Toward A Christian Theology Of Religious Pluralism

Theological Perspectives on Other Faiths using with Confucius and Paul

Examines how Christian theology is changing to fit into a religiously pluralistic world and analyzes the views of contemporary Protestant and Roman Catholic theologians.

Musing with Confucius and Paul

Gospel and Kingdom and New Covenant coherent Theological system, Church and Public praxis, inclusive of the theological discussion and application of the 6th Sola of the Unfinished Reformation, viz: Justice by Grace Alone WITHOUT the ongoing Retributive, (or partially Retributive, Purgatorial, Expiational, or non-Redemptive Church and State atoning) Punishments of the Law, whether of God or man. This breaks major new ground for the advancement of the Kingdom of God on earth in the here and now!

Religious Identity and Cultural Negotiation

Can Christians learn from other religions? This book offers a fascinating account of the nature, role, and purposes of religious diversity within God's providential plan.

Musing with Confucius and Paul

"Inculturation' is a word come only recently into theological language, having its origin and impetus in a revolution in the perception of Christian mission--even of Christian identity. 'Toward A Theology of Inculturation' is the first book to bring together the many strands of current and historical Catholic thought on what might be called a theology of a multicultural church. Inculturation, Shorter argues, is the recognition that faith must in effect become culture to be fully received and lived. In the course of a wide-ranging discussion, the author explores the intimate relationship between inculturation and theology, focusing in particular on scripture, the history of Omissions (especially in Africa), and contemporary Catholic thought. Shorter concludes with an exploration...
of the future of the church--a multicultural church. 'Toward a Theology of Inculturation' offers a substantive explication of what inculturation is, what it is not, how and when it occurs, and what its limits are or should be.

Plowing in Hope

A spirit-centered theological perspective on the doctrine of the Pentecostal Church (ecclesiology), the doctrine of the salvation (soteriology), and the ministry and witness of Christians to the world (theology of mission). It also discusses what it means to do Christian theology by starting with the Spirit of God, demonstrating that Pentecostalism my have something unique and distinctive to offer theologically to the larger Christian Church.

Toward a Theology of Inculturation

Explains how Christians can lead fulfilling lives, looks at suffering, neighborliness, and intolerance, and suggests a feminist approach to Christian theology.

Toward the Future of Reformed Theology

This study is an endeavour on the basis of the Christian theological tradition to overcome the tendency of the human's arrogant domination and reckless exploitation of nature. The author presents an alternative vision of the world to the current, excessively dualistic and anthropocentric worldview. This alternative worldview is an ecological vision of the world, which is relational and inclusive. This ecological worldview is a Christian vision of the world, which is rooted in the triune God, out of love, and is present in creation out of love from beginning to end. It is further asserted that this ecological vision of the world can contribute to a spirituality of life and peace and to a Christian life committed to cosmic justice.

Revelation

Toward a Theology of Struggle

Toward an African Christian Theology of the Kingdom of God

The Strength of the Weak

GIFT AND CALL : TOWARDS A CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY OF MORALITY

Gospel and Kingdom and New Covenant coherent Theological system, Church and Public praxis, inclusive of the theological discussion and application of the 6th Sola of the Unfinished Reformation, viz: Justice by Grace Alone WITHOUT the ongoing Retributive, (or partially Retributive, Purgatorial, Expiational, or non-Redemptive Church and State atoning) Punishments of the Law, whether of God or man. This breaks major new ground for the advancement of the Kingdom of God on earth in the here and now!
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Christian theology, based on the historical revelation that God is the Creator of all things, assumes that we can know the truth, love the goodness, and delight in the beauty of all things because the Creator first knows and loves and delights in all creation. In Toward a Theology of Beauty, Father Navone explains that the Creator, Happiness Itself, knows truth and loves goodness and delights in beauty: consequently, whatever proceeds from the Creator - all creation - is knowable, lovable, and enjoyable. We can therefore see the Creator in the truth and goodness and beauty of all things, and we can have communion with Happiness Itself in knowing and loving and delighting in all things. Father Navone uses basic points of reference, such as divine revelation and Jesus' farewell discourse, to explore a theology of beauty. Chapters are Creation and the Beauty of all Things,” “In the Image and Likeness of Beauty Itself,” “The Power of Beauty,” “Beauty: God’s Delight,” “In the Light of God’s Beauty,” “The Christian Experience of Beauty,” and “Theology of Beauty: Sum of Presuppositions.” All those interested in the Catholic tradition’s approach to the splendor/glory of the divine beauty in human life will find this book rewarding. It communicates a theological appreciation of our graced ability to contemplate the divine beauty in all things. Toward a Theology of Beauty leads us to the joy of Christian contemplation - to delight in the splendor of the divine love in all things. John Navone, S.J., is professor of theology at the Gregorian University in Rome and at the Seattle University summer school. He has written two other books published by The Liturgical Press: Seeking God in Story, and Self-Giving and Sharing: The Trinity and Human Fulfillment.

Theology of Struggle is a genuinely popular Fillipino theology rooted in the history and culture of a people who have endured colonial oppression at the hands of Spain, North America, and Japan, as well as neo-colonialism and home grown dictatorship. Because Christianity has played a role in assisting the history of oppression in the Philippines, a theology of struggle must include a struggle in theology, to wrest Christian symbols from the hands of the oppressors and return them to the poor. This theology, which is otherwise expressed in articles, poems, art, and action, receives its first systematic treatment in Toward a Theology of Struggle. In Part On, Fernandez establishes the historical and cultural context out of which the Theology of Struggle has emerged. Part Two represents Fernandez’s own constructive work, in which he shows how a theology of struggle must address the quest for identity and peoplehood. In Part Three, Fernandez explores the question of theological method, outlining the areas of convergence and distinction between the Theology of struggle and other Third World theologies, as well as setting forth the distinctive challenge that this theology of the Philippines poses to the authority and dominance of Western theology as a whole.

Toward a Theology of Evangelism
Work in the Spirit

This series relates past thought from the history of Western theological traditions to areas of contemporary concern in fresh, innovative, and constructive ways. Designed for those with no formal theological training, these student-friendly volumes guide readers through core theological issues in a systematic and accessible way. Leading contemporary Reformed theologians from around the world provide here a unique summary of the range and wealth of Reformed theology today and explore its potential for the future. These thirty-one essays consider the task of Reformed theology in the modern world, give Reformed perspectives on key theological themes, and suggest fruitful present-day trajectories of Reformed thought from the past.

Lighten Our Darkness

Towards a Theology of the Environment

Toward a Pneumatological Theology

Turmoil still grips the Middle East and fear now paralyses post-9/11 America. The comforts and challenges of this book are thus as timely as when first published in 1987. With new reflections on the future of Judaism and Israel, Ellis underscores the enduring problem of justice. The use of liberation theology to make connections between the Holocaust and contemporary communities from the Third World reminds both Jews and oppressed Christians that they share a common ground in the experiences of abandonment, suffering, and death. The connections also reveal that Jews and Christians share a common cause in the battle against idolatry -- represented now by obsessions for personal affluence, national security, and ethnic survival. According to Ellis, Jews and Christians must never allow the reality of anti-Semitism to become an excuse to evade solidarity with the oppressed peoples -- be they African, Asian, Latin American or, especially Palestinian.

One Christ--Many Religions

The results from a lifetime of study, reflection and experience in both Europe and Asia is this comprehensive examination of Christian theological understandings of world religious pluralism.

Towards a Christian Theology of Education

Here is a wise, radical, and illuminating book on the obstacles that a rigid interpretation of orthodox christological doctrines presents to dialogue with persons of other faiths. One Christ--Many Religions examines religious pluralism today and, in the light of its implications for the global community, suggests the contours of a revised christology more credible to Christians and their neighbors of other faiths. Samartha argues that the problem with the christological dogmas of the first Ecumenical Councils is not their truth so much as their interpretation, and the un-Christian zealotry they seem to engender in Christians. Sensitive to charges of sentiments of racial and cultural superiority that stem from Christians believing themselves uniquely authorized agents of God, Samartha challenges us to admit the truth of these accusations, and to revise our understanding of Jesus. Without such christological revisions, Samartha fears, Christianity may cease to be Christian, may become enfeebled in the pursuit of justice for the oppressed, alienated from the deeper challenge of Jesus.
sealed off from the truths of other religions, and, ultimately, may be barred from experiencing the rich and mysterious encounter of God.

**Toward a Jewish Theology of Liberation**

Since the late 1980s the theme of God's self-revelation has been treated only briefly in Christian theology, at times simply ignored, and often confused with biblical inspiration. Revelation: Towards a Christian Theology of God's Self-Revelation lays out its basic characteristics, and begins by distinguishing between revelation in the primary sense (a living encounter with God's self-disclosure) and in the secondary sense (statements of faith derived from that encounter, or 'propositional' revelation). It considers revelation as transforming and informing, as being 'sacramental' or mediated through words and deeds, as communicated through an endless variety of means and mediators, as related to but distinct from biblical inspiration and truth, and as reaching those of 'other' faiths or of no faith at all. Gerald O'Collins skilfully distinguishes between past (or 'foundational') revelation, present (or 'dependent') revelation, and future (or 'eschatological') revelation. He expounds with ecumenical sensitivity the complex relationship between tradition and scripture. O'Collins moves into controversial areas by insisting that the divine self-revelation takes place only when received by human faith and that 'outside revelation there is no salvation (extra revelationem nulla salus'). This volume offers a coherent account of God's self-revelation, which can serve as a basis for all that follows in theology and for dialogue with those who follow 'other' living faiths or none at all. O'Collins extends and enriches what he has proposed in earlier books and articles about the characteristics of God's self-revelation.

**Toward a New Christianity**

**Beyond the Impasse**

POPE BENEDICT said at the beginning of his Pontificate that external deserts in the world are growing, because the internal deserts have become so vast. Therefore the earth's treasures no longer serve to build God's garden for all to live in, but they have been made to serve the powers of exploitation and destruction. This book is a theological investigation of the environment, and takes in scientific, biblical, moral and spiritual themes, all addressed by recent Church teaching on the subject. The starting point is a detailed analysis of the various problems assailing the environment at present. Then a distinction is made between the science of ecology and the ideological overtones which are often associated with this area. Next, an overview of Christian teaching on ecology is present as an antidote to both New Age pseudo-mysticism and political ideology. A Christian theology of the environment is then formulated which has consequences for our moral life and our prayer. PAUL HAFFNER is a priest and professor of theology at Regina Apostolorum University in Rome, visiting professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University, and adjunct lecturer at Duquesne University Roman Campus. A author of over 20 books and 100 articles on philosophical and theological themes, many of his works have been translated into several languages, including Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and Russian. Other published volumes by this author include Mystery of Creation, Mystery of the Church, The Mystery of Mary, The Mystery of Reason and The Sacramental Mystery, all from Gracewing.

**Gift and Call**

**Fragile Identities**

A scholarly analysis of Chinese Christianity explaining how it is possible to embrace the Christian faith while maintaining the Chinese identity and culture.
Being a Chinese Christian means to adopt a very distinctive and unique identity that feeds both traditions. In this book, Khiok-khng Yeo explores the Analects of Confucius and Paul's Letter to the Galatians, and shows how together they provide the resources for the construction of a Chinese Christian theology. The author explains the common elements between St Paul and Confucius, and how both ideologies complement each other or extend the areas where the other is not so thorough. The Christ of God as found in Paul's letter to the Galatians brings Confucian ethics to its fulfilment, while Confucius' philosophy amplifies many aspects of Christianity that are underplayed in the western churches. Bringing the best of the Confucian tradition into the Christian story, Professor Yeo offers an approach to help revivify global Christianity.

**Toward a Biblical Theology of Marriage**

Gospel and Kingdom and New Covenant coherent Theological system, Church and Public praxis, inclusive of the theological discussion and application of the 6th Sola of the Unfinished Reformation, viz: Justice by Grace Alone WITHOUT the ongoing Retributive, (or partially Retributive, Purgatorial, Expiational, or non-Redemptive Church and State atoning) Punishments of the Law, whether of God or man. This breaks major new ground for the advancement of the Kingdom of God on earth in the here and now!

**Toward a Christian Theology of Aesthetics St. Augustine and St. Bernard of Clairvaux**

Does the Bible provide a construct for marriage that is relevant for a confused world? This book reflects a pastor's conviction that biblical revelation culminating in Christ does speak to the issues and potentials for marriage in such a world. By focusing on what the biblical vocabulary of marriage, from Genesis to Revelation, may reveal of the Creator Redeemer's intent for marriage, Ernest D. Martin develops a Christological paradigm for marriage that is consistent and applicable. Pastors, teachers, and counselors will find biblical faith perspectives useful in responding to the challenges and opportunities they face in the several phases of marital relationships. This short book will greatly benefit anyone seriously concerned with what the Bible says about marriage.

**An Ecological Vision of the World**

A new model of Christian theology, the 'pluralistic' model, is taking shape, moving beyond the traditional models of exclusivism (Christianity as the only true religion) and inclusivism (Christianity as the best religion) toward a view that recognizes the possibility of many valid religions. In this volume, a widely representative group of eminent Christian theologians - Protestant and Catholic, male and female, from East and West, First and Third Worlds - explores genuinely new attitudes toward other believers and traditions, expanding and refining the discussion and debate over pluralistic theology. Contributors are: Gordon D. Kaufman, John Hick, Langdon Gilkey, Wilfred Cantwell Smith, Stanley J. Samartha, Raimundo Panikkar, Seiichi Yagi, Rosemary Radford Ruether, Marjorie Jewitt Suchocki, Aloysius Pieris, Tom F. Driver, and Paul F. Knitter.

**Toward a Theology of Beauty**

Wilhelm Nietzsche -- The modern German mind : the legacy of Nietzsche / by Erick Heller -- The absent God / by Susan A. Taubes -- Two passages from The epistle to the Romans / Karl Barth -- I, thou, and it, from I and thou ; Paulinism in the modern world, from Two types of faith / Martin Buber -- Justification by doubt and the Protestant principle, from The Protestant era / Paul Tillich -- Passages from Theology of the New Testament / Rudolph Bultmann -- The problem of a New Testament theology / Herbert Braun -- On the nature of the theological method : some reflections on the methodological principles of Tillich's theology / Jacob Taubes -- From crisis theology to the post-modern world / John B. Cobb, Jr. -- The future of Christianity in a post-Christian era / Gabriel Vahanian -- The new essence of Christianity / William Hamilton -- The meaning of the gospel, from The secular.
**Revelation**

**Toward a Christian Theology of Nature**

God, The Father has acted in Jesus Christ to save mankind from the human dilemma. Evangelism is grounded in this fact, says Dr. Hartt, and it is to this one great fact we must turn in preaching and teaching. The church today must lift into sharp focus the essential evangelistic message. Only thus--far above the methods of popular evangelism--can it meet the modern world's competition for men's minds and hearts. In these chapters Dr. Hartt defines and interprets each of the great principles of faith that make up the Christian message. Belief in God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Kingdom, the nature of man, is explored in light of the Great Commission. Toward a Theology of Evangelism is an interpretation of the church's mission as witness to the truth and love of God--a vital book for every thoughtful person who seeks to obey Jesus' impelling command: Go ye therefore, and teach all nations.

**Toward a Christian Theology of Religious Pluralism**

Since the rise of modern industrial society, work has come to pervade and rule the lives of men and women. Although there have been many popular books and church documents on the Christian understanding of work, this is the first scholarly effort to articulate a developed Protestant theology of work. In Work in the Spirit, Miroslav Volf interprets work from a new perspective - in terms of the doctrine of the Holy Spirit. He exhaustively explores the nature of work in both capitalist and socialist societies and considers a variety of work, including industrial, agricultural, medical, political, and artistic work. Examining the importance of alienation in work in industrial and information societies (particularly in the relation of workers to management and technology), he analyzes various forms of such alienation, and elucidates the character of humane work. On the basis of the ÖpneumatologicalÖ theology of work that he develops, Volf rejects the traditional Protestant understanding of work as vocation, and takes the concept of charisma as the cornerstone for his theological reflection on work. He denies that one is ÖcalledÖ to do a particular work irrespective of one's inclinations, and asserts, instead, that it is our privilege to do the kind of work for which God's spirit has gifted us. All human work done in accordance with the will of God, Volf argues, is cooperation with God in the preservation and transformation of the world.

**Toward a New Age in Christian Theology**

**Towards an Orthodox Christian Theology of Mission**

Interreligious dialogue is one of the major challenges confronting contemporary theology. In particular, the so-called OC dialogical tensionOCO between openness and identity has been a central issue. Can one maintain oneOCOs religious identity without closing oneself off from the other? In general, Christian reflection on interreligious dialogue begins with a theological reflection on religious plurality that assumes that one cannot engage seriously in interreligious dialogue without a sound theology of religions. In this book Marianne Moyaert critically assesses the various models for a Christian theology of religions (exclusivism, inclusivism, pluralism, particularism) by asking how these models relate to the dialogical tension between openness and identity. She argues that we need to overcome the classical theological approach of religious plurality and move in the direction of a theological hermeneutics of interreligious hospitality. To that end she turns to the French philosopher Paul Ricoeur, whose philosophical and hermeneutical insights can give a new turn to the discussion of the criteria, possibilities, and particularly the limits of interreligious dialogue."
Ecology and Religion

The book is a manifesto or apologia for Chinese Christians. It seeks to articulate how it is possible to maintain a Chinese identity and a Christian identity at the same time without capitulating to some western or other cultural model of Christian identity. To be a Chinese Christian is to adopt a distinctive, unique identity that owes much to both traditions but is sui generis. Providing great resources for the construction of a Chinese Christian theology, Confucius and Paul converge across a surprisingly broad front. Yet, the Christ of the Cross completes or extends what is merely implicit or absent in Confucius; and Confucius amplifies various elements of Christian faith (e.g., community, virtues) that are underplayed in western Christianity. The Christ of God as found in Paul's letter to the Galatians brings Confucian ethics in the Analects to its fulfillment while protecting the church from the aberrations of Chinese history and while protecting China against the aberrations of Christian history in the west. Chinese Christianity has something to give the church that needs to be heard. China can develop its distinctive vision of Christianity for the sake of the church universal. Chinese Christianity will have its global mission if it can find its own authentic Chinese-Christian identity. Insofar as that identity brings the best of the Confucian tradition into the Christian story, it will help revivify global Christianity.

The Myth of Christian Uniqueness

Toward a Christian Theology of Work

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