

Four Witnesses The Early Church In Her Own Words Rod Bennett

Shocked to find corruption widespread in the ranks of their shepherds today, too many good Catholics are tempted to leave the Church, unaware that ever since the days when Jesus' own treasurer, Judas Iscariot, had his hand in the till, the Good Shepherd and His faithful followers have been regularly betrayed by bad shepherds. In these eye-opening pages, Church historian Rod Bennett introduces a number of those bad shepherds, including Bishop Eusebius of Nicomedia, who regularly sold out the Church to the Roman emperor; Pope Stephen VII, who so hated his late predecessor that he had him dug up, put on trial, and flung into the Tiber; Benedict IX, who bought and sold the papacy (twice!); and Pope John XII, whose debauchery rivaled that of the corrupt emperor Caligula. Those were very bad shepherds indeed, but while they did the Devil's work, good Catholics not only survived — they thrived. They outlasted their bad shepherds, preserved in their ranks the Faith of our fathers, and served in each instance as the foundation for a cleansing of the House of God and a vigorous renewal of the Faith. These enlightening pages demonstrate that it can happen again!

"Dear Brother" is a fresh compilation of Catholic Apologetics targeted toward non-Catholic Christians. However, the book was especially written for Catholics who have found themselves in RCIA programs against the wishes of Protestant friends and family. It contains an exhaustive biblical defense of essential Catholic doctrines, a glimpse of the general councils in Church history, and the author's own conversion story. It is difficult to find so much material packed into one easy to read volume. "Dear Brother" manages this in a way that is both personal and compelling. A real page turner for anyone interested in Catholicism! FEATURES: - the author's personal testimony - a summary of each ecumenical council - a list of the popes - over twenty articles on saints - suggested reading and resource lists - quotes from the early Church - HUNDREDS of Scriptural references

Protestants and Catholics both claim that the early Church heritage of theology and broad consensus of the Church fathers favors their own view. Protestants, from the beginning, claimed to be "reformers" of the Catholic Church; that is, they felt themselves to be hearkening back to the more pure doctrines of the early Church and the Church fathers, rather than overturning historic Catholic doctrine. I shall contend in this book, by means of massive documentation, that the "historical case" for Catholicism becomes stronger as the accumulation of patristic evidence piles up. Catholics need not fear patristic data any more than they need fear the Bible. The discussion of what the Church fathers believed must be undertaken by means of historical fact, and it can be determined (fairly conclusively in most cases, I submit) what a Church father believed about various Christian doctrines. This volume surveys the beliefs of the Church fathers, particularly with regard to Catholic "distinctives."

The most comprehensive volume ever produced in defense of the Gospels and Acts The four Gospels and the book of Acts tell stories of Jesus' life and the birth of Christianity. Are these stories true history or just religious fiction? Christians accept the stories as true and say that the entire Bible is a reliable communication inspired by God. Against this, non-Christians have argued that the Bible is a book of legends, myths, and historical inaccuracies—just another example of human religious endeavor. In this volume, four world-class New Testament scholars address challenges to the reliability of the Gospels and Acts. In order to identify the most important challenges, the authors drew from the literature of skeptics and New Testament critics, plus they included questions that many Christians ask as well. The result is the most comprehensive defense of the Gospels and Acts that has ever been published. The primary purpose of the Holman Apologetics Commentary on the Bible is to equip readers to defend the reliability of Scripture and the historic evangelical understanding of its teachings. It is designed for use by general readers, though scholars will find it a probing and welcome resource as well. A secondary purpose is to encourage awareness and discussion of Bible difficulties that are not commonly mentioned from the pulpit or even the seminary lectern. This is not a verse-by-verse commentary. The authors were provided an index that identified verses known to be relevant to the topics of apologetics and biblical reliability. They restricted their comments to these verses, plus any others that they recognized as germane to the aims of this project. Typically, each commentary note begins by stating the challenge or challenges regarding the text at hand. We attempt to state the case in all its potency, as a critic would state it. This approach takes seriously the critical viewpoint and helps ensure that the reader feels the full weight of the challenge. The contributors take each challenge seriously and seek to describe viable solutions that support faith and align with a high view of Scripture.

Polemiek door de Latijnse kerkvader (354-430) tegen de ketterij van het pelagianisme, dat leerde dat de mens zelf verantwoordelijk zou zijn voor zijn zielenheil en dat de genade van God daarbij geen rol zou spelen.

The interfaith movement, which began with the 1893 World's Parliament of Religions in Chicago, has grown worldwide. Although this movement has been largely unknown to the public, it now provides a spiritual face for globalization, the economic and political forces leading us all from nationalism to "One World." The most ambitious organization in today's interfaith movement is the United Religions Initiative (URI), founded by William Swing, the Episcopal Bishop of California. Investigative reporter Lee Penn, a Catholic ex-Marxist, exhaustively documents the history and beliefs of the URI and its New Age and globalist allies, the vested interests that support these movements, and the direction they appear to be taking. The interfaith movement is no longer merely the province of a coterie of little-headed religious idealists with grandiose visions. The URI's proponents have ranged from billionaire George Soros to President George W. Bush, from the far-right Rev. Sun Myung Moon to the liberal Catholic theologian Hans Küng, and from the Dalai Lama to the leaders of government-approved Protestant churches in the People's Republic of China. The interfaith movement, including the URI, is being promoted by globalist and New Age reformers who favor erosion of national sovereignty, marginalization of traditional religions, establishment of "global governance," and creation of a new, Earth-based "global spirituality"—in effect, a one-world religion. Therefore, the URI and the interfaith movement are poised to become the spiritual foundation of the New World Order: the "new civilization" now proposed by Mikhail Gorbachev, the last leader of the Soviet Union. In *The Reign of Quantity and the Signs of the Times*, French metaphysician René Guénon spoke of the "anti-tradition" (the forces of materialism and secular humanism) finally giving way to the "counter-tradition" (the satanic inversion of true spirituality), leading to the regime of Antichrist. The "anti-tradition" weakens and dissolves traditional spiritualities, after which the "counter-tradition" sets up a counterfeit in their place. Since Guénon's time, as is well known, anti-traditional forces have greatly advanced worldwide. It is less well-known that counter-traditional movements have also

made great strides, and now stand closer to the centers of global political and religious power than ever before. The ¿counter-tradition¿ is making inroads on the political and cultural Right, as much as it is doing on the Left. False Dawn painstakingly documents these trends, and speculates on their future development. In so doing, the author takes investigative reporting to the threshold of prophecy, and gives us a stunningly plausible picture of the global religious landscape of the 21st century. This extraordinary project is the literary equivalent of turning over a flat rock. There is much to be seen and learned here¿all of it unsettling, disquieting, occasionally downright scary. ¿William Murchison, Radford Distinguished Professor, Baylor University When a bishop of a Christian church happily worships alongside a Wiccan invoking other gods, something has gone horribly wrong. In False Dawn, Lee Penn has produced a comprehensive and critical history of the United Religions Initiative. This book sounds a clear warning: Anyone who makes theological truth subservient to utopianism denigrates all religions. ¿Douglas LeBlanc, Editor, GetReligion.org

This is the blueprint for living out the first-century supernatural life! — Sid Roth, host of It's Supernatural! Lost for centuries, this ancient text is the believer's key to unlocking the supernatural lifestyle of first-century believers. In the book of Acts, we glimpse the world-changing community marked by passion, authenticity, and supernatural power that was the early Church. How did the early church cultivate these kinds of powerful believers? Where does the modern church fall short? And what if you could access the early Church's discipleship manual? Picture it: While browsing the stacks of a dimly lit library in the cavernous corridors of an Middle Eastern monastery, a young Greek Orthodox cleric stumbles upon a fragile parchment manuscript, containing ancient wisdom. The cleric's name was Philotheos Bryennios, the year was 1873, the place was Istanbul, Turkey, and the incredible document he found was called the Didache, or "the Teaching." The Didache is a transformative step-by-step training program for new believers, and offers a window into the faith and practice of the earliest Gentile disciples, when Christianity was still within the fold of Messianic Judaism. Written for a culture where individuals had no knowledge of Jesus or the gospel, the Didache's timeless instruction is especially applicable for our current, postchristian era. Ancient Blueprints for the Supernatural contains the full text of the Didache along with extensive, revelatory commentary and application from Drs. Dennis and Jen Clark. You will: Discover how to live as a holy vessel in a godless society. Enter a new way of life that reveals Jesus of Nazareth to the world. Access the miraculous lifestyle that Jesus made possible through the Cross. Experience the presence and power of God through ancient practices such as persistent prayer, communion, baptism, and more. Gain wisdom for discerning false teaching and doctrine that obscures the fullness of God's life and power. Uncover the Biblical definition of "The One New Man," and what it means for you. Learn to live in watchful preparation for the Messiah's return. Unleash the timeless wisdom of the Didache into your life, and begin walking in the world-changing footsteps of the early church.

A journal of lay Catholic opinion.

Winner of a 2018 Catholic Press Association Award: Popular Presentation of the Catholic Faith. (First Place). With atheism on the rise and millions tossing off religion, why would anyone consider the Catholic Church? Brandon Vogt, a bestselling author and the content director for Bishop Robert Barron's Word on Fire Catholic Ministries, shares his passionate search for truth, a journey that culminated in the realization that Catholicism was right about a lot of things, maybe even everything. His persuasive case for the faith reveals a vision of Catholicism that has answers our world desperately needs and reminds those already in the Church what they love about it. A 2016 study by the Public Religion Research Institute found that 25 percent of adults (39 percent of young adults) describe themselves as unaffiliated with any religion. Millions of these so-called "nones" have fled organized religion and many more have rejected God altogether. Brandon Vogt was one of those nones. When he converted to Catholicism in college, he knew how confusing that decision was to many of his friends and family. But he also knew that the evidence he discovered pointed to one conclusion: Catholicism is true. To his delight, he discovered it was also exceedingly good and beautiful. Why I Am Catholic traces Vogt's spiritual journey, making a refreshing, twenty-first century case for the faith and answering questions being asked by agnostics, nones, and atheists, the audience for his popular website, StrangeNotions.com, where Catholics and atheists dialogue. With references to Catholic thinkers such as G. K. Chesterton, Ven. Fulton Sheen, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and Bishop Robert Barron, Vogt draws together lines of evidence to help seekers discover why they should be Catholic as an alternative. Why I Am Catholic serves as a compelling reproposal of the Church for former Catholics, a persuasive argument for truth and beauty to those who have become jaded and disenchanting with religion, and at the same time offers practicing Catholics a much-needed dose of confidence and clarity to affirm their faith against an increasingly skeptical culture.

Annie Besant is primarily remembered as the international president of the Theosophical Society. One of the most important aspects of her career were the years that she was a professional atheist, which has given her a place in history as a pioneer feminist. The Origins of Theosophy contains thirteen of Besant's pamphlets, originally published from 1883-1890. This book is ideal for students of theology. This Tragic Gospel suggests that the "Gospel" of John intended to supplant the first three gospels and succeeded in gaining undue influence on the early churches. This study focuses on the tragic moment when Jesus prays for deliverance from his impending death in the garden of Gethsemane. Ruprecht contends that John rewrote this scene in order to convey a very different dramatic meaning from the one reflected in Mark's gospel. In John's version, not only did Jesus not pray to be spared, he actually mocked this prayer, embracing his imminent demise with godlike confidence. Ruprecht believes that this dramatic reinterpretation undermined the tragedy of Jesus's death as Mark imagined it and so paved the way for the development of a kind of Christianity that focused far less on compassion in the face of human suffering. John's Jesus offers the faithful food so that they will never hunger, water so that they will never thirst, and the promise of a world in which no faithful person ever sheds a tear. Mark's Christians do suffer, but they witness to suffering and death differently...with compassion. Mark's Christ suffers, like all Christians after him, but he embodies a tragic hope in the promise of a faith shored up by love and compassion.

Everything You Need to Know About the Last Days at Your Fingertips The Harvest Handbook™ of Bible Prophecy is a reference resource that provides a comprehensive overview of everything the Bible says about the last days. Compiled by bestselling prophecy teachers Ed Hindson, Mark Hitchcock, and Tim LaHaye, this volume has 150+ topics on the most important subjects of prophetic study from 40+ of world's foremost prophecy experts, including Armageddon, the Day of the Lord, eternal life, the glorious appearing, the messianic kingdom, the millennium, rewards, and the Tribulation. You will gain clear and useful insights about the future in this A-to-Z handbook, which is written to provide thousands of Bible-based facts about the end times and beyond a chronology of the last days from a pretribulational, premillennial view detailed definitions of all the major prophecy-related terms Both new and experienced students of prophecy will find this a tool they can use and understand. Ideal for browsing or serious research, you'll find yourself reaching for this indispensable resource again and again.

Four WitnessesThe Early Church in Her Own Words

A reader-friendly guide to the life and teachings of the Jesus of the Gospels The Jesus of the Gospels brings together the best elements of a survey of the Gospels and a commentary on the Gospels to help

readers know Jesus and understand the good news. Drawing on decades of experience teaching and writing on the Gospels, Andreas Köstenberger presents a holistic portrait of Jesus by leading readers through an in-depth study of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Each chapter explores one gospel account, beginning with a short introduction that highlights the gospel's individual distinctives, followed by an outline of the book. Köstenberger breaks each gospel into short sections, explaining the meaning and how it sheds light on Jesus and His mission. Numerous sidebars, maps, and diagrams highlight supplemental information, and regular "Recap" sections summarize key points. For those interested in further study, footnotes point to useful resources. In addition to helping readers follow the storyline and theology of each gospel, Köstenberger also emphasizes practical application, showing readers how to apply what they're learning to their lives. Ideal for those who are new to the study of the Gospels, and for instructors looking for an accessible introduction based on solid scholarship, *The Jesus of the Gospels* offers readers and students to the riches of the Gospels and a deeper knowledge of Jesus and the good news.

Predicting Success in Completing the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults By: Laurence F. Aucella, Ed.D, Ph.D *Predicting Success in Completing the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* regards the process of RCIA, the process by which one becomes a convert to the Roman Catholic Faith. It also contains valuable history about Christianity and how it has evolved over the centuries that will aid in nourishing the faith and increased the knowledge of both new converts and life-long Catholic. This book is dedicated to the memory of Sister Dorilda Flynn of the Sisters of Saint Anne, Anna Maria College.

About a century after Jesus died, a battle began for the Old Testament. Large numbers of faithful Christians fought about its contents and even about its right to be called a Christian book! On one side, many Jewish converts charged Paul and most of the other Apostles with a "Great Apostasy," a pulling away from the deep roots of their Jewish tradition. This, they argued, endangered the souls of believers everywhere. They sought to retain intact the strict practices and teachings of the Old Testament and to integrate more of them into the still new and developing Christian Faith. On the other side, Marcionite Christians held such antipathy toward the Old Testament that they advocated leaving it behind entirely. They even sought to purge from the New Testament practices and notions they judged too friendly to Jewish ideas. The outcome of this conflict would affect nearly every aspect of the new Christian Faith — and the daily lives of believers everywhere, for centuries to come. Who won these crucial, climactic Scripture Wars? God did, of course — but not without raising up a great saint whose keen mind and deep faith expelled from Christianity both false understandings of how the gentle, loving God of the New Testament relates to the often-stern God of the Old. That saint was Justin of Neapolis, known today as St. Justin Martyr. These pages tell the surprisingly exciting tale of Justin's encounters with these vigorous early heresies that threatened to paralyze the young Church just as she was struggling to her feet. *Scripture Wars* is an inspiring, true-life testimony to our Father's providence, a tale that has the power to strengthen the faith of Catholics even today, eighteen centuries later.

The theory goes like this: Just a few centuries after Christ's death, around the time the Roman Empire converted to Christianity, the true Faith suffered a catastrophic falling-away, so obscured by worldliness and pagan idolatry, kicking off the Dark Ages of Catholicism, that Christianity required a complete reboot. This theory is popular]] but it's also fiction. This idea of a "Great Apostasy" is one of the cornerstones of American Protestantism, along with Mormonism, the Jehovah's Witnesses, and even Islam. Countless millions today profess a faith built on the assumption that the early Church quickly became broken beyond repair, and needed restoration to the "pure" teaching of Jesus and the apostles. Amid imperial intrigue, military menace, and bitter theological debate, a hero arises in the form of a homely little monk named Athanasius, who stands against the world to prove that there could never be a Great Apostasy because Jesus promised his Church would never be broken With the touch of a master storyteller, Rod Bennett narrates the drama of the early Church's fight to preserve Christian orthodoxy, while powerful forces try to smash it.

This thesis seeks to provide an explication of the ecclesiological significance of the dominical logion from the Gospel of Matthew: Where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them, (Matt. 18:20). The background to the choice of this topic came from the author's interest in the lived experience of the Focolare Movement which has Matthew 18:20 as one of the two main pillars of its spirituality. The motivation behind the choice of title and scope of this thesis comes from the theological writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Avery Dulles and Joseph Ratzinger. They show that within the framework of the ecclesiology of communion, Matt. 18:20 is a fruitful and important biblical text for furthering the Church's progress in the understanding of its own identity and mission as the Community of Jesus' Disciples, called to be the effective and sign-bearing presence of Christ's saving activity. Biblical exegetes, the Fathers of the Church, Vatican II, post-conciliar Magisterial teaching and contemporary theological research all point to the importance of Matt. 18:20 as a key to understanding Matthew's ecclesiology in the context of the increasingly important ecclesiology of communion. Christ's presence in the midst of the community gathered in his name has implications for our understanding of the Church as the community of disciples. The Church is the People of God, gathered as the Body of Christ and the Temple of the Holy Spirit and is called to be a reconciled and reconciling community, existing in and for the world and enlivened by the presence of Emmanuel, God with us.

Persoonlijk verslag van een vooraanstaand geneticus van zijn weg naar het christelijk geloof met een poging zijn wetenschappelijke werk te verzoenen met zijn geloof.

What was the early Church like? Contrary to popular belief, Rod Bennett shows there is a reliable way to know. Four ancient Christian writers--four witnesses to early Christianity --left us an extensive body of documentation on this vital subject, and this book brings their fascinating testimony to life for modern believers. With all the power and drama of a gripping novel, this book is a journey of discovery of ancient and beautiful truths through the lives of four great saints of the early Church--Clement of Rome, Ignatius of Antioch, Justin Martyr, and Irenaeus of Lyons.

Here is the long-awaited sequel to Rod Bennett's *Four Witnesses: The Early Church in Her Own Words*, a page-turning spiritual adventure following the lives and words of

Clement of Rome, Ignatius of Antioch, Justin Martyr, and Irenaeus of Lyons. *Four More Witnesses* invites readers to enter again the world of the early, influential Christian writers, this time meeting Hermas, Clement of Alexandria, Hippolytus, and Origen. What did these witnesses have to say on the necessity of baptism? What did they think of "eternal security" and confessions to Church elders? What about Mary and her role in salvation history? Christian writers addressed all of these questions, and many more, in the decades following the Apostles--an era when even the Creed was still a work in progress. Like *Four Witnesses*, *Four More Witnesses* is a moving chronicle of the Christian Church in the flower of her youth.

We somehow think that during the eucharistic prayer at Mass we are expected to be quiet, prayerful, and attentive-if we can be, with our children or other neighbors in the pews distracting us. In this inviting book Barry Hudock shows us that the eucharistic prayer is indeed the most dynamic and explosive" moment of Christian worship-in fact, of Christian life. Hudock takes us back to the beginnings of formal eucharistic worship in the early church, then forward to Vatican II and beyond, unpacking and exploring the eucharistic prayers old and new in words and concepts accessible to all of us. He also offers us, as the fruit of the journey, a set of points for a eucharistic prayer spirituality to prepare us for the explosion into life that is the whole purpose of our being. Barry Hudock is publisher for the parish market at Liturgical Press. He is the author of *Faith Meets World: The Gift and Challenge of Catholic Social Teaching* (Liguori). He received an STL in sacramental theology from The Catholic University of America. He lives with his family in Albany, Minnesota. "

The family of God includes the early Church Fathers. But who were these ancient theologians? What did they teach, and what were they like? *The Ancient Witnesses* tells the story of Ari, Cesar, Joseph and Preacher, four modern-day pastors-in-training enrolled in a study tour on Ancient Christianity. While traveling in Nicaea, Turkey, the site of an ancient church council, the four discover the Athenaeum, a hidden library where patrons are enabled to read books written in any language and can interact with the authors of ancient Christian literature, including Augustine, Tertullian, and Ephrem the Syrian. Journey along with them as they get to know the Church Fathers and learn more about our Sacred Roots.

The monthly "catechesis" in the Cathedral of St. Stephen by the Archbishop of Vienna, Cardinal Christoph Schoenborn, have become an institution among many people in Austria. In simple but beautiful words and vibrant images presented by the Cardinal, the doctrine and the practice of the faith are fruitfully brought together. This book contains a cycle of catechesis, or teachings on the Christian faith, which pose fundamental questions with respect to the confession of the faith: How can God be one and triune? How can He be all powerful and at the same time permit evil? Is our life free or pre-determined? How is Christianity different from other religions? How are we to understand the signs and miracles of Jesus? Why must we believe in the Resurrection of Jesus and hope in our own life after death? Cardinal Schoenborn explores these and many other important questions about the Christian faith, and especially about the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, in his usual lucid and compelling style. He leads us to a deeper realization of who Christ is, what his saving mission was, and how we can know and love Him in a personal and profound way. An inspiring and practical work by a great churchman about the eternal importance of the Christian faith, and the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, and how it is crucial for our everyday life. "Catechesis is something different from a theological discourse. Catechesis is actually a way, and we are invited to set out on such a catechetical way. For catechesis is very closely connected with the mission of Jesus himself. It is actually the direct translation of his mission, which he gave to the apostles at the end of his life: 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.' " - Cardinal Christoph Schoenborn

De nieuwe jeugdcatechismus voor de Wereldjongerendagen 2011;;;Deze jeugdcatechismus stelt de rijkdom van het geloof op een aantrekkelijke en begrijpelijke manier voor aan jongeren. Deze nieuwe jeugdcatechismus van de katholieke kerk is een publicatie waaraan pedagogen, theologen, religieuzen én jongeren gedurende vier jaar hebben samengewerkt. De taal en de kleurenillustraties zullen al wie jong van hart is aanspreken. Dit boek verschijnt naar aanleiding van de Wereldjongerendagen in Madrid in augustus 2011. Meer dan 700.000 jongeren zullen eraan deel nemen. Deze uitgave wil jongeren helpen om hun geloof beter te verwoorden en beleven. Deze uitgave geniet de steun van de Belgische en Nederlandse bisschoppenconferentie en kwam mede tot stand dankzij de Oostenrijkse kardinaal Schönborn.

This readable, faith-friendly, one-semester textbook aids students as they engage in their first reading of the biblical text in an academic setting. The authors, who have significant undergraduate teaching experience, approach the Christian Scriptures from historical, literary, and theological perspectives. Text boxes, illustrations, maps, and suggestions for further reading are included. This new edition incorporates professor and student feedback, adds a glossary, has been revised throughout, and is supplemented by updated and expanded web-based pedagogical resources.

Natuurlijk geloof je in genade. Wie niet? Max Lucado stelt een diepere vraag. Heeft genade je daadwerkelijk veranderd? Ben je gevormd door genade? Krachtiger geworden? Ben je door genade bij je nekvel gegrepen en is het in je haarvaten gaan zitten? De genade van God doordrenkt je. Als een getijdenstroom doet de genade zijn werk. Het transformeert je meer en meer naar Zijn gelijkenis. Wees er zeker van dat de genade in je zijn werking doet.

This survey textbook by two respected New Testament scholars is designed to meet the needs of contemporary evangelical undergraduates. The book effectively covers the New Testament books and major topics in the New Testament, assuming no prior academic study of the Bible. The authors pay attention to how the New Testament documents fit together as a canonical whole that supplements the Old Testament to make up the Christian Scriptures. They also show how the New Testament writings provide basic

material for Christian doctrine, spirituality, and engagement with culture. Chapters can be assigned in any order, making this an ideal textbook for one-semester courses at evangelical schools. This is the first volume in a new series of survey textbooks that will cover the Old and New Testaments. The book features full-color illustrations that hold interest and aid learning and offers a full array of pedagogical aids: photographs, sidebars, maps, time lines, charts, glossary, and discussion questions. Additional resources for instructors and students are available through Textbook eSources.

This work documents the impact that the Great Awakening had on the inhabitants of colonial America's Southern Backcountry. Special emphasis is placed on how this religious revival furrowed the ground on which the seeds of the American Revolution would sprout. The investigation shows how the Great Awakening can be traced to the Europe's Age of Enlightenment. This effort also demonstrates how and why this revival spread so rapidly throughout the colonies. Special focus is placed on how the Great Awakening impacted the mindset of colonists of the Southern Backcountry. Most significantly, this research demonstrates how this 18th-century revival not only cultivated a sense of American national identity, but how it also fostered a colonial mindset against established authority which, in turn, facilitated the success of the American Revolution. Additionally, this investigation will document (from a cross-cultural perspective) how religious revivals have fueled other revolutionary movements around the world. Such analysis will include the Celtic Druid Revolt, the Maji-Maji Rebellion of East Africa along with the Mad Man's War in Southeast Asia. Lastly, the ethical ramifications of minimizing (or denying) the role that religion played in political and social transformations around the world will be addressed. This final point is of paramount importance given current trend in academia to minimize the role that religion played in spurring revolutions while emphasizing material (i.e. economic) causal factors. This attempt at divorcing religion from history is misguided and unethical because it is not only misleading but it also fails to fully acknowledge the beliefs and values that motivated individuals to take certain actions in the first place.

De jongen die in de hemel was is het bijzondere verhaal van de vierjarige Colton, die op stel en sprong moest worden geopereerd aan een acute blindedarmontsteking. De artsen onderkennen te laat dat de situatie levensbedreigend was, en tijdens de operatie krijgt Colton een hartstilstand. Wonder boven wonder herstelt Colton en niet lang daarna begint hij te vertellen over de operatie: dat hij de artsen met hem bezig zag en dat hij zijn vader in een aparte kamer op zijn knieën zag bidden. De familie weet niet zo goed wat ze ermee aan moet, maar al snel hopen de bewijzen zich op. Colton vertelt dat hij zijn zusje, wier leven na drie maanden eindigde in een miskraam en over wie nooit werd gesproken, zijn overgrootvader en zelfs Jezus heeft gezien. Over al deze mensen weet hij details die hij nooit had kunnen weten en de familie realiseert zich gaandeweg dat ze Colton wel moeten geloven...

Madigan and Osiek assemble relevant material from both Western and Eastern Christendom.

The Structure of Religion: Judaism and Christianity presents a unique approach to understand each religion within its own context by addressing the differences in the ways in which each manifests itself in the world. Because it is frequently the differences in attitudes and behaviors, and not just beliefs, that constitute the major stumbling blocks to improved Jewish-Christian relations today, this book seeks to enhance respect for and appreciation of the other by utilizing a structural approach to both religions.

Studying the theology of the New Testament can be a daunting task, even to the knowledgeable Bible student or pastor. Each of the twenty-seven books, written by various authors, has its own theological emphasis and nuances. How do we elicit a coherent message from such theological diversity, especially given that some of the theological statements in the New Testament seem to be at odds with one another? Is such an endeavor achievable or even valid? Theology of the New Testament takes a balanced approach in response to these challenges. Frank Thielman presents a theology of the New Testament that is careful to take into account the cultural and historical circumstances surrounding each book and the New Testament as a whole. He not only examines each book's theological content individually, but also in relation to the rest of the New Testament, particularly within each of the three theological units that comprise the New Testament: the gospels and Acts, the Pauline epistles, and the general epistles and Revelation. This canonical and synthetic approach honors both the theological diversity of the various books and the theological connections between the books. In the end, Thielman finds a unified theological vision of the New Testament, anchored in the centrality of Jesus Christ. Frank Thielman's Theology of the New Testament is an outstanding achievement. The book is marked by scholarly depth, exegetical rigor, and theological profundity. Both students and professors will profit immensely from this lucid treatment of the theology contained in the New Testament documents. Thomas R. Schreiner Professor of New Testament, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary An accessible presentation of the key theological points of the New Testament books by an accomplished New Testament scholar and teacher. Its clear style, lucid organization, and sound theological insight make it a prime resource for serious students in both the academy and the church. Karen H. Jobes, PhD Associate Professor of New Testament, Westmont College

This edited volume mainly focuses on the practice of taking and displaying various body parts as trophies in both North and South America. The editors and contributors (which include Native Peoples from both continents) examine the evidence and causes of Amerindian trophy taking. Additionally, they present objectively and discuss dispassionately the topic of human proclivity toward ritual violence. This book fills the gap in literature on this subject.

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Justin Martyr, and Irenaeus of Lyons.

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