

# Classic Christianity A Systematic Theology By Thomas C Oden

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[John Wesley's Teachings, Volume 1](#) - Thomas C. Oden 2012-08-07

The first presentation of John Wesley's doctrinal teachings in a systematic form that is also faithful to Wesley's own writings in ebook format. Wesley was a prolific writer and commentator on Scripture, yet it is commonly held that he was not systematic or internally consistent in his theology and doctrinal teachings. On the contrary, Thomas C. Oden intends to demonstrate here that Wesley displayed a remarkable degree of consistency over sixty years of preaching and ministry. The book helps readers to grasp Wesley's essential teachings in an accessible form so that the person desiring to go directly to Wesley's own writings (which fill eighteen volumes) will know exactly where to turn. This volume focuses on Wesley's doctrinal teaching. Other volumes in this series deal with his ethical and pastoral care teachings.

**Practicing Christian Doctrine** - Beth Felker Jones 2023-07-11

This introductory theology text helps students articulate basic Christian doctrines, think theologically so they can act Christianly in a diverse world, and connect Christian thought to their everyday lives of faith. Written from a solidly evangelical yet ecumenically aware perspective, this book models a way of doing theology that is generous and charitable. It attends to history and contemporary debates and features voices from the global church. Sidebars made up of illustrative quotations, key Scripture passages, classic hymn texts, and devotional poetry punctuate the chapters. The first edition of this book has been well received (over 25,000 copies sold). Updated and revised throughout, this second edition also includes a new section on gender and race as well as new end-of-chapter material connecting each doctrine to a spiritual discipline.

**Pastoral Theology** - Thomas C. Oden 1983-05-25

This much-needed book fully integrates principles of pastoral care, leadership, and theology to restore to ministers a clearly defined pastoral identity. Moving from a critique of inadequate models for ministry -- from community organizer to T. V. evangelist -- Oden develops a more classical model, rich in its references to the

past and compatible both with Christian faith and theology through the ages and with current needs.

Reconciling classical tradition with practice, *Pastoral Theology* will be a standard resource and reference in the field. Oden distills the best ideas of the two millennia of ecumenical Christian thinking concerning what pastors are and do. *Pastoral Theology* provides the foundational knowledge of the pastoral office requisite to the practice of ministry. It will be of interest to persons preparing for ordination in its review of key issues; at the same time, *Pastoral Theology* will appeal to all those who have considered entering the ministry, those who want to know more about what clergy do and why, and those ministers who want to review their ongoing work in the light of a systematic reflection on the pastoral gifts and tasks.

*One Faith* - J. I. Packer 2004-04

Authors survey evangelical statements of faith produced since 1950, including the Lausanne Covenant (1974), the Manila Manifesto (1989), the Gospel of Jesus Christ: An Evangelical Celebration (1999) and The Amsterdam Declaration (2000). They show that there is a significant consensus around the central tenets of the Christian faith. Addresses the current need to clarify evangelical identity. Exposes the fallacy that evangelicalism is hopelessly fragmented. Provides the foundations for a theological unity celebrated throughout the church universal. Cites more than 75 documents of evangelicalism. Charts sixteen different theological themes. Written by two prominent evangelical statesmen representing the two main theological branches of Protestantism.

[Classical Pastoral Care](#) - Thomas C. Oden 2000-09-01

This four-volume set provides a topical arrangement of passages from classic Christian writings offering guidance on all major topics of pastoral theology. Writings from more than two hundred notable Christian authors--from Abelard and Ambrose to Isaac Watts and Zwingli--are arranged in thirty topical sections. Volumes are available individually in addition to the four-volume set. Volume one, *Becoming a Minister*, is

concerned with the person and self-understanding of the pastoral caregiver. Volume two, *Ministry through Word and Sacrament*, guides pastors in caring for other's health, their own health, and the life of the soul. Volume three, *Pastoral Counsel*, brings new perspective to the counseling ministry as pastors seek to help those who are hurting. Volume four, *Crisis Ministries*, addresses crucial situations in which pastors are often called to respond to urgent and specific challenges as they comfort those who suffer.

*Early Libyan Christianity* - Thomas C. Oden 2011-09-28

Buried for more than a millennium beneath sand and the erosions of time are the remnants of a vital, formative Christian presence in Libya. From about A.D. 68 till the Muslim conquest of A.D. 643, Libya housed a vibrant, creative Christian community that contributed to the shape of the faith even as we know it today. By the mid-190s A.D., Leptis Magna could claim favorite sons as the Roman pontiff, Victor the African, and as the Roman emperor, Septimius Severus. A rich and energetic community produced a wide variety of key players from early martyrs to great thinkers to archheretics. Tertullian, the great theologian, and Sabellius, the heretic, are relatively well known. Less well known are the martyrs Wasilla and Theodore and the great poet-philosopher-bishop Synesius of Cyrene. Uncovering this North African tradition and offering it to a wide reading audience is the task that Tom Oden sets for himself in this fascinating tour de force. The book, originating as lectures delivered at the Islamic Da'wa University in Tripoli in 2008 and later expanded as the W. H. Griffith Thomas Lectures in 2009 at Dallas Theological Seminary, has been expanded and refined to provide additional insights and references, surveying the texts, architecture and landmarks of this important period of Christian history. It also serves as a valuable companion to Oden's earlier offerings in *How Africa Shaped the Christian Mind* and *The African Memory of Mark*.

*Ancient & Postmodern Christianity* - Kenneth Tanner 2002-05-22

Built on the writings of the early church fathers, these essays--created in honor of Thomas C. Oden--span theological perspectives that emphasize what various Christian traditions hold in common. Edited by Kenneth Tanner and Christopher A. Hall.

*Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians* - Mark J. Edwards 2014-02-19

Paul's letters to the Galatians, Ephesians, and Philippians have struck an indelible impression on Christian tradition and piety. The doctrines of Christ, of salvation, and of the church all owe their profiles to these letters. And for patristic interpreters, who read Scripture as a single book and were charged with an insatiable curiosity regarding the mysteries of the Godhead, these letters offered profound visions seldom captured by modern eyes. Trinitarian truth was patterned in the apostle's praise of God who is "over all, through all and in all" (Ephesians 4:6). Without a doubt the greatest text in this collection of letters is the "Christ hymn" of

Philippians 2:6-11. This commentary offers an unparalleled close-up view of the fathers weighing the words and phrases of this panoramic charting of the Savior's journey from preexistence, to incarnation, to crucifixion, and triumphant exaltation as universal Lord. This *Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture* volume opens a treasury of resources for biblical study today. The expository voices of Jerome, Origen, Augustine, Chrysostom, Ambrosiaster, Theodoret, Marius Victorinus, and Theodore of Mopsuestia speak again with eloquence and intellectual acumen, some in English translation for the first time.

*Across the Spectrum* - Gregory A. Boyd 2009-09

This accessible yet comprehensive primer explores the breadth of viewpoints on major issues in evangelical theology by examining positions taken by evangelicals on seventeen seminal issues. The second edition retains the helpful features of the first edition and adds an appendix that addresses thirteen peripheral issues in contemporary evangelicalism. Praise for the first edition "The authors do what no book on the market does: In one volume they faithfully present divergent views on the crucial issues that divide evangelicals, and they do so in an unbiased, succinct, and lively manner. This book is perfect as a supplemental text in an introductory theology course or as a manual for church study groups. It will help everyone arrive at his or her own conclusions within the parameters of the evangelical tradition."--Dennis Okholm, Azusa Pacific University "Across the Spectrum succeeds with distinction in at least two respects. First, it represents a very useful tool for those who wish to begin grappling with different approaches to difficult theological problems. The book will be most helpful to beginning students in evangelical theology, the target audience. Second, the work presents various perspectives in fair and unbiased tones. . . . If used with care, it will repeatedly reward the reader with its fair and even treatment of different theological views."--Nathan D. Holsteen, Bibliotheca Sacra "I've been waiting for this book for some time. Due to its brief, nontechnical format, it can be used in a variety of ways in undergraduate theology courses. Although a concise volume, it succinctly outlines multiple arguments, both pro and con, for (incredibly!) over two dozen issues in disputed, largely non-fundamental areas of doctrine. The professor can present positions in favor of particular views or leave the issues open. It's settled--I'm requiring it!"--Gary R. Habermas, Liberty University "A collective sigh of relief will arise from the evangelical student body when it discovers this book! It helpfully and critically surveys the many legitimate evangelical theological options and convincingly demonstrates that there is no single authentically evangelical viewpoint on a wide range of controversial issues. It constitutes a small library between two covers."--Roger E. Olson, George W. Truett Theological Seminary, Baylor University

*Theology in the Context of World Christianity* - Timothy C. Tennent 2009-05-26

Thinking more globally about the formation of theology enriches our understanding of what it means to be a

Christian. It's no secret that the center of Christianity has shifted from the West to the global South and East. While the truths of the Christian faith are universal, different contexts and cultures illuminate new questions, understandings, and expressions. What does this mean for theology, as Western theologians understand it?

Timothy Tennent argues that the Christian faith is culturally and theologically translatable. *Theology in the Context of World Christianity* is written to expand our "ecclesiastical cartography" by highlighting—within each of the major themes of systematic theology—studies that are engaging the global church, such as:

Anthropology (with studies drawn from the different views of human identity between Eastern and Western cultures). Christology (with a focus on the emphases that African Christians place on the characteristics of Christ). Pneumatology (by looking at the role of the Holy Spirit in Latin American Pentecostalism). Eschatology (by focusing on how this branch of theology shapes world missions and evangelism). Each of the ten chapters examines traditional theological categories in conversation with theologians from across the globe, making this volume valuable for students, pastors, missionaries, and theologians alike. Theological reflection is active and exciting in the majority world church, and Tennent invites you to your own reflection and celebration of Christ's global church. These are perspectives that should be heard, considered, and brought into conversation with Western theologians. Global theology can make us aware of our own blind spots and biases and has much to offer toward the revitalization of Western Christianity.

**A Change of Heart** - Thomas C. Oden 2014-11-06

Preaching's Best Books for Preachers Best Theological Memoir from Byron Borger, Hearts and Minds Bookstore How did one of the twentieth century's most celebrated liberals have such a dramatic change of heart? After growing up in the heart of rural Methodism in Oklahoma, Thomas Oden found Marx, Nietzsche and Freud storming into his imagination. He joined the post-World War II pacifist movement and became enamored with every aspect of the 1950s' ecumenical Student Christian Movement. Ten years before America's entry into the Vietnam war he admired Ho Chi Min as an agrarian patriot. For Oden, every turn was a left turn. At Yale he earned his PhD under H. Richard Niebuhr and later met with some of the most formidable minds of the era—enjoying conversations with Gadamer, Bultmann and Pannenberg as well as a lengthy discussion with Karl Barth at a makeshift office in his hospital room. While traveling with his family through Turkey, Syria and Israel, he attended Vatican II as an observer and got his first taste of ancient Christianity. And slowly, he stopped making left turns. Oden's enthusiasms for pacifism, ecumenism and the interface between theology and psychotherapy were ambushed by varied shapes of reality. Yet it was a challenge from a Jewish scholar, his friend and mentor Will Herberg, that precipitated his most dramatic turn—back to the great minds of ancient Christianity. Later a meeting with then Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger

(later Benedict XVI) planted the seeds for what became Oden's highly influential *Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture*. This fascinating memoir walks us through not only his personal history but some of the most memorable chapters in twentieth-century theology.

*A Guide to Biblical Sites in Greece and Turkey* - Clyde E. Fant 2003-10-23

Nearly two-thirds of the New Testament—including all of the letters of Paul, most of the book of Acts, and the book of Revelation—is set outside of Israel, in either Turkey or Greece. Although biblically-oriented tours of the areas that were once ancient Greece and Asia Minor have become increasingly popular, up until now there has been no definitive guidebook through these important sites. In *A Guide to Biblical Sites in Greece and Turkey*, two well-known, well-traveled biblical scholars offer a fascinating historical and archaeological guide to these sites. The authors reveal countless new insights into the biblical text while reliably guiding the traveler through every significant location mentioned in the Bible. The book completely traces the journeys of the Apostle Paul across Turkey (ancient Asia Minor), Greece, Cyprus, and the islands of the Mediterranean. A description of the location and history of each site is given, followed by an intriguing discussion of its biblical significance. Clearly written and in non-technical language, the work links the latest in biblical research with recent archaeological findings. A visit to the site is described, complete with easy-to-follow walking directions, indicating the major items of archaeological interest. Detailed site maps, historical charts, and maps of the regions are integrated into the text, and a glossary of terms is provided. Easy to use and abundantly illustrated, this unique guide will help visitors to Greece, Turkey, and Cyprus appreciate the rich history, significance, and great wonder of the ancient world of the Bible.

**The Justification Reader** - Thomas C. Oden 2002

Oden uses a broad brush to paint his narrowly focused subject—salvation by grace through faith. Athanasius, Chrysostom, Ambrose, Basil, Jerome, and Augustine are just some of the figures Oden cites—church fathers whose teachings were restated nearly verbatim by 16th-century Reformers. An accessible and detailed search for the core of this theological linchpin.

*Systematic Theology Three Volumes* - Thomas C. Oden 2006-02

Emphasizing the beliefs common to all branches of Christendom rather than the issues that divide, Thomas Oden brings the full weight of two millennia of discussion to bear on the ever-contemporary questions of Christian faith. His magisterial study not only treats the traditional elements of systematic theology, referencing hundreds of theologians—Protestant, Catholic, Orthodox, charismatic—but also highlights the foundational exegetes of history. Broadly ecumenical in the truest sense of the word, and written from the perspective of a theological liberal-turned-evangelical, Oden's direct, frank, and provocative approach

articulates the concerns of a broad spectrum of Christians--pastors, teachers, seminarians, and thoughtful laity. Though comprehensive in scope, the set is arranged in a Trinitarian fashion with each volume focusing on one person of the godhead. The first volume explores the Christian understanding of God, creation and providence. The second volume discusses Christ and the Incarnation. The third volume considers the presence of the Holy Spirit in history, and his power in the lives and communities of present day believers. - Volume 1: "The Living God " [ISBN 9781598560374] - Volume 2: "The Word of Life" [ISBN 9781598560381] - Volume 3: "Life in the Spirit" [ISBN 9781598560398] These volumes may be purchased separately.

"Demonstrates a commitment of faithfulness to the scriptural teachings concerning Jesus and a rich appreciation for the classical and conciliar traditions of Christology." --"Preaching" "Oden's project is anti-trendiness with a vengeance . . . refreshingly bold." --"First Things" "The most impressive systematic exercise in ecumenical 'consensual thinking' in print." --"Religious Studies Review" "A welcome addition to the pastor's bookshelf and a needed voice in the contemporary theological conversation." --"Interpretation"

*Life in the Spirit* - Thomas C. Oden 2006

Life in the Spirit is the third volume of Thomas Oden's Systematic Theology. It considers the presence of the Holy Spirit in history, and his power in the lives and communities of present day believers.

*Practical Christian Theology* - Floyd H. Barackman 2001-10-25

(4th edition) "One of the best outlined, one-volume books on theology in print." --Dr. Harold L. Wilmington, Liberty University

*Romans* - Gerald Bray 2019-06-04

St. Paul's letter to the Romans has long been considered the theological high-water mark of the New Testament. Featuring comment from "Ambrosiaster," Origen and more, this ACCS volume collects the best and most representative of patristic commentary and homily on Romans, offering valuable material that has been unavailable in English translation until now.

*The Word of Life* - Thomas C. Oden 1992-09-03

A leading American Protestant theologian addresses important Christological concerns in this sequel to *The Living God*--second volume in a three-volume systematic theology.

*Theosis* - Stephen Finlan 2010-02-25

'Deification' refers to the transformation of believers into the likeness of God. Of course, Christian monotheism goes against any literal 'god making' of believers. Rather, the NT speaks of a transformation of mind, a metamorphosis of character, a redefinition of selfhood, and an imitation of God. Most of these passages are tantalizingly brief, and none spells out the concept in detail.

*After Modernity-- What?* - Thomas C. Oden 1992

This vigorous and incisive critique of modernity lights the path to recovering the revitalizing heritage of classical Christianity.

*How Africa Shaped the Christian Mind* - Thomas C. Oden 2010-07-23

Thomas C. Oden surveys the decisive role of African Christians and theologians in shaping the doctrines and practices of the church of the first five centuries, and makes an impassioned plea for the rediscovery of that heritage. Christians throughout the world will benefit from this reclaiming of an important heritage.

*Ancient Christian Devotional* - Cindy Crosby 2009-03-25

A follow-up to the previous *Ancient Christian Devotional*, which follows lectionary cycle A, this devotional guide follows lectionary cycle C, which begins in Advent 2009. This guide to prayer and reflection combines excerpts from the writings of the church fathers as found in the *Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture* with a simple structure for daily or weekly reading and prayer.

*In Defense of Conciliar Christology* - Timothy Pawl 2016

This volume offers a philosophical investigation into the systematic coherence of the Christology developed by the first seven Ecumenical Councils (from the First Council of Nicaea in ad 325 to the Second Council of Nicaea in ad 787).

*Life in the Spirit* - Thomas C. Oden 1994-11-04

The final volume in a three-volume systematic theology by a major American theologian.

*Genesis 1-11* - Andrew Louth 2016-03-02

The rich tapestry of the creation narrative in the early chapters of Genesis proved irresistible to the thoughtful, reflective minds of the church fathers. Within them they found the beginning threads from which to weave a theology of creation, Fall, and redemption. Following their mentor the apostle Paul, they explored the profound significance of Adam as a type of Christ, the second Adam. The six days of creation proved especially attractive among the fathers as a subject for commentary, with Basil the Great and Ambrose producing well-known Hexaemeron. Similarly, Augustine devoted portions of five works to the first chapter of Genesis. As in previous volumes within the *Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture*, the range of comment contained in this volume spans from the first century to the eighth and from East to West, from Greek and Latin speakers to Syriac. This ACCS volume on Genesis 1-11 opens up a treasure house of ancient wisdom that allows these faithful witnesses, some appearing here in English translation for the first time, to speak with eloquence and intellectual acumen to the church today. Especially helpful is the volume editor's provision of Septuagintal alternative readings to the Masoretic text, which are often necessary to understanding the fathers' flow of

thought.

**John Wesley's Teachings, Volume 2** - Thomas C. Oden 2012-08-07

The first presentation of John Wesley's doctrinal teachings in a systematic form that is also faithful to Wesley's own writings in ebook format. Wesley was a prolific writer and commentator on Scripture, yet it is commonly held that he was not systematic or internally consistent in his theology and doctrinal teachings. On the contrary, Thomas C. Oden intends to demonstrate here that Wesley displayed a remarkable degree of consistency over sixty years of preaching and ministry. The book helps readers to grasp Wesley's essential teachings in an accessible form so that the person desiring to go directly to Wesley's own writings (which fill eighteen volumes) will know exactly where to turn.

Classic Christianity - Thomas C. Oden 2009-08-04

For the first time, Thomas Oden's Systematic Theology classic series (individually titled *The Living God*, *The Word of Life*, and *Life in the Spirit*) is available in one complete volume. A renowned theologian, Oden provides a consensus view of the Christian faith, delving deeply into ancient Christian tradition and bringing to the contemporary church the best wisdom from its past. In this magisterial work, Oden tackles the central questions of Christian belief and the nature of the trinity. Written for clergy, Christian educators, religious scholars, and lay readers alike, *Classic Christianity* provides the best synthesis of the whole history of Christian thought. Part one explores the most intriguing questions of the study of God—Does God exist? Does Jesus reveal God? Is God personal, compassionate, free?—and presents answers that reflect the broad consensus culled from the breadth of the church's teachers. It is rooted deeply and deliberately in scripture but confronts the contemporary mind with the vitality of the Christian tradition. Part two addresses the perplexing Christological issues of whether God became flesh, whether God became Christ, and whether Christ is the source of salvation. Oden details the core beliefs concerning Jesus Christ that have been handed down for the last two hundred decades, namely, who he was, what he did, and what that means for us today. Part three examines how the work of God in creation and redemption is being brought to consummation by the Holy Spirit in persons, through communities, and in the fullness of human destiny. Oden's magisterial study not only treats the traditional elements of systematical theology but also highlights the foundational exegetes throughout history. Covering the ecumenical councils and early synods; the great teachers of the Eastern church tradition, including Athanasius and John Chrysostom; and the prominent Western figures such as Augustine, Ambrose, Thomas Aquinas, Martin Luther, and John Calvin, this book offers the reader the fullest understanding of the Christian faith available.

*Pauline Theology* - E. Earle Ellis 2005-02-08

The book should provide a lively counterpoint to both the standard liberal and conservative treatments in courses on Paul's view of ministry. - *Theology Today* Ellis' judicious treatment and penetrating analysis of the relevant biblical material will force many of us...to think more precisely about the concept of ministry in Paul's writings, how ministry manifested itself in the churches of his day, and what are its implications for us today. - *Westminster Theological Journal* Ellis gives a sound critique of liberation theology and sociopolitical action as ministry. He gives a balanced view of the gifts and the fruit of the Spirit and, on biblical grounds, he defends the ordination of single and, with qualifications, married women. Challenging, but meant for the intelligent church member. -*Librarian's World* It's a gem. It is a delightful summary in popular form of themes that Ellis has been at work on throughout his years of productive scholarship. It is 'copiously footnoted...with concise bibliographies on the points at hand...Hence, this short book becomes encyclopedic. - *Calvin Theological Journal* A splendid tour de force in the best sense. - James G. D. Dunn These essays...represent in many respects a valuable corrective to much of what passes for biblical theology in our times. - Paul J. Achtemeier  
*John Wesley's Scriptural Christianity* - Thomas C. Oden 1994

This important work condenses the teachings of John Wesley--18 massive teachings and writings--into one remarkably consistent, highly accessible volume for the masses. This first book in a series is based primarily on Wesley's sermons. Later books will deal with his pastoral and ethical teachings. \*Lightning Print On Demand Title

**Turning Around the Mainline** - Thomas C. Oden 2006

An accessible case study that introduces the current issues in today's churches, providing clarity and civil discourse on renewal movements and how they are impacting mainline denominations.

The Living God - Thomas C. Oden 1992-08-14

"Required, indispensable, and edifying reading. This book and books like it help us in the believing and living of these days".....*The Circuit Rider*

**Systematic Theology Volume Two the Word of Life** - Thomas C. Oden 2006

Emphasizing the beliefs common to all branches of Christendom rather than the issues that divide, Thomas Oden brings the full weight of two millennia of discussion to bear on the ever-contemporary questions of Christian faith. His magisterial study not only treats the traditional elements of systematic theology, referencing hundreds of theologians Protestant, Catholic, Orthodox, charismatic but also highlights the foundational exegetes of history. Broadly ecumenical in the truest sense of the word, and written from the perspective of a theological liberal-turned-evangelical, Oden's direct, frank, and provocative approach articulates the concerns of a broad spectrum of Christians pastors, teachers, seminarians, and thoughtful laity.

Though comprehensive in scope, the set is arranged in a Trinitarian fashion with each volume focusing on one person of the godhead. The first volume explores the Christian understanding of God, creation and providence. The second volume discusses Christ and the Incarnation. The third volume considers the presence of the Holy Spirit in history, and his power in the lives and communities of present day believers. Volume 1: "The Living God " [ISBN 9781598560374] Volume 2: "The Word of Life" [ISBN 9781598560381] Volume 3: "Life in the Spirit" [ISBN 9781598560398] These volumes may be purchased separately.

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**Greek Commentaries on Revelation** - Oecumenius, 2011-03-09

In this volume of the Ancient Christian Texts series, William Weinrich renders a particular service to readers interested in ancient commentary on the Apocalypse. He translates in one volume the only two major commentaries on Revelation to come out of the Greek tradition, the early sixth-century commentaries of Oecumenius and Andrew of Caesarea.

John 1-10 - Joel C. Elowsky 2007-01-05

The Gospel of John was beloved by the early church for its spiritual insight and clear declaration of Jesus' divinity. In addition to the homilies of John Chrysostom, readers of this ACCS volume will find selections from Origen, Cyril of Alexandria, and Augustine, supplemented with homiletic material, liturgical selections, and doctrinal material from scores of other church fathers.

*Requiem* - Thomas C. Oden 1995

Requiem: A Lament in Three Movements is a post-liberal critique of the mainline liberal ecclesiastical establishment, especially the theological seminaries and church bureaucracies. Thomas C. Oden identifies the failure of contemporary theological education and its accompanying ideology, maps out the ultra-liberalization of church bureaucracies and special-interest politics, and calls for a return to classical Christian theological roots and categories. Broadly ecumenical in the truest sense of the word, and written from the perspective of a former fellow traveling liberal, Oden's direct, frank, and provocative approach articulates concerns many church people - leaders, pastors, teachers, seminarians, and the faithful in the pews - hold. Requiem promises to be one of the most controversial and important contributions to the debate about the nature and calling of the church in the last half of the last decade of this millennium.

**Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1-2 Samuel** - John R. Franke 2014-02-19

The history of the entry into the Promised Land followed by the period of the Judges and early monarchy may not appear to readers today as a source for expounding the Christian faith. But the church fathers readily found parallels, or types, in the narrative that illumined the New Testament. An obvious link was the similarity in name between Joshua, Moses' successor, and Jesus—indeed, in Greek the names are identical. Thus Joshua was consistently interpreted as a type of Christ. So too was Samuel. David was recognized as an ancestor of Jesus, and parallels between their two lives were readily explored. And Ruth, in ready fashion, was seen as a type of the church. Among the most important sources for commentary on these books are the homilies of Origen, most of which are known to us through the Latin translations of Rufinus and Jerome. Only two running commentaries exist—one from Gregory of Nazianzus, one of the famous Cappadocian theologians, the other from Bede the Venerable. Another key source for the selections found here derives from question-and-answer format, such as Questions on the Heptateuch from Augustine, Questions on the Octateuch from Theodoret of Cyr, and Thirty Questions on 1 Samuel from Bede. The remainder of materials come from a wide variety of occasional and doctrinal writings, which make mention of these biblical texts to support their arguments. Readers will find a rich treasure trove of ancient wisdom, some of which appear here for the first time in English translation, speaking with eloquence and powerful spiritual insight to the church today.

**The Rebirth of Orthodoxy** - Thomas C. Oden 2003

A leading theologian describes the unexpected yet remarkably relevant resurgence of a new Christian Orthodoxy—postdenominational, flexible, and rooted in ancient beliefs.

**The African Memory of Mark** - Thomas C. Oden 2011-07-27

We often regard the author of the Gospel of Mark as an obscure figure about whom we know little. Many would be surprised to learn how much fuller a picture of Mark exists within widespread African tradition, tradition that holds that Mark himself was from North Africa, that he founded the church in Alexandria, that he was an eyewitness to the Last Supper and Pentecost, that he was related not only to Barnabas but to Peter as well and accompanied him on many of his travels. In this provocative reassessment of early church tradition, Thomas C. Oden begins with the palette of New Testament evidence and adds to it the range of colors from traditional African sources, including synaxaries (compilations of short biographies of saints to be read on feast days), archaeological sites, non-Western historical documents and ancient churches. The result is a fresh and illuminating portrait of Mark, one that is deeply rooted in African memory and seldom viewed appreciatively in the West.

**The Transforming Power of Grace - Thomas C. Oden 1993**

How does an infinite God relate to finite human beings? How does the death of Jesus Christ bring about human salvation? How are Christians able to actively address the world's ills while maintaining their citizenship in the kingdom of God? These are questions the church grapples with today, as it always has. Yet, according to Thomas C. Oden, contemporary theology has neglected the church's traditional answer to these questions: the doctrine of grace. All too often modern theologians either ignore the doctrine of grace or relate it to the achievement of a particular political agenda. Oden asserts that only by reclaiming the centrality of grace--defined as God's self-giving through Jesus Christ in personal encounter with the individual human will--can Christian theology be true to the gospel. In order to reclaim the doctrine of grace, the author reaches back, beyond the fragmentation of theology that took place during and after the Enlightenment. He draws

upon the ecumenical consensus held by early Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Protestant theologians, councils, and creeds regarding this cardinal Christian doctrine. By adducing this ancient unity, Oden challenges modern assumptions concerning the sources and methods of the theological enterprise and calls contemporary Christians to discern what their forebears in the faith knew to be essential to the gospel: that to be a Christian is to be formed, nurtured, and upheld solely by divine grace.

*Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture CD-ROM Complete Set - Thomas C. Oden 2010-09-17*

Included here from series editor Tom C. Oden is the full text of all twenty nine commentaries from the Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Arranged canonically, each volume allows the living voices of the church in its formative centuries to speak as they engage the sacred page of Scripture. Now even more accessible in digital format, this series will prove an uncommon companion for theological interpretation, spiritual reading, and wholesome teaching and preaching.