Why bother with the interpretive categories of biblical faith when in fact our energy and interest are focused on more immediate matters? The answer is simple and obvious. We linger because, in the midst of our immediate preoccupation with our felt jeopardy and our hope for relief, our imagination does indeed range beyond the immediate to larger, deeper wonderments. Our free-ranging imagination is not finally or fully contained in the immediacy of our stress, anxiety, and jeopardy. Beyond these demanding immediacies, we have a deep sense that our life is not fully contained in the cause-and-effect reasoning of the Enlightenment that seeks to explain and control. There is more than that and other than that to our life in God’s world!

“Virus as a Summons to Faith, the summons that Professor Brueggemann hears in the devastation caused by the Covid-19 virus is the same summons that all prophets hear in the midst of calamity: the call into right relationship with Living Presence, a call into deeper, more caring, and mutually beneficial relationship with all that is. In the biblical language that has long been at the core of Brueggemann’s thinking, the devastating effects of the virus summon us to renew our covenantal relationship with God and to renew our responsibilities within that relationship.”

—Nahum Ward Lev, from the Foreword

“What does a gospel preacher say during and after a pandemic? We preachers have learned that we have no more reliable guide when it comes to preaching scripture than Walter Brueggemann. Walt sees COVID-19 as a summons to strong, prophetically biblical preaching. Once again, Walt has given us the words to say and the faith to say it! A quite wonderful book.”

Will Willimon, author of Leading from the Pulpit, Professor of the Practice of Christian Ministry, Duke Divinity School
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Walter Brueggemann is William Marcellus McPheeters Professor of Old Testament Emeritus at Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia. He has published widely on the Old Testament, including, from Cascade Books: David and His Theologian, A Pathway of Interpretation, Embracing the Transformation, The Practice of Homefulness, and Truth-Telling as Subversive Obedience.
Christians around the world are awakening to the Biblical call to “Do Justice”—but what does that look like in practice? Through a series of compelling and illuminating letters, a renowned philosopher and the founder of a ground-breaking Honduran justice organization draw on decades of personal experience to discuss theology, politics, human nature, and the messiness of making government systems work to defend rights and uphold justice.

part 1 The Founding of ASJ and How It Works
part 2 Justice, Love, and Forgiveness
part 3 Justice, Coalitions, and Keeping the Vision Alive
part 4 ASJ as a Christian Organization
part 5 Applying the ASJ Model Elsewhere

“Have you seen a book in whose title appears the word justice and then you read, from start to finish, and it is just about compassion? This is not one of them! I commend Call for Justice: From Practice to Theory and Back to all, but more importantly to: teachers and preachers, because this book is a corrective to distortions of the gospel that are dominant on the Christian landscape; leaders and workers in Christian-based organizations in compassion, development, and justice work, because your understanding and practice will be enriched; to activists for justice, because you will be encouraged to keep hope. It is a powerful book! Simple and yet profound!” —Bishop David Zac Niringiye (Kampala, Uganda), Visiting Fellow at Fuller Theological Seminary

“Kurt Ver Beek and the AJS team have dedicated themselves to the work of justice in Honduras with relentless courage and tenacity. For decades AJS has defended and protected the vulnerable, even in the face of violent opposition. As an exploration of the AJS model for transforming justice systems, Call for Justice embodies a rare combination of warmth and rigor; it's highly accessible as a dialogue between Ver Beek and Wolterstorff, while also providing a framework for confronting corruption and engaging broken justice systems. This book will be a significant companion for anyone who is serious about doing the work of justice over the long haul.” —Gary A. Haugen, CEO, International Justice Mission

“If you have ever called for justice to be done, but never engaged in the messy, complex, and perilous work of practical reform, then this book is for you. If you seek to bring about justice by the work of your hands each day, but struggle to articulate the reasoning that motivates your work, then this book is for you…” —Michael Le Roy, President, Calvin University

Nicholas Wolterstorff taught philosophy at Calvin College for thirty years and then, for fifteen years, at Yale University. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a former president of the American Philosophical Association and of the Society of Christian Philosophers. Among the twenty-nine books he has published are Until Justice and Peace Embrace, Justice: Rights and Wrongs, Justice in Love, and Journey toward Justice.

Kurt Ver Beek is a professor of Sociology at Calvin College and has lived the past 30 years in Honduras. He and his wife Jo Ann Van Engen direct the Justice Semester in Honduras. Kurt is one of the co-founders of ASJ, a Honduran NGO made up of individuals seeking to be brave Christians making the Honduran government work, especially for the most vulnerable.
This book honors the courageous sex victims who exposed their abusers. The spotlight, and rightly so, has been on them and their predators. William Kraft contends, however, that little attention and help has been given to those who unknowingly knew a sex offender, people such as spouses, family friends, and parishioners—the unintended victims.

Kraft gives these forgotten and silent victims a voice. He recognizes, listens, and responds to people who trusted, often admired, and perhaps loved a sex offender—the shocked woman whose husband is found guilty of sexual assault, the stunned parents and disillusioned parishioners of a pedophile priest, the lost man of an unfaithful wife, and the depressed parent of a promiscuous child. Kraft wants us to cease forgetting these victims and offer them help.

His proposal is that sex abusers cause severe and lasting harm because their defilement is not only physical but also emotional, social, and most importantly spiritual because abusers violate bonds such as trust, fidelity, and love. Thus, Kraft offers concrete psychological and spiritual ways to achieve effective management and healing.

“This book is a spiritual work of mercy. Dr. Kraft draws from rare expertise and decades of experience as he names the suffering—the shame, sorrow, and rage—of many long-neglected victims. This book can mark the beginning of healing, in hearts and minds and in communities.”
—Mike Aquilina, author of Yours Is the Church

“Dr. Kraft compassionately writes a spiritually directed understanding of silent victims whose lives are changed by the actions of their loved one. His approach provides hope and empowerment through a healing process. . . . Forgotten victims do not forget, and they are not alone. This book offers choice, freedom, connection, and closure to those who have been paralyzed by silence.”
—Jennifer A. Regester, Clinical Director, Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

“An excellent tool for victims to read! Dr. Kraft describes how victims need to create their own playing field, rules, and boundaries to replace co-dependently participating in the abuser’s game and their irrational and destructive logic. Dr. Kraft provides considerable insight for the victim on how to take care of and love themselves in order to become free from an abuser’s emotional and physical control.”
—Ron Barnes, Executive Director, Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

William F. Kraft is Professor Emeritus at Carlow University in Pittsburgh, author of many books and articles, licensed therapist, international speaker, consultant to religious dioceses and congregations, and an advocate for abused persons.
Inspiration Women Authors from Wipf and Stock Publishers

**Foolish Church**
Messy, Raw, Real, and Making Room
BY Lee Roorda Schott  
Imprint: Cascade Books  
Category: Spirituality  
ISBN: 9781532653278  
Pages: 148  
Publication Date: 2/4/2019

**God Is Not a Boy's Name**
Becoming Woman, Becoming Priest
BY Lyn Brakeman  
Imprint: Cascade Books  
Category: Spirituality  
ISBN: 9781498262671  
Pages: 192  
Publication Date: 3/2/2016

**Into the Deep**
An Unlikely Catholic Conversion
BY Abigail Rine Favale  
Imprint: Cascade Books  
Category: Memoir  
ISBN: 9781532605017  
Pages: 200  
Publication Date: 10/25/2018

**The Middle of Things**
Essays
BY Meghan Florian  
Imprint: Cascade Books  
Category: Memoir  
ISBN: 9781532607158  
Pages: 110  
Publication Date: 7/18/2017

**Toward a Theology of Psychological Disorder**
BY Marcia Webb  
FOREWORD BY John Swinton  
Imprint: Cascade Books  
Category: Spirituality  
ISBN: 9781498202114  
Pages: 208  
Publication Date: 8/15/2017

**Giving the Devil His Due**
Demonic Authority in the Fiction of Flannery O'Connor and Fyodor Dostoevsky
BY Jessica Hooten Wilson  
Imprint: Cascade Books  
Category: Theology  
ISBN: 9781498291378  
Pages: 156  
Publication Date: 2/28/2017

**Holy Mischief**
In Honor and Celebration of Women in Ministry
BY Mindy Makant  
Imprint: Cascade Books  
Category: Ethics  
ISBN: 9781532649226  
Pages: 136  
Publication Date: 9/23/2019

**The Book of Womanhood**
BY Amy F. Davis Abdallah  
FOREWORD BY Lisa Graham McMinn  
Imprint: Cascade Books  
Category: Discipleship  
ISBN: 9781498221344  
Pages: 222  
Publication Date: 10/20/2015

**Too Heavy a Yoke**
Black Women and the Burden of Strength
BY Chanequa Walker-Barnes  
Imprint: Cascade Books  
Category: Church Resources  
ISBN: 9781620320662  
Pages: 232  
Publication Date: 6/19/2014

**Unveiling Paul's Women**
Making Sense of 1 Corinthians 11:2-16
BY Lucy Peppiatt  
FOREWORD BY Scot McKnight  
Imprint: Cascade Books  
Category: Biblical Studies  
ISBN: 9781498289221  
Pages: 106  
Publication Date: 1/30/2018

[Link]
The Business of War
Theological and Ethical Reflections on the Military-Industrial Complex

EDITED BY James McCarty, Matthew Tapie, Justin Bronson Barringer
FOREWORD BY Jonathan Tran

Imprint: Cascade Books
Series: The Business of Modern Life Series
Language Sold:
ISBN: 9781532641046
Pages: 278
Publication Date: 10/1/2020

The Business of War incisively interrogates the development and contemporary implications of the military-industrial complex. It exposes the moral dangers of life in neoliberal economies dependent upon war-making for their growth and brings the Christian tradition’s abundance of resources into conversation with this phenomenon. In doing so, the authors invite us to rethink the moral possibilities of Christian life in the present day with an eye toward faithful resistance to “the business of war” and its influence in every aspect of our lives. In combining biblical, historical, theological, and ethical analyses of “the business of war,” the authors invite us to better understand it as a new moral problem that demands a new, faithful response.

“The Business of War is full of theologically critical, morally challenging, and epistemologically innovative voices! The superb collection of well-argued and researched essays disrupts the conventional wisdom about the necessity of the military for peace by revealing that war has been always a lucrative profit-making business. Retrieving Christianity’s long history of resistance to war, the book presents the possibilities of peace, embodied by audacious and compassionate peace activists since the birth of Christianity.” —Keun-Joo Christine Pae, Associate Professor of Religion/Ethics, Chair of the Religion Dept, Denison University

“Every now and then one reads a book that raises up fresh questions in an enlightening way, and even offers thoughtful alternatives for addressing the questions. This collection of essays does just that: it prompts Christians to think about the moral aspects of the U.S. military-industrial complex and it provides signposts for charting a moral path through the morass. A very worthwhile read.” —Kenneth R. Himes, OFM, Professor of Theological Ethics, Boston College

James McCarty is Director of the Center for Equity and Inclusion and Affiliate Professor of Education at the University of Washington Tacoma. He has published essays on racial justice, restorative justice, and peacebuilding in journals including the Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics, Theology and Sexuality, and the Journal of Law and Religion.

Matthew A. Tapie is Assistant Professor of Theology and Director of the Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies at St. Leo University. He is the author of Aquinas on Israel and the Church: The Question of Supersessionism in the Theology of Thomas Aquinas.

Justin Bronson Barringer is a PhD candidate in Religious Ethics at Southern Methodist University. He is coeditor of A Faith Not Worth Fighting For: Addressing Commonly Asked Questions about Christian Nonviolence and Practicing the Kingdom: Essays on Hospitality, Community, and Friendship in Honor of Christine Pohl (forthcoming).
Coronaspection is a groundbreaking series of forty video interviews concerning COVID-19 and its spiritual challenges, featuring major faith leaders worldwide. Coronaspection was created as a means of providing hope and inspiration to faithful of all religions, as humanity struggled, and as it continues to struggle, with the challenges posed by COVID-19. This volume seeks to answer questions that have emerged following the release of the video interviews: How is religion functioning during COVID-19? Do different religions respond to the crisis differently? These and similar questions require a synthetic view of the project, which in turn is based on an analysis of its themes and messages.

"Corona is an invitation to see beyond what does not matter and see only what does matter." —Rabbi Tamar Appelbaum

"This is an opportunity to understand our interconnection and our mutual responsibilities." —Karma Lekshe Tsomo

"Courage is our mind's antivirus." —Amma

"All humanity is one." —Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf

"This earthquake can break some cracks from which can come divine light to our lives." —Patriarch Sahak Mashalian

"The challenge is: Can we transform interconnectivity to a connectivity of compassion?" —Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury

Alon Goshen-Gottstein, founder and director of the Elijah Interfaith Institute, is a rabbi, a noted scholar of Jewish studies, and a leading theoretician and activist in the domain of interfaith dialogue. His many edited books on interreligious exchange include Sharing Wisdom (Wipf & Stock, 2018), Memory and Hope (Wipf & Stock, 2018), and Friendship across Religions (Wipf & Stock, 2018).
It’s Time presents a series of short stories highlighting an important but neglected aspect of life. Serious illness and aging are dependable harbingers of life’s end. For each of us, there comes a point when we must admit, it’s time. We hear the doctor say this to a dying patient and family members, to parents too long in the family home, to sobered younger people when a spouse or child becomes seriously ill. This kairos, this moment of profound significance, comes to us all.

Good stories appeal to everyone. Students, particularly medical students or those in pastoral ministry or other health care disciplines, will find this book a unique, rich resource. Senior learners will find the essays helpful to work through their own history of decision-making, grief, loss. The essays provoke discussion and often closure for painful issues.

When It’s Time, each of us must put away the dreams of youth and consider with seriousness death, illness, and grief. This book can help us do just that. It does it well.

“Dolores L. Christie has written a superb set of narrative reflections on the subjective experience of illness, aging, and dying. She and her physician husband Dick have been leaders in the Cleveland universe of healthcare and long-term care for more than forty years, and her long history of providing counseling, pastoral care, and a listening ear for those who have come to difficult times of illness and decline is renowned. It's Time is an elegant, compassionate, and spiritual work that can be read by students in the humanities, healthcare professionals of all types, and by families seeking perspective in difficult times.”
—Stephen G. Post, Stony Brook University Renaissance School of Medicine

“Engaging in both substance and style, It’s Time employs a series of stories to provoke reflection regarding the challenges of illness, aging, and death. This innovative approach encourages the reader to a deeper awareness and understanding of caring well for our loved ones as they face the challenges of aging and illness. With its appendices that foster discussion and decision-making skills, this book also serves well as a text for students and healthcare workers.”
—Kevin T. FitzGerald, SJ, Creighton University

Dolores Christie is a retired college professor and experienced clinical ethicist. The author of Last Rights: a Catholic Perspective on End-of-Life Decisions (2003) and Moral Choice: a Christian View of Ethics (2013). She was Executive Director of the CTSA and currently serves on the chemical dependency committee for the Ohio Solid Organ Transplant Consortium and the ethics committee of the Hospice of the Western Reserve. She and her physician husband live in Cleveland.
“Love and Terror in the Third Reich confronts us with a world at once utterly familiar: the ‘golden’ little toddler, clapping her hands yet at the same time, brutally alien: the Jews rounded up and shot. We read it and we fall in love with a young couple, living out their courtship, their marriage, the birth of children and their separation against the unfolding horror of the rise and fall of the Third Reich. As an Australian minister whose own work is lived out on stolen land while refugee children are locked up in camps for years, I know only too well how easy it is to let the great banality of evil sooth me into submission. This book is a timely reminder to pay attention to the powers that be.”
—Alexandra Sangster, St. Andrews Uniting Church

“This is a quite remarkable book. Intimate letters demonstrate how an idealistic young couple fell under the spell of Hitler’s vision for Germany. Letters never intended for the public eye, lovingly presented by the couple’s daughter, and set in context by their historian son-in-law, narrate the terrible reality of the Nazi era. The German tragedy comes unbearably into focus.”
—John Miller, Moderator of the Church of Scotland's General Assembly in 2001-2002

Peter Matheson is Emeritus Professor at Knox Theological College, Dunedin, New Zealand. A recent book is Argula von Grumbach 1492–1554/7 (Cascade, 2013).

Heinke Sommer-Matheson has taught in Germany, Scotland, and New Zealand.
The Media Creates Us in Its Image and Other Essays on Technology and Culture

By Richard Stivers

Imprint: Cascade Books
Language Sold:

ISBN: 9781532697258
Pages: 218
Publication Date: 3/31/2020

The Media Creates Us in Its Image and Other Essays on Technology and Culture proposes that modern technology seriously influences every aspect of culture and personality. Technology shapes our beliefs and values and even how we think of ourselves. It affects religion, morality, education, language, communication, and sexual identity. Every institution, every organization, is brought under its purview.

This book attempts to awaken the reader to the destructive side of modern technology that exists side-by-side with its constructive side. What modern technology is destroying, however, is the very meaning of being human. The essay “The Media Creates Us in Its Image” makes this case most dramatically.

The book asks the reader the following question: Is what you have gained from the use of modern technology more important than what you have lost? How do we once again bring technology under our control in the face of its inexorable “progress”?

“Richard Stivers has created a rich feast for thought in The Media Creates Us in Its Image. . . . Few have written as powerfully as Stivers on the technological threat to true education. . . . While the thinking and research are always deep, the clarity of Stivers’ writing, as well as the universal importance of technology in our lives, invites a wide audience to benefit from this book.” —David W. Gill, International Jacques Ellul Society

“With this collection of essays, Richard Stivers exposes the realities of life in a technological environment, where efficiency is the watchword. His insights challenge us to respond and act in ways that preserve our humanity. His analyses juxtapose the individual with the collective, organization with disorganization, the visual image with the word, and false with true meaning. Stivers’ erudite mind presents us not with conventional academic exercises, but with urgent matters of existential concern.” —James van der Laan, Illinois State University

“A highly insightful collection of essays that is useful for both the neophyte and the Ellul scholar that allows the reader two ways of looking at the works of Jacques Ellul. Taken individually, each of Stivers’ well-thought-out essays provides an in-depth exploration of a specific idea in an easily comprehensible style. Taken as a whole, the collection summarizes the vast range of Ellul’s ideas.” —Franz A. Foltz, Rochester Institute of Technology

“A very good overview of the author’s research to advance our understanding of technique by elaborating the intellectual gift of Jacques Ellul.” —Willem H. Vanderburg, University of Toronto

Richard Stivers is Distinguished Professor of Sociology Emeritus at Illinois State University. He is the author of Hair of the Dog: Irish Drinking and Its American Stereotype; Evil in Modern Myth and Ritual; The Culture of Cynicism: American Morality in Decline; Technology As Magic; and The Illusion of Freedom and Equality. He gave three lectures based on three of his books to the European Commission in 2006.
In Tilt: Finding Christ in Culture, Brian Nixon takes the reader on a voyage of discovery, traveling the currents of God’s presence in culture, summed up in four streams that define a noun: people, places, things, and ideas. In his journey, Nixon touches upon people as diverse as Andy Warhol, Cormac McCarthy, Robert Redford, and Georgia O’Keeffe; places such as Canterbury, England, and Las Vegas, Nevada; things as unique as typewriters, trains, and abstract art; and ideas as fascinating as mathematics and beauty. In these short impressionistic pieces, Nixon, with the curiosity of a journalist, elicits intelligent discussion and poetic articulations, prompting a head tilt from those who join him on a theo-cultural expedition.

“The range of reflections in Tilt opens up a wide conversation about the nature of theology, the arts, poetry, and meaning. From C. S. Lewis to Georgia O’Keeffe to Billy the Kid, from trains to typewriters, from mountains to mathematics, the invitation by Nixon to think creatively and constructively is a welcomed voice in the landscape of theopoetics. Finding depth and richness of language, readers are rewarded with an awareness of Christ in culture throughout the world around us.”
—Steven Schweitzer, Academic Dean and Professor, Bethany Theological Seminary

“As a journalist, poet, musician, and artist, Brian is a rare individual, a human being with varied interests and gifts. And compounded with a Christian worldview, Brian’s voice is grounded in truth, beauty, and goodness. . . . Brian has an artist’s spirit, a head for logic, and a minister’s heart. I am glad that others will get the opportunity now to read Brian’s observations, get inspired, and join the dialogue.” —Jeff LeFever, artist, author of Consecrated Space

“From musician Tom Waits and artist Max Cole to composer Warner Hutchison, each profile is rich with detail. More importantly, Nixon demonstrates that God can be found in the most unlikely of places. In Tilt, Nixon mines for the spiritual and finds pure gold.” —Lori Cameron, Editor, The Penwood Review

“Not only is Brian passionate about Christ but reaching our culture with Christ. I recommend this book.” —Todd Hunter, Bishop, Anglican Church in North America

Brian Nixon is a writer, artist, musician, educator, minister, and family man. He’s a graduate of California State University, Stanislaus (BA), Trinity Seminary (MA), Veritas Seminary (MA), and is a Fellow at Oxford Graduate School (DPhil). Nixon is a director of education and publishing in Albuquerque, New Mexico. As a journalist, his writing interests yearn to inspire the Christian imagination, covering three broad areas: truth, beauty, and goodness—often summarized as the transcendentals.
She sat on the driveway, asphalt cold and rough under her fingers, watching the sun come up. What happens after the unthinkable happens? The sun comes up. Again and again and again. Stillbirth is a numbing reality for thousands of families each year, and when Andrea L. Lingle’s fourth child stopped moving one October day, she found herself living through just such a reality. Grief is a thoroughgoing despoiler. Nothing, from faith to family, is untouched by the immensity of grief. This is the story of a mother’s journey into stillbirth, into grief, into a reluctant sunrise.

“A beautifully written meditation on the death of a baby and the grief of a family. Wrenching and wry, insightful and outrageously authentic. Andrea Lingle travels where grief takes her, grasping and releasing and ultimately cleaving to the hand of the invisible Holy One whose love reveals itself as so vast only a broken heart could possibly contain it.” --Mirabai Starr, author of Caravan of No Despair: A Memoir of Loss & Transformation

“Andrea Lingle gifts us with a soul-searing honesty about her life, faith, and grief that is rarely exposed to others. If you know the depths of grief, especially the sorrow that accompanies the death of a child, this book holds balm for your heart. It is treasure, born from the darkest of times.” --Alexander John Shaia, speaker, pilgrim mentor, and author of Heart and Mind: The Four-Gospel Journey for Radical Transformation

“This book, in the hands and words of Andrea Lingle, is a mother’s testimony written for Gwyneth, her stillborn daughter, and for many who grieve in death’s darkness. Through sadness and anger, Lingle writes fiercely to her unanchored self and faith: why did Gwyneth die, why am I still alive? She writes alongside her own children, alongside her friend who shared stillbirth, alongside Jesus and Lazarus and the mothers in Scripture whose children were massacred by King Herod. She writes about encounters in the natural world, the world of her local woods and waters, and the gifts of darkness that awaken space for light in her. With meditations, photos, drawings to shade and color, with poetry, memories, and a newborn faith grammar, Lingle offers a gift to us, too, in our communities and circles, as mothers, sisters, daughters, and members moved by grief, loss, and transforming mercies.” --Melinda G. Fowl, Licensed Master Social Worker, and Member, North American Association of Christians in Social Work

“Into a Reluctant Sunrise touches the heart of a human dilemma: love and loss will always be entwined. Lingle admits that it was not easy to learn to be the parent of a dead child, but feeling Gwyneth still near her, and hearing a small voice ask, ‘Can you love me like this?’ her reply had to be, ‘Yes, I can.’” --Kristine Morris, Foreword Reviews

“Lingle (Credulous), mixes poetry, art, and theology to reflect on life and faith after a stillbirth in this gorgeous memoir. She creates a space for grieving readers to explore and reconnect to their own spiritual beliefs. Her intimate, heartfelt story is a soothing balm for the loneliness and disorientation of loss.” --Publishers Weekly

Andrea L. Lingle is a writer, lay theologian, and editor. She lives on a cul-de-sac in North Carolina with her family and neighbors. She is a mother, reader, gardener, and writer. She is the author of Credulous (Cascade, 2018).
When was the last time that we heard some good news? For those tuned in to the ecological crisis and the daily chronicle of injustice, the declaration of good news might seem synonymous with denial and avoidance. The gospel of Jesus Christ helps us to face the suffering of the world and live in love and hope. The only catch is, it requires that we change. It is only by losing our consumeristic, profit-seeking, and isolated lives that we may save them.

*The Green Good News* finds a fresh take on the Gospels, painting a picture of Jesus as a humorous and subversive teacher, an organizer of alternative communities and food economies, as a healer of bodies and relationships, and as a prophet who sought to overturn an empire and restore a more just and joyful way of life. Christ teaches and incarnates a vision for sustainable life and provides practices that mark the path toward it. By exploring this always-inspiring sustainable gospel, we can find ways to transform our lives, communities, and even creation.

“Amid the explosion of literature concerning ‘going green,’ Wilson Dickinson has written an ‘adult’ book that requires adult attention from serious people. The book demands not only to be read but to be studied. Dickinson weaves together a shrewd, discerning understanding of Jesus, his gospel, and the realities of political-economic empire of a neo-liberal variety, both ancient and contemporary. Happily this book finishes with a winsome study guide of seven units that will serve well for sustained reflective study.” —Walter Brueggemann, Columbia Theological Seminary

"Here is a fresh and powerful telling of the gospel good news: Jesus would indeed be a radical environmentalist because he is a radical believer in the possibilities of the human spirit.”

--Bill McKibben

T. Wilson Dickinson is a writer, pastor, and organizer who lives in his hometown of Georgetown, Kentucky. He teaches theology and directs the Doctor of Ministry and Continuing Education Programs at Lexington Theological Seminary. He is the director of the Green Good News, an organization that works with churches and schools to integrate sustainability, justice, and discipleship. He is the author of *Exercises in New Creation from Paul to Kierkegaard*. 
Gum, Geckos, and God
A Family Adventure in Space, Time, and Faith

By James S. Spiegel
Imprint: Wipf and Stock
Category: Theology
Language Sold:

ISBN: 9781532697371
Pages: 248
Publication Date: 1/29/2020

James Spiegel never realized what challenges and adventures he would face in talking about God with his own children. Can we hug God? Will geckos go to heaven? Was Jesus fun to be around? Does God know how many spiders there are in all the basements in the world? These are just a few of the questions that Spiegel has fielded in conversations with his sons, Bailey and Sam. Every devout Christian wants to understand God and his ways more fully. But even the fundamentals of faith are layered with profound mysteries. In his teaching and writing, Spiegel deals with these complexities every day. But nothing quite prepared him for the honesty, hilarity, and depth of revelation that he has found in conversations about God with his boys. Gum, Geckos, and God is fascinating and fun. As you read, you'll step into a new depth of Christian doctrine as you come to know and enjoy the Spiegel family and follow their journey of spiritual growth. Here is a uniquely incisive look into the most complex issues of faith in a way that's absorbing, engaging, and highly personal.

James S. Spiegel is Professor of Philosophy and Religion at Taylor University in Upland, Indiana.

I Had A Secret For Seventeen Years
A Story of Redemption and Healing after Abortion
BY Tori Shaw
FOREWORD BY Angela Forker

Imprint: Resource Publications
Category: Memoir
Language Sold:

ISBN: 9781725271401
Pages: 134
Publication Date: 7/15/2020

I Had A Secret for Seventeen Years is the redemptive life story of Tori Shaw, centered around her abortion as a teenager. She spent years covered by guilt and shame while enduring continual abandonment and rejection. Childhood experiences taught her to hide hardship, so she silently dealt with depression, fear, anxiety, self-loathing, and addictions. After hiding her dark secret for seventeen years, Tori shares her story with the world. A woman who once walked in fear and self-doubt is now willing to go wherever God wants her to go. Through Tori’s story, God builds a ministry that helps abortion-minded women choose life for their babies and shares God’s forgiveness and love with post-abortive women. I Had a Secret for Seventeen Years enables the reader to see a post-abortive woman come full circle and embrace the world of possibilities God makes available to those who are willing.

“As one who has experienced the devastating effects abortion has had in my own life, I’ve been gripped by Tori’s journey. It is nothing short of miraculous! Through this raw, unadulterated writing, you’ll find yourself cheering and weeping as she draws you into the highs of her happiest moments as well as the depths of her deepest pain. Tori uncovers the truth about abortion that many have turned a blind eye to—the post-abortion woman, the other victim. What was meant to destroy her has now become her platform, life out of death, as Not Forgotten Ministries was born.”
—Lori Travers, post-abortive woman

“As a post-abortive woman, I have been able to closely relate to Tori’s story. Understanding what it is like to hide, I too felt the weight of tremendous guilt and shame because of a decision made long ago. Through Tori’s testimony and her book, I Had a Secret for Seventeen Years, I have been able to accept and rest in the freedom I longed for myself, for two decades. This book is a must read for post-abortion women and men, those struggling with the monumental decision of choosing life or death for their unborn child, as well as the members of pro-life advocacy groups. Not only these but all those who, through Tori’s testimony, may grasp the reality that God desires to, and will, use each of us, if we are willing, in a very special way.”
—Angé K., post-abortive woman

“As someone who was forced to have an abortion, I found myself relating so much with Tori’s heartache from her own abortion. Reading through these pages of her life has helped me with my own healing, as well. Once I began reading, I couldn’t put Tori’s book down.”
—Kathy Hadel, post-abortive woman and sex trafficking victim

“Countless women in today’s world can relate to Tori’s secret, but many never find the courage to share it with others. They carry this burden and try to go on with life as normal. Tori’s book takes you on a journey of a desperate young girl who makes a decision in a moment of crisis, to a woman whose shared secret is now bringing hope and healing to other women in crisis.”
—Angela Forker, After the Abortion Photography Series

Tori Shaw is married to her high school sweetheart and homeschools her four beautiful children. She is also the director and founder of Not Forgotten Ministries. Tori walks in complete freedom after her abortion because of the mercy and grace of Jesus Christ. She desires the same for others who have had a similar journey.
Many Christian men don’t realize that they have access to the same power that raised Jesus from the dead inside of them. Many are struggling to improve as husbands, fathers, coworkers, and active members in God’s kingdom. However, in order to access and fully learn how to use this power, they must learn to defend themselves spiritually. In this book, Patrick L. Stearns shows how you as a Christian man can grow to your greatest level of effectiveness in your home and your community by learning spiritual self-defense. Stearns shows how applying key biblical Scripture to everyday life can help you to overcome Satan and his demons’ goal to slow down the full development of your spiritual maturity.

Stearns uses real-world situations and encounters, along with his own past experiences, to prepare you to use spiritual self-defense and go on the offensive and overpower and overcome anything that is not of God’s kingdom. You will find that, through learning spiritual self-defense, you will realize that you are stronger and more powerful than you realize! You can learn the step-by-step process of enhancing your Christian walk by accessing an unbeatable power: the power of spiritual self-defense!

“This book is steeped in Patrick L. Stearns’s respect for the spiritual journey. . . . The book presents practical tactics that flow out of Scripture. The personal anecdotes, encouragement, reminders of who one is in Christ, and spiritual self-defense lessons are useful in guiding the reader to continuously be growth-oriented in all areas of their life.”
—Jennifer F. Wood, Associate Professor, Millersville University

“The purpose of this book is to properly train and equip Christian men how to develop their spiritual self-defense. In every walk of one’s life proper training is required to succeed. Therefore, in one’s spiritual life there is no substitute or excuse.”
—Christopher C. Mathis Jr., Associate Research Administrator, South Carolina State University

The Dark Side of Discipleship

Why and How the New Testament Encourages Christians to Deal with the Devil

BY Gary Tyra

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There’s a dark side to Christian discipleship church members ignore to their peril. The New Testament has much to say about why and how Christ’s followers must deal with the devil. Learning to take the evil one seriously without obsessing over him is crucial to the spiritual endurance training we all need if we are to someday hear Jesus say to us: “Well done, good and faithful servant!”

Specifically, pastor/theologian Gary Tyra argues in this work that key to overcoming Satan is a balanced, Spirit-empowered engagement in what he refers to as the four cardinal components of Christian discipleship. Understanding the various ways the devil attempts to derail our experiences of worship, nurture, community, and mission can serve to motivate us with respect to them!

With the help of the Holy Spirit, church members can cultivate a “lifestyle spirituality” that enables them to don the “full armor of God” and engage in several critical “close-quarters combat tactics” the New Testament encourages. In the end, The Dark Side of Discipleship is a no-nonsense yet inspirational New Testament theology of spiritual warfare that can serve Christ’s church as a powerful aid to the spiritual, moral, and ministry formation of contemporary Christians.

“…The Christian tradition has long recognized the ‘three enemies of the soul’ as hindrances to spiritual growth: the world, the flesh, and the devil. Tragically, many modern Christians have either demythologized or sensationalized the third enemy. Gary Tyra does neither but proposes that having a sound, biblical understanding of the demonic is indispensable to true discipleship. This book will challenge those who are either dismissive of or fixated on the devil.” —Simon Chan, editor of Asia Journal of Theology

“Tyra addresses a frequently bypassed theme when talking about Christian discipleship: we have a formidable adversary whose cunning is distracting, derailing, or destroying the faith journeys of countless Christians. He acknowledges the tendency of some to give the devil too much visibility, while others naively act as if the Bible is silent on this ‘roaring lion’ whose destructive intent is clear. Tyra’s alternative replaces an avoidance of the topic, with an empowerment that is a primer on spiritual endurance training.” —Byron D. Klaus, President of Assemblies of God Theological Seminary (1999–2015)

“…To my own peril I ignored thinking about spiritual warfare for much of my Christian life. Readers of this insightful book can learn, as I have, that following Jesus involves awareness of the enemy of our soul. Gary Tyra provides a welcome orientation to this dark side with sound biblical teaching and encouraging pastoral guidance for endurance training in developing a lifestyle empowered by the Spirit.” —Klaus Issler, Professor of Educational Studies and Theology, Talbot School of Theology, Biola University

Gary Tyra is Professor of Biblical and Practical Theology at Vanguard University of Southern California. His previously published works include Getting Real (2018), Pursuing Moral Faithfulness (2015), A Missional Orthodoxy (2013), The Holy Spirit in Mission (2011), Christ’s Empowering Presence (2011), Beyond the Bliss (2010), and Defeating Pharisaism (2009). In addition to his work in the academy, Tyra has pastored three churches over a thirty-year period, one of which was a church plant.
In recent years the issue of domestic abuse and violence has gained a lot of attention as the extent of it has become known. Domestic abuse and violence is now of high concern to most churches because it is evident that domestic abuse figures are much the same in our churches, and possibly higher in evangelical churches where the headship of men and the submission of women is made the God-given ideal. In this book, Kevin Giles surveys competently the scientific information on this matter now available and notes that the consensus is that the most sure indicator of higher incidences of abuse are found in communities where men are privileged and expected to be in charge and women are subordinated. This, he argues, should make complementarians consider afresh if in fact the subordination of women is the God-given ideal, established in creation before the fall.

“In this book, Kevin Giles shows how biblical texts on male headship have often been misinterpreted and used to perpetrate the abuse of women by Christians globally and especially in the developing nations. . . . I highly recommend this book for use all over the world.” —Diphus Chemorion, Associate Professor and Dean of Faculty of Theology, St. Paul’s University, Limuru, Kenya

“Those of us who have worked long in this field know how difficult it is to bring the evidence to a wider Christian public. Yet it has to be done. Here it is done with care, biblical acumen, and compassion. I hope the book will become a seminary text, for the next generation of pastors, lay leaders, and counselors who must be given the biblical tools to help to turn the tide.” —Elaine Storkey, Newnham College, Cambridge University, author of Scars Across Humanity: Understanding and Overcoming Violence Against Women

“Pastor and theologian Kevin Giles reveals how belief in the unbiblical doctrine of male headship often leads to physical and sexual abuse in the church and the home. . . . Every Christian in a position of influence or leadership should read this book before the next physical or sexual abuse scandal rocks your denomination like it did mine.” —Wade Burleson, Pastor, Southern Baptist Convention, USA, author of Fraudulent Authority

“I warmly commend this book. I invited Kevin and Lynley Giles to Kenya and Uganda in 2018 to speak at conferences for clergy and their wives on marriage in a context where domestic abuse and violence is common, and sadly all too often in clergy homes. From the Scriptures, and from their over fifty years of marriage they ministered powerfully to those present. What they said and how they related to each other as equal partners in their marriage opened up possibilities hitherto not envisaged by so many clergy couples. What was so amazing was the number of men who recognized that their selfishness and determination to have their own way had resulted in a very unhappy marriage and it was they who needed to change for marital love to flourish. In his discussion of the abuse of women in the developing world, Kevin recounts this story.” —Patti Ricotta, President and Co-Founder, Life Together International

Kevin Giles was in parish ministry for forty years in Australia. He has published widely and traveled extensively. He is married to Lynley, a marriage educator and counselor. They have four married children and eleven grandchildren. Both of them have had for many years a concern to see women in the church and the home given the dignity, affirmation, and opportunities to use their God-given gifts that they should be given.
Jesus warned of wolves carefully disguised as shepherds coming into local churches as pastors. It is the perfect disguise for a predator to access and devour the flock one lamb at a time while proclaiming himself as their protector and guardian. The result is spiritual devastation, broken congregations, and even destroyed churches. Darrell Puls attests from experience that the enemy has infiltrated the North American church through pastors with dangerously high levels of narcissism. These pastors hide under layers of the sacred, but it is always an illusion of smoke and mirrors.

Puls has experienced this reality from the inside as a staff pastor under a narcissist, and from the outside as a church consultant. He carefully unpacks toxic narcissism in everyday terms, and lets the victims tell their own stories. Let Us Prey, Revised Edition is as real as it gets.

“Jesus warned of wolves that would attack the church. Let Us Prey, Revised Edition is a much-needed book at a time when narcissist pastors in the church are on the rise. Puls provides an in-depth look at the devastating impact these ‘wolves in sheep’s clothing’ inflict upon their congregations. This book provides powerful stories, practical guidance, and a hopeful way forward. A must read for those in the church.”
—Michael Coggin, Associate Pastor, Grace Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville, North Carolina

“Darrell Puls brings forth a much-needed prophetic voice to our modern church age. His writing and experience expose one of the greatest threats to congregations—the predator pastor bent on power and personal glory. This book is a must read for the church at large to help bring awareness and pragmatic strategies to churches dealing with or healing from the wrath of narcissistic pastors.”
—Michael Lillie, Licensed Therapist

“The hidden problem of narcissism in church leadership has been expertly uncovered in this insightful book by Dr. Darrell Puls. He has combined pertinent research, his personal experience in church conflict consulting, and numerous real-life stories from around the world to provide new insight into this very real problem troubling the church today. This book should be read by every denominational leader, seminary professor, pastoral search committee member, and any church member who seeks explanations for unhealthy behavioral patterns they see in their church leaders.”
—Michael Patterson, Chair of Social Sciences, Corban University

Darrell Puls is an organizational conflict analyst and interventionist with more than forty years professional experience, specializing in church conflicts since 1998. He also serves as the Dean of Academic Affairs at Gather 4 Him Christian College in Kennewick, Washington. Dr. Puls is the author of The Road Home: A Guided Journey to Church Forgiveness and Reconciliation (Cascade, 2013) as well as numerous articles and papers on toxic narcissism and church conflict.
What would it look like if an Avenger turned up to help in youth work? Perhaps it would breathe a fresh sense of purpose. Maybe the primary response would be relief that backup had arrived. They would certainly pull a crowd for a few weeks at least. Looking for a superhero might be a good idea. But there is a better one. It’s called the church. Boring? Irrelevant? All dressed up but nowhere to go? *Looking Good Naked* strips off the ill-fitting outfits and recovers a biblical theology of the church as the body of Christ, drawing on the narratives of youth work and ministry. Written for the student of youth ministry, full-timer, part-timer or extra-timer, it is an engaging, practical, and deep book, seeking to renew our confidence in who we are in light of whose we are, so we can better engage with young people.

“Andy du Feu has given us here a much-needed fresh look at youth ministry in all of its facets. What he has written will be helpful to the newcomer to youth ministry as well as the veteran. His grasp of the theoretical as well as the practical is brilliant. Highly recommended!” —Len Kageler, Emeritus Professor of Youth & Family Studies, Nyack College

“Packed with stories, biblical depth, and encouragement, this book is a real gift to youth ministry and the wider church. I just wish I’d been able to read it twenty years ago when I was just starting out.” —Gavin Calver, CEO, Evangelical Alliance

“Andy’s work is insightful, incisive, and targeted in a godly way but is also fun, enjoyable to read, and percolates the wisdom of Jesus and his mission to his church. Let’s engage with it, and with the Holy Spirit’s prompting, put its findings into practice.” —Colin Bennett, Vice Principal, Moorlands College

“With a delightful mix of whimsical storytelling and robust theology, Andy reminds us on every page that the best hope for our young people is not found in our superhero youth workers, but in God’s plan for the church. Potent and practical wisdom from one of the UK’s most experienced youth work voices. Grab a copy, read it and read it again!” —Tim Gough, author of *Rebooted: Reclaiming Youth Ministry For The Long Haul*

“Dripping in his quick wit and deep wisdom in both youth work and church leadership, *Looking Good Naked* will be both an inspirational and at times uncomfortable read for anyone who cares enough to make Jesus known to this and subsequent generations. This isn’t a book just for youth workers. It’s too important for that. This is a book for all of us.” —Rachel Gardner, Director of National Work, Youthscape

Andy du Feu is Vice-Principal, Academic at Moorlands College (UK). He is a youth ministry “lifer” and has led youth-work and theology degree programs for nearly a decade, with other research interests in undefended leadership and digital theology. He has served as a church pastor near Oxford, and has youth work and ministry experience from three continents, including three years in urban ministry on the US East Coast.
For the last couple decades, urban church planting has been all the rage. This has been a blessing for the city. This has also been a curse for many who sensed a call, saw a need, and left for a life of adventure, only to leave the city after a short time. Many left behind no church and live with memories of failure and frustration. They were eager, well-supported, not a little naive, and unprepared for life and ministry in the city.

Urban church planting is not for everyone. It is not more important than church planting elsewhere. But if you believe God has called you to urban ministry, read this book before you go. It is written by a city guy, freed from the romanticism often associated with planting churches in the city. If after reading this you still believe God is calling you to the city, then by all means go. If not, know that God can use you elsewhere.

“In his recent book, Urban Church Planting, Stephen Davis has taken thirty years of experience in church planting in many different cultural contexts and married them with ten years of ministry in the heart of Philadelphia to produce an easily accessible primer on urban church planting. It is a true blessing.”
—Brian Martin, senior pastor, Sonship Church, Brooklyn, New York

“Stephen Davis was starting a church in Philadelphia when I was a student pastor in a supporting church. Steve was going into the city when most were leaving it. The lessons shared in his book Urban Church Planting go far beyond any how-to manual on the subject. Anyone wanting to discover the stark realities of an urban church will find a welcome read.”
—Andrew Straubel, senior pastor, Windsor Chapel, Princeton, New Jersey

“Planting a church in the city is full of joy and full of sorrow. It is the narrow road. But God promises to build his church. And he promises us his presence. The gates of hell will not prevail! If you are called of God to make disciples in the urban context allow Steve Davis’s Urban Church Planting to be a guide.”
—William E. Turner Jr., pastor, Grace Chapel, Havertown, Pennsylvania

Stephen M. Davis is a bi-vocational elder at Grace Church (gracechurchphilly.org), a multilingual church in Philadelphia he planted with his brother John in 2010. Steve and his wife Kathy have been engaged in church planting in the United States, France, and Romania since 1982. He earned a DMin in missiology from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and a PhD in intercultural studies from Columbia International University. Davis is the author of Crossing Cultures: Preparing Strangers for Ministry in Strange Places (Wipf & Stock, 2019).
The tradition of Christian spirituality offers many insights and courageous personal examples to guide contemporary disciples in following the way of Jesus. The thoughts of early Christian writers, martyrs, medieval mystics, and notable Christians from more recent centuries, have all contributed to the development and understanding of the Christian virtues contained in this book.

Christian spirituality offers a practical wisdom that has been tempered by the joys and trials of past centuries, helping to form and strengthen disciples of later generations. It offers the same for our time. Each Christian virtue in this book reveals a timelessness that offers an old yet rearticulated quality for our contemporary Western world that, regrettably, tends to overlook the riches of the classical Christian tradition.

Christian disciples are called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and experience the fullness of life that he did, through interiorizing Jesus' way of relating to others. His faithfulness and openness to the love of his heavenly father enabled Jesus to fully and freely share that love with others. Examining and embracing these seven Christian virtues will help to strengthen us along our journey, as they have for countless disciples over the centuries.

"LaBelle's From Strength to Strength is a remarkably successful book at many levels. While composed with scholarly rigor it is easily accessible to a wide variety of audiences. Although not literally a 'how-to' manual of popular piety, it offers many practical and helpful examples and insights for integrating the virtues into daily life. It also combines a historical analysis of these virtues interpreted in the light of contemporary perspectives, disciplines, and sources. I highly recommend this book for both those desiring to teach the virtues to others as well as for those seeking ways to deepen these practices in their own personal and spiritual lives."
—John J. Markey, OP, Professor of Theology, Oblate School of Theology

"Popular books in spirituality often lack depth in that they are not sufficiently grounded in Scripture and in deep wells of Christian tradition. This book is an exception. It is a wonderful work of retrieval, one that makes ancient and forgotten secrets come alive. Drawing on Scripture, the patristic writers, and the medieval mystical tradition, this book reexamines through the long arc of history seven virtues that lie at the center of Christian discipleship so as to let them speak today with their full richness. The book is a wonderful combination of scholarship and bread-and-butter spirituality."
—Ronald Rolheiser, OMI, author of The Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality

Joseph T. LaBelle, OMI, is a professor of Christian spirituality at Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas. A Roman Catholic missionary priest, the author has served for several years in pastoral ministry in different regions of the United States. He has also taught in various levels of training for students preparing for consecrated religious life and ministry, and has authored one book and several articles in Christian spirituality and discipleship.
“We’ve got a list of questions, issues, stuff we’re dealing with. We want your input, your thoughts on this stuff.” Such were the origins of this little book. Two young clergy, early in their first call, imagined that I might have some useful wisdom to pass on based on my own years in ministry. Something like this was once standard preparation. Young people learned a profession like law, ministry, or medicine by apprenticing themselves to one seasoned in the practice. Not only has that way of learning largely vanished but we now live in times of increasing segregation and suspicion between different generations. Still, these two millennials bucked the trends. They thought they might have something to learn from an old boomer. The result is this collection of letters: personal, wry, direct, and honest. Full of both hope and realism about the church and ministry. This collection will be a welcome companion for young, and for many not so young, clergy trying to get a handle on ministry in the midst of a time that is full of change and challenge.

Anthony Robinson is many things: pastor, theologian, consultant, preacher, leader, teacher, and more. In this excellent volume, Robinson adds the role of mentor to pastors younger and older. His net of discernment gathers ‘useful wisdom’ from his long experience in the church, addressing issues in ministry such as public prayer and handling the inevitability of bullies. . . . Robinson provides gentle, wise, and honest guidance.” —Thomas G. Long, Bandy Professor Emeritus of Preaching, Candler School of Theology, Emory University

“Into this lovely, affectionate book, pastor and master church coach Tony Robinson pours a lifetime of insights on the joys and the challenges of pastoral ministry. Tony’s steadfast but also critical and experienced love for the vocation of church leadership shines through on every page. Offered as testimony to his daughter who is beginning ministry, Tony gives Paul-to-Timothy guidance that will be strong, realistic, faithful encouragement to anyone in ministry today.” —Will Willimon, Professor of Christian Ministry, Duke Divinity School

“This book brought me back to a time of life I vividly remember: the daily swing, as a new minister, between ‘I love this job!’ and ‘How in the world do I survive this job?’ Tony Robinson is the wise companion I needed then and still do: someone to help me reflect on my ministry with perspective and purpose. The letters he writes in this book will feel as if they were addressed to you, personally. Read them, and then read them again. In any season of life, this is a book to treasure.” —Anna Carter Florence, Peter Marshall Professor of Preaching, Columbia Theological Seminary

Anthony B. Robinson has a ministry and writings that have spoken wisely and helpfully to thousands of clergy and hundreds of congregations. He is an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ, who has served four congregations, consulted with scores of congregations and their leaders, and taught in several different seminaries. He is the author of a dozen books including the best-seller Transforming Congregational Culture and the award-winning What’s Theology Got To Do with It?
The social history of the Reformation era remains a constant source of fascination for scholars. Of particular focus are the ways in which the movement intersected with print to help give birth to what we call “the modern era.” One consistent theme is that while the story of the Reformation cannot be told without reference to print, often the more interesting stories are to be found in the trials and tribulations of the printers themselves.

The Reformation of the sixteenth century was, among other things, about courageous printers. Without them, the message of the Reformation would have been limited. But the uncertainties associated with being a printer/publisher in the period between 1517 and 1648 cannot be underestimated. Nowhere was it more uncertain and confusing than in England. As it turned out, however, that turbulence helped set the stage for the achievement of the freedom of the press by the end of the seventeenth century that had been unthinkable when the Tudors occupied the throne.

"Winsome and wise, this compactly told story of printing and the English Reformation offers a clear window onto the period's intellectual challenges and personal costs associated with the shifting religious struggles. Confusion there was, but also courage, creativity, and cunning among the printers whose words and images presented the conflicted commitments that, after much agony, finally gave rise to British religious pluralism and toleration. Carefoote's elegantly written volume does his subject proud." --Ephraim Radner, Professor of Historical Theology, Wycliffe College

"No Reformation without the printing press? Pearce Carefoote reminds us that there would be no printing presses without printers. In the sixteenth century, deep religious convictions turned the screws of presses and prosecutions alike. Printers were on the front lines of England's early Reformation battles, navigating a landscape that shifted radically with every change of regime. Carefoote's elegant and lively account surveys the immediate confusion while pointing to the freer press that would eventually emerge." --Nicholas Terpstra, Professor of History, University of Toronto

"Books matter. As P. J. Carefoote so amply demonstrates in this excellent book, printers risked their lives to publish and distribute pamphlets and books which expressed their religious convictions. Carefoote shows how this courage was expressed across the theological divides which emerged in sixteenth-century England. Beautifully illustrated and written." --Stuart Macdonald, Vice Principal and Director of Graduate Studies, Knox College, Toronto School of Theology, University of Toronto

Pearce J. Carefoote is the head of the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.
This groundbreaking book sets out fresh arguments that common views on the doctrine of the Trinity are mistaken, on three counts. One, the idea of the Trinity can’t be found explicitly in Scripture. Two, it is a mystery irrational to the human mind. Three, the classical creeds of the church are the best place to start. These old ideas break down in light of recent research in biblical studies.

Writing in plain English, the author sets out where the Trinity can be found in Hebrew and Christian Scripture; that it is rational and understandable; and that there are biblical ways of understanding it that are easier to get across than the classical creeds.

This book offers what many interested in teaching or learning about the Trinity have lacked up to now. And it will be a great help to those who are unsure how to communicate the idea of the Trinity in ways that the nonspecialist can understand.

For the scholar interested in biblical and early-church studies, recent insights from temple theology and name theology produce a fresh perspective that will stimulate further discussion on this important subject.

“Colin Green attempts to recover the Hebraic roots of the doctrine of the Trinity. The Hebrew Bible tells us of God’s name and his glory which dwell in his temple. These mediate God’s presence to his people. So, when the early followers of Jesus began to ask how God was present in him, they had to hand established Jewish ways of thought to make sense of what they had experienced in Jesus and in the subsequent transforming arrival of the Holy Spirit into their lives. . . . Semitic ways of speaking about Jesus and the Spirit continued in the Syriac tradition and among the Desert Fathers and Mothers. They form a significant complement to the Greek and Latin patristic tradition and are important as the church grows in non-Western cultures more akin to that of the Hebrew Bible and Syriac Christianity. Colin Green has performed an important service in returning the church to its Semitic roots at a time when Christianity is becoming mainly a non-Western faith.”

—Michael Nazir-Ali, Anglican bishop

Colin Green is a post-graduate research student in the field of early-church history at the University of Nottingham, England.
The late second and early third century was a turbulent time in the Roman Empire and in the relationship between the empire and the church. Origen was the son of a Christian martyr and was himself imprisoned and tortured in his late life in a persecution that targeted leaders of the church. Deeply pious and a gifted scholar, Origen stands as one of the most influential Christian teachers in church history, and also one of the most controversial.

This introduction to Origen begins by looking at some of the circumstances that were formative influences on his life. It then turns to some key elements in his thought. The approach here differs from that taken by most earlier studies by working from the central position that Scripture had for Origen. Heine argues that Origen’s thought, in his later life especially, reflects his continual interaction with the Bible.

“Heine’s book provides an excellent entrée into Origen, the towering scholar and churchman who flourished in the early third century. For those who wish to learn about Origen’s life, how he engaged Scripture, or key themes in his thinking, Heine offers a clear, concise, and accessible orientation. I especially recommend it for readers who are beginning their study of the church fathers.”
—Peter W. Martens, Professor of Early Christianity, Saint Louis University

“Origen rightly remains ever fascinating and ever controversial. There is no better guide to the great Alexandrian than Ron Heine, and this book displays on every page the deep erudition and skills of precise observation that we have come to expect. There simply is no better short introduction.”
—Lewis Ayres, Professor of Catholic and Historical Theology, Durham University

“The overflowing biblical treasures of Origen, for so long misunderstood, forgotten, and even suppressed, are slowly being rediscovered. This book offers a master class conducted by one of the world’s foremost Origen interpreters, who here condenses a lifetime of closely reading Origen’s texts into an attractively accessible introduction. A gift to students and teachers, Ron Heine’s Origen is a model of crystalline clarity and evocative insight.” —Michael Cameron, Professor of Historical Theology, University of Portland

Ronald E. Heine is Professor Emeritus of Bible and Theology at Northwest Christian University in Eugene, Oregon. He is the author of several books on early Christian authors and subjects and translator of many of Origen’s exegetical and homiletical works, including The Commentary of Origen on the Gospel of St Matthew (2018), Origen: Commentary on the Gospel according to John (1989, 1993), and Origen: Homilies on Genesis and Exodus (1982).
This single volume of dogmatics is an introduction to the Christian faith as such, written from an intentionally ecumenical perspective. Although this book is written by a Lutheran, its aim is to draw from the deep wells of the Christian tradition, its creeds and confessions, common to all denominations. Denominational dogmatics tends to define and defend the teachings of the Christian faith from the perspective of a particular church, in distinction from others. Ecumenical dogmatics is a relatively new attempt to focus on the beliefs and teachings fundamental to all communities that call themselves Christian. Such a project aims to be more irenic than polemical, intent on seeking and serving reconciliation and unity in Christ.

The trinitarian and christological confessions of the first five centuries are foundational for all Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Protestant Reformation churches and, despite all their subsequent differences and divisions, are quintessential in their journey toward reconciliation and reunion. These ancient creeds also suggest the appropriate outline for the organization of the contents of dogmatics even today, following the works of the triune God—creation, redemption, and sanctification.

"Professor Braaten’s lucid and refreshing summary of the Christian faith reflects more than six decades of teaching theology. With impressive command of the relevant literature, especially the Holy Scriptures and the classic creeds and confessions, and with deep understanding of the dogmatic consensus in the current ecumene, Braaten here offers a stimulating defense of the faith that is properly orthodox, catholic, and evangelical. This master teacher goes to the heart of what is essential." —Matthew L. Becker, Professor of Theology, Valparaiso University

"For pastors who need a word to renew their preaching and teaching as well as for seminarians whose vocational callings are just being shaped, The Christian Faith will serve as an orientation to theological thinking moving us beyond the veneers of partisan and sectarian boundaries towards the common future into which God is drawing us. Dr. Braaten’s clear and crisp writing is a classic example of the way in which the discipline of dogmatics draws us into the truth as it gives the reader both explanation and faithful testimony rooted in the apostolic witness and the trinitarian structure of the creeds." —Amy C. Schifrin, President, North American Lutheran Seminary

Carl E. Braaten is professor emeritus of systematic theology at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, where he taught for thirty years. He lives with his wife, Beryl, in Sun City West, Arizona, where he continues to enjoy life to the hilt, spending many sweaty hours every week on the tennis courts, indulging the passion of his life next only to theology in the service of the gospel of Christ and his church.
As bearers of the divine image, all of us are storytellers and artists. However, few people today believe in truth that is not empirically knowable or verifiable, the sort of truth often trafficked through direct forms of communication. Drawing on the works of Søren Kierkegaard, Benson P. Fraser challenges this penchant for direct forms of knowledge by introducing the indirect approach, which he argues conveys more than mere knowledge, but the capability to live out what one takes to be true.

Dr. Fraser suggests that stories aimed at the heart are powerful instruments for personal and social change because they are not focused directly on the individual listener; rather, they give the individual room or distance to reconsider old meanings or ways of understanding. Indirect communication fosters human transformation by awaking an individual to attend to images or words that carry deep symbolic force and that modify or replace one’s present ways of knowing, and ultimately make one capable of embodying what he or she believes. Through an examination of the indirect approach in Kierkegaard, Jesus, C. S. Lewis, and Flannery O’Connor, Fraser makes a strong case for the recovery of indirect strategies for communicating truth in our time.

"Hide and Seek takes us to some strangely familiar, but forgotten, places, reminding us of that old proverb that it is ‘the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings to search them out.’ Fraser generously gives his readers hints, clues, and whispers, in the death of a son or teaching potty-training, that help us discover the treasures of indirect communication to convey the gospel in a loud, busy, and fallen world.” —Terry Lindvall, Virginia Wesleyan University

"This is an essential book for everyone who cares about communicating wisely and well in our age. Indirect communication gets to the heart of the matter—and to our hearts. Without imagination and story, we all will be spiritually impoverished.” —Quentin Schultze, Calvin University

Benson P. Fraser is the Westminster Canterbury Fellow of Religious Studies and Lifelong Learning at Virginia Wesleyan University in Virginia Beach, Virginia. His academic and research interests are in the area of media effects, celebrity influence, indirect communication, and entertainment-education. Dr. Fraser is also a partner and consultant in Brown, Fraser & Associates, a communication research firm in Chesapeake, Virginia. He has conducted over one hundred national media studies in more than forty countries.
Jacques Ellul (1912–1994) was Professor of the History and Sociology of Institutions at the University of Bordeaux. A sociologist, historian, and Protestant lay theologian, Ellul is primarily known for his writings on technology, propaganda, and Christian anarchism. He influenced a wide array of thinkers including Ivan Illich, William Stringfellow, Thomas Merton, Paul Virilio, and Neil Postman. In this book, Jacob Van Vleet and Jacob Marques Rollison guide readers through Ellul's most influential theological and sociological writings. By understanding Ellul's primary works, readers will be able to clearly grasp his social theory and theological ethics, profiting from his deep insight and prophetic wisdom.

“This book is a triumph of beautifully sensitive synthetic analysis on one of the most important thinkers of the twentieth century. Highly recommended.”
—Paul Tyson, Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, University of Queensland

“For the first time, Ellul's sociological and theological writings are covered in a single volume. A significant achievement, and highly recommended.”
—Jeffrey Shaw, Salve Regina University

“This little book is an excellent digest, which accurately summarizes the thought of Jacques Ellul and offers it to every reader. It presents the theological and the sociological sides of his work with equilibrium, and above all points exactly to the dialectical relationship between them. Thanks to it, we can appropriate the main ideas of Jacques Ellul, and understand the global coherence of a thought which is so pertinent for our time.”
—Frédéric Rognon, University of Strasbourg

Jacob E. Van Vleet is Professor of Philosophy at Diablo Valley College in the San Francisco Bay Area. He is the author of Dialectical Theology and Jacques Ellul (2014) and editor of Jacques Ellul: Essential Spiritual Writings (2016).

Jacob Marques Rollison is an independent scholar living in Strasbourg, France. He is the author of A New Reading of Jacques Ellul: Presence and Communication in the Postmodern World (2020). He has recently translated Ellul's two-volume ethical treatise, To Will & To Do."
Autobiographical writings on faith frequently come from the lives of ordinary persons whose struggles with faith are often lived at the margins of the church, academy, and society. Yet these voices have the potential to reshape the ways in which each of these fields function. To find out what it means to stand before God with all of one’s humanity on display is to engage in not only the act of confession, but to demonstrate a bold theological reflection that needs to be more explicitly understood. By turning to spiritual autobiographies as theological source texts, we learn to place our emphasis where it matters most, on the people whose lives of faith move us deeply and cause us to re-examine our own lives in light of their witness. Moving through a range of ancient, early modern, and contemporary spiritual writers in order to demonstrate a profound connection that unites them all, this book portrays how a critical self-examination of one’s most personal, internal fractures (our “poverty” as it were) is the only way to develop a life of faith—the dual meaning of the word “confession,” which expresses both a revealing of one’s sins, or brokenness, and the articulation of what one believes.

Introduction: Theology as Autobiography

Chapter 1 The Significance of (Auto)biography in the Christian Tradition
Chapter 2 Augustine: Confession at the Foundations of Christian Theology
Chapter 3 Mary Karr: Taking the Risk of Putting One’s Faith into Life and One’s Life into Faith
Chapter 4 Christian Wiman: A Poetic Meditation on Life, Suffering, Faith, and Jesus Christ
Chapter 5 Leo Tolstoy: Finding Faith Amidst the Tensions of the World
Chapter 6 Rachel Held Evans and Dani Shapiro: Finding a Way Forward for Critical Faith Today
Chapter 7 Guibert of Nogent and Ignatius of Loyola: Errors, Pitfalls, and Reading Life in Light of Divine Activity in the World
Chapter 8 Teresa of Avila: Living the Saintly Life
Chapter 9 Dorothy Day: Faith in the Context of Suffering and Marginalization
Chapter 10 Henri Nouwen: Locating a Contemporary Spirituality
Chapter 11 Diana Eck: The Other Already Before Us

"Theologically rich while gently and lucidly composed, this is a work attuned to our pluralist age, which still yearns for meaning and connection, even if awash in many false hopes and expectations. Highly recommended!" — Peter Admirand, Dublin City University

Colby Dickinson is Associate Professor of Theology at Loyola University Chicago. He is the author of Agamben and Theology, Between the Canon and the Messiah: The Structure of Faith in Contemporary Continental Thought, Words Fail: Theology, Poetry, and the Challenge of Representation, and, most recently, Theology and Contemporary Continental Philosophy: The Centrality of a Negative Dialectics.
Twenty-first-century Christians in the West crave comfort, affluence, freedom from pain, and even power. However, the story of global Christianity—from Christ, the early church, right up to the present day—has been shaped by suffering and even martyrdom. In this short book Edward Smither explores martyrdom both biblically and historically. He defends three claims: in martyrdom we verbally bear witness to Christ, we raise a prophetic voice, and we worship. Christians today, argues Smither, especially those in the West, should welcome suffering and martyrdom as a normal part of the Christian life.

"The subject of martyrdom is an essential one for the twenty-first-century church, and Ed Smither is just the man to address it in a theological, historical, and pastoral way. Combining expertise in church history with missiology, Smither offers a history of Christian persecution, then reminds us why it matters today: because our brothers and sisters are still suffering as they bear witness to the Lord. Grounded in Christology, this book calls Christians to a life of cruciform suffering and spiritual oneness with those whose imitation of Christ may require the ultimate sacrifice." —Bryan Litfin, Moody Publishers

"Many Western Christians do not know that we live in an age of widespread Christian martyrdom. There is also confusion about what martyrdom is. Theologians and sociologists of religion often use notably different definitions. In this situation, Edward Smither has done us a very valuable service by providing a simple and short, but comprehensive, clear, and balanced overview of the nature and history of Christian martyrdom." —Paul Marshall, Baylor University

"Is persecution and suffering an integral part of the Christian life? Why does God allow martyrdom? What is the biblical basis? What do we learn from history and even present-day persecution of Christians? Dr. Edward Smither, with whom I have had the privilege to serve for two decades in Muslim countries, where Christians are persecuted, has masterfully outlined answers to these questions in the book you hold in your hands. You will certainly enjoy exploring this important subject and learn church history and about countless Christian leaders who gave their lives for their faith in Jesus Christ." —Henri Aoun, Life Agape International

Edward L. Smither is Professor of Intercultural Studies and History of Global Christianity and Dean of the College of Intercultural Studies at Columbia International University. His books include Christian Mission: A Concise Global History (2019) and Mission in the Early Church (2014).
In this clear, practical, and brief commentary, Anthony Thiselton brings to bear his intimate knowledge of Paul’s theology, the ancient city of Colossae, and Paul’s epistle to the church of that city. The commentary offers a new translation from the Greek, and explorations of an exegetical as well as a pastoral and practical nature on all passages of the book. Each section concludes with questions for further reflection.

“To read this work is to read the work of a profound scholar and committed disciple. This book is as exegetically and historically clear-headed as it is pastorally sensitive. Profound and accessible, this commentary shows a master at work.”
—Tom Greggs, Marishcal Chair and Head of Divinity, University of Aberdeen

“Writing with his trademark clarity and scholarly acumen, Professor Thiselton again proves a wise guide as he takes his readers through the text of an important Pauline epistle. With its combination of exegetical and pastoral insights, this volume deserves a wide readership.”
—David Fergusson, Professor of Divinity, University of Edinburgh

Anthony Thiselton is Emeritus Professor of Christian Theology in the Universities of Nottingham and of Chester. He is the author of more than thirty books, including a commentary on the Greek text of 1 Corinthians (2000); a shorter commentary on 1 Corinthians (2006); Discovering Romans (2016); and 2 Corinthians: A Short Exegetical and Pastoral Commentary (2019).
No matter what side you’re on or how you look at it, we’re living in a world that’s filled with “fake news” and with lots of people who believe it. How do Christians fits into this world? In this book, Kenton Sparks argues that certain approaches to biblical authority, which assume that the Bible is a perfect book, make Christians especially susceptible to the deceptions of “fake news” and cause us to embrace false understandings of the Bible and, because of this, about natural science, social science, various academic disciplines, politics, morals, ethics, and loads of other things. The resulting damage to faith and Christian witness is significant. Is there a better way to understand and honor biblical authority? Yes. We must restore God as the final authority over our interpretations of Scripture.

The path forward for this theological agenda was modeled by Jesus Christ in his interpretations of Scripture. Whereas his contemporaries often followed the “letter of the law” or something akin to it, Jesus taught that love for God and neighbor provided the proper foundation and destination for healthy readings and applications of the Bible. If love required more radical, internal commitments to the law, Jesus demanded this of his audience; where love required that we set aside the law’s violent judgments, he pointed his audience in the opposite direction. In modeling this approach to Scripture, Jesus taught “as one with authority” and thus showed us that, when we interpret Scripture through the lens of divine love, we give ourselves the best opportunity to read Scripture under the authority of God.

"Sparks throws down a frank and refreshing reminder that superficial appeals to 'biblical authority,' rather than defending God's authority, create theological systems that are at odds with Scripture's own leading. Sparks is subtle, learned, concise, and absolutely clear. This book will become a go-to source for understanding the nature of the Bible and what it means to read it well today." --Peter Enns, Abram S. Clemens Professor of Biblical Studies, Eastern University, author of Inspiration and Incarnation

"A good book--or good lectures--pokes and prods, challenges and questions, opens up new horizons and sheds light on old ones, and comforts and stretches the reader. If we end up reading a book and find ourselves in total agreement with the author, what have we learned? I find Kent Sparks' contextual approach to reading the Bible to be quite helpful. I hope you do, too." --Christopher Hall, President, Renovare

Kenton L. Sparks is Professor of Biblical Studies and Provost at Eastern University in St. Davids, Pennsylvania. A recipient of the Lindback Foundation Award for Excellence in Teaching, his previous publications include: Ancient Texts for the Study of the Hebrew Bible (2005), God's Words in Human Words (2008), Sacred Word Broken Word (2012), and many other books and articles. He is an ordained minister in the Baptist and Campbellite traditions and married since 1988 to Cheryl Bailey Sparks, a professor and practitioner of marriage and family therapy. Kent and Cheryl have two adult daughters.
Paul's gospel is misunderstood. Paul's gospel is seen as his message, perhaps an empowered message; he saw it differently. His gospel can be many things: tradition about Jesus, Jesus Christ himself, the ministry of Jesus, the replication of the ministry of Jesus, God's salvific drama, the salvation experience of people, a message, and something that can (and should) be embodied or lived. And the gospel does not come to people in Paul's preaching. He says it comes or takes place in both his message and the miraculous. Without the involvement and acts of God (in the miraculous), for Paul, there would have been no gospel, only preaching. It is not that the miraculous was simply a proof or demonstration of the gospel; it was integral to it. In the gospel's coming or establishment, it is clear that, at heart, the gospel is God's salvation—the presence of God himself—in Christ, experienced in the symbiotic relationship between Paul's message about God's Son, Jesus Christ, and the activity of God in the miraculous. Not surprisingly, then, Paul rarely talks of preaching the gospel. He sees himself as "gospelling."

"Graham Twelftree's meticulous examination contends the gospel must be seen in all its fullness and not through a single, narrow lens. This book will prove to be a significant turning point in gospel studies and deserves a wide, fair, and conversational reading." —Scot McKnight, Professor of New Testament, Northern Seminary

"With characteristic diligence and insight, Professor Twelftree exhorts biblical interpreters to remove Protestant eyeglasses and to view afresh 'the gospel' as Paul demonstrably understood it. . . . The Gospel According to Paul is a vital contribution to scholarship that historians, theologians, pastors, and students would neglect at their peril." —C. Clifton Black, Otto A. Piper Professor of Biblical Theology, Princeton Theological Seminary

"Graham Twelftree has written what has been needed for a long time: a comprehensive and thorough study of the Apostle Paul's 'gospel' language against its Jewish and Greco-Roman background. This concise and well-written study provides access to the center of Paul's thinking. It can be considered as a book that combines exegetical diligence and theological commitment in the best sense. It is to be wished that it will find many readers."
—Michael Wolter, Professor of New Testament, University of Bonn

"Is the gospel just a message? Is it even, as Twelftree has previously written, a message supported by the miraculous? In a passionately argued book, Twelftree seeks to persuade his reader that, for Paul, 'gospel' covers a range of ideas but is, at heart, God's transforming encounter with people. Everyone, from church members to scholars, will find value in listening to the case Twelftree makes." —Peter Oakes, Professor of New Testament, University of Manchester

This collection of essays argues that Paul’s articulation of Christ and his saving work makes use of the categories and perspectives of ancient Jewish apocalyptic eschatology. Such eschatology is concerned with the expectation that God will finally and irrevocably put an end to the present order of reality (“this age”) and replace it with a new, transformed order of reality (“the age to come”). In Paul’s view, God has initiated this eschatological act of cosmic rectification in the person and work of Christ.

The essays included, two of them previously unpublished, investigate and illuminate various aspects of Paul’s christologically focused appropriation of ancient Jewish apocalyptic eschatology, particularly in his letters to the Galatians and the Romans. The collection begins with the author’s seminal essay on the two tracks of Jewish apocalyptic eschatology (forensic and cosmological) from 1989 and ends with an essay from 2016 containing the author’s retrospective restatement and elaboration of his views.

“No contemporary scholar has contributed more to the resurgence of interest in Paul’s apocalyptic theology than Martinus de Boer. This fine collection of studies, both new and previously published, amply displays his robust engagement with both Paul and Paul’s interpreters. Must reading for students of Paul.” —Beverly Roberts Gaventa, Baylor University

“This rich collection of de Boer’s essays on Paul is at once a delight and an education. From his early dissertation, The Defeat of Death, to his recent Galatians commentary, Martinus de Boer has advanced a provocative and compelling reading of Paul as the apostle of God’s apocalypse, for whom Christ is the very axis of the redemptive turning of the ages. Here, closely argued exegesis and programmatic argument conspire to set out the stall for the ‘apocalyptic Paul.’” —Philip G. Ziegler, University of Aberdeen

“In these closely-reasoned and eloquent essays, Martinus de Boer describes Paul as a theologian of the apocalypse. Not an apocalypse of disaster—the disaster, for Paul, has already occurred in Christ’s death—but an apocalypse, an unveiling, of the hope that that death has unleashed into the world. In these dark times, that is a message worth hearing.” —Joel Marcus, Duke Divinity School

“This is a magnificent collection of essays, characterized by clarity, precision, acumen, and careful attention to the text of Paul’s letters. Here is exegesis at its best, bringing forth Paul’s vision of God’s apocalypse in all its richness, complexity, and power.” —Susan Eastman, Duke Divinity School

Telling in current biblical postcolonial discourse that draws insights from the works of Aimé Césaire, Frantz Fanon, and postcolonial theorists is the missing contribution of Léopold Sédar Senghor, the architect of Négritude. If mentioned at all, Senghor is often read through conclusions drawn by his critics or dismissed altogether as irrelevant to postcolonialism. Restored to its rightful place, Senghorian Négritude is a postcolonial lens for reading Scripture and other faith traditions with a view to reposition, conscientize, liberate, and rehabilitate the conquered, and enable them to reclaim their faith traditions and practices that once directed a mutual relationship between God, human, and nature—a delicate symbiosis before the French colonial advent in West Africa. A keen eye for cross-cultural analysis and contextualization enriched this volume with an intriguing reading of scripture, Ancient Near Eastern and Greco-Roman texts in conversation with other faith traditions, particularly Senegalese Diola Religion. As a Poetics of Postcolonial Biblical Criticism, Négritude is an optic through which people of faith may look around themselves, critically reread their sacred texts, reassess their vocation, and practice mutuality with God and nature on the heels of chilling climate change. Enshrined in this innovative argument is a call for introspection and challenge for people of faith to assume their vocation—human participatory agency.


“In a brilliant deployment of scholarly insights from multiple fields and subfields in biblical studies—from history of religions to comparative religions to exegesis and reception history—Aliou Niang’s A Poetics of Postcolonial Biblical Criticism is as compelling in its theoretical and methodological framing and appropriations of Senghorian Négritude as it is in its engagement with the multipositionality and multilocality of the postcolonial hermeneut. Forceful, yet unapologetic, Niang’s A Poetics is a refreshing read of the Bible, of African (Diola) culture, and of biblical interpretation itself. It is a veritable gift of Africana hermeneutics to the field of biblical scholarship.” —Kenneth Ngwa, Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible, Drew University Theological School

"Niang here draws competently on a vast cultural and disciplinary range of conversation partners. This work is grounded in concrete cultural realities, hermeneutically sophisticated, and enlightening for current philosophic, literary and ecological discussions." —Craig Keener, Professor of New Testament, Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky.
The biblical prophets and Biblical Performance Criticism are brought together in three case studies (Elijah, Ezekiel, Jonah) presented as performances. This book proposes a new method of reading the biblical prophets with a threefold focus on creativity, commentary, and connections. With this method the many and varied performances of the prophets can be better appreciated. Critical analysis of the quintessentially performative nature of the prophets as embodied spokespersons for YHWH aids us in understanding and clarifying YHWH's message to audiences, situations, and communities of the past as well as engaging contemporary audiences.

"Jeanette Mathews builds upon her earlier study of performance criticism applied to Habakkuk. Here, she enlivens her introduction of the method with three new case studies. She creatively engages ancient and modern performance and invites her own readers to consider the Elijah Cycle as a four-part mini-series, to reflect upon Ezekiel as a performance artist, and to envision Jonah as a stage play."

—James D. Nogalski, author of *The Book of the Twelve and Beyond* and *The Book of the Twelve: Hosea-Jonah*

"What more appropriate application of performance criticism than to bring it to bear on the proclamations of Hebrew prophets! Following her groundbreaking work on Habakkuk, Jeanette Mathews has stepped up to analyze other prophetic performances. Her narrative analyses and performative reflections on Elijah, Ezekiel, and Jonah, including her stimulating translations, illuminate these writings as active speech. Recommended for students and scholars interested in accessing insights into the Hebrew Bible through performance criticism."

—David Rhoads, author of *Mark as Story* and *The Challenge of Diversity*

Jeanette Mathews is Senior Lecturer in Biblical Studies (Old Testament) in the School of Theology of Charles Sturt University (CSU), based at St Mark's National Theological Centre in Canberra, Australia, and a research fellow in CSU's Public and Contextual Theology Research Centre. She is the author of *Performing Habakkuk* (Pickwick, 2012) and has edited a guide for new theological students titled *God, By Degrees* (2nd ed., 2019).
In this new introduction and guide to Paul's Letter to the Philippians, Nijay K. Gupta makes the background, messages, and theological importance of this text understandable and interesting to lay readers and students. *Reading Philippians* includes Gupta's own English translation of Philippians. In his discussion of the value and significance of this text for Christians today, he incorporates fascinating historical case studies, modern analogies from pop culture, and practical advice and exercises for Christian formation for today.

“Relevant. Entertaining. Accurate. Transforming. Written for everyday Christians by an expert on Philippians, Nijay Gupta’s guide strikes all the right chords.”
—Matthew W. Bates, Associate Professor of Theology, Quincy University

“Philippians comes to life as Gupta illuminates the theological issues of the text and highlights the historical context of first-century Philippi. Gupta offers accessible examples as he guides readers through the practice of theological interpretation. This skillfully written commentary should be a go-to volume for any pastor, lay leader, or student who desires a concise and thorough examination of Philippians.”
—Lynn Cohick, Provost and Dean, Professor of New Testament, Denver Seminary

“Gupta offers a remarkably accessible and rich introduction to Paul's Letter to the Philippians. Gupta is an ideal guide for all non-specialists wanting to learn how to read a Pauline letter with attention to its theological, historical, and exegetical texture.”
—Joshua Jipp, Associate Professor of New Testament, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

“Nijay Gupta offers an informed, learned, and eminently readable introduction to Paul's Letter to the Philippians. A wonderful survey of the letter, from the summit of the Christ-hymn to Paul’s soliloquy about facing possible execution, suffused with great insights about Christian community, and it puts readers in touch with the latest in Pauline scholarship. A terrific volume by a world-class Pauline scholar!”
—Michael F. Bird, Academic Dean and Lecturer in Theology, Ridley College

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.
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

"An expert and lucid guide in hermeneutics, Professor Thiselton here outlines its significance for a new generation of students. His exposition of key figures, especially Ricoeur, confirms the importance of a patient, tolerant, humble, and appropriate reading of texts. Those seeking a point of entry to the subject would do well to begin here."
—David Fergusson, University of Edinburgh

"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).
This prayer book is intended to build up your child’s prayer life in a fun and relatable way. The rhyming and conversational tone of each prayer, accompanied by a colorful and fitting image, is intended to make prayer time an enjoyable experience for children. The book’s intention is also to encourage children to approach and talk to God about anything and everything going on in their lives, since God is always ready to listen and loves to hear from them, regardless of the topic or thought. The book is aimed mainly at children aged 0–6 years, but it can be used by older children too, who can easily relate to the varying themes of the individual prayers.

Tsahai Gomwalk Jacobsen is a mother of two and volunteers as a Sunday school teacher at her local church in Oslo, Norway. Professionally, she has worked within the IT industry for over twenty years as a consultant and subsequently moved into leadership roles. Tsahai holds a bachelor of engineering degree in computer and microelectronics and a master of science in VLSI engineering from universities in the United Kingdom. This is her first published book.
The stories in the Bible continue to be told and retold, learned and loved by every generation and every age level. Here are some of the most popular and some that seldom get much attention, all told from a different perspective, for young readers to get to know these wonderful people of the Bible and learn how to tell their own stories about them.

“Primary and middle school religious educators, rejoice! You have a significant number of new Bible stories for your youngsters—delightfully told, gloriously illustrated, theologically profound, and full of the humor that appeals to children. Written by a biblical scholar and illustrated by a master icon writer, it just doesn’t get any better than this! Teachers and librarians will enjoy them, too.”

—Sharon Karam, RSCJ, retreat director, Former Teacher, Duchesne Academy, Houston, Texas

“At last! A book of Bible stories that engages children but doesn’t oversimplify or compromise the theology of the narrative. This will fill a much-neglected spot in my collection.”

—Jeannie Steenberge, religion teacher, Villa Duchesne and Oak Hill School, St. Louis, Missouri

Carolyn Osiek, RSCJ, is an archivist for the Society of the Sacred Heart, United States—Canada Province, and a retired professor of New Testament. Patricia Reid, RSCJ, is a retired artist and iconographer.
“When a loved one dies, we need all the help we can get to explain the loss to our children. Mike Resh has done just that in his new grief workbook, *Cardinal Connection*. It is a great resource for parents, teachers, and therapists in helping children understand and cope with grief.” —Marilyn Mendoza, psychologist and featured writer for *Psychology Today*

“*Cardinal Connection* is a practical workbook that explains grief in a way that is honest and truthful. So often kids worry they will forget over time and this book helps them learn how to feel comforted by having an ongoing connection, through a cardinal, to the person who has died.” —Patti Anewalt, Director, Pathways Center for Grief and Loss, Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Author Mike Resh grew up in Lehighton, Pennsylvania prior to moving to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, to start his career as an elementary school counselor. Throughout Mike’s professional career, he became passionate about supporting students and families during some of the toughest times of their lives, following the death of a loved one. Mike has vast experience and knowledge with supporting children as they work through the grieving process that he gained serving as a member of various grief support teams. Mike lives with his wife Kayla, daughter Emerson, and Goldendoodle Elle.

Illustrator Steven Kernen has been working in different areas of the art world for over twenty-five years; illustration, caricature, design, etc. Losing loved ones early in life has given him a special connection to this book and an appreciation of cardinals who fly by.
This Is the World that God Built is a retelling of the biblical creation story. A riff on the familiar nursery rhyme “This Is the House that Jack Built,” the story uses the cumulative tale format to build from Day One of creation, when God split light from the darkness, through Day Seven, when God rested from his work. The book follows the biblical account of creation using simple rhyming verses and vivid illustrations sure to become a treasured keepsake for children of all ages.

Amy Nichols is a wife, mother, teacher, and first-time author. She obtained a bachelor’s in marketing from Marshall University in her home state of West Virginia and a master of arts in teaching from Christopher Newport University in Virginia. She has ten years’ teaching experience in preschool, middle school math, and online English.

Ekaterina Ilina is an artist and illustrator from Saint Petersburg currently based in Tbilisi. She has worked for ten years as an artist, muralist, restorer, stucco artist, and has illustrated five children’s books.
“War has been abolished in Christ” is a strong claim by theologian Stanley Hauerwas. Wars, however, continue to rage, and historic numbers of people are displaced globally. Despite critics’ assessments that Hauerwas contributes to Christians disengaging, his work provides certain tools for the work of peacebuilding. In this work, Hauerwas’s contribution to peacemaking as a part of his ecclesiology and broader theological/ethical work will be assessed. Hauerwas’s peacemaking within his work stands within the context of ecclesiology and related themes of witness and Christology. The possibilities of his work on peacemaking to extend to peacebuilding practice and foreign policy formation are explored, and a critique is leveled regarding his engagement with racial justice. Additionally, certain practices of reading in theology and training in this language are extrapolated to engage the task of policy formation and analysis in contexts where religion is an active factor. This study concludes that Hauerwas’s theological ethics of peacemaking makes a valuable contribution, but must be extended into specific practices.

“Hauerwas the Peacemaker? by Nathan Hosler is a rich and deep exploration of peacemaking and nonviolence from different Christian perspectives. . . . I look forward to reading it again and again.” —Marie Dennis, Executive Committee, Pax Christi International’s Catholic Nonviolence Initiative

“Hauerwas the Peacemaker? invites us to a new understanding of peacemaking in times where protracted wars, social unrests, and racial injustices are increasingly affecting the lives of millions. By assessing Stanley Hauerwas’s work on peacemaking, Hosler brings a fresh insight on Christian witness and Christology, peacebuilding practice and foreign policy, as well as the church’s engagement for racial justice.” —Semegnish Asfaw, Programme Executive, World Council of Churches

“Nathan Hosler has called Stanley Hauerwas out of retirement to join an engaging current conversation around how his theology of nonviolence might contribute to active peacemaking today.” —Scott Holland, Slabaugh Professor of Theology & Culture and Director of Peace Studies, Bethany Theological Seminary

“Nathan Hosler brings the nuanced perspective and practical concerns of a pastor, policy advocate, and practitioner of peacemaking to bear on Hauerwas’s usefulness for the concrete work of peacemaking. He uses his own experiences on the ground in peacemaking efforts to draw out the implications, contributions, and shortcomings of Hauerwas’s work for the practice and policy of peacebuilding.” —Kristopher Norris, Visiting Distinguished Professor of Public Theology, Wesley Theological Seminary

Nathan Hosler is the director of the Office of Peacebuilding and Policy of the Church of the Brethren in Washington, DC, and a pastor at the Washington City Church of the Brethren on Capitol Hill. He holds an MA in International Relations from Salve Regina University and a PhD in Theological Studies from the University of the Western Cape.
All in a Garden Green
BY Paul J. Willis

In an old English manor house a young girl enters into history in a way that entices readers to suspend disbelief and take delight in sharing her journey across time. Skillfully drawing upon his own semester with students in England and upon records of a royal visit to Hengrave Hall, Paul Willis has woven a tale that deserves to be read aloud and enjoyed by adults and children old enough to wonder about time past. Ancient customs, young romance, a courtyard, a moat, a mysterious nun, and two St. Bernards are only a few of the features that give this story its singular charm.”
—Marilyn McEntyre, author of Caring for Words in a Culture of Lies

Thirteen-year-old Erica Pickins does not want to play the piano—and she definitely does not want to go to England. But her father must take family and students for a fall semester abroad, and her mother insists she still practice, every day.

In England, their new home becomes Hengrave Hall, a sixteenth-century manor house presided over by a group of nuns. While exploring with her new friend Pedro, Erica walks through a chamber door…into the Year of Our Lord 1578. There she is startled to find a music master in doublet and hose impatiently waiting for her. He mistakes her for Margaret, the elder daughter of the house, who is late for a lesson on the virginal—a forerunner of the piano.

It seems that in a matter of days Queen Elizabeth will arrive on a formal visit, and the girl is to play for her as part of the planned entertainments.

Erica has no choice but to play along and pretend that she is Margaret. With a little help from her brainy friend Pedro, and after making a few whopping social blunders in welcoming the Queen of England, Erica manages to pull off her final performance—but not before the real Margaret reappears at exactly the wrong moment….
An Atheist's Letters to Heaven

BY Naimbai Njerakey

Imprint: Resource Publications
Category: Fiction
Language Sold:

ISBN: 9781725277939
Pages: 172
Publication Date: 7/13/2020

An Atheist's Letters to Heaven is for seekers of truth and anyone interested in being acquainted with the Christian perspective on modern controversies hotly debated in the media, press, academia, and beyond. Moreover, the novel is written to assist believers in leading unbelievers to Christ by putting themselves in their shoes and addressing potential objections in an adequate and practical manner. It is a journey of an atheist (Marawi) who is given the opportunity to reconnect with his now-deceased friend (Melchizedek) in Paradise. Prior to his passing, Melchizedek accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior and pleaded with his friend to do the same to no avail. Over the course of their correspondence, Marawi asks questions and offers counterarguments based on logic, academia, and atheism. Melchizedek, on the other hand, offers a heavenly perspective and occasionally refers to the Scriptures, history, and the realities of life to make his case for the veracity of the Christian faith. It is a novel that takes the objections of atheists into consideration and addresses the most common objections raised by non-Christians. The questions of origin, meaning, morality, and destiny are discussed from divergent paradigms over the course of three years.

“This book written by Naimbai Njerakey is sound, doctrinally interesting, clever in thought, and biblically informative. I recommend the book.”
—Myron Guiler, President, Marietta Bible College

Naimbai Njerakey was born on April 12, 1993 in N'Djamena, Chad. A member of the N'gambay ethnicity, he grew up in his homeland. Naimbai’s father became a diplomat and his family relocated to Silver Spring, Maryland, in 2008. He attended Walsh University on an athletic scholarship where he obtained a degree in International Relations and Government and Foreign Affairs. Naimbai is presently attending Marietta Bible College with a burden to become a missionary.
A missing bridegroom, a runaway temple prostitute, and a strange call from the prophet Elijah interrupt the routine lives of a small Hebrew family struggling to survive in a drought-ridden village near Samaria. Amidst the chaos, a lamb is born. As Hannah and her family navigate through heartache, guilt, and resentment, encounters with the lamb challenge perspectives and bring about healing and redemption.

“Set during Elijah’s lifetime in the Old Testament, this book reveals the core of gospel truth. Nathaniel and his lamb, Shalom, remind me of Jody and his deer, Flag, in *The Yearling*. But the maturation of Nathaniel simultaneously involves both the heartbreaking realization that human wrong always causes suffering and also costs sacrificial love. The interwoven plot holds our attention because we care about each character introduced and long for justice ‘in the land of the living.’ While we experience the latter, this is not a sentimental story. It looks at darkest reality found in a form of worship that involves sexual abuse. . . . A father will try to force his daughter to marry a man she does not trust. A fearful, pregnant runaway withholds a secret. And fire will fall from heaven.”

—Patricia S. Cook

“Gina Jobe has written a moving story with enjoyable twists and turns. But most importantly, *The Lamb* shows the power of sin while demonstrating that grace is more powerful still.”

—Andy McGuire, author and illustrator

Gina Jobe was an elementary school teacher for fourteen years and is currently creating curricula for a youth services organization and homeschooling two of her grandchildren.
“Do many young boys meet hermits in the forest, and trade mushrooms for wisdom?” Set amid the primeval forests of Eastern Poland, the avant-garde enclaves of Greenwich Village, and the long summer days of the San Juan Islands, *Wild Mushrooms* is the story of one man’s life, an artist called Eliasz, Ilyusha, and Elias at different points in his timeline. The narrative meanders fluidly between visions of the past—a small boy’s first memories of encountering the faith of his Russian grandmother—the obsessions and malignant thoughts which threaten to destroy a young man’s life, and the moment of personal theophany that brings an old man hope amid sorrow.

Beauty, evil, worship, and hatred—monsters, dragons, and hermits in the woods—*Wild Mushrooms* is a journey of the mind and the soul, of decisive moments, and the insanity of true wisdom.

“How can we tell the difference between what nourishes and what destroys? Between what’s worthy of being worshiped and what’s only a brilliant façade? In *Wild Mushrooms*, E. Piotrowicz examines these questions with nuance and candor through the journey of Elias, an artist who struggles to differentiate what is beautiful from what’s monstrous and what is generative from what’s deadly. The novel will inspire your mind and your spirit to test what is true.”

—Lori Huth, Associate Professor of Creative Writing, Houghton College

E. Piotrowicz was raised in the mountains on the edge of a forest, in a little wooden house with a little wood stove, and two big dogs who thought they were little. Major role models include Dostoevsky and an oddly shaped dog who has love and doesn’t judge. When not writing by the fireside, this author will be found listening to records, hiking in the forest with loved ones, and watching the winged wildlife.
Art West Series
BY Ben Witherington, III, Ann Witherington

The Complete Art West Series: 7 Volume Set
BY Ben Witherington, III, Ann Witherington
Imprint: Pickwick Publications
Category: Fiction
ISBN: 9781725283084
Pages: 1744
Publication Date: 6/17/2020

The Lazarus Effect
The First Art West Adventure
BY Ben Witherington, III, Ann Witherington
Imprint: Pickwick Publications
Category: Humanities
ISBN: 9781556359644
Pages: 270
Publication Date: 9/15/2008

Roman Numerals
The Second Art West Adventure
BY Ben Witherington, III, Ann Witherington
Imprint: Pickwick Publications
Category: Humanities
ISBN: 9781606085486
Pages: 258
Publication Date: 6/1/2009

Papias and the Mysterious Menorah
The Third Art West Adventure
BY Ben Witherington, III, Ann Witherington
Imprint: Pickwick Publications
Category: Humanities
ISBN: 9781608994601
Pages: 268
Publication Date: 5/7/2010

Corinthian Leather
The Fourth Art West Adventure
BY Ben Witherington, III, Ann Witherington
Imprint: Pickwick Publications
Category: Humanities
ISBN: 9781610973366
Pages: 284
Publication Date: 11/1/2011

Roma Aeterna
The Fifth Art West Adventure
BY Ben Witherington, III, Ann Witherington
Imprint: Pickwick Publications
Category: Humanities
ISBN: 9781620325919
Pages: 228
Publication Date: 6/28/2013

Ephesian Miracle
The Sixth Art West Adventure
BY Ben Witherington, III, Ann Witherington
Imprint: Pickwick Publications
Category: Humanities
ISBN: 9781620325582
Pages: 210
Publication Date: 2/19/2014

Return to Zion
The Seventh Art West Adventure
BY Ben Witherington, III, Ann Witherington
Imprint: Pickwick Publications
Category: Fiction
ISBN: 9781625644145
Pages: 226
Publication Date: 10/23/2015
If you are searching for a straightforward retelling of the book of Genesis in a modern idiom, this is not the book for you. If you are looking exclusively for a poetic rendering of the simple text, you've picked up the wrong book. If you are primarily after a textual commentary, you'll expect one that is far more expansive. If, however, you are after a lively, dramatic, highly original, and entertaining retelling of the Genesis stories in rhymed verse, which skillfully synthesizes both critical literary analysis and exotic, folkloristic, and occasionally whimsical elements—then this book is a must!

The general reader will be charmed by what one influential British poet, Ann Sansom, has described as its “close rhymes and steady rhythm [which] are indeed very musical.” The student of Bible and folklore will be especially interested in the detailed “Notes to the Text,” providing the sources for and rationales of the many supplements to the familiar traditional text.

Jeffrey M. Cohen has lectured in Hebrew and biblical studies at the Universities of London and Glasgow. He has written twenty-six books and over two hundred articles on biblical and religious themes. His most recent work is The Book of Psalms: Poetry in Poetry (Wipf & Stock, 2018). Audience responses to his poetic readings at schools and religious and cultural groups have been consistently enthusiastic. He and his wife, Gloria, have four children and fourteen grandchildren.

NOAH’S LAST DAYS
(9:18–27)

Noah lived the good life,
Planting many vines,
Doing lots of gardening
And downing his fine wines.
So very drunk he became one day,
That he lay naked in his tent:
When his grandson, Canaan, peeped in
He immediately sent
A message to his father, Ham,
Saying, “Grandpa’s got no shame,
So how can you describe him as
A man of great fame?”

Ham went to Noah’s tent,
To check his son’s account:
Seeing his father’s nakedness,
He immediately ran out
And told his brothers that their dad
Deserved respect no more,
For, since the days of Adam and Eve,
Nakedness was against the law!

The brothers, Shem and Japhet,
Deploring their father’s plight,
Walked backwards with a blanket
So as not to see that sight:
They covered up their sleeping dad,
Who, oblivious, just snored,
And planted a kiss on his cheek—
His dignity restored.

In a dream, God told Noah
What Ham and Canaan had done;
And Noah solemnly announced
That their blessing would be undone.

“Ham shall ever remain
To his brothers a lowly slave,
And Canaan, throughout the world,
Shall be accounted a knave.

“What he did to his grandpa
A byword shall become
For those who take advantage—
On purpose or for fun—
Of those who cannot help themselves,
And, instead of helping,
Run!”
Backlist Highlights
In *Christianity, Democracy, and the Radical Ordinary*, theologian Stanley Hauerwas and political theorist Romand Coles reflect about possibilities and practices of radical democracy and radical ecclesia that take form in the textures of relational care for the radical ordinary. They seek to shift political and theological imaginations beyond the limits of contemporary political formations (such as global capitalism, the mega-state, and empire), which they argue are based upon both the denial and production of death.

Hauerwas and Coles call us to a revolutionary politics of "wild patience" that seeks transformation through attentive practices of listening, relationship-building, and a careful tending to places, common goods, and diverse possibilities for flourishing. Both authors translate back and forth across—as well as dwell in the tensions between—the languages of radical democracy and of trial, cross, and resurrection. Engaging each other through a variety of genres—from essays, to letters, to cowriting and dialogue—Hauerwas and Coles seek to enact a politics that is evangelical in its radical receptivity across strange differences and that cultivates power in relation to vulnerability.

The authors argue that there is a strong relation between hope and imagination, as well as between imagination and the encounter with and memory of those who have lived with receptive generosity toward the radical ordinary. Hence, throughout this book they think extensively in relation to specific lives and practices: from Ella Baker and the early Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee organizing efforts for beloved community and civil rights, to L'Arche communities founded by Jean Vanier, to contemporary faith-based radical democratic organizing efforts in dozens of cities by the Industrial Areas Foundation. Pushing and pulling each other into new and insightful journeys of political imagination, this conversation between a radical Christian and a radical democratic trickster spurs us toward a politics that acknowledges, tends to, and enacts the powers of the radical ordinary.

Stanley Hauerwas is the Gilbert T. Rowe Professor of Theological Ethics at Duke Divinity School, Duke University.

Romand Coles engages in grassroots politics in Durham, North Carolina, and is Associate Professor of Political Science and Germanic Languages & Literature at Duke University. His previous publications include *Beyond Gated Politics: Reflections for the possibility of Democracy*, *Rethinking Generosity: Critical Theory and the Politics of Caritas*, and *Self/Power/Other: Political Theory and Dialogical Ethics*. 
Combining thematic analysis and stimulating close readings, *The Collar* is a wide-ranging study of the many ways—heroic or comic, shrewd or dastardly—Christian ministers have been represented in literature and film. Since all Christians are expected to be involved in ministry of some type, the assumptions of secular culture about ministers affect more than just clergy. Ranging across several nations (particularly the U. S., Britain, and Canada), denominations, and centuries, *The Collar* aims to encourage creative and faithful responses to the challenges of Christian leadership and to provoke awareness of the times when leadership expectations become too extreme. Using the framework of novels, plays, TV, and movies to make inquiries about pastoral passion, frustration, and fallibility, Sue Sorensen’s well-informed, sprightly, and perceptive book will be helpful to pastors, parishioners, those interested in practical theology, and anyone who enjoys evocative literature and film.

"A marvelous mix of scintillating literary criticism and probing theological reflection, Sue Sorensen has provided insight into why funny stories are funnier and tragic stories more tragic when a clergyman is the principal character. But she also explores the deeper question, "Have these artists, as outsiders looking in, captured that mysterious soul of the one who has that special call from Christ?"
--Dale Ahlquist, President, American Chesterton Society

"Like every professional, the minister inherits images he or she did not create and may or may not want to project. Some of these images persist well beyond the epochs that shaped them. A few are positive, even heroic; many are negative and demeaning. Not only for those directly involved in the vocation, but for all who try to understand what the church has been and is, it is good to sort out these sometimes 'graven' images. And what better way of doing that than by considering the great stories in which clergy have some degree of prominence."
--Douglas John Hall, author of *What Christianity Is Not*

Sue Sorensen is Associate Professor of English at Canadian Mennonite University and an active member of First Lutheran Church in Winnipeg. She is the author of a novel, *A Large Harmonium*, and the editor of *West of Eden: Essays on Canadian Prairie Literature*. She has written about contemporary British literature, detective fiction, film, popular music, children’s writing, the fiction of A. S. Byatt, and is also a published poet.
Confronting Religious Violence: Christian Humanism and the Moral Imagination

BY Catherine M. Wallace

Confronting Religious Violence: Christian Humanism and the Moral Imagination tells the tale of Christian theocracy in the West. Who converted whom was never entirely clear: the empire did stop feeding people to the lions for public entertainment; but Christianity was theologically corrupted by its official role in legitimating empire-as-usual. That theological corruption led to crusades, inquisitions, torture, and so forth. And it leaves us with a major question: is God violent? More dangerously yet: is violence our only option in response to wrongdoing? Are we morally obligated to injure those who have injured others, to kill those who have killed others? If theocracy is a terrible idea, what is the proper relationship between church and state? We can’t say that the state is never morally accountable at all. Furthermore: despite constitutional separation of church and state, hard-right Christian fundamentalism continues to play a culturally significant role in advocating military action abroad and supporting state violence at home. There is a lot at stake in reclaiming the systematic nonviolence and moral imagination of Jesus of Nazareth.

Youtube: https://youtu.be/F0S6bRzs_NI

"Proclaiming Christianity that can cooperate with other religions and is understood as living the way of Jesus rather than as adherence to a theory about Jesus provides a welcome antidote to the violent God emulated by adherents of the contemporary form of Christendom, which Wallace repudiates so forcefully."

--J. Denny Weaver, author of The Nonviolent God

Catherine Miles Wallace, PhD, is a cultural historian on the faculty of the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University. She is the author of For Fidelity: How Intimacy and Commitment Enrich Our Lives (1998).
"In an Inescapable Network of Mutuality"

Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Globalization of an Ethical Ideal

EDITED BY Lewis V. Baldwin, Paul R. Dekar

FOREWORD BY Vicki L. Crawford

Imprint: Cascade Books
Category: Theology
Language Sold:
ISBN: 9781610974349
Pages: 408
Publication Date: 8/30/2013

The scholarship on Martin Luther King Jr. has too often cast him in the image of the Southern black preacher and the American Gandhi, while ignoring or trivializing his global connections and significance. This groundbreaking work, written by scholars, religious leaders, and activists of different backgrounds, addresses this glaring pattern of neglect in King studies. King is treated here as both a global figure and a forerunner of much of what is currently associated with contemporary globalization theory and praxis. The contributors to this volume agree that King must be understood not only as a thinker, visionary, and social change agent in his own historical context, but also in terms of his meaning for the different generations who still appeal to him as an authority, inspiration, and model of exemplary service to humanity. The task of engaging King both in context and beyond context is fulfilled in remarkable ways in this volume, without doing essential violence to this phenomenal figure.

"I have personally been to Martin Luther King Jr.’s memorial in Memphis, Tennessee, and have felt inspired by his example of sacrifice and conviction. I welcome this very insightful new book that introduces readers to him, while also highlighting his strategic nonviolence as a pathway to much-needed global peace. There is much here that is consistent with Gandhi’s principle of ahimsa. This is a comprehensive exploration of Dr. King's meaning for the world." --His Holiness the Fourteenth Dalai Lama, Spiritual Leader of the Tibetan People

"We have taken for granted Martin Luther King Jr. as a 'world citizen,’ but have spoken about this in vague, generalized terms. This magnificent volume puts an end to such vagueness. Baldwin and Dekar have, through the thoughtful reflections and powerful testimonies of scholars from across the world, brought into sharp relief a King concerned about the world, helping to shape it in ways we never truly understood.” --Allan Aubrey Boesak, Distinguished Desmond Tutu Visiting Professor of Ecumenical Theology and Prophetic Preaching, Christian Theological Seminary

"Anybody concerned about the economic, social, and gender inequalities anywhere in the world will benefit from the vision and the transformational impact of Martin Luther King Jr.’s exemplary leadership, which is carefully analyzed in this book by a diverse group of scholars, religious leaders, and activists.” --Peter J. Paris, Professor Emeritus, Princeton Theological Seminary

Lewis V. Baldwin is Professor of Religious Studies at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee. He is the author of To Make the Wounded Whole: The Cultural Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. (1992) and The Voice of Conscience: The Church in the Mind of Martin Luther King, Jr. (2010).
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.
Leviticus has been called "irrelevant," "primitive," and "a backwater" of the Bible, even by scholars and people of faith who treasure Scripture. Many find it alienating, or, at minimum, confusing. In *Leviticus: You Have No Idea* Rabbi Maurice D. Harris offers readers surprising new ways of looking at the Bible's least popular (and least understood) book. Grounded in his progressive religious values and beliefs, Rabbi Harris approaches the various laws, rituals, and stories of Leviticus with an open-minded curiosity about what we can learn today about life, ethics, God, and higher meaning by studying this text. Taking the Bible seriously but not literally, Harris uses a plain-spoken, accessible style to explain confusing elements of Leviticus. He explores topics that matter to many of us in contemporary society, including LGBT equality, the dangers of religious fundamentalism, the impacts of childhood trauma, criminal justice reform, and more. With this book, the author invites us into an ancient text that, read with care, challenges us to be better people and help repair this broken world.

"Rabbi Maurice Harris may be the first writer to excite readers about the book of Leviticus by taking scholarly insights and applying them to contemporary social challenges. . . . For those of us who seek to find prompts in the Bible to make us more responsible, more compassionate, and more connected human beings, Harris has provided a wonderful gift in opening up these seemingly irrelevant materials."

--From the Foreword by S. Tamar Kamionkowski, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

Maurice D. Harris is a rabbi and writer living in Eugene, Oregon. A graduate of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, he has worked as a congregational rabbi and religious educator. He is the author of *Moses: A Stranger among Us*, also from Cascade Books.
The meaning of “the millennium”—the thousand-year reign of Christ spoken of in Revelation 20—has been controversial for much of the church’s history, and even the main perspectives on the matter turn out to be more variegated than is often realized. This book takes the oldest of those options, premillennialism, and offers an excellent introduction to a variety of models of premillennialism currently available, including classical dispensationalism, progressive dispensationalism, historic premillennialism, thematic premillennialism, and historic premillennialism in Asian context. The product of collaboration between a systematic theologian and a New Testament scholar, this book provides a fascinating reference tool for anyone interested in what Scripture teaches about the last things of redemptive history, the Parousia, and the millennial kingdom.

1. Historic Premillennialism
2. Classical Dispensational Premillennialism
3. Progressive Dispensationalism
4. Thematic Millennialism
5. Historic Premillennialism in South Korea

Concluding Reflections on Premillennialism

I was happy to come across this much-needed book that surveys the various forms of premillennialism – Historic Premillennialism, Classical Dispensational Premillennialism, Progressive Dispensationalism, and Historic Premillennialism in South Korea. Each of these five chapters sketches out the distinctives of each approach, the hermeneutical approach of each (with critical engagement), and a historical development. A well-informed survey and valuable addition to eschatology. Foreword by Craig Blomberg. Highly recommended. I don’t know another volume that offers what this book provides. –Fred G. Zaspel

Sung Wook Chung is Professor of Christian Theology at Denver Seminary.

David Mathewson is Assistant Professor of New Testament at Denver Seminary.
Is the Christian concept of grace anathema to the social structure of merit-making found in Buddhist karmic communities? Are all Buddhist forms of merit-making purely for religious purposes to assuage cosmic consequences or are there other reasons? Are there not Christian churches who operate under a legalistic view of God’s divine wrath and are in essence living as karmic communities of the Christian type? The result of discussions about these and other questions is the volume you now hold in your hand. SEANET proudly presents what is number 14 in its series of missiological reference texts, *Gift and Duty: Where Grace and Merit Meet*. Each of the ten authors presented here represent a particular perspective, both Christian and Buddhist, that can inform the other. The goal of this volume is to lead to a deeper understanding of the significance of diverse religious and cultural perspectives.

“From India to Japan and all the Buddhist countries in between, thoughtful Christian scholars ponder what we share inter-religiously, what is unique about the good news that God has come close to us in Jesus, and how that can be expressed through local vocabulary, categories, concepts, and values. Each year wise men and women probe another dimension of this issue. This year the focus is karma and grace. The dialogue is absorbing and provocative for anyone who studies religion or pursues peace.”
—Miriam Adeney, Associate Professor of World Christian Studies, Seattle Pacific University

Paul H. de Neui is Professor of Missiology and Intercultural Studies and Director of the Center for World Christian Studies at North Park Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois.
Will the love of God save us all?

In this book Thomas Talbott seeks to expose the extent to which the Western theological tradition has managed to twist the New Testament message of love, forgiveness, and hope into a message of fear and guilt. According to the New Testament proclamation, he argues, God’s love is both unconditional in its nature and unlimited in its scope; hence, no one need fear, for example, that God’s love might suddenly turn into loveless hatred at the moment of one’s physical death. For God’s love remains the same yesterday, today, and forever. But neither should one ignore the New Testament theme of divine judgment, which Talbott thinks the Western theological tradition has misunderstood entirely. He argues in particular that certain patterns of fallacious reasoning, which crop up repeatedly in the works of various theologians and Bible scholars, have prevented many from appreciating St. Paul’s explicit teaching that God is merciful to all in the end.

This second edition of Talbott’s classic work is fully revised, updated, and substantially expanded with new material.

"I am not exaggerating when I say that the first edition of this book changed my life. Its core chapters provided my despairing heart with the utterly unexpected and glorious hope that ‘all will be well’—that God’s victory over sin will truly be complete! This classic and compelling case for Christian universalism is now even better in this revised and expanded edition. Highly recommended!" --Robin A. Parry, author of The Evangelical Universalist

"Among sustained defenses of Christian universalism, I know of no book that’s as effective at presenting rigorous arguments in a manner engaging and accessible to non-specialists. The new edition retains that balance while tackling recent arguments and introducing new material—including a new chapter, ‘Predestination unto Glory.’ The Inescapable Love of God is public philosophy at its best: serious philosophical and theological argumentation that speaks to those for whom the question of whether God saves all is no mere academic issue but a deeply personal one." --Eric Reitan, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK

Thomas Talbott is Emeritus Professor of Philosophy at Willamette University in Salem, OR. He received his PhD from the University of California at Santa Barbara and his MDiv from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA. His evolving academic interests include philosophy of religion, philosophical theology, and, most recently, the ways in which Christian theologians have traditionally interpreted the Bible as a whole; and his published writings include The Doctrine of Everlasting Punishment (1990), an entry on universalism in The Oxford Handbook of Eschatology (2007), and an entry entitled Heaven and Hell in Christian Thought in the online Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy.
Connecting...disconnecting...reconnecting

So goes the ageless pattern of relationships. We love/hate, hurt/heal, fight/forgive and we turn to TV talk shows, therapists, friends, and books to help us understand our relationship problems. Lyn Brakeman, a therapist herself, looks to the stories of ancient Scripture for fundamental clues to healing our relationships. Using the Jewish interpretive storytelling technique known as midrash, she brings to life a God who is "in the middle of things." Her unusual take on the God Between Us, the Great connector who reconnects us with the love and the faith to go on, takes lively form in six relationship studies—of mother/daughter, marriage partners, man/woman, mother/son, two men, and a group of women. Reflection questions at the end of each chapter add a rich dimension for individual or group use.

"This work is absolutely unique, and potentially radically transformative for any reader who takes its premise to heart. Rev. Brakeman proposes a way of listening to biblical narrative...that brings the contemplative reader a fresh awareness of how the divine is present to us in the 'between' of vital human relationships." —John McDargh, PhD, Boston College, Department of Theology

"A skilled weaver of stories, Lyn Brakeman offers a creative and challenging approach to the Great Mystery of divine and human love. Her use of words is lively and disarming...her refreshing perspective on familiar biblical stories draws the reader into unexpected depths. There is much in this book for prayer and pondering." —Margaret Guenther, author of The Practice of Prayer

"Lyn Brakeman is without a peer as an imaginative wordsmith in making biblical characters come alive in the fullness of their humanity while wrestling with powerful issues that are of contemporary concern. By her poetic description and beautifully crafted dialogue, she captures the loving truths of interpersonal relationships and human struggles amidst the presence of the God Between Us." —Merle Jordan, ThD, AAPC Diplomate, Emeritus Professor of Pastoral Psychology at Boston University School of Theology, Author of Reclaiming Your Story: Family History and Spiritual Growth
Rudolf Bultmann is one of the most widely known but least read theologians of the twentieth century. He is famous as the one who "demythologized" the New Testament, but very few understand what he meant by this or how his hermeneutical program connects to the other areas of his theological project. Bultmann presents a unique challenge to readers, not only because of his radical theological inquiry but also because of the way his ideas are worked out over time, primarily through short, occasional writings that present complex issues in a disarmingly straightforward manner.

In this introduction to his theology--the first of its kind in more than twenty years--David W. Congdon guides readers through ten central themes in Bultmann's theology, ranging from eschatology and dialectic to freedom and advent. By gaining an understanding of these themes, students of Bultmann will have the necessary tools to understand and profit from his writings. The result is not only an accessible guide for those encountering Bultmann for the first time but also a cohesive, systematic presentation of his thought for those wondering how his work might speak to our current context.

"Who better than David Congdon to take us into the work of Christianity's greatest interpreter of Scripture in the modern period? With an expert's grasp of the entire architecture of Rudolf Bultmann's thought, Congdon leads the reader through its conceptual entry points. Here is a reliable primer, likely a classic, to guide both beginning students and well-schooled theologians away from the misconceptions, even myths, so often bedeviling treatments of Bultmann."
--James F. Kay, Princeton Theological Seminary

"Being master of a subject matter as demanding as Rudolf Bultmann's theology and a master communicator, capable of introducing that subject-matter to beginning students in a manner both interesting and arresting (!) is rare. David Congdon has that rare combination of skills. This is a wonderful 'guide' to Bultmann's thought. Indeed, it is hard to imagine one more perfectly executed. It is a companion worthy of the thought of one of the real giants of twentieth century theology."
--Bruce McCormack, Charles Hodge Professor of Systematic Theology, Princeton Theological Seminary; author of Karl Barth's Critically Realistic Dialectical Theology (Clarendon Press) and Orthodox and Modern: Studies in the Theology of Karl Barth (Baker Academic)

David W. Congdon is acquisitions editor in political science and law at the University Press of Kansas. His research plumbs the relationship between Karl Barth and Rudolf Bultmann.
Evangelical Christians affirm together that a dreadful destiny awaits those who reject God's grace throughout life. According to the traditional view, that destiny will involve unending conscious torment in hell. However, believers are increasingly questioning that understanding, as both unbiblical and inconsistent with the character of God revealed in the Scriptures and in the man Jesus Christ.

This internationally acclaimed book--now fully updated, revised, and expanded--carefully examines the complete teaching of Scripture on the subject of final punishment. It concludes that hell is a place of total annihilation, everlasting destruction, although the destructive process encompasses conscious torment of whatever sort, intensity, and duration God might require in each individual case.

"I commend this book warmly. It is likely to remain a standard work to which everyone engaged with this issue will constantly return."
-Richard Bauckham
Emeritus Professor of New Testament Studies
University of Saint Andrews, Scotland

"The Fire That Consumes has long been recognized as one of the most thorough and compelling statements available of the view that the destiny of the unsaved will be final destruction rather than eternal torment. In this new edition, Edward Fudge provides extended engagement with traditionalist critics and an overview of developments in the last thirty years ensuring that it will remain a definitive work on the issue for years to come."
-John R. Franke
Theologian in Residence
First Presbyterian Church of Allentown

Edward William Fudge is a Christian theologian, Bible teacher, author, and, for more than twenty years, a practicing attorney. He maintains an international internet ministry at www.EdwardFudge.com.
This novel tells the story of the scribes who produced the book of Genesis. It is narrated by Keziah, the wife of Jonathan, one of the scribes. They collected the stories and put them together according to a detailed plan. These same scribes worked in the Jerusalem Academy during the time of the Davidic monarchy about 1000 BCE. The scribes understood their work to be a Royal Epic, and it helped bring Judah and Israel together and legitimize the throne of David. This epic was performed at the dedication of David's palace, and it is interesting to note the interplay between the scribes' text and the performance of the minstrels.

Author's Bio

I was born and raised on a farm just north of Albany, Oregon. In 1944 at the age of 17 I began my service in the US Marine Corps. In the fall of 1946, as a student on the G. I. Bill at the University of Oregon, I tried several majors but finally found my place in the history department. Professor Breen convinced me of an important truth: you cannot be a real historian if you cannot read texts in the original languages. I was fascinated by ancient East Mediterranean history, and that meant that I would have to learn many languages. After graduating from the University of Oregon, I studied Hebrew and Aramaic with Professor T. W. Nakarai at Butler University for three years and received a MA. This prepared me to study with Professor Cyrus H. Gordon at Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts where I received my PhD in 1959.

My teaching career began at Phillips University in Enid, Oklahoma. I taught there for five years before moving to Claremont, California. Ernest Cadman Colwell, President of the School of Theology, had put together an interesting group of scholars, and Dean F. Thomas Trotter was a true friend. During the Claremont years, teaching at the School of Theology and the Claremont Graduate University, I directed the Ras Shamra Parallels project at the Institute for Antiquity and Christianity. During that time, I made two trips to Israel as well as two trips to Paris where I worked with new Ugaritic texts. With all of this work came some important changes. Some of my essays on "creation" and "nature" were related to the ecological crises of the times. I was interested in world food problems and began speaking on these topics at conferences. I also moved into an "ecological" housing situation with two other families. In 1976 I resigned my position at Claremont in order to "save" a small farm.

Starting in 2000, I began writing to be read. So I have been translating Genesis and Job. Also I have translated some great Egyptian stories and a new book of these stories has been published (Tales from Ancient Egypt). Another Egyptian story (The Eloquent Peasant), is now available. I have even had a great time with my poetry (Poems: On Being Human) and three novels.