is to introduce readers to Calvin’s theology so it can be readily understood, and also to see ways Calvin’s theological insights—expressed in the initial quotation—can shape our beliefs and the living of Christian faith in today’s world.

“Calvin was a pastor, dedicated to serving God's church. He was committed to explaining and applying God's word to the members of Christ's body, day in and day out. This book offers an appealing welcome into the riches of Calvin's exegetical reflection, his effort to reflect what he learned from the Bible for others to see and use in their daily lives.”
—Elsie McKee, Princeton Theological Seminary

“Students reading Calvin for the first time frequently express surprise (and delight) over two things they find in the reformer’s writings: breadth and warmth. With this superb collection, Don McKim has given us daily opportunities to learn from both the diversity of Calvin’s works beyond the Institutes and the heart of a pastor always concerned to make theology useful and edifying. These devotions will surprise and delight both new and not-so-new readers of Calvin!”
—Kenneth J. Woo, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

“This is a wonderful book in which Professor McKim introduces readers to the riches of Calvin's theology and piety in a manner that is both eminently accessible and wonderfully uplifting. The texts from Calvin are superbly chosen and McKim’s comments clear and discerning. I cannot recommend this highly enough—it's a delightful volume.”
—Jon Balserak, University of Bristol

Donald K. McKim is a former seminary academic dean, professor of theology, and editor for Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. He has also served as a pastor. Dr. McKim is the author and editor of a number of books, many focusing on the Reformed theological tradition. He has written books of Daily Devotions based on Calvin, Luther, Bonhoeffer, and Barth. He is an Honorably Retired minister of the Presbyterian Church (USA).
Breakfast with Barth: Daily Devotions

BY Donald K. McKim

Breakfast with Barth: Daily Devotions provides extracts from the writings of theologian Karl Barth. The short devotion that follows explains the meaning of Barth’s quotation in light of his overall writings. It also explores the meanings of Barth’s thought for contemporary Christian living. The goal is to introduce readers to Barth’s theology so it can be readily understood and also to see ways Barth’s theological insights—expressed in the initial quotation—can shape our beliefs and help us live the life of Christian faith in today’s world.

“Breakfast, as we know, is the most important meal of the day. And Karl Barth is widely regarded as the greatest theologian of the twentieth century. Put them together, as Donald McKim has done, and what you get is the spiritual breakfast of champions. Have a hearty breakfast with Barth before you do anything. It’s sure to build a strong body of Christ in innumerable ways.”
—George Hunsinger, Princeton Theological Seminary

“Donald McKim has produced a beautiful little book that makes Barth accessible to readers of any variety. He presents devotions on texts from Barth that foster not only further thought but aim toward wisdom and edification. In this, McKim has rightly discerned that Barth is read best when he is read in and for the church and for Christians who seek to follow Christ’s way.”
—Kimlyn J. Bender, George W. Truett Theological Seminary

“Adding to his engaging series of devotional readings of major theologians, Don McKim offers fresh and accessible reflections and meditations on eighty-four bite-size quotations from the writings of Karl Barth. McKim’s reflections are substantial enough to invite moments of serious contemplation and brief enough to whet the appetite for more. Whether read consecutively or selected according to the reader’s interests at the moment, Barth’s abiding insights into the depth and breadth of Christian faith and life are clearly presented.”
—Daniel L. Migliore, Princeton Theological Seminary

“Karl Barth’s theology is inspiring, but the complexity of his work can be a barrier for many in the church. Don McKim’s Breakfast with Barth warmly opens the door to the world of Barth’s theology, offering joyful meditations on brief excerpts from his writings. McKim’s clear and passionate reflections illuminate the way Barth’s ideas relate to one another and urge readers to consider the relevance of his theology for Christian faith and witness today.”
—Angela Dienhart Hancock, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Donald K. McKim is a former seminary Academic Dean, Professor of Theology, and editor for Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. He has also served as a pastor. Dr. McKim is the author and editor of a number of books, many focusing on the Reformed theological tradition. He has written books of Daily Devotions based on theologians such as Calvin, Luther, and Bonhoeffer. He is an Honorably Retired minister of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
Believer on Sunday, 
Atheist by Thursday

Is Faith Still Possible?

BY Ronald P. Byars

FOREWORD BY Jessica Tate

Imprint: Cascade Books
Language Sold: NA

ISBN: 9781532667459
Pages: 146
Publication Date: 7/30/2019

Regular worshipers may be believers on Sunday but (nearly) atheists by Thursday. The general public, not making fine distinctions, lumps mainline Protestants together with fundamentalists fighting to hold on to a privileged status already lost. Circumstances favor religious skeptics, who find themselves with rising influence. Church members in mainline denominations feel caught between a rock and a hard place. Thus comes the critical question of the moment: is Christian faith of an intellectually serious and recognizably generous sort still possible? This book invites readers to explore basic questions about faith itself, and classically inclined Christian faith in particular. Faith is a kind of knowing, but a knowing that makes use of doubt and asserts that it is possible to be confident without claiming absolute certainty. Faith is less like agreeing with an argument and more like falling in love. Faith involves learning how to see with the eyes of the heart. Faith embraces realities that can be perceived even by a child, but that cannot always be directly expressed in the kind of language we use for discussing serious matters. Living in faith is and will always be an against-the-grain way of imagining the world.

"Ron Byars should soon receive a citation for honesty. Pulling no punches, he bears witness to the complexity, ambiguity and difficulty of serious Christian faith in our culture. With that acknowledgement, however, he then proceeds to articulate in a wise, compelling way how and in what ways the deep claims of gospel faith can matter for us. His perspective is according to the rich practices of worship. He provides a winsome 'sacramental' reading of our shared life that is grounded in our actual living but that he permeates with thick symbols of faith that are open to imaginative rendering. His witty title attests that the glory of Sunday Easter faith is eroded and fatigued by Thursday: Byars offers an invigorating Wednesday way-station in the tradition that invites fresh courage for the faithful. Reading this book may indeed yield a renewal of faith so much needed among us."
—Walter Brueggemann, Columbia Theological Seminary

"This uncommonly well-written analysis of what ails the mainline churches in our day is an electric charge of a book. Ronald P. Byars, a distinguished thinker, wants to help us embrace an adult Christian faith in the face of cultural disdain. He loves the gospel and does not want us to go down whimpering. I eagerly recommend his readable diagnosis of our ills and his bracing call to all who long for the return of the distinctive Protestant voice as an alternative to the pallid, undifferentiated spiritual fare presently on offer. This book will be tremendously encouraging to preachers."
—Fleming Rutledge, Episcopal priest and author of The Crucifixion: Understanding the Death of Jesus Christ

Youtube: https://youtu.be/dZd4AEjISRs


Jessica Tate is founder and Director of NEXT Church
Karl Barth's 1922 The Epistle to the Romans is one of the most famous, notorious, and influential works in twentieth-century theology and biblical studies. It is also a famously and notoriously difficult and enigmatic work, especially as its historical context becomes more and more foreign. In this book, Kenneth Oakes provides historical background to the writing of The Epistle to the Romans, an introduction and analysis of its main themes and terms, a running commentary on the text itself, and suggestions for further readings from Barth on some of the issues it raises. The volume not only offers orientation and assistance for those reading The Epistle to the Romans for the first time, it also deals with contemporary problems in current Barth scholarship regarding liberalism, dialectics, and analogy.

"Barth's Epistle to the Romans is notoriously opaque and challenging; Oakes' guide is lively, perceptive, and nimble, and will enable readers to approach Barth with confidence and discover for themselves the riches of this classic of twentieth-century theology."
- John Webster
University of Aberdeen

"Cleary written and accessible, Reading Karl Barth offers a fascinating and much-needed commentary on Karl Barth's The Epistle to the Romans. Oakes' book is a helpful companion for those reading Barth for the first time, and there is also much here for those who have been thinking about Barth's revolutionary commentary for some time."
- Tom Greggs
University of Aberdeen

Kenneth Oakes completed a doctorate in theology at the University of Aberdeen and is currently a postdoctoral researcher at the Eberhards Karl Universitat, Tubingen.
What is metaphysics? Metaphysics: A Basic Introduction in a Christian Key gives a simplified answer to this daunting question. Born under the shadow of the Parthenon by Aristotle and his contemporaries, metaphysics eventually enjoyed its heyday in the medieval era and is finding a resurgence today in modernity. This book explores the perennial question of being and its uptake in the world of Christian theology. Donald Wallenfang leads the reader through five navigable chapters that feature the most basic themes of metaphysics: the question of being, first principles, causality, cosmology, and morality. The abstract tendencies of metaphysics are brought down to earth with reference to the gospel of Jesus and the relevance of metaphysics for daily living. Altogether, the reader will be inspired to think toward the whole by asking questions that penetrate beneath the surface of things. Beauty, truth, and goodness will be unveiled to the degree that we accompany Jesus the metaphysician along his itinerary of being given.

“Surely there aren’t many books like this one! In delightful prose, Professor Wallenfang sets forth a metaphysics that is richly and masterfully Aristotelian, while also repeatedly connecting these metaphysical insights with the Word Incarnate Jesus Christ. He concludes with a brief prolegomenon to a future phenomenological companion volume. Simply put, readers of his sparkling book, perhaps much to their surprise, will fall in love with metaphysics.”

—Matthew Levering, James N. and Mary D. Perry Jr. Chair of Theology, Mundelein Seminary

“Metaphysics is a Greek heritage that was fruitfully taken up by Christianity as it sought to understand itself. This clearly-written book shows how intertwined it has become with Christianity and doesn’t hesitate to portray Jesus as the metaphysician par excellence. Those who lack a metaphysics miss it dearly.”

—Jean Grondin, Professor at the University of Montreal and President of the Academy of Arts and Humanities of Canada

Donald Wallenfang, Emmanuel Mary of the Cross, is a Secular Discalced Carmelite and professor of theology and philosophy at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. He is the author of Metaphysics: A Basic Introduction in a Christian Key (Cascade, 2019); Phenomenology: A Basic Introduction in the Light of Jesus Christ (Cascade, 2019); Dialectical Anatomy of the Eucharist: An Étude in Phenomenology (Cascade, 2017); Human and Divine Being: A Study on the Theological Anthropology of Edith Stein (Cascade, 2017); and coeditor (with John C. Cavadini) of Evangelization as Interreligious Dialogue (Pickwick, 2019) and Pope Francis and the Event of Encounter (Pickwick, 2018).
Theology

The Old Testament Basis of Christian Apologetics
A Biblical-Theological Survey

BY Siegbert Riecker

Much has been written on apologetics of the Old Testament canon and historicity, investigating the Old Testament as an object of apologetics. However, this study is the first comprehensive investigation focusing on apologetics within the Old Testament—i.e., the Old Testament theological foundations of the discipline of Christian apologetics—investigating apologetics as an object of the Old Testament.

Taking seriously the biblical texts at its outset, the study presents a biblically based scheme of five types of apologetic strategy: narrative apologetics, prophetic apologetics, wisdom apologetics, "citatory" apologetics as antithetic proclamation, and exemplary apologetics. It focuses on the many explicit confrontations in dialogues, disputes, quotes, and responses, in both prose and poetical form, which are accompanied by an indirect dispute, taking substantial space within the historical parts of the Hebrew Bible. These theological themes are derived from the Old Testament itself, not adapted from the New Testament.

This book serves to fill the gap of a proper biblical-theological foundation of the academic field of apologetics. It is a new challenge for all apologists who wish to take seriously the biblical theological foundation of their discipline.

With its sole focus on the Hebrew Bible, this study speaks to Jewish scholars as well. It enriches the current discussion on Jewish apologetics, its beginnings and first developments.

"With its large theological framework and unique strategy this book can be recommended to students, pastors, and scholars interested in Old Testament theology, faith, and foreign religions. This is a solid biblical investigation on the boundary of the two disciplines, Hebrew studies and apologetics, enriching the discussion between Christian and Jewish scholars."
—Walter Hilbrands, Dean and Associate Professor of Old Testament, Freie Theologische Hochschule Giessen

"Dr. Riecker opens the door to a very fruitful area of inquiry as he illuminates the theological foundations of apologetics within the Old Testament. Starting with Genesis 1, he uncovers the broad diversity of direct and indirect strategies that are employed to answer critical accusations against the existence and character of God. This book is a must-read for serious students of the discipline of biblical apologetics."
—Stephen Tecklenberg, President, Eagle's Nest Ministries

The Didache

A Commentary

BY Shawn J. Wilhite, Michael A. G. Haykin

FOREWORD BY Clayton N. Jefford

Imprint: Cascade Books
Series: Apostolic Fathers Commentary Series
Language Sold: NA
ISBN: 9781498205108
Pages: 326
Publication Date: 9/4/2019

The Apostolic Fathers Commentary Series aims to complement the study of early Christianity through historical, literary, and theological readings of the Apostolic Fathers. Writers of the AFCS volumes seek to be mindful of critical scholarship while commenting on a final-form text. Shawn J. Wilhite’s commentary on the Didache includes a brief introduction to the Didache, the use of Scripture by the Didachist, and the theology of the Didache. The commentary proceeds section by section with a close ear to the text of the Didache, relevant early Christian literature, and current scholarship.

“Wilhite’s introduction is thoughtfully balanced—elucidating the beliefs, practices, and authoritative texts of the Didachean community as seen synchronically through the window of the Jerusalem manuscript, while still acknowledging the questions concerning, and engaging the critical scholarship on, the ‘journey’ of the text and the communities along the way. Most refreshingly, he is not afraid to think outside the box, and I found myself forced to reconsider points I thought long settled.”
—Nancy D. Pardee, University of Chicago

“In this introductory commentary Wilhite spills his extensive knowledge of primary and secondary sources, including the most reliable recent studies, in a volume of value to specialists and nonspecialists alike. This prized contribution imparts a freshness and urgency rarely encountered in works on the Apostolic Fathers. I recommend it without qualification.”
—Clare K. Rothschild, Lewis University

“Though intended as an introductory commentary on the Didache, not only does Wilhite’s book provide an entrée into the backgrounds, contents, theology, and reception of the Didache, it also steers a reliable path through the critical thickets that currently surround its interpretation. All of this makes the book a valuable companion to the study of the Didache, and a worthy contribution to this exciting new series on the Apostolic Fathers.”
—Charles E. Hill, Reformed Theological Seminary

Shawn J. Wilhite received a PhD in New Testament and a ThM in Patristics from Southern Seminary. He is Assistant Professor of Christian Studies at California Baptist University and PhD candidate in Patristics at Durham University. He is director and research fellow for the Center for Ancient Christian Studies.
In April 1740, Jonathan Edwards, minister of Northampton, Massachusetts, preached a discourse on Hebrews 12:22–24 comprising eight sermons. At this point, he had been the senior pastor of that town for just over a decade, and had seen his congregation through the historic Connecticut Valley Awakening of the mid-1730s, when several hundred souls were reportedly savingly converted. This first volume of *Sermons by Jonathan Edwards on the Church* contains the previously unpublished Hebrews discourse, “Christians Coming to Mt. Zion,” preached on the very cusp of the transatlantic religious movement that would become known as “The Great Awakening,” the New England phase of which began later that year. In addition to the complete and original text of Edwards’ discourse, the volume includes two introductions that describe his preaching style and method and provide an historical context.

“This is an important addition to our printed collection of Edwards’s thinking on the church. It is a topic that has not been given its just due in the last decades of the Edwards renaissance. But this volume, led by Minkema and Kimnach, two of the world’s most knowledgeable experts on America’s theologian, is a goldmine for future exploration.”

—Gerald R. McDermott, Anglican Chair of Divinity, Beeson Divinity School

Kenneth P. Minkema is the Executive Editor and Director of the Jonathan Edwards Center, Yale University, and Research Scholar at Yale Divinity School.

R. Craig Woods retired as Director of Information Technology at Virginia Tech, with degrees in Computer Science, serves as an elder in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, and is an online editor with the Edwards Center’s Sermon Editing Initiative.

Thomas A. Koontz is a practicing architect living in Blacksburg, Virginia, and is an online editor with the Edwards Center’s Sermon Editing Initiative.

Wilson H. Kimnach is the Presidential Professor in the Humanities (Emeritus), Bridgeport University, and General Sermon Editor of *The Works of Jonathan Edwards*. 

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**Sermons by Jonathan Edwards on the Church, Volume 1**

*How Christians Are Come to Mt. Sion*

**EDITED BY** Kenneth P. Minkema, R. Craig Woods, Thomas A. Koontz

**INTRODUCTION BY** Wilson H. Kimnach

Imprint: Cascade Books

Series: The Sermons of Jonathan Edwards

ISBN: 9781532649097

Pages: 142

Publication Date: 9/11/2019
This volume contains previously unpublished sermons by Jonathan Edwards on St Paul's Epistle to the Galatians. Edwards preached these sermons during his Northampton pastorate, and repreached some of them between 1728 and 1751. The importance of the Epistle to the Galatians has been recognized throughout the Christian practice of preaching. As such, these sermons have significance for its place in the Protestant tradition since the Reformation, but they also highlight Edwards's thought on the nature of faith and works, flesh and spirit, and Christ and the Holy Spirit. To assist the reader, preceding the sermons are two introductions that describe Edwards's preaching style and method, and provide an historical context for the sermons themselves.

“Martin Luther was touched by the message of free grace in Galatians and wrote his extensive commentary on this book. This volume reveals how Jonathan Edwards was struck by this book in the Bible, his interaction with the reformer, the original interpretation in the struggle with Arminianism, deep Trinitarian theology, sparkling spirituality, and powerful practicality. The introductions about the context of the sermons are very clarifying. Warmly recommended.”
—Willem van Vlastuin, Chair of Theology and Spirituality of Reformed Protestantism, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

“Many thanks to our friends at Yale for producing yet another fine volume of Edwards's sermons. This is a treasure trove of eighteenth-century biblical exegesis that will be used by parish pastors, Bible teachers, and historians for many years to come. Wilson Kimnach's introduction alone is worth the price of the book. But please don't stop there, for Edwards's sermons on Galatians proved central to his thinking, and should be central to our thinking about his thought and its significance.”
—Douglas A. Sweeney, Beeson Divinity School

“Often in history, the Epistle to the Galatians has functioned as a mirror to expose the state of the church. No less in Edwards's sermons on Galatians. We discover the context of Edwards's ministry aspirations and learn of his views of Luther, the Reformed tradition, Biblical theology, and perceived Arminian threats. Edwards's passionate appeals and exasperated responses to cooling revivalist fervor lie close to the surface, not unlike Paul's own responses to the Galatian believers. Whether for the church or the individual, herein lies profitable reading.”
—Rhys Bezzant, Senior Lecturer, Ridley College

Kenneth P. Minkema is the executive editor and director of the Jonathan Edwards Center at Yale University, and research scholar at Yale Divinity School.
Adriaan C. Neele is director of the doctoral program and professor of historical theology at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary.
Allen M. Stanton is a PhD candidate (historical theology) at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary.
Wilson H. Kimnach is presidential professor in the humanities (emeritus) at Bridgeport University, and general sermon editor of The Works of Jonathan Edwards.
Scripture testifies that in the work of Jesus Christ the power of Satan, sin, and death has been broken. Yet on and on the ages roll, and wars rage, humans destroy one another and themselves, and natural evils such as earthquakes and tsunamis occur. We seem to suffer what J. H. Bavinck calls “the great delay,” still awaiting Christ's final victory.

In this illuminating survey of the book of Revelation, Bavinck examines the status of the church and the world in the times of the end but before the “final finish.” Bavinck suggests the church is based on its mission to show the way of God and share his good news in the world. This mission occurs in a world claimed by Christ's victory, but still marked by the demonic and human hubris. Revelation is a literature that discloses the church's perennial challenges in a time claimed and won by Christ, yet still resistant to his lordship. The book peels back the veil to expose a battle not only on earth, but in the heavens, and assures the sometimes faltering church that it is not forgotten and Christ's victory is certain.

Bavinck centers his account of Revelation in its chapter 12, the strange woman who is crowned and yet haunted and hunted, driven to the edge of civilization. He sees in this woman, the bearer of a child, a figure of the church that bears its child and Lord, Jesus Christ. Like the woman, the church in these times between the times, is both crowned as God's royalty and often scorned by the world.

“J. H. Bavinck offers us here a unique and marvelously insightful account of what the book of Revelation tells us about God's purposes in human history. Some images in Revelation that have long puzzled me came alive for me in vivid and inspiring ways. This is a book that both instructs the mind and feeds the soul!”
—Richard Mouw, President Emeritus and Professor of Faith And Public Life, Fuller Theological Seminary

J. H. Bavinck (1895–1964) was a pastor and missionary in the Dutch Reformed Church. He served as professor of missions and practical theology at Free University in Amsterdam. His other books included An Introduction to the Science of Missions, The Riddle of Life, and Between the Beginning and the End.
Why worship? In this superb new collection of essays, lay people, clergy, poets, theologians, musicians, novelists, and scholars offer personal, profound, and provocative reflections on their experience of worship in The Episcopal Church. Through their flesh-and-blood stories of longing, loss, and love, we encounter the God who meets us in common prayer.

Contributors to the book include:

J. Neil Alexander, Fred Bahnson, Michael Battle, Luisa Bonillas
Rodney Clapp, Kim Edwards, Melissa Deckman Fallon
Stephen Fowl, Paul Fromberg, Katherine Greene-McCreight
Cameron Dezen Hammon, BJ Heyboer, Rhonda Mawhood Lee
Ian S. Markham, Duane Miller, Joseph Pagano, Amy Peterson
Spencer Reece, Amy Richter, C. K. Robertson, Sophfronia Scott
Rachel Marie Stone, Lauren Winner

“This gracefully edited collection is a window into the transformative experience of shared liturgy in all its particularity, difficulty, and beauty. May these honest reflections open the eyes of our faith.”
—Sara Miles, author of Take This Bread: A Radical Conversion and City of God: Faith in the Streets

“If Anglicanism claims to be catholic and reformed, then this winsome volume has the best of both: catholic in liturgy, Protestant in testimony. Open this volume and meanwhile open your heart to be strangely warmed by the quirky, the moving, the profound, and the playful.”
—Sam Wells, Vicar of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London

Joseph S. Pagano and Amy E. Richter are Episcopal priests, appointed missionaries for The Episcopal Church, and serve as lecturers in theology at the College of Transfiguration in Makhanda/Grahamstown, South Africa. They are married to each other.
Are religious women in the United States disappearing and finally dying out? Or is there any new way of religious life emerging? *Conversations at the Well* tries to respond to this question. In the twenty-first century of the global world, newly emerging religious life would be rooted with the Jesus Movement and develop in the spirit of collaboration, networking, and intercultural living. As the liminal space, religious life is located at the margins, subverting the existing social order and creating a new vision for the world. This book explores an alternative meaning of religious life within the context of the apostolic mission. In this new religious life, the concept of community is not limited to living as a community in the convent, but extended into collaborating friendship. Primarily, the apostolic religious life is deeply related to social justice, delinking the global capitalism in which many people suffer from human trafficking, immigration, and exile. The new leader of religious women would require skill in handling uncertainty, amplifying resources, and opening to the new reality. In this new religious life, spirituality would be articulated as freedom and liberation to let go of the old frame, as well as letting the new life become reality. In this way, as radical disciples, religious women in the twenty-first century embody the Jesus Movement, building bridges between different cultures and people.

“Jung Eun Sophia Park and Tere Maya have produced a remarkably lucid and original reflection on the reality of religious life today and where it is going. . . . Breaking new ground in the conversation, this well-written and insightful reflection makes a much needed contribution to our efforts to understand and imagine the future of all forms of ministry in these times of epochal change.”
—Allan Figueroa Deck, SJ, Loyola Marymount University

“Sophia Park, SNJM, invites women religious to see the present moment as a graced, if difficult, period that can be—indeed already is—taking religious life to a new moment.”
—Elizabeth Liebert, SNJM, San Francisco Theological Seminary


Tere Maya, CCVI, has served as a teacher, history professor, and administrator. She has passion for the formation of ministers for Hispanics/Latinos in the United States. Sister Tere got her BA at Yale University, her MA at the Graduate Theological Union at Berkeley, and a PhD in El Colegio de Mexico in Mexico City. She is currently serving as congregational leader for her congregation and in the presidency for the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR).
Renowned New Testament scholar Gordon Fee explores the meaning of Christian witness and service in every area of life. Focusing on the implications of every Christian’s calling to belong to Christ, Fee reframes our contemporary quest for a more seamless, integrated faith. His careful examination of the context and message of Paul’s letters sheds light on how a Christian identity is lived out in home, workplace, and church.

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2 SUBMIT TO ONE ANOTHER: Paul on the Household, Church, and Workplace
3 WITH OUR OWN HANDS: Paul’s Countercultural Approach to Work
4 LIVING SACRIFICES: The Ministry of Christ’s Body in the World

“I have long believed Gordon Fee’s writing pen bleeds gold ink. He proves himself again a master biblical interpreter, incisive theologian, and passionate teacher. Pastors will benefit greatly from Fee’s many insights on vocation, work, and ministry, but his reflections here are relevant to all believers.” —Nijay K. Gupta, Associate Professor of New Testament, Portland Seminary

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).

Jeffrey P. Greenman is President and Professor of Theology and Ethics at Regent College. His research and writing has focused on Christian ethics, spiritual formation, and leadership.
If it is true that God is a male, then His Divinity or Deity is expressed in His masculinity. Yet I am a woman, and there are parts of my body; such as my breasts, my vagina, and my womb that are telling a story about God that I have never learned or understood. This is an exploration of the significance of a womb that must shed and bleed before it can create. How will we engage our body which cyclically bleeds most of our life and can build and birth a human soul? How will we honor the living womb, that lives and sometimes dies within us?

This is a book about the theology found in the cycle of the womb, which births both life and death. Every day each one of us is invited to create, and every day we make a decision knowing that from our creation can come death or life. Women’s voices have been silenced for a long time as society and the church has quieted their bodies. Will we courageously choose to listen to the sound of your voice, the song of your womb, and speak for the world to hear?

Dr. Christy Vidrine Bauman is the author of three books: Theology of the Womb, A Brave Lament, and Coming Home. She is a psychotherapist, supervisor, and professor who focuses on the female body, sexuality, and theology. She lives in Seattle with her husband, Andrew and three kids: Wilder, Selah and River. When not parenting, counseling, teaching, or writing, Christy can be found in a warm ocean spearfishing and saning for conch.
Unmasking the Male Soul is about freedom that confronts the innate and enslaving obsession for power and control in destructive ways. At the core of this liberating process, we must acknowledge that we cannot escape the sociocultural matrix in which every human being emerges. In denying their fallen nature, human beings set aside their dependency on God and become self-centered and self-reliant.

It is from their self-centered hearts that human beings foster dynamics of coercion, domination, competition, and distorted self-realization at the expense of others. This cycle of shame and guilt is well-disguised behind a mask which enables them to enact these dynamics in subtle ways. At times even in the name of religion, men followed the illusion of their internal insecurities and became dependent on masks of power and control.

It is time to break away from the chains of exclusion and devaluation of women in Christian leadership. Masculinities have only perpetrated a narrative of exceptionalism as the apex of humankind, and often they have contrasted to subservient expectations of women in leading others. Each chapter responds to the implicit male silence on the issue in a multidisciplinary way with historical, sociocultural, theological, and scriptural implications. In this book, I will endeavor to challenge the masks of masculinities and dismantle several mental models that foment a gender divide in Christ-like leadership in the twenty-first century.

“Wilmer Villacorta delivers on his promise to unmask the male soul. His analysis of the distressing behavior and rhetoric surrounding the issues of hyper-masculinity are eye-opening. Focusing on human relationships, particularly those of men toward women, he adds new understandings of the nature of abuse and the urgent need for transformation. Villacorta’s outstanding contribution to the conversation invites men and women to think again about relationship to God and one another in humility with integrity.”—Douglas McConnell, Fuller Theological Seminary

“Unmasking the Male Soul is a careful historical, cultural, and scriptural study of masculinity that dissembles the bounds of gender roles and shifts the disposition towards greater strength, through wider imagination. It pushes us to nuance our learned perceptions of performed gender, urging us to challenge institutions that stifle human equality. Wilmer G. Villacorta takes us on a personal and theological journey, probing female strength and the vulnerability of God so women and men can be courageous enough to live harmoniously.”—Grace Ji-Sun Kim, Earlham School of Religion, author of Embracing the Other

Wilmer G. Villacorta is Associate Professor of Intercultural Studies at Fuller Theological Seminary. He teaches for the Master of Arts in Global Leadership (MAGL), a pioneer program in online graduate education since 2004. He and his family reside in the city of Colorado Springs. He is author of the Tug of War: The Downward Ascent of Power (Cascade, 2017).
Is Darwinian evolution really the most successful scientific theory ever proposed—or even the best idea anyone has ever had, as Daniel Dennett once put it? The Mystery of Evolutionary Mechanisms provides a comprehensive critical reading of the literature of evolutionary biology from Darwin to Dobzhansky to Dawkins, revealing this popular account of evolution to be a grand narrative of Darwinian triumph that greatly overstates the empirical validity of modern evolutionary theory. The mechanisms driving the evolutionary process truly remain a mystery more than one hundred fifty years after Origin of Species, a fact that can free religion scholars to think in more creative ways about the positive contributions religious reflection might make to our understanding of life's origin and diversity. The Mystery of Evolutionary Mechanisms calls for an embrace of mystery, understood not as an abdication of the scientific quest for truth but as a courageous and humble acknowledgment of the limits of human reason and an openness to a fundamentally religious orientation toward life.

"Maybe, just maybe, Darwinian evolution has been a bit oversold. Luther College religion professor Robert Shedinger dives into contemporary documents as well as the historical record to show that the theory's impressive public facade is belied by frank private admissions that even top scientists are unsure of what is the mechanism of evolution. The implications for religion scholars are immense."

—Michael J. Behe, Author of Darwin's Black Box

“As a neuroscientist who had, for all my adult life, taken the Darwinian theory of natural selection as the absolute basis of evolution, I found that reading The Mystery of Evolutionary Mechanisms was like reading a thrilling detective story . . . This is a very compelling read and an eye-opening history regarding the making of a scientific theory, particularly by how theory-making can be influenced as much by the belief structures of a current scientific culture as by the evidence of their research.”

—Marjorie Woollacott, Prof. Emerita of Neuroscience, University of Oregon

Robert F. Shedinger is Professor of Religion at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. He is the author of Jesus and Jihad (Cascade Books, 2015) and several other books in religious studies. This is his first book on the topic of religion and science.
This book is the result of intensive, multiyear international and interdisciplinary cooperation. From many perspectives, the book’s contributors address themes of freedom and slavery; self-determination and concepts of freedom; God-given and imprinted freedom; freedom as an ethos of belonging and solidarity; and relations between freedom, human rights, and theological orientation. With contributions from:

Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenza, Ron Soodalter
Manfred Oeming, Katharina von Kellenbach
Rudiger Bittner, Peter Lampe
Cyril Hovorun, Risto Saarinen
Friederike Nussel, Larry W. Hurtado
Patrick D. Miller, Beverly Roberts Gaventa
Hans-Joachim Eckstein, Dirk J. Smit
Jan Christian Gertz, Jurgen van Oorschot
Jindřich Halama, Carver T. Yu
Susan Abraham

“What is freedom? Quests for Freedom does not only inform on a word that was used and waved as a banner of hope, it reminds the reader of the often bitter experiences of ordinary people with forms of slavery and suppression, old and new, but most important, it explores in an interdisciplinary way the avenues in which freedom not only is a wonderful idea, but becomes reality for ordinary people. Quests for Freedom exemplifies the way contemporary theology should be done: in interdisciplinary cooperation, using the sources of the Christian tradition, critical, realistic, and hopeful.”

—Cornelis van der Kooi, Professor Emeritus Systematic Theology at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Michael Welker has been a professor of theology at the Universities of Tübingen, Münster, and Heidelberg, and he has frequently been a guest professor in Britain, Canada, and the United States. His many authored and edited books include God the Revealed (2014), The Depth of the Human Person (editor, 2014), and Faith in the Living God (second edition with John Polkinghorne, 2018).
A Modern Parable for Teaching Children and Youth about the importance of Self-Acceptance!

There once was a girl with a hole in her heart.  
Little Love was her name, where was she to start?
It was not of her doing. She was not to blame.
But the hole in her heart was there just the same.

So begins the story of Little Love as she sets out on a journey to heal her broken heart. Join her on her path to self-discovery where she meets Beauty and Fame, and learns the true value of her self-worth. Written for children, but with a timeless message for the child in all of us, Little Love reaffirms the importance of self-acceptance in life's journey toward love, joy, and friendship.

- Age range: 0 to 12  
- Grade Level: K-8  
- Reading Level: Early, Primary, Young Adult  
- children's book with morals for children  
- great bedtime story to discuss with kids about their self worth

Rose Stanek is an award winning graphic designer, interior designer, and now children's book author. She is the mother of two cowcats, Monty and Tyson, and calls the Pacific Northwest home. She loves creative storytelling, and empowering others to live their dreams. Check out www.rosestanek.com to learn more about her.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR  
Crystal Smalls Ord is a freelance illustrator from the Pacific Northwest. She loves to create happy art for kids at heart with lots of color and detail. You can see more of her artwork on Instagram and Etsy under the name SmallsOrdArt.
The great Victorian Christian author George MacDonald is the wellspring of the modern fantasy genre. In this book Colin Manlove offers explorations of MacDonald's eight shorter fairy tales and his longer stories *At the Back of the North Wind*, *The Princess and the Goblin*, *The Wise Woman*, and *The Princess and Curdie*.

MacDonald saw the imagination as the source of fairy tales and of divine truth together. For he believed that God lives in the depths of the human mind and “sends up from thence wonderful gifts into the light of the understanding.” This makes MacDonald that very rare thing: a writer of mystical fiction whose work can give us experience of the divine.

Throughout his children’s fantasy stories MacDonald is describing the human and divine imagination. In the shorter tales he shows how the imagination has different regions and depths, each able to shift into the other. With the longer stories we see the imagination in relation to other aspects of the self and to its position in the world. Here the imagination is portrayed as often embattled in relation to empiricism, egotism, and greed.

“Manlove reveals the imaginative logic underlying MacDonald’s children’s fantasies. With his broad knowledge of children’s literature, the stories are contrasted with those by other Victorian writers, highlighting MacDonald’s keen understanding of psychology and human nature. Readers will find unique insights to better appreciate the genius of all MacDonald’s works that, in various ways, explore the divine imagination within each of us, especially the childlike.”

—Robert Trexler, Writer, Editor, and Publisher

“Arguing that MacDonald’s children’s fairy tales meld fantasy with realism, Manlove suggests that this union invites ‘us to see our world as continually penetrated by divine forces.’ This ‘divine imagination’ reflects MacDonald’s belief that ‘God lived in the roots of the imagination.’ Manlove’s thorough reading of the children’s fantasies illuminates how MacDonald was able to create a unified, harmonious worldview ‘that mirrors the nature of the divine universe.’

—John Pennington, Professor of English, St. Norbert College

While in high school Chuck felt God’s call to be a field missionary in Africa, expecting to spend his life there. But God only allowed him three years in the “bush.” He had other things in mind for him. These years working cross-culturally laid a solid foundation for his future accomplishments.

Through a series of unplanned events, God made him a teacher of missionaries and a missiologist—teaching and writing to improve missionary principles and practices. In this book Kraft reflects on how he was shaped as a missiologist and why/how he felt the need for writing his many books and articles.

“Culture-positive” is the term he has coined for his approach. It’s an approach that honors a people’s way of life and helps them to express their faith in Christ within that way of life without converting to another culture. He taught that God loves and accepts them as they are—plus faith—and seeks to work with them to develop their own Christianity based on their own understanding of Scripture. Chuck sees a missionary as a coach, not as a director. This approach has shown its effectiveness both among the people Chuck worked with (the Kamwe of northern Nigeria) and in the field ministries of his students.

“For those who have been touched by one or more of the published works from the ‘four careers’ of Charles Kraft, this book provides very personal insights into his life and work. Kraft shares how in his life’s journey of social rejection by many, God transformed him, his life of ministry, and his scholarship for the purpose of healing, empowering, and motivating those he served for the greater mission of God.”

—Sherwood G. Lingenfelter, senior professor of anthropology and provost emeritus, Fuller Theological Seminary

“Chuck Kraft has been in the forefront of creative missiology for decades. He has pushed out the edges of our understanding of mission in ways that have been consistent with Scripture and sensitive to culture. His autobiography will inform and challenge us.”

—Paul Pierson, dean emeritus and professor emeritus of history of mission and Latin American studies, Fuller Theological Seminary

Charles H. Kraft spent over forty years teaching anthropology, intercultural communication, contextualization, and spiritual warfare in the School of Intercultural Studies (formerly School of World Mission) at Fuller Seminary. He holds degrees from Wheaton College, Ashland Theological Seminary, and Hartford Seminary. He was a pioneer missionary in northeastern Nigeria and learned, taught, and published on the Hausa language. His writings (over thirty-six books) show deep understanding of people, of communication, and the power of God. He has significantly influenced missiology through his teaching and writings. He and his wife, Meg, live in South Pasadena, California, and they have four grown children.
Ever since the Middle Ages, the first hour of daily prayer in monastic life—Matins—has roused the community from sleep. Wisely, the second hour was reserved for Lauds, which means praise. Praise with that freshly awakened consciousness. In this way, such an attitude toward the world, seen and unseen, could be absorbed before breakfast.

The poems in this book continue that tradition—though outside a monastic community—of waking up, reflecting, and discerning what there is to praise—and how, and whom. The book constructs an introspective retrospective of a woman charged with curiosity and accommodating doubt. Over decades, she acknowledges with gratitude her own daily shaping by students, grandchildren, rhinos—a public and private history full of saints and ain'ts.

Beyond the author’s erstwhile community chanting Lauds, she explores its resonance with wit and wistfulness and arrives at this truth: praise over time alters the one who gives it.

“With signature wit, word-wariness, and warmth, Jeanine Hathaway brings us a new song in the lineage of Dickinson, Moore, and Bishop—a brilliant, cool surface that offers, even so, a profound, subterranean heat, evincing her continuing faithfulness to the embodied spirit that wishes to save us all. May it be blessed.”

—Scott Cairns, author of Anaphora

“Soon after you open this dazzling book, you begin to feel it was written precisely and only to you. Not that the poems are confessional—they’re not—but their witty, antic wordplay and their music accumulate until they feel like a secret language between the writer and the reader. These poems are urgent. Their passion makes me see stitches, saints, Paris—almost everything—in a whole new way, teaching questions that may, in the end, be more significant than answers.”

—Jeanne Murray Walker, author of Pilgrim, You Find the Path by Walking

“Jeanine Hathaway is the kind of religious poet I deeply admire—earthy, worldly, and of this world, a writer who works inside the contradictions of division and reconciliation, doubt and faith; but she is first and foremost a poet who knows her trade. Hathaway never takes herself too seriously and yet she is taken by her subject matter and by the serious question she has deeply lived—just how exactly are we being asked to live our lives?”

—Robert Cording,

Jeanine Hathaway currently enjoys professor emerita status from Wichita State University, where she has taught writing and literature. She was a poetry mentor in Seattle Pacific University's MFA Program. Hathaway is the author of the autobiographical novel Motherhouse (1992), the 2001 Vassar Miller Poetry Prize-winning The Self as Constellation (2002), and a chapbook, The Ex-Nun Poems (2011).
The Parthenon

BY George Hobson

FOREWORD BY Richard B. Hays

Imprint: Resource Publications
Language Sold: NA

ISBN: 9781532690013
Pages: 128
Publication Date: 9/25/2019

The twenty-seven poems in this collection were written over a period of many years. They vary greatly in style and length.

The poems in the first two sections are lyrical. Natural beauty evokes wonder and tugs at memory. Creatures dance and sing. There is joy. The last poem in Part II, “The Generations,” shifts tone abruptly. There is conflict and loss. In the end, with the dolphins, beauty renews hope. “The Generations” is a bridge to the complex narrative poems and dramatic lyrics in Part III.

Here the tragic is displayed, but also the divine power that redeems it. Part IV plunges into our modern abyss. The poems are an anguished cry from the heart of the fog enveloping our civilization. The long poem, “The Fog,” evokes the plight of lost and lonely individuals tending their private campfires in the night of the world, cut off from transcendence and marooned in the abstract unreality of the digital universe. Part V carries forward this momentum, referencing the genocidal violence of our age, but then moves from darkness and horror up into the light of revelation and peace.

“George Hobson's exquisite poetry comes from a life infused with love; love of people, place, and God. Love enables him to see and transmit beauty, even amid personal and communal suffering.”
—Maria Apichella, poet and Associate Professor, University of Maryland University College

“George Hobson's words are like feelers slowly exploring the contours of the world around, feeling for the presence of grace and reporting what they find. These poems have a remarkable physicality, both in the simple evocation of the stuff of a God-drenched world, and in the startlingly fresh metaphors (Christ as Braille, for example, and as the rain that dissolves the fog of contemporary alienation) that slip into the fabric and give it a further sheen.”
—Rowan Williams, University of Cambridge

George Hobson has published four volumes of poetry: Rumours of Hope (2005); Forgotten Genocides of the 20th Century, a collective work (2005); Faces of Memory (2017); and Love Poems for my Wife, Victoria (2019). A retired Episcopal priest who has lived over half his life in France working for ecumenical renewal, he has taught theology is many developing countries, including Rwanda, Burundi, Haiti, Armenia, and Pakistan.
The Christian and the Old Testament

BY Walter C. Kaiser, Jr.

FOREWORD BY Ralph D. Winter

Imprint: Wipf and Stock
Language Sold: NA

ISBN: 9781532677984
Pages: 320
Publication Date: 4/24/2019

Is the Old Testament relevant for today? Yes! Discover the unifying theme of the “Old” and “New” Testaments — and of history! — in God’s promise-plan first given to Abraham in Genesis 12. Cross-cultural workers and students of the Bible will discover valuable insights and new zeal for searching and communicating the Scriptures in this very readable book based on years of massive scholarship.

“No single question about the Bible is more crucial, more basic, more troublesome, more significant, more complex, more profound, more weighty or more urgent than the question of the true nature of the connection between the religion/faith of the Old Testament and that of the New Testament. . . . It cuts to the heart of the often misunderstood dynamics of the global mission movement. It sheds light on practically every page of the Bible. Here Kaiser is at his best, warmly down to earth, personable, exuberantly encouraging, making profound insights plain. . . . We are not talking now about common knowledge, widely accepted perspective; in these talks you will find unusual and crucial insights that are not common although they ought to be and must be.”

Ralph D. Winter, PhD, U.S. Center for World Mission

Walter C. Kaiser Jr. is President Emeritus of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and the Colman M. Mockler Distinguished Professor of Old Testament. He is also a former board member of Bible Study Fellowship International (BSF).

What if you had a guidebook that you could turn to at each stage of your academic journey to help you navigate through the process of getting a PhD in Biblical Studies and succeeding in the academic world? This book is precisely intended to fill that need. From theory to practice, you will find discussions and answers to the most pertinent and pressing questions that prospective and current doctoral students are faced with: How do I choose a program? How can I gain admission into an elite program? How do I choose a research topic? Alongside the "big" questions about the process, there are also a host of smaller matters: How do I publish an article? What conferences are out there in my field? Where do I start looking for a job? How do I get teaching experience? How do I write a syllabus?

This guidebook tackles all of these questions and many more in three parts: Prepare focuses on getting into a PhD program; Succeed guides you through the doctoral program, especially the writing of the dissertation; and Advance treats issues that relate to success in the academic world such as conference participation, publishing, employment, and best practices in teaching.

PRAISE FOR THE FIRST EDITION

"Gupta has kindly provided me a book version of an academic mentor. In a time when many professors are busy, Gupta walks the extra mile and makes himself present not only in person to those near him, but also in writing for those like me. I can't thank him enough!" —Natan B. de Carvalho, College Student

"Dr. Gupta’s book offered indispensable advice for me as I applied for PhD programs, completed my thesis, and applied for (and secured) tenure-track jobs. I am grateful for his service to the guild!" —Madison N. Pierce, Assistant Professor in New Testament, TEDS

"Having started seminary about a year after the first edition appeared, I was able to use Gupta’s abundance of clear-headed advice to build a path to doctoral study. I can see, as a student in a first-tier PhD program, that this journey would not have been possible had I not been able to learn the many unspoken rules Gupta outlines in this invaluable book." —Jonathan Groce, New Testament PhD student at Emory University

Endorsements & Reviews

"This is the book I wish I'd had when I applied to PhD programs. Reading it is like having an honest heart-to-heart with a very wise friend who will guide you capably through the wilds of the PhD and into the first few years beyond." —Rebekah Eklund, Loyola University Maryland

"Nijay Gupta, in his revised edition of Prepare, Succeed, Advance, offers a very helpful guide to students who are considering the world of theological academic scholarship. He is deeply aware of the challenges, pitfalls, and prospects facing students, and in this book offers helpful guidance for how to navigate the world facing them. It is definitely one I will be handing on to my ongoing students." —Mariam Kovalishyn, Regent College

"While nothing can replace face-to-face conversation and counsel, Gupta’s eminently readable little book is one I will recommend to students as it provides a succinct but thorough guide for those who are discerning or planning to pursue an advanced degree in biblical studies. Furthermore, Gupta’s wisdom, tips for self-care, and balance are on display in each chapter." —Joshua Jipp, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

"For anyone considering doctoral work (and what follows) in biblical studies, Nijay Gupta's book is a must-read. Full of practical advice and the wisdom of experience, Prepare, Succeed, Advance is the (survival) guide I did not read many years ago because nothing like it existed. But now it does, and it is a gem, even better the second time 'round." —Michael J. Gorman, St. Mary's Seminary & University

Nijay K. Gupta is Associate Professor of New Testament at Portland Seminary. He has written or edited six books and has published dozens of academic articles. He is an award-winning researcher and a member of the Society of New Testament Studies.
Most books about Paul the apostle are long and very detailed, and for many a potential reader a daunting prospect. A Short Book about Paul is deliberately brief, but its brevity is not at the cost of accuracy.

We trace the main contours of Paul’s life, which turn on the hinge of the singular event outside Damascus in c. AD 34. From that time the leading persecutor of the disciples became the dedicated preacher of the message about Jesus.

This short book shares with many the opinion that Paul remains the most influential voice from Greco-Roman antiquity apart, that is, from the Lord whose servant he was. At the same time, many critics have found fault with him, especially from the time of the Enlightenment.

Paul’s achievements were considerable. Between AD 47–56 he established a network of congregations in five Roman provinces—Syria-Cilicia, Galatia, Macedonia, Achaia, and Asia. His thirteen surviving letters are witnesses to his dedicated pastoral care of these tiny, far-flung gatherings. Not to be missed was his remarkable skill in recruiting a small army of loyal coworkers like Timothy, Luke, and Titus.

The result of Paul’s decade-long journeys in the provinces of Anatolia and Greece was the planting of the seeds of Christianity that would develop into the official religion of the eastern Roman Empire, based in Constantinople.

“In relatively small compass, this book succeeds not only as a basic introduction to Paul and his thought, but also as a corrective to common misunderstandings of the apostle, and as an appreciation of his ongoing significance for today’s world. By setting Paul solidly in his historical context, Barnett’s book will promote not only more effective exegesis of Paul’s letters, but also enable readers to see how the Bible finds its unity in salvation history, and its climax in the sending of God’s Son.”

—Donald Hagner, George Eldon Ladd Professor Emeritus of New Testament, Fuller Theological Seminary

“This is now the best, brief, English-language book on the apostle Paul. It is equally attentive to history and theology. It owns up to objections to Paul and then forthrightly answers them. It never loses sight of the fact that Paul pointed to Jesus Christ and not himself. It traces Paul’s still-important legacy. Readers both novice and advanced will profit from this careful exploration of the main contours of Paul’s life, teaching, and testimony to Jesus.”

—Robert W. Yarbrough, Professor of New Testament, Covenant Theological Seminary

Paul Barnett is visiting professor at Regent College, Vancouver; Lecturer Emeritus at Moore College, Sydney; and Honorary Fellow in Ancient History at Macquarie University.
In this clear, practical, and relatively brief commentary, Anthony Thiselton brings to bear his intimate knowledge of Paul's theology, the ancient city of Corinth, and Paul's epistles to the church of that city. The commentary is not only critical and exegetical, but also has a focus on practical and pastoral reflection.

Second Corinthians is Paul's most passionate epistle. It shows him to be a man of very deep feeling, who sometimes has to be frank, even blunt, with those who seek to undermine his work. In this commentary, we see the inner turmoil of a devoted missionary pastor and apostle. We also have the opportunity to explore how power can be expressed through weakness by pastors and all Christians who follow a Christ crucified and risen.

“Anthony Thiselton has time and again demonstrated himself to be a master of integrative Christian thinking at the highest level. In this most welcome volume he applies his extraordinary abilities in the service of down-to-earth, pastoral reflection on Paul's most pastoral letter, bringing the best of contemporary scholarship on 2 Corinthians to bear on life in the twenty-first century. Church leaders and laypersons alike will find in this commentary a gift both clear and timely.”
—George H. Guthrie, Professor of New Testament, Regent College

Anthony C. Thiselton is Emeritus Professor of Christian Theology at the University of Nottingham and the University of Chester. He is also Emeritus Canon Theologian of Leicester and of Southwell and Nottingham. He is a Fellow of the British Academy, and of King’s College, London. He has published commentaries on Romans, 1 Corinthians, and 1 and 2 Thessalonians, as well as books in the areas of hermeneutics, philosophy, and systematic theology.
The apostle Paul wrote the epistle to the Galatians. By far, Galatians is one of the most controversial letters among the Pauline writings. Galatians appears to have been written in instantaneous response to what Paul observed as an urgent crisis among the Galatian churches. For Galatians provides us with more personal and autobiographical information than any other letters of the apostle Paul. When all the information and the teaching is integrated with the teaching of the letter itself, it helps us to build up a strong picture of Paul the missionary and theologian, and also allows us to situate the letter to Galatia itself within both his life and his theology. To the Galatians, however; Paul had preached Christ crucified and response of faith had resulted in rich and powerful experience of the Spirit. Paul’s recollection also gives valuable information regarding those to whom the letter was addressed and about their admission into Christian faith.

Panayotis Coutsoumpos, PhD, The University of Sheffield, England. He is an adjunct professor of Biblical, and New Testament Studies at the University of Montemorelos, México. He is the author of several books and has published many articles in professional journals. He has published several books including Paul and the Lord’s Supper, in Spanish Comunidad, Conflicto y Eucaristía en La Corinto Romana. More recently, Coutsoumpos has published the book Paul, Corinth, and the Roman Empire. He currently lives in Silver Spring, Maryland.
A fresh and engaging study of Romans 1–8 rich in personal illustrations and theological insight. A gift to all those who want to understand Paul better, whether they are preachers, ordinary readers, or scholars.

In that final sentence, Les provides a neat summary of the letter to the Romans. I think of the apostle Paul making notes, outlining, composing, and finally editing the words in this magnificently compressed theological statement, a work that became a gracious gift to us. I think of God’s own plan for humanity, an experiment begun in love but that would involve the hardest work of all, the incarnation and crucifixion, a seeming defeat that led to a gift of grace, the salvation of the world. And I think of Les, propped up in a hospital bed, fighting with his febrile brain to squeeze out this timeless message for us modern readers. May it fall like water and like light.
—Philip Yancey

“Romans Unplugged is fresh, lively, and engaging. Paul’s Letter to the Romans can seem daunting and even overwhelming, but Les Brighton enables us to understand it and its powerful message in all of its profound depth. In a book that is full of wisdom and insight, and with many vivid illustrations and stories, Les Brighton helps us to hear Paul’s voice with a new clarity and a new power.”
—Paul Trebilco, Professor of New Testament Studies, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand

“Romans continues to intrigue, inspire, and illuminate readers while resisting all attempts to determine its interpretation once and for all. Les Brighton brings scholarship, insight, and deep personal appreciation of the grace of God to this study of Romans 1–8. Every reader will be refreshed in their engagement with Romans through Brighton’s profound testimony to the impact of this great scriptural text on his life.”
—Bishop Peter Carrell, Anglican Diocese of Christchurch, New Zealand

Les Brighton was a New Zealand editor, writer, preacher, and theologian. He was extensively involved in ministry to young people and edited a national Christian magazine.
In *A Stranger in Jerusalem*, Trevan Hatch attempts to situate the stories about Jesus within their Jewish context. Jesus was a Jew, his friends were Jews, his first followers were Jews, he studied the Hebrew Scriptures (either orally or from texts), he worshiped in the synagogue, and he occasionally traveled to Jerusalem to observe the Israelite festivals. Hatch illustrates that Jesus does not seem to have rejected Judaism or acted as a radical outsider in relation to his Jewish peers, but rather he worked *within* a Jewish framework.

The overarching questions addressed in this book are (1) how can an understanding of early Judaism illuminate our understanding of the Jesus traditions, (2) how did Jesus relate to his Jewish world and vice versa, (3) why did the Gospel writers portray Jesus and his Jewish peers the way they did, and (4) how would Jews in the first and second centuries have interpreted the Jesus traditions upon hearing or reading them? Hatch explores several topics, including childhood and family life in first-century Galilee; Jewish notions of baptism and purity; Jewish prophets and miracle workers; Jewish ideas about the messiah; and Jesus’ relationship with Judas, the Pharisees, the priestly establishment in Jerusalem, the Jewish populace, and his own disciples.

“It is a given that the life and ministry of Jesus took shape within the Jewish community of Roman Palestine. Trevan Hatch takes this context of Jesus with deep seriousness and in this book fashions an interpretation of the Gospels within the Judaism(s) of their time. What emerges is an historically situated depiction of Jesus and his teachings. This book is a major contribution toward building Jewish and Christian understandings of Jesus.”

—Peter J. Haas, Professor of Jewish Studies Emeritus, Case Western Reserve University

“A novel and intriguing departure from the traditional inferences from the Gospels and Acts. Carefully researched, Hatch’s work sees Jesus, the Pharisees, and the crucifixion in a different light. . . . The author analyzes in detail the internal Jewish conflicts at the time, including the Jewish Christians and the various views on Gentiles’ path to Christianity.”

—Victor Mirelman, Rabbi emeritus of West Suburban Temple Har Zion and former professor at Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Columbia University, and The Jewish Theological Seminary

“Jesus as an observant Jew of his time. The Pharisees as his allies. Judas as perhaps the closest apostle. These are among the thoughtful conclusions Trevan Hatch offers in this readable, reliable, and accessible book. Like the accomplished teacher he is, Hatch poses probing questions that lead his students—I mean, his readers—on fruitful journeys of discovery and reflection.”

—Leonard J. Greenspoon, Klutznick Chair in Jewish Civilization at Creighton University

Trevan G. Hatch is the biblical studies and religious studies specialist in the Lee Library at Brigham Young University and is an adjunct instructor in the Department of Ancient Scripture. His formal training and primary expertise is in Jewish studies. Hatch is a coeditor with Leonard Greenspoon (Creighton) of the forthcoming volume, *Divine Jealousy: What Latter-Day Saints Can Learn from Jews.*
Backlist Highlights
Against many expectations, religion has not vanished from Western culture. People are troubled and fascinated in equal measure by this new visibility and are unsure whether it is right to (re)incorporate the vocabulary of faith into our common life.

This unprecedented co-existence of religion and secularism is sometimes termed the “postsecular,” and in this book Elaine Graham considers some of its implications for the public witness of Christianity. She argues that everyone, from church leaders, theologians, local activists, and campaigners, needs to learn again how to “speak Christian” in these contexts. They need to articulate credible theological justifications for their involvement in public life and to justify the very relevance of their faith to a culture that no longer grants automatic privilege or credence.

This entails a retrieval of the ancient practice of apologetics, in order to encourage and equip Christians to defend and commend their core principles and convictions in public. This “new apologetics” involves discerning the actions of God in the world, participating in the praxis of God’s mission and bearing witness in word and deed. Rather than being an adversarial or argumentative process, this is an invitation to dialogue and to the rejuvenation of our public life.

“This book convinces the reader that today more than ever the Christian mission must be performed in word and deed, working together with people from other faiths and none for the common good.”
—Manfred L. Pirner, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany

“This book equips us to show hospitality to a plurality of perspectives in churches, broader society, and the academy. Moreover, it strengthens us to impact transformatively upon pluralistic public discourses, public opinion-formation, and public policy processes.”
—Nico Koopman, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

“Here is fresh thinking on how to make a theological contribution to the common good in a post-secular world, where religion is resurgent, resisted, and optional in the public sphere. With characteristic clarity and erudition, Elaine Graham invites us to see public theology as the new apologetics—not arguing for one’s beliefs against skeptics, but making the case for God’s presence in the world by the lives we live there, shaped by the Christian story.”
—William Storrar, Center of Theological Inquiry, Princeton

Elaine Graham is Grosvenor Research Professor at the University of Chester, UK and Canon Theologian of Chester Cathedral.
"Be Still! Departure from Collective Madness echoes the call of the Navajo sage and the psalmist who invited their hearers to stop--"If we keep going this way, we're going to get where we're going"--and be still--"Be still, and know. . . ." Like pictures in a photo album taken from a unique lens, these essays zoom in on singular moments of time where the world is making headlines, drawing attention to the sin of exceptionalism in its national, racial, religious, cultural, and species manifestations. Informed by Japanese Christian theologian Kosuke Koyama, Elie Wiesel, Wendell Berry, and others, the author invites the reader to slow down, be still, and depart from "collective madness" before the Navajo sage is right. Told in the voice familiar to listeners of All Things Considered and Minnesota Public Radio, these poetic essays sometimes feel as familiar as an old family photo album, but the pictures themselves are taken from a thought-provoking angle.

"This wondrous collection of rich snippets would be of interest and value if only for the rich source material that Gordon Stewart quotes from, as it must be an inexhaustible memory and/or file. But the many words he quotes are no more than launching pads for Stewart's expansive imagination and agile mind that take us, over and over, into fresh discernment, new territory, unanticipated demands, and open-ended opportunity. All of that adds up to grace, and Stewart is a daring witness to grace that occupies all of our territory."
--Walter Brueggemann, Columbia Theological Seminary

"These are lovely, powerful, centering essays--messages from and for a fragile but beautiful planet."
--Bill McKibben, Author of Eaarth: Making a Life on a Tough New Planet

"As a person who navigates the pleasures and perils of the twenty-first-century campus, having Be Still! at my fingertips will be like having a counselor, a guide, a very present help in these times. This volume touches the pulse of our times with the rare combination of unwavering candor and tender mercy."
--Lucy A. Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain, Senior Minister in the Memorial Church, Harvard University

Gordon C. Stewart's guest commentaries on faith and culture have aired on All Things Considered and in print on MPR, Minnpost.com, and the StarTribune. An ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA), he has led ecumenical campus ministries and churches in Illinois, Ohio, Wisconsin, New York, and Minnesota. He was the first non-lawyer Executive Director of the Legal Rights Center, a nonprofit public defense corporation in Minneapolis.
Although the cry for justice in human society is an important theme in the Bible, in many church and academic circles action for and discourse about social justice is carried on without a thorough exploration of this theme in Scripture. This volume brings together chapters by experts in the various sections of the Old and New Testaments to give a full spectrum of what the Bible has to say about social justice, and to point to ways forward for Christians seeking to think and act in harmony with God in pursuing social justice in the world today.

"This book is unique: in it, noted biblical scholars weigh in on what the Bible says about social justice, a topical domain typically populated by sociologists, ethicists, and activists. The volume is remarkably comprehensive, sampling texts from across the biblical canon, and its discussions are robust and insightful. The volume introduces devout, learned evangelical voices into a conversation of great import both for the church and the poor and powerless in our world. Hear them well!"

--Robert L. Hubbard, Jr. Professor (Emeritus) of Biblical Literature, North Park Theological Seminary, Chicago

"Concern with social justice has rightly captured the imagination of those who follow Jesus. The Bible and Social Justice powerfully supports this passion with brilliant biblical exposition. I highly recommend this stimulating book that not only informs us but also stirs us to action."

--Tremper Longman III, Robert H. Gundry Professor of Biblical Studies, Westmont College

Cynthia Long Westfall is Assistant Professor of New Testament at McMaster Divinity College. Along with her academic work, she has ministered to those who are at risk for homelessness in Denver, Colorado, and Hamilton, Ontario.

Bryan R. Dyer is the coeditor of Paul and Ancient Rhetoric (2015), and currently works for Baker Academic as an Acquisitions Editor.
This book offers two things in particular: first, these are papers that have been commented on and re-worked in the context of a set of lively sessions from (International) SBL conferences from 2012 to 2014 (Amsterdam, St. Andrews, Vienna). Second, they offer an insight into the origins of the discipline as one which became conscious of itself in the early modern era and the turn to history and the analysis of texts, to offer something exegetical and synthetic. The fresh wind that the enterprise received in the latter part of the twentieth century is the focus of the second part of the volume, which describes the recent activity up to the present "state of the question." The third part takes a step further to anticipate the way forward for the discipline in an era where "canon"--but also "Scripture" and "theology"--seem to be alien terms, and where other ideologies are advanced in the name of neutrality. Biblical Theology will aim to be true to the evidence of the text: it will not always see clearly, but it will rely on the best of biblical criticism and theological discernment to help it. That is the spirit with which this present volume is imbued.

"Questions of biblical theology are, at heart, questions about the understanding of the Bible in contemporary Christian thought and life. This collection of essays is a good guide to many of the key issues in contemporary debate about these questions."
--Walter Moberly (University of Durham)

"We are in the debt of editors Walsh and Elliott for a volume that is historically informed (from Gabler on), engaged with all the relevant secondary literature of the past century, and thoughtfully undertaken. I have wondered if a contribution of B. S. Childs was simply his ability to keep an eye on biblical theology and interpretation at widest possible scholarly range, and to evaluate it on those comprehensive terms--the danger being that the discipline would otherwise break up into tribes of special interest or self-reference. The editors and contributors to this volume have kept that same goal in mind and have done so with fine scholarship and focused attention. The uncluttered title, Biblical Theology, is just right."
--Christopher Seitz, Senior Research Professor of Biblical Interpretation, Wycliffe College, University of Toronto; Author, Joel: The International Theological Commentary

"This outstanding book will introduce the reader into the questions that currently animate the field of Biblical Theology. One cannot say enough good things about the comprehensive character of the essays as whole, the consistent brilliance of their execution and even energy which bubbles underneath the various contributions. Highly recommended!"
--Gary A. Anderson, Hesburgh Professor of Catholic Theology, University of Notre Dame

Mark Elliott is Professor of Divinity (Historical and Biblical Theology) at the University of St. Andrews. He is author of Engaging Leviticus (2012) and Providence Perceived (2015).

What if the modern American church has its Christian history wrong? According to ex-evangelical Michael Camp, most American believers fail Christian History 101. Drawing on his own historical research and missionary experience, he discovers that most popular Christian views of the Bible, church, sin, salvation, judgment, the kingdom of God, the "end times," and the afterlife--pretty much all religious sacred cows--don't align with the beliefs of the original Jesus movement. Some of them not even close.

Camp's *Craft Brewed Jesus* paves a fascinating journey of a group of disillusioned evangelicals and Catholics. When they decide to meet regularly over craft beers to study the historic foundations of their faith, their findings both rock their world and resolve ancient mysteries. They examine well-documented narratives of the early Jesus saga, Eastern streams of a lost Christianity, and the roots of our modern religious assumptions, all while striving to steer clear of either a conservative or liberal bias. What they uncover is a vital, refreshing spiritual paradigm no longer at odds with reality.

Grab your brew of choice and trace this transformational journey based on a true story that will encourage you in your walk of life and faith.

"A truly fascinating account, written by a self-identified former evangelical Christian, of a study group on a profound spiritual quest. Often meeting in local micro-brew pubs in Seattle, the group sought to understand authentic Christian discipleship in light of the latest historical and biblical scholarship. Even those who disagree with some of the conclusions reached will benefit greatly from the wealth of historical information and from the spiritual insights contained herein. Highly recommended."
--Thomas Talbott, Emeritus Professor of Philosophy, Willamette University; Author

"In a conversational style ... *Craft Brewed Jesus* invites the reader to wrestle with sorting out living spiritual truth from stagnant theological tradition. And all this while over a pint or two! My kind of book."
--Bryan Berghoef, author, *Pub Theology*

Michael Camp spent twenty-five years in the evangelical movement, including as a missionary to Muslims, a development worker in Africa, and a lay leader in independent, charismatic, and Baptist churches. Today, as a business leader, he writes, blogs, attends pub theology gatherings, and facilitates microfinance projects through his local Rotary Club in Bainbridge Island, Washington. He is the author of *Confessions of a Bible Thumper* (2012). Learn more at www.michaelcampbooks.com.
The Exorcism of Anneliese Michel

BY Felicitas D. Goodman

Imprint: Resource Publications
Language Sold: Hungarian, Indonesian, Polish (in negotiation)

ISBN: 9781597524322
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In 1976 a young German girl named Anneliese Michel underwent a series of exorcisms. The rites were administered by two priests of the Catholic Church to free Anneliese of the six demons they believed possessed her. Seemingly as a result of the exorcisms the girl died. Worldwide publicity followed when the girl's parents and the two exorcists were brought to trial and convicted of negligent homicide.

Here a noted anthropologist offers her own interpretation of the exorcisms of Anneliese Michel. Drawing on interviews with the two exorcists, the girl's parents and friends, transcripts of the trial, and tape recordings made during the exorcisms - as well as studies of religious experience in various cultures - Felicitas Goodman has written a fascinating, compelling book, one that finally tells what happened in this strange case as it delves into the age-old mystery of demonic possession.

A CASE STRAIGHT OUT OF THE EXORCIST
- Time Magazine

Felicitas D. Goodman (1914-2005) was Associate Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at Denison University in Granville, Ohio. A Religious Anthropologist, she wrote numerous books including Speaking in Tongues; How About Demons?; Where the Spirits Ride the Wind; and Ecstasy, Ritual, and Alternate Reality. In 1978 she founded the Cuyamungue Institute, based in Sante Fe, New Mexico. The institute is a nonprofit anthropological research and teaching institution specializing in ecstatic trance and the use of ritual body postures. To learn more about Dr. Goodman and her work visit www.ritualbodypostures.com.
We tend to look for God in the grand and spectacular, but most of our lives are filled with ordinary moments and routines: drinking coffee, reading a book, driving to work. Can we find God in the banalities of everyday life? In *Finding God in the Ordinary*, the author shows that we can, and that we must. Our world is not an ordinary world. Because it was spoken into being and maintained by the word of God’s power (Heb 1:3), everything around us is always revealing the nature and character of the triune God. Our world is extraordinarily ordinary, always calling our attention to the God of glory and his work in the commonplace.

“...I loved this short book by Pierce Taylor Hibbs on finding God in the ordinary. It is Scriptural, wise, and beautifully written. Reformed theologians are not supposed to write natural theologies, but the Bible itself says that God is clearly revealed in the creation, and that means not only in the big things like the skies and the mountains, but also in small things, like my morning cup of coffee. This book will help you to see God everywhere, for that is where he is.”
—John M. Frame, author of *Nature’s Case for God*

“This book is a tremendous stimulus to seeing the world as God would have us see it, and interacting with the world as God would have us interact. It helps us by showing what was always there, God’s presence in the ordinary. Creative, illuminating, and godly.”
—Vern S. Poythress, author of *Knowing and the Trinity*

“The meditations upon life’s commonplaces that Pierce Taylor Hibbs has crafted in this remarkable volume are Dillard-like in their penetrating observations of creation, and Hopkins-like in their ‚Glory be to God for dappled things‘ celebration of the Creator’s work. And more, because Hibbs’ meditations are grounded in a robust, polychrome doctrine of the Holy Trinity, they help us to see the work of the three-personed God in all of life—the extraordinary ordinary of our own lives.”
—R. Kent Hughes, author of *Disciplines of a Godly Man*

Pierce Taylor Hibbs serves as the Associate Director of the Theological English department at Westminster Theology Seminary. He is the author of *The Trinity, Language, and Human Behavior* (2018) and *The Speaking Trinity & His Worded World* (2019). He writes regularly at piercetaylorhibbs.com.
Genesis: A Theological Commentary for Preachers engages hermeneutics for preaching, employing theological exegesis that enables the preacher to utilize all the narrative units of the book to craft effective sermons.

This commentary unpacks the crucial link between Scripture and application: the theology of each preaching text, i.e., what the author is doing with what he is saying. Genesis is thus divided into thirty-five narrative units and the theological focus of each is delineated. The overall theological trajectory/theme of the book--divine blessing: creating for blessing (Gen 1-11), moving towards blessing (Gen 12-24), experiencing the blessing (Gen 25-36), and being a blessing (Gen 37-50)--is thus progressively developed. The specificity of these theological ideas for their respective texts makes possible a sequential homiletical movement through each pericope of the book, enabling the expositor to discover valid application for sermons.

While the primary goal of the commentary is to take the preacher from text to theology, it also provides two sermon outlines for each of the thirty-five units of Genesis. The unique approach of this work results in a theology-for-preaching commentary that promises to be useful for anyone teaching through Genesis with an emphasis on application.

"Any preacher will find in this volume sound scholarship bred of wide research, as well as clear communication of the scriptural message. Kuruvilla attends not only to the cultural context and the details of Hebrew text, but also to the theological message and the modern context. I am excited that pastors will have this sort of resource ready to hand."
--John Walton, Professor of Old Testament, Wheaton College, Illinois

"Those who preach the Bible to God's people face a daunting task. As they build a bridge from text to sermon, they must explain the text's meaning in its ancient context and also demonstrate its modern relevance. Abraham Kuruvilla's text-focused method, and sensitivity to the text's literary-theological dimension, will give preachers of Genesis confidence that their messages are grounded in the text, and insight into how to make Genesis resonate with modern audiences."
--Robert B. Chisholm Jr., Chair and Professor of Old Testament Studies, Dallas Theological Seminary, Texas

Abraham Kuruvilla is Associate Professor of Pastoral Ministries at Dallas Theological Seminary, and a dermatologist in private practice. He is the author of *Text to Praxis: Hermeneutics and Homiletics in Dialogue* (2009), *Mark: A Theological Commentary for Preachers* (2012), and *Privilege the Text! A Theological Hermeneutic for Preaching* (2013). He blogs regularly at www.homiletix.com.
What is the most famous and influential sentence of all time? Was it spoken or written in Mandarin or German or English—or Greek? And who spoke or recorded this sentence? A case could be made that twenty-five words found in the third chapter of the Gospel of John in the New Testament of the Bible are history's most celebrated and powerful sentence. Writing for laypersons and specialists alike, in this little book Murray J. Harris, a specialist in Greek grammar, analyzes John 3:16 with the sort of care and precision that has marked his fruitful career in New Testament scholarship.

"John 3:16 is a key verse epitomizing the message of John's Gospel about God's love being demonstrated in the gift of his one and only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Here is a wonderfully competent and penetrating analysis of this all-important verse and its invitation to all to believe and have eternal life in Christ. Warmly recommended!"

--Andreas J. Köstenberger, Founder of Biblical Foundations, Senior Research Professor of New Testament and Biblical Theology, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina

"What a wonderful gem this little book is! Murray Harris, renowned for his mastery of the nuances of Greek grammar and exegesis, has produced an exposition of John 3:16 full of illuminating insights. Here is a model of edifying scholarship in the service of Christ and the church. Reading this book leaves one longing for more. We may hope that Harris will do the same for other key New Testament texts."

--Donald A. Hagner, George Eldon Ladd Professor Emeritus of New Testament, Fuller Theological Seminary, California

"John 3:16 is one of the best known verses of the Bible, and therefore is a challenge for any exegete to expound in a way that is fresh and captivating. Yet Dr. Murray Harris is equal to this challenge and does not disappoint. With an ease of vocabulary and illustration, and a depth of technical knowledge, the reader is presented with a feast of insights from one who both understands and truly believes this sacred text."

--Dr. Glenn N. Davies, Archbishop of Sydney, Anglican Diocese of Sydney, Australia

Murray J. Harris is Professor Emeritus of New Testament Exegesis and Theology at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Illinois. Formerly he was director of Tyndale House, a biblical research library in Cambridge, UK, and faculty member of the Divinity School in the University of Cambridge. He has written commentaries on the Greek text of Colossians and Philemon, Second Corinthians, and John's Gospel. He was one of the NIV translators.
Mark
A Theological Commentary for Preachers
By Abraham Kuruvilla
Imprint: Cascade Books
Language Sold: Korean
ISBN: 9781610974196
Pages: 426
Publication Date: 2/24/2012

Mark: A Theological Commentary for Preachers engages hermeneutics for preaching, employing theological exegesis that enables the preacher to utilize all the narrative units of Mark to craft effective sermons.

This commentary unpacks the crucial link between Scripture and application: the theology of each preaching text. The Gospel of Mark is therefore divided into twenty-five narrative units, with the theological focus of each clearly delineated. The specificity of these theological ideas for their respective texts makes possible a sequential homiletical movement through each pericope of the book, progressively developing the theological trajectory of Mark's theme of discipleship, and enabling the expositor to discover valid application for sermons.

While the primary goal of the commentary is to take the preacher from text to theology, it also aids in the advance from theology to sermon by providing tips for preaching and two possible sermon outlines for each of the twenty-five units of the Gospel. The unique approach of this work results in a theology-for-preaching commentary that promises to be useful for anyone teaching through Mark's Gospel with an emphasis on application.

"Dr. Abraham Kuruvilla's commentary is up to date, relevant, in touch with recent literature, suggestive, and well written. This preacher's commentary on Mark introduces the pastor to the key issues of the gospel and points the preacher in a solid direction in terms of application emerging from the text. One of the keys is the excellent selection of materials made to get into the meat of the passage, which means pastors can utilize their limited time well in getting familiar with the gospel and where they might go with it. This work is well done and should serve pastors well."
--Darrell L. Bock
Research Professor of NT Studies
Dallas Theological Seminary

"Abraham Kuruvilla has produced a book that theologians, pastors, and laypersons will all appreciate at one and the same time, for he has laid out the Gospel of Mark in twenty-five narrative units simultaneously developing two possible sermon outlines on each of the twenty-five units along with the central theological focus of each unit. More than that, he has also developed a homiletical teaching tool as he progresses through the Gospel stressing the core idea of discipleship while emphasizing the work of the expositor in ending up with discovering valid applications and contemporary responses for living the content of each teaching unit in this Gospel. This emphasis on application of the text continues to be desperately needed in today's pulpits, as the need for truly expository preaching still exists; one that uses the text of Scripture as the exclusive basis for powerful preaching of the word of God in our day."
--Walter C. Kaiser Jr.
President Emeritus
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

Abraham Kuruvilla is Associate Professor of Pastoral Ministries at Dallas Theological Seminary in Texas, and a dermatologist in private practice. He is the author of Text to Praxis: Hermeneutics and Homiletics in Dialogue (2009) and blogs at www.homiletix.org
Who of us can possibly imagine the excruciating pain of being crucified? But further, who would imagine that in the midst of this ghastly punishment that brings on unrelenting headaches and mental disorientation, a crucified man would actually give thought to the needs of others? This book explores in detail the nature of crucifixion and then invites the reader to listen in stunned silence to the amazing seven sayings of Jesus of Nazareth while hanging on the cross, as he focuses his attention on others in the first three sayings, and only then on his own distressing situation. His last four sayings give expression to his utter spiritual and physical anguish and conclude with a cry of victory and then a cry in which he commits himself to God.

"Like the sledgehammer used to nail Jesus' hands to that crossbeam, this book packs a wallop. Harris' reverent but rigorous scholarship casts fresh light on some of history's weightiest words. Neither shying away from the gruesome nor losing sight of the glorious, this book succeeds wonderfully. It magnifies Jesus' unparalleled character and achievement by paying painstaking attention to known historical circumstances and Jesus' startling, unforgettable utterances."

--Robert W. Yarbrough, Professor of New Testament, Covenant Theological Seminary

"Countless devotional works abound on the Passion of the Christ and his seven last words on the cross. Detailed scholarly assessments of this material also appear frequently. But Murray Harris has created something new: a succinct, readable explanation of the meaning of each saying in its historical and grammatical contexts, fully abreast of contemporary scholarship and deeply inspirational as one ponders the awfulness and the love behind Jesus' suffering on the cross. A real gift to the church and all interested readers."

--Craig L. Blomberg, Distinguished Professor of New Testament, Denver Seminary

"It is refreshing to have these powerful words from the cross handled by a seasoned exegete who carefully places them in their Gospel and historical contexts, and offers us a treasure-trove of deeper insights. While its harmonizing approach will not suit all, Harris has produced a very accessible and devotionally rich study without loss of scholarly accuracy."

--John Nolland, Professor, Trinity College, Bristol; author, NIGTC commentary on Matthew (Eerdmans, 2005)

Murray J. Harris is Professor Emeritus of New Testament Exegesis and Theology at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, IL. Formerly he was Warden of Tyndale House, a biblical research library in Cambridge, UK, and faculty member of the Divinity School in the University of Cambridge. He has written commentaries on the Greek text of Colossians and Philemon, Second Corinthians, and John's Gospel. He was one of the translators of the New International Version (NIV). He resides in his native New Zealand in retirement.
What does the Bible really say about marriage, divorce, and remarriage? Where does the divorced person stand with regard to remarriage or ministry? This book is an easy-reading explanation of what God has to say about these important issues. It is truly 'A Biblical View of Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage.'

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"Finally, truth and sense emerge from the fog of confusion and shame. Through this book, many will finally understand these issues from a biblical perspective." --Marianne Stewart, Pastor of Women's Ministries, The Summit, Evangelical Free Church of America, Enumclaw, Washington

Rick Walston is the author of Unraveling the Mystery of the Motivational Gifts and The Speaking in Tongues Controversy. A former pastor, Rick is the founder and president of Columbia Evangelical Seminary.