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# Read Online Blessed Rage For Order The New Pluralism In Theology

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## BLESSED RAGE FOR ORDER

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## THE NEW PLURALISM IN THEOLOGY

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*University of Chicago Press* In **Blessed Rage for Order**, David Tracy examines the cultural context in which theological pluralism emerged. Analyzing orthodox, liberal, neo-orthodox, and radical models of theology, Tracy formulates a new 'revisionist' model. He considers which methods promise the most certain results for a revisionist theology and applies his model to the principal questions in contemporary theology, including the meanings of religion, theism, and of christology.

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## THE MAKING OF AMERICAN LIBERAL THEOLOGY

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## CRISIS, IRONY, AND POSTMODERNITY 1950-2005

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*Presbyterian Publishing Corp* In this first of three volumes, Dorrien identifies the indigenous roots of American liberal theology and demonstrates a wider, longer-running tradition than has been thought. The tradition took shape in the nineteenth century, motivated by a desire to map a modernist "third way" between orthodoxy and rationalistic deism/atheism. It is defined by its openness to modern intellectual inquiry; its commitment to the authority of individual reason and experience; its conception of Christianity as an ethical way of life; and its commitment to make Christianity credible and socially relevant to modern people. Dorrien takes a narrative approach and provides a biographical reading of important religious thinkers of the time, including William E. Channing, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Horace Bushnell, Henry Ward Beecher, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Charles Briggs. Dorrien notes that, although liberal theology moved into elite academic institutions, its conceptual foundations were laid in the pulpit rather than the classroom.

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## AN ESCHATOLOGICAL IMAGINATION

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## A REVISIONIST CHRISTIAN ESCHATOLOGY IN THE LIGHT OF DAVID TRACY'S THEOLOGICAL PROJECT

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*Peter Lang* In the twentieth century, Christian eschatology, the doctrine about the final reality, became a storm center for Christian systematic theologians because of the rediscovery of the eschatological character of Jesus Christ. In the twenty-first century, Christian theologians continue to wrestle with the claims of Christian eschatology because of a postmodern suspicion of eschatological certainty claims about a future that is, after all, objectively unavailable, yet still of great human concern. Human beings live on hope for the future. An Eschatological Imagination recognizes the problem of the future for Christian eschatology. Building on the major theological writings of David Tracy, it offers a revised way of thinking and living eschatologically in the form of an eschatological imagination as a rhetoric of virtue, an exhortation to live in Christian hope in a postmodern world and into an objectively unavailable and uncertain future. Within such a rhetoric, hope becomes action - not mere sentiment - that seeks to create a Christian eschatological future.

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## METAPHYSICS OF MYSTERY

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## REVISITING THE QUESTION OF UNIVERSALITY THROUGH RAHNER AND SCHILLEBEECKX

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*Bloomsbury Publishing* How can we theologically reflect on universality in a world that increasingly focuses on particularities and differences? Marijn de Jong argues that the question of universality calls for a reconceptualized form of metaphysical theology, which he finds in the work of Karl Rahner and Edward Schillebeeckx. Casting a new light on these theologians, de Jong demonstrates that their methods contain a dialectical interrelation of hermeneutics and metaphysics - an interrelation which seemingly has been lost in more recent hermeneutical theology. Rahner and Schillebeeckx carefully balance particularity and universality without falling prey to relativist or absolutist ways of reasoning. By analyzing fundamental themes such as experience and interpretation, nature and grace, faith and reason, and intelligibility and mystery, de Jong reveals the modest theological metaphysics that lies at the heart of

their methods. This critical retrieval demonstrates the enduring relevance of these thinkers and opens up new avenues of thought for theologians that do not want to shy away from the difficult question of the universality of God.

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## **THEOLOGY AS IMPROVISATION**

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### **A STUDY IN THE MUSICAL NATURE OF THEOLOGICAL THINKING**

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*BRILL* In *Theology as Improvisation*, Nathan Crawford reimagines the possibilities for how theology thinks God within a postmodern world. By engaging a number of thinkers in conversation, he navigates the nature of thinking God in a postmodern world.

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## **THE COMITY AND GRACE OF METHOD**

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### **ESSAYS IN HONOR OF EDMUND F. PERRY**

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*Northwestern University Press* Essays that reflect the interests and influence of a highly distinguished scholar of religions

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## **FRAGMENTS**

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### **THE EXISTENTIAL SITUATION OF OUR TIME: SELECTED ESSAYS, VOLUME 1**

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*University of Chicago Press* David Tracy is widely considered one of the most important religious thinkers in North America, known for his pluralistic vision and disciplinary breadth. His first book in more than twenty years reflects Tracy's range and erudition, collecting essays from the 1980s to 2018 into a two-volume work that will be greeted with joy by his admirers and praise from new readers. In the first volume, *Fragments*, Tracy gathers his most important essays on broad theological questions, beginning with the problem of suffering across Greek tragedy, Christianity, and Buddhism. The volume goes on to address the Infinite, and the many attempts to categorize and name it by Plato, Aristotle, Rilke, Heidegger, and others. In the remaining essays, he reflects on questions of the invisible, contemplation, hermeneutics, and public theology. Throughout, Tracy evokes the potential of fragments (understood both as concepts and events) to shatter closed systems and open us to difference and Infinity. Covering science, literature, philosophy, psychoanalysis, and non-Western religious traditions, Tracy provides in *Fragments* a guide for any open reader to rethink our fragmenting contemporary culture.

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## **JUDAS WAS A BISHOP**

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### **AN OLD MAN IN HIS REFORMING CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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*Anaphora Literary Press* The author, a practicing Roman Catholic, was confronted in 2002 with a leadership crisis in the church. Decades of horrendous clergy sexual abuse of children was accompanied by an even more momentous hierarchical betrayal in the cover-up of the crimes. The explosion in 2002 ended his naïveté and caused him to rework his understanding of the history and methods of hierarchy, and to think about the evils of clerical monarchy. The basic determinants of the current church crisis are, first, the sacred hierarchism of church structure and, second, the culture of clericalism that flows from it. The author argues that the church needs a thoroughly desacralized and demythologized leadership if Catholic clericalism is to be eliminated. The book also reflects on the lived Catholic life, contrasting the life of the priesthood and the life of marriage and family. The approach is at once narrative, historical-critical, and ecclesiological. It also offers a personal look at the author's life as a Catholic for the past seventy years. The basic existential issue is "Why am I still a Catholic, and, indeed, why is anyone?" "...Powerful, absorbing memoir, by turns angry, funny, engaging and painfully candid... [Shea] offers radical proposals for reform, all turning on the notion that the core problem to be confronted is the gulf that separates clergy and laity, the long term result of a flimsy theological rationale which insists that the act of ordination itself marks an 'ontological' change in its recipients, making them company men of a special sort, fundamentally different from those they would help and teach, loyal mainly to guidance from above." —Michael J. Lacey is coeditor, with Francis Oakley, and contributor to *The Crisis of Authority in Catholic Modernity*, (Oxford University Press, New York, 2011) "Bill Shea has written a powerful and complex book about what Catholics so often write about: God, sex, authority and the Church. He writes autobiographically in the tradition of St. Augustine's *Confessions* and Thomas Merton's *Seven Story Mountain* as well as his *The Sign of Jonas*. He writes about the traumatic spiritual struggle with celibacy with which both Augustine and Merton were familiar. They chose to stay the course; Shea chose, after some twenty years, to find another spiritual path. That path was one opened up by marriage—a wife and two children—which finally gave him the spiritual peace he had been seeking. He writes of coming to the priesthood and leaving the priesthood for the lay Catholic life at a time of momentous historical transformation from the pre-Vatican II Church to the post-Vatican II Church. Even now we live with the struggle that exists between these two visions of the Church... So it is no accident that, like Augustine and Merton, Bill Shea finds God as a continuing presence, not at the end of his tale but in the twists and turns, the agonies and ecstasies, of his life journey." —Darrell Fasching, Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies, University of South Florida, Tampa

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## **THE QUEST FOR PLAUSIBLE CHRISTIAN DISCOURSE IN A WORLD OF PLURALITIES**

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### **THE EVOLUTION OF DAVID TRACY'S UNDERSTANDING OF 'PUBLIC THEOLOGY'**

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*Peter Lang* This book critically examines David Tracy's well-known methodology of fundamental theology, namely his

revisionist model as developed in his *Blessed Rage for Order* (1975), together with his methodological shifts through the 1980s, 1990s and early 2000s. It explores how successful he has been in constructing a methodology for the public theological discourse that he deems so necessary. More particularly, this book asks how serviceable this methodology is for articulating Christian discourse in an intelligible and public way in the contemporary context of religious plurality.

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## **A THEOLOGY OF CONVERSATION**

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*Liturgical Press* Sometimes described as “a theologian’s theologian,” David Tracy’s scholarship has impacted countless thinkers around the globe. The complexity of his thought, however, has often made engaging his work into a daunting challenge. Combining analysis of the most influential features of Tracy’s theology (theological method, the religious classic, public theology) with a retrieval of his more overlooked interests (Christology, God), Stephen Okey presents the essential themes of Tracy’s career in accessible and insightful prose.

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## **POSTMODERNISM, LITERATURE, AND THE FUTURE OF THEOLOGY**

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*Wipf and Stock Publishers* These essays set out to consider the possible future of theology in the light of the so-called postmodern condition. They are necessarily deeply interdisciplinary, since it is a characteristic of post-Enlightenment thought to disintegrate the lines of definition which separate areas of reflection in the human sciences. Theology, we believe, must be exposed to the consequences of what has happened in literature and critical theory if it is to have any future outside the protected and isolated environment of ecclesia and the communities of the faithful. The authors represent a great diversity of opinion and discipline. Not all of us would agree with one another, and certainly there is no agreement as to what constitutes postmodernity. Yet this very diversity forms the strength and importance of the book, for there are no simple answers or straightforward definitions. Theology must recognize the pluralism within which it now must carry out its task and which alone defines its future. The keynote of the discussion is the tragic. Tragedy takes us back to the Greeks, and to Nietzsche. Both feature centrally in this presentation. It also suggests a future, a return, perhaps, through literature to theology, and not merely an end of the story as it has been traditionally sold.

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## **THE MIDDLE VOICE IN GADAMER’S HERMENEUTICS**

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### **A BASIC INTERPRETATION WITH SOME THEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS**

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*Mohr Siebeck* Revised thesis (Ph. D.) - University of Chicago Divinity School, Chicago, 2002.

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## **TOWARDS FRIENDSHIP-SHAPED COMMUNITIES: A PRACTICAL THEOLOGY OF FRIENDSHIP**

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*John Wiley & Sons* A unique and incisive exploration of the place and nature of friendship in both its personal and civic dimensions In *Towards Friendship-Shaped Communities: A Practical Theology of Friendship*, distinguished theological researcher Anne-Marie Ellithorpe delivers a constructive and insightful exploration of the place and nature of friendship as innate to being human, to the human vocation, and to life within the broader community. Of particular interest to members and leaders of faith communities, this book responds to contemporary concerns regarding relationality and offers a comprehensive theology of friendship. The author provides an inclusive and interdisciplinary study that brings previous traditions and texts into dialogue with contemporary contexts and concerns, including examples from Indigenous and Euro-Western cultures. Readers will reflect on the theology of friendship and the interrelationship between friendship and community, think critically about their own social and theological imagination, and develop an integrative approach to theological reflection that draws on Don Browning’s *Fundamental Practical Theology*. Integrating philosophical, anthropological, and theological perspectives on the study of friendship, this book presents: A thorough introduction to contemporary questions on friendship and discussions of co-existing friendship worlds Comprehensive explorations of friendship in first and second testament writings, as well as friendship within classical and Christian traditions Practical discussions of theology, friendship, and the social imagination, including explorations of mutuality and spirit-shaped friendships Considerations for outworking friendship ideals within communities of practice, from the perspective of strategic (or fully) practical theology Perfect for graduate and advanced undergraduate students taking courses on friendship or practical theology, *Towards Friendship-Shaped Communities: A Practical Theology of Friendship* will also earn a place in the libraries of scholars of practical theology and community practitioners, including ministers, priests, pastors, spiritual advisors, and counselors.

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## **CHRISTIAN PRACTICAL WISDOM**

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### **WHAT IT IS, WHY IT MATTERS**

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*Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing* "Both shows and tells the neglected virtues of Christian practical wisdom" Why is the very kind of knowledge that people need to live well "practical wisdom" often the least understood, the hardest to learn, and the most devalued kind of knowledge? In this book five distinguished authors together examine the practical wisdom that is basic for faithful Christian living, question why it has been largely devalued, and advocate for its renewal. After first showing several concrete situations in which this kind of wisdom is visible marriage, church, community, culture, and more the authors then delve into the reasons for the decline of practical wisdom and set forth constructive cases for its renewal through biblical imagination and spiritual practice."

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## SHIFTING BOUNDARIES

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### CONTEXTUAL APPROACHES TO THE STRUCTURE OF THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

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*Westminster John Knox Press* An outstanding group of authors address the structure of theological education using different avenues of approach. Each writer describes and frames a theological response to a major feature of the contemporary scene. The contributors look at events and movements that shape the organization of theological studies, including a review of black religion, feminism, practical theology, and liberation movements. They explore interrelating issues such as social ethics, seminary and university education, and historical consciousness.

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## THEOLOGY AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

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### THE ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE COLLEGE THEOLOGY SOCIETY

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*Wipf and Stock Publishers* Original essays demonstrate that sociology, history, anthropology, and psychology all leave their mark on theology and open new paths to understanding, and that theology in turn provides significant questions and perspectives for the social sciences. By providing archeological data, sociological theory, demographics and economic data, psychological insights, and new methods of historical interpretation, the social sciences can open the way for a more sophisticated understanding of the social nature of human existence. Theology challenges the social sciences through moral and transcendental questions as well as informs the social sciences through its larger and deeper perspectives. The symbiotic nature of this relationship is described in the lead-off essays by John Coleman and Gregory Baum. The rich conversation between theologians and sociologists that follows moves from Von Balthasar's use of the social sciences and Rahner's approach to ecumenism to the roles of psychology and neuropsychology in understanding religious events.

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## MORALITY AND JUSTICE

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### READING BOYLAN'S A JUST SOCIETY

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*Lexington Books* The essays in this book engage the original and controversial claims from Michael Boylan's *A Just Society*. Each essay discusses Boylan's claims from a particular chapter and offers a critical analysis of these claims. Boylan responds to the essays in his lengthy and philosophically rich reply.

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## THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION: METHODS, 2ND EDITION

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*SCM Press* *Theological Reflections: Methods*, offers a comprehensive collection of models of theological reflection. By bringing this diverse collection together in one place, the editors create a unique reference work that allows a clear and visible contrast and comparison as each model is treated formally and in a standard format. Throughout each chapter the distinguishing features of the model are examined, the geneology and origins are discussed, worked examples of the model applied to contemporary theology are provided, and critical commentary, future trends and exercises and questions are provided. Now firmly established as an essential text on theological reflection, this new edition has been revised and updated with a new introduction, updated examples, and refreshed bibliographies

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## CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY IN A PLURALISTIC CONTEXT

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### A METHODOLOGICAL AND CONSTRUCTIVE INQUIRY IN THE DOCTRINE OF CREATION

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*Peter Lang* Original Scholarly Monograph

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## WRITING THEOLOGY WELL

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### A RHETORIC FOR THEOLOGICAL AND BIBLICAL WRITERS

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*A&C Black* In its creative integration of the disciplines of writing, rhetoric, and theology, *Writing Theology Well* provides a standard text for theological educators engaged in the teaching and mentoring of writing across the theological curriculum. As a theological rhetoric, it will also encourage excellence in theological writing in the public domain by helping to equip students for their wider vocations as writers, preachers, and communicators in a variety of ministerial and professional contexts.

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## HISTORICISM

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### THE ONCE AND FUTURE CHALLENGE FOR THEOLOGY

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*Fortress Press* "No other movement or insight has challenged Christian theology so steeply in the modern period as historicism. The two-hundred-year-old notion that concepts, ideas, and theories all are influenced or occasioned by historical circumstances is today a commonplace in all fields. Davaney's authoritative text traces with clarity and skill the history of historicism and its various meanings, for the German Enlightenment through its Continental and distinctly American developments to its contemporary postmodern incarnations."--BOOK JACKET.

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## THEOLOGY IN SEARCH OF FOUNDATIONS

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*Oxford University Press* A pithy account of theological rationality, justification and knowledge that avoids the twin pitfalls

of modern rationalism and postmodern irrationalism. This lively and accessible survey debates with the ideas of key theological and philosophical thinkers, past and present, providing a fresh understanding of theology as a discipline.

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## HEARING VOCATION DIFFERENTLY

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### MEANING, PURPOSE, AND IDENTITY IN THE MULTI-FAITH ACADEMY

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*Oxford University Press, USA* Many colleges and universities have begun using the language of vocation and calling to help undergraduates think about the future direction of their lives. This language is used in both secular and religious contexts, but it has deep roots in the Christian theological tradition. Given the increasingly multi-faith context of undergraduate life, many have asked whether this terminology can truly serve as a new vocabulary for higher education. If vocation is to find a foothold in the contemporary context, it will need to be re-examined, re-thought, and re-written; in short, higher education will need to undertake the project of hearing vocation differently. In this third volume on vocation from editor David S. Cunningham, the thirteen contributing scholars identify with a wide variety of religious traditions, including Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, and Sikhism. Some contributors identify with more than one of these; others would claim none of them. The authors met on multiple occasions to read common texts, to discuss agreements and differences, and to respond to one another's writing; some of these responses are included at the end of each chapter. Both individually and collectively, these contributors expand the range of vocational reflection and discernment well beyond its traditional Christian origins. The authors observe that all undergraduate students--regardless of their academic field, religious background, or demographic identity--need to make space for reflection, to overcome obstacles to discernment, and to consider the significance of their own narratives, beliefs, and practices. This, in turn, will require college campuses to re-imagine their curricular and co-curricular programming in order to support their students's reflection on issues of meaning, purpose, and identity.

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## PLURALITY AND AMBIGUITY

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### HERMENEUTICS, RELIGION, HOPE

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*University of Chicago Press* In *Plurality and Ambiguity*, David Tracy lays the philosophical groundwork for a practical application of hermeneutics, while constructing an innovative model of theological interpretation developed out of the notions of conversation and argument. He concludes with an appraisal of the religious significance of hope in an age of radically different voices and constantly shifting meanings.

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## THE HOLY PREACHING

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### THE SACRAMENTALITY OF THE WORD IN THE LITURGICAL ASSEMBLY

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*Liturgical Press* The reform of the liturgy has dramatically changed the way Roman Catholics and all Christians understand their worship. The arena of the encounter has shifted from a passive experience of observation of the great Mysteries to one that invites active participation on many levels. Yet, the imagination of many who preach, preside, and gather to worship continues to be shaped by a passive model as well as by the notion of sacramental activity as a product to be received or given, rather than expressed and shared in communion with one another. In *The Holy Preaching*, Paul Janowiak deepens the discussion of Christ's presence in the Word by offering critical reflection on the disparity between the theology and the practice of preaching and some explanation as to why that disparity exists. Janowiak provides an overview of twentieth-century ecclesial sacramentality. He discusses the liturgical movements and important theological issues that led to reform and provides an in-depth analysis of how sacramental theologians Karl Rahner, Otto Semelroth, and Edward Schillebeeckx advanced the dialogue of Christ's presence in the Word. He explains that despite the seminal work done by those sacramental theologians, a specifically liturgical understanding of Christ's presence in the Word remains largely a theological concept and not a grace-filled reality. Part of this gap in theory and practice is the result of a fractured liturgical celebration. The Liturgy of the Word appears a distinct and often unrelated part of the entire eucharistic celebration. Using contemporary literary theory, Janowiak tackles this gap and roots out the foundations of this disparity between theology and its practice in worship. He inserts creative liturgical and sacramental theology into the literary particularities of sacred text, shared tradition, and communal hearing. From this a new lens on the sacramentality of the Word emerges. The dialogue begun by sacramental theologians Rahner, Semelroth, and Schillebeeckx is re-opened by Janowiak. He examines the fruits of the liturgical reform of the past forty years and parallel movements in critical theory. The result is an understanding of Christ's presence in the Word in a way that reveals the Mystery of God at work in the gathering of believers. Chapters in Part I are "Worship and the Mystery of God's Action in the Word" and "The Church as Totus Christus: A Renewal of Sacramentality and Proclamation." Chapters in Part II are "The Dynamism of the Liturgy of the Word as a Sacramental Event: Insights from New Historicism on the Text and Its Context," "Reader-Response Criticism and the Liturgical Assembly as *Communitas Verbi*," and "The Holy Preaching: A Sacramentality of the Word as 'Fulfilled in Our Hearing.'"

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## PRACTICING FAITH

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### THEOLOGY AND SOCIAL VOCATION IN CONVERSATION

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*Wipf and Stock Publishers* The integration of theology and social vocation invites scholars and practitioners to reach outside their discipline and into relationship with others. Out of these relationships new ways of enacting faith and informing practice can emerge. This book brings together a collection of essays engaging with the integration of

theology and social vocation. Designed to reflect and invite dialogue, these authors engage with the relationship between faith and practice as it is expressed in their own area of interest and speciality. Arranged in five themed dialogues--wellbeing, formation, hospitality, therapy, and theology--each essay reflects the unique dynamics of its author's integrative process and offers something new to the ongoing conversation between theology and social vocation. This set of essays will be of interest to practitioners and students concerned to infuse their faith with their practice of vocation, to develop a practicing faith.

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## CONVICTIONS

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### DEFUSING RELIGIOUS RELATIVISM

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*Wipf and Stock Publishers* We live in a world of widespread awareness of diversity. The variety of ethnicities, cultures, world views, and politics is common to anyone who takes advantage of media, communications, and travel technologies. Some diversities are quite trivial and merely provoke a smile or a shake of the head. But differences in those beliefs that guide our lives, that make us what we are - these are another matter. They are indeed the stuff of arguments, manifestos, estrangements, revolutions, and wars. Why is this so? In a way, this book is an answer to that question.

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### COMBING THE TRADITION

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### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE ERA OF BAPTISMAL CONSCIOUSNESS

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*University Press of America* This is a sketchbook of the twin realities of Catholic faith and Catholic schools. A theological vision of the Catholic religious imagination provides the framework for viewing these realities from different angles. Taking Pope Benedict XVI's remark that 'truth is in the Whole, ' this book looks at Catholic faith and education from the rich perspective of the sacramental or Catholic imagination. Historian John Tracy Ellis's conviction that this age will be known as 'the era of baptismal consciousness, ' reflects a growing awareness in the entire Christian community that it must take its responsibilities in evangelization seriously. *Combing the Tradition* is an attempt to comb the Catholic tradition from the point of view of this re-emerging baptismal consciousness. It marvels at the role that Catholic schools, teachers, parents, and students play in recreating this great truth. It finds God's loving hand at work in the lives of citizens seeking meaning at Ground Zero, in the re-emerging theology of the domestic church, and in understanding the task of Catholic education. It raises questions concerning the impact of consumer society on the lives of our young people and finds hope in schools, which continue to shape the religious imaginations of the next generation of a community of disciples.

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### REFORMED AND ALWAYS REFORMING

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### THE POSTCONSERVATIVE APPROACH TO EVANGELICAL THEOLOGY

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*Baker Academic* Well-known theologian Roger Olson defines and traces the history of postconservative evangelical theology.

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### TRANSFIGURATION

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### POETIC METAPHOR AND THE LANGUAGES OF RELIGIOUS BELIEF

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*UNC Press Books* Brown proposes a theory of poetic metaphor that attempts to account for literature's complex role in the discovery and creation of significant patterns within both language and life. He shows that while poetic and conceptual modes of discover are different, they are nevertheless mutually interdependent. In particular, Brown offers a new view of the way in which theological and metaphysical concepts grow out of, and are transfigured by, metaphoric expression. This view is expressed in a detailed and original analysis of the structure and dynamics of T.S. Eliot's *Four Quartets* that lies at the heart of the study. Originally published in 1983. A UNC Press Enduring Edition -- UNC Press Enduring Editions use the latest in digital technology to make available again books from our distinguished backlist that were previously out of print. These editions are published unaltered from the original, and are presented in affordable paperback formats, bringing readers both historical and cultural value.

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### NO ABIDING PLACE

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### THOMAS MERTON AND THE SEARCH FOR GOD

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*University Press of America* Thomas Merton played a critical role in facilitating and embodying a revolutionary paradigm shift in Catholic life and thought. His public grappling with the issues raised by this shift in the life of the Catholic Church provided a vocabulary with which a generation of seekers has attempted to frame an on-going discussion regarding the future of the Catholic Church. Consequently Merton's life and thought continue to be guideposts for spiritual pilgrims confronting issues of authority in the church, a changing moral landscape and the contemporary crisis in the Catholic Church. Part One of the book describes this profound paradigm shift and locates Merton's developing thought within that landscape. It places Merton's thought within the larger framework of the Catholic imagination as described by David Tracy, Andrew Greeley, and Thomas Groome. The landmark research of Robert Wuthnow of Princeton University concerning the nature of contemporary spiritual-seeking, provides a framework that helps to identify Merton's continuing relevance for the study of spirituality. Parts Two and Three discuss Merton's

lasting importance for contemporary spirituality.

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## THE GAGGING OF GOD

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### CHRISTIANITY CONFRONTS PLURALISM

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*Zondervan Academic* The Gold Medallion Award-winning book that presents a persuasive case for Christ as the only way to God in light of contemporary religious pluralism. A great majority of social commentators attempting to define modern Western culture land on a common characteristic: pluralism. This isn't unique to secular culture. Many modern approaches to Christian hermeneutics, or biblical interpretation, have given credence to contemporary pluralism. What began as a refreshing restraint and humility in modern theology has fallen more and more into irresoluteness. It's no secret that the contemporary challenges to Christianity are complex and serious. Yet, far from simple fear-mongering, or cultural warmongering, *The Gagging of God* takes a hard look at the background and intricacy—of pluralism, postmodernity, and hermeneutics—and equips thoughtful Christians to have intelligent, culturally sensitive, and passionate fidelity to the gospel of Jesus Christ. In his contemplative, even-handed approach, Carson provides a structure of Christian thought capable of facing the philosophies of today and piercing their surface. It invites Christians to grapple responsibly with urgent questions of biblically-grounded theology, spirituality, and the defining lines of Christianity, along with its range of challenges from without and within. *The Gagging of God* offers an in-depth look at the big picture, shows how the many ramifications of pluralism are all parts of a whole, and provides a systematic Christian response.

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## THEOLOGY AND NARRATIVE

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### SELECTED ESSAYS

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*Oxford University Press on Demand* Hans W. Frei (1922-1988) was one of the most influential American theologians of his generation. Early in his career he drew attention to the importance of biblical narratives; he helped make Karl Barth once again a creative voice in contemporary theology; and he served as a model of what his colleague, George Lindbeck, has called "postliberal theology." This volume collects ten of Frei's lectures and essays, many of them never before published. Addressing audiences of theologians, biblical scholars, and literary critics, Frei explores the implications of his work for hermeneutics and Christology, and discusses Barth, Schleiermacher, and his own teacher, H. Richard Niebuhr. William Placher has provided an introduction to Frei's life and work, and the volume ends with an essay by George Hunsinger on Frei's significance for theology today. This collection provides an unrivaled introduction to Frei's work.

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## RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY

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### A PHILOSOPHICAL ASSESSMENT

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*Routledge* Religious diversity exists whenever seemingly sincere, knowledgeable individuals hold incompatible beliefs on the same religious issue. Diversity of this sort is pervasive, existing not only across basic theistic systems but also within these theistic systems themselves. *Religious Diversity* explores the breadth and significance of such conflict. Examining the beliefs of various theistic systems, particularly within Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism and Buddhism, Basinger discusses seemingly incompatible claims about many religious issues, including the nature of God and the salvation of humankind. He considers particularly the work of Hick, Gellman, Plantinga, Schellenberg, Alston, Wainwright, and Quinn, applying their perspectives on 'exclusivism' and 'pluralism' as they become relevant to the issues in question. Basinger's survey of the relevant literature, proposed solutions, and fresh insights offer an invaluable contribution not only for philosophers of religion and philosophical theologians but for anyone interested in the increasingly significant question of what a religious believer can or cannot justifiably say about their religious perspective.

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## THE RETURN TO SCRIPTURE IN JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY

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### ESSAYS IN POSTCRITICAL SCRIPTURAL INTERPRETATION

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*Wipf and Stock Publishers* The scholars who have contributed to this volume of essays are Jewish and Christian thinkers who, without melding their different religious traditions and scholarly methods, have developed complementary responses to what they believe is wrong with contemporary biblical scholarship in Judaism and Christianity. The purpose of this collection is to draw attention to the similarities among these responses and to the possibility that they may contribute to a family of postcritical methods for interpreting the scriptural traditions. The postcritical scholars employ current methods of critical, scientific inquiry to clarify the language, the historical contexts, and the didactic messages of the biblical traditions. They do not, however, find these methods sufficient. They argue that the biblical traditions communicate to their practitioners some rules of action that cannot be deciphered within the terms set by canons of critical reason that emerged in the European Renaissance and Enlightenment. Rather, among the Bible's unique rules of action are the principles for interpreting the traditions themselves. Postcritical scholars attempt to identify these rules of interpretation, producing what editor Peter Ochs has come to term postcritical Scriptural interpretation. It is neither strictly modern nor premodern. This form of inquiry emerges in the dialogue that is now unfolding between a contemporary family of scholars and their scriptural traditions.

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## COMPARATIVE THEOLOGY AMONG MULTIPLE MODERNITIES

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### CULTIVATING PHENOMENOLOGICAL IMAGINATION

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*Springer* This book presents a heuristic and critical study of comparative theology in engagement with phenomenological methodology and sociological inquiry. It elucidates a postcolonial study of religion in the context of multiple modernities.

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## THE ROUTLEDGE HANDBOOK OF BUDDHIST-CHRISTIAN STUDIES

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*Taylor & Francis* Buddhist-Christian dialogue has a long and complex history that stretches back to the first centuries of the common era. Comprising 42 international and disciplinarily diverse chapters, this volume begins by setting up a framework for examining the nature of Buddhist-Christian interreligious dialogue, discussing how research in this area has been conducted in the past and considering future theoretical directions. Subsequent chapters delve into: important episodes in the history of Buddhist-Christian dialogue; contemporary conversations such as monastic interreligious dialogue, multiple religious identity, and dual religious practice; and Buddhist-Christian cooperation in social justice, social engagement, pastoral care, and interreligious education settings. The volume closes with a section devoted to comparative and constructive explorations of different speculative themes that range from the theological to the philosophical or experiential. This handbook explores how the study of Buddhist-Christian relations has been and ought to be done. The Routledge Handbook of Buddhist-Christian Studies is essential reading for researchers and students interested in Buddhist-Christian studies, Asian religions, and interreligious relationships. It will be of interest to those in fields such as anthropology, political science, theology, and history.

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## HOPE AND OTHERNESS: CHRISTIAN ESCHATOLOGY AND INTERRELIGIOUS HOSPITALITY

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*BRILL* In *Hope and Otherness*, Jakob Wirén explores the place and role of the religious other in contemporary Christian, Muslim and Jewish eschatology.

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## THE AMBIVALENCE OF THE SACRED

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### RELIGION, VIOLENCE, AND RECONCILIATION

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*Rowman & Littlefield* This text explains what religious terrorists and religious peacemakers share in common and what causes them to take different paths in fighting injustice.

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## EVERY CARDINAL DULLES, SJ

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### A MODEL THEOLOGIAN, 1918-2008

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*Paulist Press* Cardinal Avery Dulles, SJ, is the foremost American Catholic theologian of the post-Vatican II era. This book is a religious and intellectual biography that focuses on his contributions to the development of American Catholic theology and to the larger arena of American Catholic life. The book traces his life and thought from his childhood in a prominent American Presbyterian and political family to his days as a student at Harvard where he converted to Catholicism, to his World War II experience in the Navy, to his ordination as a Jesuit, and then to his career as a theologian in the post-Vatican II era. In the entire twentieth century, no other theologian, with the possible exception of John Courtney Murray, SJ, has had as important an impact upon American Catholic thought. Dulles, though, is unmatched in the twentieth century because of his prolific publications and the wide distribution and reading of his published theology. More bishops, priests, and religious, as well as large numbers of laity, have been influenced by his writings and by any other single American theologian. This book will put his contributions to theology within the wider context of his religious life and the cultural and religious transformations in the United States during the last half of the twentieth century. +