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Anabaptism

HISTORY AND IDEOLOGY

American Mennonite Identity Definition through History

Rodney Sawatski

1894710533 Pandora Press (2005) 216pp £14.75

Historical narratives have played a significant role in Mennonite self-understanding and self-definition for almost five centuries. In this original and revealing study, Sawatsky traces the ways Mennonites in North America (including both "General Conference" Mennonites and "Old" Mennonites) defined themselves through the writing of history, from the colonial era to the mid-twentieth century.
By special Order.

JUST AS IN THE TIME OF THE APOSTLES

Uses of History in the Radical Reformation

Geoffrey Dipple

1894710584 Pandora Press (2005) 324pp £21.25

"Church history was an apple of discord in the Reformation era and the inter-group debates were far less simplistic than we have been led to believe. Working on a very broad canvas, Dipple explores the historical outlook of the Reformation era and adds a new depth to our understanding of the historiography of the Reformation." – James M Stayer, Queen's University

TOGETHER IN MISSION

Core Beliefs, Values and Commitments of Mennonite Mission Network

1877736996 MMN (2006), 20 pages £2.75

Biblical Studies

RECONSTRUCTING OLD TESTAMENT THEOLOGY

After the Collapse of History, 2nd edition

Leo G Perdue and W Brueggemann (Ed.)

080063716X Fortress (2005), 416pp £11.99

In this informative and keen look at contemporary trends in Old Testament theology, Perdue builds on his earlier volume *The Collapse of History* (1994). He investigates how a variety of perspectives and methodologies have impacted how the Old Testament is read in the twenty-first century including: literary criticism; rhetorical criticism; feminist and womanist theologies; liberation theology; Jewish theology; postmodernism; and postcolonialism.

REMEMBER THE FUTURE

The Pastoral Theology of Paul the Apostle

Jacob W Elias

0836193237 Herald Press (2006), 539pp £10.50

Elias highlights the ways in which Paul draws on narratives as he ministers via letters to congregations throughout the first century Mediterranean world. Paul frequently alludes to his own personal story as a Jew who encountered the risen Christ. Repeatedly Paul reminds his readers about Jesus' life and faithfulness, although he nowhere shares that story in any detail. Paul draws on Old Testament stories and the narratives and images of the Greco-Roman world. And Paul demonstrates his awareness of each congregation's story.

USING SCRIPTURE IN A GLOBAL AGE

Framing Biblical Issues

C Norman Kraus

193103835X Cascadia (2006), 200pp £14.25

"How do we as Anabaptists read the Bible and how does it speak to the issues of today? Written by a Mennonite scholar who has been a major influence in my thinking, this is one book I will read as soon as it gets to London." – Vic Thiessen

Christian Life

MODEL FOR MAKING DISCIPLES

John Wesley's Class Meeting

D Michael Henderson

928915701 Evangel (2005), 191pp £11.50

"Henderson skilfully chronicles early Methodism's most effective method of disciplinmaking. Carefully researched and astutely interpreted, the book brings a profoundly relevant message for the church today." — Robert E Coleman, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

PREPARING SUNDAY DINNER

A Collaborative Approach to Worship and Preaching

June Alliman Yoder, Marlene Kropf, Rebecca Slough

0836193210 Herald Press (2006), 498pp £12.75

"This book is long overdue. Using the metaphor of a meal, it provides a brilliant theological framework for worship services and then takes us through every part of those services. A great guide and resource for everyone involved in Sunday worship." — Vic Thiessen

RESURRECTION LIFE

The Power of Jesus for Today

Myron Augsburger

192891571X Evangel (2005), 196pp £8.75

"Most Christians know the significance of the cross, but few have explored in depth the significance that the resurrection has for the Christian community and for the world. Myron Augsburger provides a major contribution to overcome this shortcoming throughout Christendom." — Tony C Campolo

TALENT SHOW

Your Faith in Full Colour

Bob Lichty

0836193199 Herald Press (2005), 192pp £7.75

"Lichty has created a practical resource for individuals or church groups that is highly readable and deeply thought-provoking. Prepare to be challenged!" — Andrew Kreider, Pastor, Prairie Street Mennonite Church, Elkhart, Ind.

Conflict Mediation/VORP

WHEN A CONGREGATION IS BETRAYED

Responding to Clergy Misconduct

Beth Ann Gaeda

1566992842 Alban Institute (2006), 227pp £16.25

Other books have been written about clergy misconduct and its effects on congregations. Some are by victims. Others are written by professionals for a professional audience. Until now, however, there hasn't been a book for the congregational leaders who must deal with the fallout of prior clergy misconduct. This collection is for the "afterpastors" — interim or settled pastors — who follow misconducting pastors. And it's for lay leaders who may themselves have witnessed or been victimized by the misconducting pastor. Both groups of leaders need guidance about how to assess and effectively respond to the misconduct, how to care for the victim/survivor, and how to carry out the mission and ministry to which the congregation has been called.

Gifts/Cards etc

AMISH COUNTRY WALL CALENDAR 2007

Keith Baum

142161040X Brown Trout (2006), 13pp £10.00

"We alone, a little flock, the few who still remain . . ." The Amish people and the land upon which they live are photographed with dignity and grace in this lovely 2007 Amish Country wall calendar.

Human Relationships

PRIORITY PARENTING

Reclaiming Your Home for Heaven's Sake

Steve Ganger

0836193318 Herald Press (2006), 120pp £6.50

Parents in charge of their children. A novel concept, isn't it? Sadly, for many homes today, it is the other way around. There is a revolution afoot — a revolution where children commandeer the home. So challenges author, minister, and counsellor, Steve Gange. But, he says, "take heart", and goes on to provide very readable chapters with guidelines for reclaiming the home as a loving place for heaven's sake.

Mission

EVANGELICAL, ECUMENICAL, AND ANABAPTIST MISSIOLOGIES IN CONVERSATION

Essays in Honour of Wilbert R Shenk

James R Krabill and Walter Sawatsky (Eds)

1570756538 Orbis (2006), 352pp £14.99

The authors of this book are dedicated to understanding the role of all Christians in world mission and to overcoming the acrimony that has long characterized relations between Evangelical and Ecumenical Protestantism. They find this in the life and work of Mennonite missiologist Wilbert R Shenk.

Authors include Dana Robert, James Stamooolis, Jonathan Bonk, Darrell Whiteman, Jehu Hancilles, Andrew Walls, Lois Barrett, Paul Hiebert, and many others.

GOD ALMIGHTY!

His Word for Christians, Jews and Moslems

Lester Fleenor

1928915671 Evangel (2005), 188pp £9.95

Fifty-five to 60 percent of the world's population believe in a Supreme Power of the universe and refer to him as either Almighty God, Elohim Kabeer (in Hebrew), or Allah Akbar (in Arabic). These adherents from the three monotheistic world religions (Christianity, Judaism, and Islam) are addressed in this book and asked to not only consider the concepts behind God's name but also to take a hard look at the practical implications of these concepts for their personal lives today. Designed as an evangelistic tool to introduce people to the true nature of God & his Son, Jesus, this book makes an excellent small group study text with discussion questions at the end of each chapter.

MISSION UNDER SCRUTINY

Confronting Current Challenges

J Andrew Kirk

0232526575 DLT (2006), 224pp £12.95

In this practical and accessible book, Kirk has selected a variety of significant and sensitive themes for thoughtful consideration. They are all controversial in different ways. Is not dialogue with 'secular faith' more important in some societies than inter-religious dialogue? Is it legitimate to invite adherents of different religions to follow Jesus? What role have Christians played in advocating violence but also in being agents of peace and reconciliation? What might Christian mission look like in a world post-everything? Situating mission in a context that is post-modern, post-Christian and post-Western, Kirk argues that churches and Christians need to face these, and other questions.

Peace

CHRISTIANS AND WAR

A History of Practices and Teachings

James Reimer

0800638190 Fortress (2006), 128pp £3.99

Religion has often been blatantly invoked to support and oppose war and violence of all kinds, including terrorism and ethnic cleansing. Christians are deeply divided over whether and when such violence is justifiable. Reimer offers a fair presentation of these controversial standpoints, especially the three classical Christian attitudes toward war: crusading or holy war, just war, and pacifism. His thoughtful survey of Christian teachings and practices on issues of war, violence, and the state takes readers from classical Greco-Roman times to the present. Arguing that the church's responses to war can only be understood through the church's changing relationship to culture, Reimer concludes with an analysis of the contemporary debate.

CREATING THE BELOVED COMMUNITY

A Journey with the Fellowship of Reconciliation

Paul Dekar

0931038309 Cascadia (2005), 326pp £16.75

"With compassion and conviction, Dekar has written not only an engaging narrative of the FOR - its religious roots, its comprehensive moral actions through the years, and its indispensable role in our collective future - but also a manifesto of hope for those of us who still dream of a beloved community emerging out of our broken world." — Michael G Long, Author of 'Martin Luther King Jr. on Creative Living'

A CULTURE OF PEACE**God's Vision for the Church**

Alan Kreider, Eleanor Kreider and Paulus Widjaja

1561485047 Good Books (2005), 208pp £6.25

"Building on their excellent work in our all-time best-seller, *Becoming a Peace Church*, Alan and Eleanor, together with Paulus Widjaja from Indonesia, have written a critical introduction to the church's calling to be a "culture of peace". It covers all the important aspects of the discussion, from the Biblical foundation, to peace inside the church, to peace in the work place and peace in the world around us (with a critical chapter on peace and evangelism), in a simple, very easy-to-read style. This book is an absolute must-read for every Anabaptist in the world (and everyone who is serious about following Jesus). Order your copy today." — Vic Thiessen

ENGAGE**Exploring Nonviolent Living**

Laura Slattery

0966978315 Pace e Bene (2005), 320pp £20.95

With *Engage's* dynamic process, learn skills for nonviolent communication, practice strategies for effective social change, and help translate the vision of the beloved community into action. *Engage* is a journey "from violence to wholeness" based on hundreds of workshops led by Pace e Bene Nonviolence Service.

ROOTS OF WAR AND TERROR

Anthony Stevens

0826476317 Continuum (2005), 272pp £9.99

"Walter Wink traced the myth of redemptive violence back to the oldest myths of creation. Stevens, a British psychiatrist, takes us one step further, noting that all children are born with an instinctual fear of strangers (leading toward dehumanisation) and all boys with an innate instinct toward aggression (leading to war, in order to protect the species). These evolutionary propensities still motivate soldiers and terrorists today, and the future of the planet depends on us finding a way to stop them. An excellent and fascinating study for those who have always wondered where our violent actions toward fellow humans originated." — Vic Thiessen

TO BAGHDAD AND BEYOND**How I Got Born Again in Babylon**

Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove

1597521116 Wipf & Stock (2006), 124pp £10.50

To Baghdad and Beyond is the story of a young evangelical couple who followed the conviction of their faith into a war zone and discovered an alternative to the violence of empires and the complicity of quietism in the "third way" of Jesus' beloved community. Wilson-Hartgrove writes of his journey from a rural Southern Baptist church to Iraq in a time of war to a Christian community of hospitality in an urban neighbourhood. Excited by ways that Christian hope is taking concrete form, Wilson-Hartgrove describes a new monastic movement that is witnessing to a world at war that another way is possible.

Social Justice**LEFT HAND OF GOD****Taking Back Our Country from the Religious Right**

Michael Lerner

0060842474 Harper SF (2006), 408pp hb £18.95

Lerner presents a vision that incorporates and then goes far beyond contemporary liberal and progressive politics. He argues for a new bottom line in our economy, schools, and government. This is a fundamentally fresh approach, one that takes spiritual needs seriously in economic and political life.

RETHINKING HOLY LAND**A Study in Salvation Geography**

Marlin Jeschke

0836193172 Herald Press (2006), 172pp £10.95

The author's vision for possessing land is a fresh alternative to the historical pattern of conquest and displacement of terrorized populations. Jeschke's careful reading of the biblical narrative offers a redeeming view for stewarding space on God's earth, a way we might call "salvation geography." God's design in salvation history is for a quality of life that sanctifies the whole earth.

Spirituality**DISSIDENT DISCIPLESHIP****A Spirituality of Self-Surrender, Love of God, and Love of Neighbour**

David W Augsburg

1587431807 Brazos Press (2006), 256pp £12.99

"Launched at the Cross-Currents seminar in April, this is surely one of the best and most important books that Augsburg (one of the most

well-known Mennonite authors) has written. Using a wealth of wonderful stories and anecdotes, this accessible and inspiring book presents an Anabaptist spirituality that moves beyond a relationship limited to us and God to one that includes our neighbour. Full of wisdom and wit and even some poetry, this is the must-read of the year (along with the next book)." — Vic Thiessen

HOLINESS, SPEECH AND SILENCE**Reflections on the Question of God**

Nicholas Lash

0754650391 Ashgate (2004), 98pp £12.99

Lash shows how the main contours of the Christian doctrine of God may be mapped onto principal features of our culture and its predicaments. He considers three dimensions of our contemporary predicament: globalization, a crisis of language, and the pain and darkness of the world, in relation to the doctrine of God as Spirit, Word, and Father.

SOUL TYPES**Matching Your Personality and Spiritual Path**

Sandra Hirsch

0806651466 Fortress (2006), 272pp £7.99

Millions of people throughout the world turn to the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator™ to guide their career choices, improve their relationships, and resolve conflicts. Now, two experts in the field help readers discover:

- * The approach to spirituality that is most natural for them.
- * Past spiritual experiences and what made them joyful, hollow, or even painful.
- * New spiritual paths that add fullness to life even in the midst of difficulties.

SPIRITUALITY TO GO**Rituals and Reflections for Everyday Living**

Olive M Fleming Drane

023252663X DLT (2006), 160pp £10.95

Drane considers the ways in which our everyday rituals can become opportunities for creating nurturing spiritual spaces. She looks at significant times in our lives — beginnings, endings, transitional times, times of crisis — as well as our relationships with friends and family, and offers a wealth of practical ideas for rituals that can enhance these moments and encounters. *Spirituality to Go* gives us inspirational tools for discovering the spiritual in everyday life, and shows how even our most mundane daily routines can become an opportunity for encountering the divine.

Theology & Ethics**AT PEACE AND UNAFRAID****Public Order, Security, and the Wisdom of the Cross**

Duane K Friesen and Gerald W Schlabach Eds

0836193083 Herald Press (2006), 456pp £12.95

"How do we live out Jesus' way of nonviolence and participate in societies that don't share our convictions? This collection of essays examines contemporary Mennonite perspectives on security and public order. It's on my 'must-read in 2006' list." — Vic Thiessen

COVENANT OF PEACE**The Missing Peace in New Testament Theology**

Willard Swartley

0802829376 Eerdmans (2006), 522pp £19.99

One would think that peace, a term that occurs as many as one hundred times in the New Testament, would enjoy a prominent place in theology and ethics textbooks. Yet it is surprisingly absent. Willard Swartley's *Covenant of Peace* remedies this deficiency, restoring to New Testament theology and ethics the peace that many works have missed. In this comprehensive yet accessible book Swartley explicates virtually all of the New Testament, relating peace — and the associated emphases of love for enemies and reconciliation — to core theological themes such as salvation, christology, and the reign of God. No other work in English makes such a contribution.

ECHOES OF THE WORD**Theological Ethics as Rhetorical Practice**

Harry J Huebner

189471055X Pandora Press (2005), 264pp £17.75

"Although Mennonites are the explicit audience Huebner addresses in the essays and sermons that comprise this wonderful book, it would be a loss to the church if only Mennonites read it. Every essay is a jewel and every sermon edifies. It is often said that theology must recover itself as a discipline of wisdom. That task has been accomplished in this collection." — Stanley J Hauerwas

FAITH AND POLITICS AFTER CHRISTENDOM**The Church as a Movement for Anarchy**

Jonathan Bartley

1842273485 Paternoster (2006), 176pp £9.99

"What is the church's role in twenty-first century politics? In our post-Christendom society, Bartley challenges the church to be prophetic, confronting injustice and undermining some of the central norms on which society is built. Don't miss this newest addition to the *After Christendom series*." – Vic Thiessen

Jonathan Bartley is Director of the theological think-tank Ekklesia.

GOD'S POLITICS**Why the American Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It**

Jim Wallis

0745952240 Lion (2006), 416pp £9.99

"This excellent and best-selling book asks the questions: "Since when did believing in God and having moral values make you pro-war, pro-rich, and pro-Republican? And since when did promoting and pursuing a progressive social agenda with a concern for economic security, health care, and educational opportunity mean you had to put faith in God aside?" While the book is clearly situated in the U.S., its message is applicable wherever there is a right and left in politics and to all who are interested in how religion and politics interact." – Vic Thiessen

THE GOSPEL OF FAITH AND JUSTICE

Antonio Gonzalez

1570756112 Orbis (2005), 179pp £13.99

"A former Jesuit from Central America, now a Mennonite living in Spain, Gonzalez is a brilliant young theologian who has already written a number of important books in Spanish. Now, for the first time, we can read a collection of his most recent essays in English. Starting with the insights of liberation theology, Gonzalez looks at how the gospel is good news to the poor, focusing on how the reign of God is revealed through those alternative messianic communities which are putting an end to poverty and oppression. It is these messianic communities, and not top-down efforts to help the poor, that are the real hope of the poor. Frequently brilliant and insightful, these essays do tend to repeat some of Gonzalez' key themes, but they add up to a very convincing argument. Check it out." – Vic Thiessen

POLITICS OF DISCIPLESHIP AND DISCIPLESHIP IN POLITICS**Jürgen Moltmann Lectures in Dialogue with Mennonite Scholars**

Jürgen Moltmann and Willard Swartley (Ed.)

1597524832 Wipf & Stock (2006), 168pp £12.95

The Politics of Discipleship and Discipleship in Politics is a work of dialogue and cooperation at every level. At the core of this volume are lectures by Jürgen Moltmann, originally delivered at two Mennonite seminaries at the height of the Cold War. Theologians at those seminaries then responded to each of Moltmann's lectures, and those are included as well. Added to this collection are: a new essay by Moltmann on peacemaking and dragon-slaying, a new foreword by Willard Swartley, and a new preface by Moltmann. In our post-9/11 world, this dialogue has fresh relevance.

RESURRECTION OF JESUS**John Dominic Crossan and NT Wright in Dialogue**

Robert B Stewart (Ed.)

0281058113 SPCK (2006), 219pp £10.99

"If you enjoyed the brilliant Wright-Borg dialogue in *The Meaning of Jesus* as much as I did, you won't want to miss this dialogue between Wright and Crossan. This time, the issue is the resurrection of Jesus and how different views affect our understanding of salvation, and this time it is in the context of an actual face-to-face dialogue, followed up by a number of insightful essays (on the views of Crossan and Wright) by American scholars. Generally easy to read and a lot of fun – I loved it!" – Vic Thiessen

TRANSFORMING THE POWERS**Peace, Justice, and the Domination System**

Ray C Gingerich and Theodore G Grimsrud (Eds)

0800638174 Fortress (2006), 224pp £11.99

"This collection of essays from leading scholars builds on Walter Wink's acclaimed *Powers* trilogy, applying Wink's analysis on the redemption of the powers to economics, politics and government, war and peace, personal ethics, and ecological and social justice. I am looking forward to reading it." – Vic Thiessen

USELESS BEAUTY**Ecclesiastes through the Lens of Contemporary Film**

Robert K Johnson

0801027853 Baker Books (2004), 208pp £11.99

"One of my favourite writers on film and theology uses film to look at Ecclesiastes. In doing so, he enriches the dialogue between faith and film and contributes to our understanding of both Scripture and film." – Vic Thiessen

VIEWING NEW CREATIONS WITH ANABAPTIST EYES**Ethics of Biotechnology**

Roman J Miller, Beryl H Brubaker et al (Eds)

1931038325 Cascadia (2005), 306pp £15.95

"Another book I've been waiting for, this is a collection of essays covering all the issues related to the ethics of biotechnology. If you've wondered what Anabaptists have to say on the debates around genetics and biotechnology, here's your chance to find out." – Vic Thiessen

THE WORD THAT REDESCRIBES THE WORLD**The Bible and Discipleship**

Walter Brueggemann and Patrick D Miller (Ed.)

080063814X Fortress (2006), 14pp (hb) £19.99

"A collection of Walter Brueggemann's essays on the Bible and discipleship has got to be on any list of essential reading. It's on mine." – Vic Thiessen

Director's Cut Autumn 2006

Highlighting recent, noteworthy and best-selling titles selected by Vic Thiessen

Recent & noteworthy titles:

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See review under *Spirituality* above**A CULTURE OF PEACE****God's Vision for the Church**

Alan Kreider, Eleanor Kreider, and Paulus Widjaja.

1561485047 Good Books (2005), 208pp £6.25

See review under *Peace* above**SEPARATION AND THE SWORD IN ANABAPTIST PERSUASION****Radical Confessional Rhetoric from Schleithem to Dordrecht**

Gerald Biesecker-Mast

1931038341 Cascadia (2006), 312pp £15.50

An important study of the history and theology of the early Anabaptists, this book explores early Anabaptist views on the church's relationship to the state and to the sword and to the state's use of the sword. I can't wait to read it. Watch for my full-length review coming out in the next couple of months.

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USELESS BEAUTY

Ecclesiastes through the Lens of Contemporary Film
Robert K Johnston
0801027853 Baker Books (2004), 208pp £11.99
See review under *Theology and Ethics* above

THE MORAL IMAGINATION

The Art and Soul of Building Peace
John Paul Lederach
0195174542 OUP (2005), 240pp hb £17.99
Now that I have read it, I can confirm that this is a work of genius and indeed a precious treat. It's about the importance of relationships, being willing to listen to and learn from each other, being creative and being willing to risk; it's about imagining and generating constructive responses and initiatives rooted in the day-to-day challenges of violence and breaking destructive patterns and cycles. It's not an easy book to read (some parts are quite academic) but it is well worth the effort for its insights into peacemaking. Highly recommended!

A CONTEMPORARY ANABAPTIST THEOLOGY

Biblical, Historical, Constructive
Thomas N Finger
0830827854 InterVarsity Press (US) (2004), 602pp hb £24.99
This new work by Finger is an absolute must for anyone wanting a comprehensive survey of Anabaptist theology, past and present. Finger uses the results of his survey to engage with his own theology as well as that of the well-known mainstream theologians. I have not seen anything like this anywhere else. I found this book to be an invaluable resource for my theological reflection. Highly recommended!

JOHN HOWARD YODER

Mennonite Patience, Evangelical Witness, Catholic Convictions
Mark Thiessen Nation
0802839401 Eerdmans (2006), 224pp £11.99
This book, written by a previous director of the LMC, is "an insider's introduction to Yoder, demonstrating how a committed Mennonite could also be profoundly evangelical in his witness and broadly catholic in his Christian sensibilities." I haven't had a chance to read it yet, but I've heard some very positive reports.

BREAKING NEWS: Walter Wink will be speaking at the LMC on the 30th of August! Two of his most important recent books are:

THE HUMAN BEING

Jesus and the Enigma of the Son of the Man
0800632621 Fortress (2001), 352pp £18.99
This controversial book is thoroughly Biblical as it asks the questions: What do the "Son of the Man" sayings really mean, what do they tell us about who Jesus was, and what was Jesus trying to communicate about being human? For those ready to explore a more radical understanding of who Jesus was, this is essential reading.

ENGAGING THE POWERS

080062646X Fortress (1992), 424pp £13.99
My favourite book of the last thirty years. Absolutely essential for understanding the myth of redemptive violence and the way Jesus challenged the Domination System.

NOTE: Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer will be our special guest for the London Mennonite Theology Forum in June. Books of interest by Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer include:

JESUS AGAINST CHRISTIANITY

Reclaiming the Missing Jesus
1563383624 Trinity Press (2001), 368pp £15.99
If you're ready for a book that will challenge not only how you see Jesus, but how you look at the Bible, then try this absorbing book that explores the implications of seeing both Jesus and the God he revealed to us

as nonviolent. A shocking yet thoroughly enjoyable book, written by a passionate Christian who sees peace and justice at the heart of the gospel of Jesus.

SAVING CHRISTIANITY FROM EMPIRE

0826416276 Continuum (2005), 184pp £15.99
I read it in the spring and it did not disappoint. With Nelson-Pallmeyer's customary passion, he examines and critiques the U.S. move toward global domination and the way it is supported by American Christians, thus distorting Christianity. After describing what is happening in his country, Nelson-Pallmeyer explores the theme of empire in the Bible before turning to the radical nonviolence of Jesus and how we can put nonviolence into practice.

IS RELIGION KILLING US?

Violence in the Bible and the Quran

1563384086 Continuum (2005), 192pp £9.99
This book looks at how a more literal reading of the scriptures of Christianity, Judaism and Islam has been responsible for much of the violence in our world today. Nelson-Pallmeyer suggests that it is time to revisit our interpretation of these scriptures and understand how they all point to a nonviolent God who shows us the way to peace, not war. A concise, easy-to-read and very topical book.

Bestselling Titles from Previous Director's Cuts:

CONSUMING PASSION

Why the Killing of Jesus Really Matters

Simon Barrow and Jonathan Bartley (Eds)

0232526079 DLT (2005), 144pp £10.95
This is an excellent collection of controversial essays on what the killing of Jesus means for us today. With contributions from, among others, Steve Chalke, Stuart Murray, Michael Northcott, Ched Myers, J Denny Weaver, the editors, and even from me, this is a book you won't want to miss.

GETTING IN THE WAY

Stories from Christian Peacemaker Teams

Tricia Gates Brown (Ed.)

0836192486 Herald Press (2005), 160pp £11.25
As William O'Brien writes on the back cover, "the work of Christian Peacemaker Teams is at the cutting edge of contemporary Christian witness". When I think about Christian responses to war and terrorism, I think first of CPT. This collection of accounts of CPT work in six areas of conflict around the globe is not only enlightening but also inspiring and challenging, as it calls us to follow Jesus' way of peace.

SIMPLY IN SEASON

Recipes that Celebrate the Rhythm of the Land in the Spirit of 'More-With-Less'

Cathleen Hockman-Wert and Mary Beth Lind

0836192974 Herald Press (2005), 336pp £12.95
The third in the best-selling MCC cookbook trilogy, this book features eating and using local, seasonal foods in wholesome delicious dishes. I haven't used it yet, but my wife tells me it's a great cookbook and a must-have.

LOVING WITHOUT GIVING IN

Christian Responses to Terrorism and Tyranny

Ron Mock

1931038244 Cascadia (2004), 272pp £14.95
The most practical book yet written on Christian responses to terrorism, it provides no less than a hundred responses to terrorism that Christian individuals and groups can work with. Mock summarizes the dynamics that drive terrorism like this: The terrorist, nursing a corrosive grievance against a dehumanized enemy and despairing of political effectiveness, puts faith in the effectiveness of violence to remedy or avenge the grievance. He then goes on to show how Christians can respond to each of these dynamics. An excellent resource for Christians looking for responses to terrorism at a variety of levels.
Director's cut

THE WAR ON TERRORISM AND THE TERROR OF GOD

Lee Griffith

0802828604 Eerdmans (2002), 399pp £10.99
This book, written before the events of September 11, 2001, is probably the best book ever written on the subject. I turn to it again and again. Griffith begins by arguing that terrorism and counter terrorism are identical phenomena when viewed at a spiritual level. In response to terrorism, Griffith points the way to a theology of peace and the practice of nonviolence. This book provides a critical analytic framework for understanding what is happening in the world today and I could not recommend it too highly.

AN ANGEL DIRECTS THE STORM

Apocalyptic Religion and American Empire

Michael Northcott

1850434786 IB Tauris (2004), 220pp hb £19.50
This excellent book explores the role of American civil religion in global politics, providing a theological analysis of the subversion of Christianity in U.S. history (culminating in its use by the current American administration, led by George W Bush, a professed Christian). This book is easy to read, very insightful, and ends with a chapter on how the writings of John Howard Yoder can be used to challenge the false apocalyptic religion of the American empire.

POST-CHRISTENDOM

Stuart Murray

1842272616 Paternoster (2004), 272pp £9.99
This brilliant book is must-reading for all Christians in the UK who want to explore what it means to be a church on the margins as Christendom comes to an end. In a style that is easy-to-read yet full of profound insights, Stuart analyses the Christendom era and shows how we can no longer operate with its values and assumptions. We need to find fresh ways to read the Bible, engage in mission and be church. If you haven't read this book yet, find a copy soon.

CHURCH AFTER CHRISTENDOM

Stuart Murray

1842272926 Paternoster (2005), 235pp £9.99
A sequel to *Post-Christendom* this book asks all the right questions as Murray examines the changes happening in the church today and explores the church's future in the UK. Comprehensive yet accessible, and full of Murray's customary wisdom, this book is essential reading for all who believe the church can once again play a meaningful and vital role in people's lives.

THE NONVIOLENT ATONEMENT

J Denny Weaver

0802849083 Eerdmans (2001), 256pp £12.99
The recent controversy in the Evangelical Alliance about the penal substitution theory of atonement has made this book by Weaver a very

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