Evolution - Bradford McCall 2020-07-15
Should we attempt to understand (macro-)evolutionary biology, in the twenty-first century, as secular or sacred? This book will attempt to answer this question by exploring the secular evolutionary worldview, the author's view of kenotic-causation, Whitehead's views on chance, Derrida's views on non-human animals, a statement upon the God of chance and purpose, Augustine's various theologies of creation, a decidedly non-dualistic (macro-)evolution, a provocative thesis regarding evolutionary Christology, the connection between kenosis and emergence, and an explication of both Anders Nygren and Thomas Jay Oord's views of love in the contemporary environ. It also develops the author's personal view regarding necessary, kenotically-donated, and self-giving love, and argues that kenosis and emergence can add to the discussion of understanding the theology-science-love symbiosis. It advocates and explicates herein a monistic process-based view of the overlapping relationship between theology and science.

Teeth and Talons Whetted for Slaughter - Piet Sloatweg 2022-04-30
Is a life cycle that depends on eating or being eaten compatible with a creation in which 'the heavens are telling the glory of God' and 'the firmament proclaims His handiwork'? Are animal death and extinction manifestations of a good God's majesty and power? When creating the world, did God use animal death and extinction as a means to realize his intentions? This study challenges the view that the emergence and acceptance of the theory of evolution brought a break in thinking about animal suffering in a good creation. Even before Darwin, people thought about animal suffering, about how God's goodness and good creation related to this, and about whether animals were already subject to death in paradise. Historically, Charles Darwin's theory of evolution did not form a watershed in the debate about animal suffering, nor did concerns about animal suffering only emerge with the Darwinian theory of evolution.

Affect Theory, Shame, and Christian Formation - Stephanie N. Arel 2016-11-08
This book addresses the eclipse of shame in Christian theology by showing how shame emerges in Christian texts and practice in ways that can be neither assimilated into a discourses of guilt nor dissociated from embodiment. Stephanie N. Arel argues that the traditional focus on guilt obscures shame by perpetuating the image of the lonely sinner in guilt. Drawing on recent studies in affect and attachment theories to frame the theological analysis, the text examines the theological anthropological writings of Augustine and Reinhold Niebuhr, the interpretation of empathy by Edith Stein, and moments of touch in Christian praxis. Bringing the affective dynamics of shame to the forefront enables theologians and religious leaders to identify where shame emerges in language and human behavior. The text expands work in trauma theory, providing a multi-layered theological lens for engaging shame and accompanying suffering.

Rees argues that the doctrinal narrative of creation, fall, and redemption provides resources to resolve the theological impasse of difference in contemporary feminist theology. The divine economy reveals a God who enters into history and destabilizes fixed binaries and oppressive categories. As created subjects, we are sustained, affirmed, and drawn back into the Triune life, patterns present in liturgy, prayer, and practices of contemplation. The grammar of Christian faith cannot ultimately be uncovered except in prayer, opened beyond itself to a source of life and giving.

Mystical Doctrines of Deification - John Arbaster 2018-10-03
The notion of the deification of the human person (theosis, theopoieis, deificatio) was one of the most fundamental themes of Christian theology in its first centuries, especially in the Greek world. It is often assumed that this theme was exclusively developed in Eastern theology after the patristic period, and thus its presence in the theology of the Latin West is generally overlooked. The aim of this collection is to explore some Patristic articulations of the doctrine in both the East and West, but also to highlight its enduring presence in the Western tradition and its relevance for contemporary thought. The collection thus brings together a number of capita selecta that focus on the development of theosis through the ages until the Early Modern Period. It is unique, not only in emphasising the role of theosis in the West, but also in bringing to the fore a number of little-known authors and texts, and analysing their theology from a variety of fresh perspectives. Thus, mystical theology in the West is shown to have profound connections with similar concerns in the East and with the common patristic sources. By tying these traditions together, this volume brings new insight to one of mysticism's key concerns. As such, it will be of significant interest to scholars of religious studies, mysticism, theology and the history of religion.

Scripture as Real Presence - Hans Boersma 2017-03-14
Christianity Today Book Award Winner This work argues that the heart of patristic exegesis is the attempt to find the sacramental reality (real presence) of Christ in the Old Testament Scriptures. Leading theologian Hans Boersma discusses numerous sermons and commentaries of the church fathers to show how they regarded Christ as the treasure hidden in the field of the Old Testament and explains that the church today can and should retrieve the sacramental reading of the early church. Combining detailed scholarly insight with clear, compelling prose, this book makes a unique contribution to contemporary interest in theological interpretation.

The Heart Has Its Reasons - Beata Toth 2016-05-26
The Heart Has Its Reasons explores a hitherto neglected area of theological anthropology: the unity of human emotion and reason embodied in the Biblical concept of the heart. While the theological contours of human rationality have long been clearlydrawn and presented as the exclusive seat of the image of God, affectivity has been relegated to a secondary position. With the reintegration of the body into recent philosophical and theological discourses, a number of questions have arisen: if the image (also) resides in the body, how does this change one's view of the theological significance of human affect? In what way is our likeness to God realised in the whole of what we are? Can one overcome the traditional dissociation between intellect and affect by a renewed theory of love? In conversation with patristic and medieval authors like Irenaeus, Tertullian, Gregory of Nyssa, Maximus, and Thomas Aquinas, and in dialogue with more recent interlocutors such as Blaize Pascal, Ricoeur, Marion, Milbank, and John Paul II, Beata Toth pursues a novel theological vision of the essential unity of our humanity.
The Oxford Handbook of Mystical Theology - Edward Howells 2020-02-25
The Oxford Handbook of Mystical Theology provides a guide to the mystical element of Christianity as a theological phenomenon. It differs not only from psychological and anthropological studies of mysticism, but from other theological studies, such as more practical or pastorally-oriented works that examine the patterns of spiritual progress and offer counsel for deeper understanding and spiritual development. It also differs from more explicitly historical studies tracing the theological and philosophical contexts and ideas of various key figures and schools, as well as from literary studies of the linguistic tropes and expressive forms in mystical texts. None of these perspectives is absent, but the method here is more deliberately theological, working from within the fundamental interests of Christian mystical writers to the articulation of those interests in distinctively theological forms, in order, finally, to permit a critical theological engagement with them for today. Divided into four parts, the first section introduces the approach to mystical theology and offers a historical overview. Part two attends to the concrete context of sources and practices of mystical theology. Part three moves to the fundamental conceptualities of mystical thought. The final section ends with the central contributions of mystical teaching to theology and metaphysics. Students and scholars with a variety of interests will find different pathways through the Handbook.

Consolation in Medieval Narrative - C. Schrock 2015-05-13
Medieval writers such as Chaucer, Abelard, and Langland often overlaid personal story and sacred history to produce a distinct narrative form. The first of its kind, this study traces this widely used narrative tradition to Augustine's two great histories: Confessions and City of God.

The Hermeneutics of Tradition - Craig Hovey 2014-11-18
The Hermeneutics of Tradition presents the latest scholarship on tradition as a concept and reality in the development of Christian cultures. One aim is to show that traditions are upheld, communicated, and developed within a recognizable set of interpretive guidelines (or rules) and that analysis of these sets both requires and generates hermeneutics of tradition. The work of the authors included here presents the prismatic integrity of traditions and the often tenuous hold upon those traditions exercised by the hermeneutics that drive dynamics of preservation and change. As scholars and religious worshipers continue ancient traditions of receiving strangers with generous hospitality, the coherence of tradition serves conversations about where our true differences lie.

Allegorizing History - Timothy J Furry 2014-05-29
What is history and how does it impact upon biblical interpretation and theology? ‘Allegorizing History’ seeks to answer this question by arguing that conceptions of the past and the purposes of history impact upon biblical interpretation and vice versa. Invoking Constantino Fasolt’s notion of history as ‘a knowledge of the past, as well as the technique by which such knowledge is produced’, and re-fashioning Erich Auerbach’s historical enterprise in Fígura (1938), Furry contends that the understanding and practice of historical writing is inevitably affected by philosophy and theology, thereby rendering all history as figural or allegorical. Famous for his Ecclesiastical History of the Anglo-Saxon People and biblical commentaries, the Venerable Bede is studied in dialogue with Augustine, contemporary theology, and historical theory to make this interdisciplinary argument.

Sabbath Rest as Vocation - Autumn Alcott Ridenour 2018-06-14
Autumn Alcott Ridenour offers a Christian theological discussion on the meaning of aging toward death with purpose, identity, and communal significance. Drawing from both explicit claims and constructive interpretations of St. Augustine’s and Karl Barth’s understanding of death and aging, this volume describes moral virtue as participation in Christ across generations, culminating in preparation for Sabbath rest during the aging stage of life. Addressing the inevitability of aging, the prospect of mortality, the importance of contemplative action and expanding upon the virtues of growing older, Ridenour analyzes how locating moral agency as union with Christ results in virtuous practices for aging individuals and their surrounding communities. By responding with constructive theology to challenges from transhumanist, bioethical and medical arenas, the volume highlights implications not only for virtue ethics, but also for the goals of medicine.

God and the Book of Nature - Mark Harris 2023-12-19
God and the Book of Nature develops theological views of the natural sciences in light of the recent theological turn in science-and-religion scholarship and the ‘science-engaged theology’ movement. Centered around the Book of Nature metaphor, it brings together contributions by theologians, natural scientists, and philosophers based in Europe and North America. They provide an exploration of complementary (and even contesting) readings of the Book of Nature, particularly in light of the vexing questions that arise around essentialism and unity of the field of science and religion. Taking an experimental and open-ended approach, the volume does not attempt to unify the readings into a single ‘plot’ that defines the Book of Nature, still less a single ‘theology of nature’, but instead it represents a variety of hermeneutical stances. Overall the book embraces a constructive theological attitude toward the modern sciences, and makes significant contributions to the research literature in science and religion.

The Pursuit of the Soul - Peter Tyler 2016-02-25
One of the most striking features of contemporary psychology is the return of language of the ‘soul’ in contemporary discourse. In this original analysis Dr Peter Tyler investigates the origins and use of ‘soul-language’ in the Christian tradition before turning his attention to the evolution and preoccupations of modernism with the central contributions of mystical teaching to theology and metaphysics. In his forensic examination of psychoanalysis as a tool to rediscover the soul of the 21st century seeker. Central to his book is the perceived clash between analysis and the spiritual tradition. His uncompromising conclusion is that the dialogue of the two in our present time will have far-reaching repercussions for church, society and future human well-being. Read more about his work on http://insoulpursuit.blogspot.co.uk

The Works of Saint Augustine - Saint Augustine (of Hippo) 1990
In 1990, New City Press, in conjunction with the Augustinian Heritage Institute, began the project known as: The Works of Saint Augustine, A Translation for the 21st Century. The plan is to translate and publish all 132 works of Saint Augustine, his entire corpus into modern English. This represents the first time in which The Works of Saint Augustine will all be translated into English. Many existing translations were often archaic or faulty, and the work was out-of-print. New City Press is proud to offer the best modern translations available. The Works of Saint Augustine, A Translation for the 21st Century will be translated into 49 published books. To date, 41 books have been published by NCP containing 93 of The Works of Saint Augustine, A Translation for the 21st Century. Augustinian's writings are useful to anyone interested in patristics, church history, theology and Western civilization. -- Publisher.

Animals as Religious Subjects - Celia Deane-Drummond 2013-08-01
This book examines one of the most pressing cultural concerns that surfaced in the last decade - the question of the place and significance of the animal. This collection of essays represents the outcome of various conversations regarding animal studies and shows multidisciplinarity at its very best, namely, a rigorous approach within one discipline in conversation with others around a common theme. The contributors discuss the most relevant disciplines regarding this conversation, namely: philosophy, anthropology, religious studies, theology, history of religions, archaeology and cultural studies. The first section, Thinking about Animals, explores philosophical, anthropological and religious perspectives, raising general questions about the human perception of animals and its crucial cultural significance. The second section explores the intriguing topic of the way animals have been used historically as religious symbols and in religious rituals. The third section re-examines some Christian theological and biblical approaches to animals in the light of current concerns. The final section extends the implications of traditional views about other animals to more specific ethical theories and practices.

Fate, Providence and Moral Responsibility in Ancient, Medieval and Early Modern Thought - Pieter d’Hoine 2014-03-05
Essays on key moments in the intellectual history of the West This book forms a major contribution to the discussion on fate, providence and moral responsibility in Antiquity, the Middle Ages and Early Modern times. Through 37 original papers, renowned scholars from many different countries, as well as a number of young and promising researchers, write the history of the philosophical problems of freedom and determinism since its origins in pre-socratic philosophy up to the seventeenth century. The main focus points are classic Antiquity (Plato and Aristotle), the Neoplatonic synthesis of late Antiquity (Plotinus, Proclus, Simplicius), and thirteenth-century scholasticism (Thomas Aquinas, Henry of Ghent). They do not only represent key moments in the intellectual history of the West, but are also the central figures and periods to which Carlos
Steel, the dedicatory of this volume, has devoted his philosophical career.

Language, Lineage and Location in the Works of Osbem Bokenham - Alice Spencer 2013-01-11

This is the first book-length study to consider the works of Osbem Bokenham in the light of the discovery of his long-lost magnum opus, the so-called Abbotsford Legenda Aurea, in 2004. Bokenham is an author who, throughout his oeuvre, never tires of stressing his own marginality, historically (as the belated, inferior son of greater poets) and geographically (as an Englishman writing in the vernacular). Notwithstanding this, he negotiates with the very spatial and temporal perspectives which would seem to isolate him in such a way as to lay claim to an authentic and broad-reaching auctoritas for his own poetic voice. Throughout his oeuvre, Bokenham counters the patriarchal hegemonies of literary and political history by asserting an alternative, spiritually pristine matrilineage, which also serves to legitimise his own feminised vernacular tongue and national identity. He deploys the motifs of language, lineage and location in such a way that historical, geographical and gender marginality ultimately become grounds for exaltation, due to their deep-rooted spiritual integrity. Yet, beyond this, spatial and historical hierarchies and distinctions are ultimately dissolved through Bokenham’s increasingly daring vision of the inclusiveness of the communio sanctorum – of the continuously and universally binding force of exemplarity.

Christ the Light - David L. Whidden III 2014

Light is one of the most ancient and significant metaphors adopted by Christianity by which to understand the significance of Jesus Christ. This book establishes the theological network formed by the motif of light/illumination in Aquinas, from how theology operates to the systematic, sacramental, and moral coordinates in Aquinas’ theology.

Confession - Peter Tyler 2017-10-19

Confession: The Healing of the Soul is not just about what is termed sacramental confession. Its frame of reference is much wider and includes discussion of those celebrated writers who wrote confessions - Augustine, Kierkegaard, Tolstoy, Foucault, Freud, Jung, John of the Cross and Wittgenstein. This book will be of interest to all those involved in the study of any denomination who engage in sacramental confession - clergy but also pastoral workers and those millions who actually attend confession as part of their lives. In the post-Freudian age confession of any kind has had a bad press but is now coming back into popularity as guilt and sin become helpful concepts. Peter Tyler, an author and practicing psychotherapist, argues that rather than being something to consign to the rubbish heap of history, confession offers unexplored potential for the healing of the postmodern soul. The book addresses all those engaged in psychotherapeutic and healing practices and ministries. The chapters are as follows: Why Confession?, The Confessing Animal, The Birth of Confession, Wittgenstein's Philosophical Confessions, God's Laughter, Confessions of Fire, The Healing of the Soul.

Divine Providence and Human Agency - Alexander S. Jensen 2016-05-13

Divine Providence and Human Agency develops an understanding of God and God's relation to creation that perceives God as sovereign over creation while, at the same time, allowing for a meaningful notion of human freedom. This book provides a bridge between contemporary approaches that emphasise human freedom, such as process theology and those influenced by it, and traditional theologies that stress divine omnipotence. This book argues that it is essential for Christian theology to maintain that God is ultimately in charge of history: otherwise there would be no solid grounds for Christian hope. Yet, the modern human self-understanding as free agent within certain limitations must be taken seriously. Jensen approaches this apparent contradiction from within a consistently trinitarian framework. Jensen argues that a Christian understanding of God must be based on the experience of the saving presence of Christ in the Church, leading to an apophatic and consistently trinitarian theology. This book serves as the framework for the discussion of divine omnipotence and human freedom. On the basis of the theological foundation established in this book, it is possible to frame the problem in a way that makes it possible to live within this tension. Building on this foundation, Jensen develops an understanding of history as the unfolding of the divine purpose and as an expression of God's very being, which is self-giving love and desire for communion. This book offers an important contribution to the debate of the doctrine of God in the context of an evolutionary universe.


“What Does Theology Do, Actually? Observing Theology and the Transcultural” is to be the first in a series of 5 books, each presented under the same question - “What Does Theology Do, Actually?”, with vols. 2-5 focusing on one of the theological subdisciplines. This first volume proceeds from the observation of a need for a highly inflected “trans-cultural”, and not simply “inter-cultural”, set of perspectives in theological work and training. The revolution brought about across the humanities disciplines through globalization and the recognition of numerous modernities has introduced a diversity of overlapping cultural content and multiple cultural and religious belongings not only into academic work in the humanities and social sciences, but into the Christian churches as well.

The Works of Saint Augustine - Saint Augustine (of Hippo) 2002

The Meaning of Singleness - Danielle Treweek 2023-05-09

Is Christian singleness a burden to be endured or a God-ordained vocation? Might singleness here and now give the church a glimpse of God’s heavenly promises? Dani Treweek offers biblical, historical, cultural, and theological reflections to retrieve a theology of singleness for the church today. Drawing upon both ancient and contemporary theologians, including Augustine, Afflick of Eynsiam, John Paul II, and Stanley Hauerwas, she contends not only that singleness has served an important role throughout the church’s history, but that single Christians present the church with a foretaste of the eschatological reality that awaits all of God’s people. Far from being a burden, then, Christian singleness is among the highest vocations of the faith.

Creation and Covenant - Christopher Roberts 2008-11-01

Does sexual difference matter for marriage? Are there good theological reasons why the two main characters in a marriage should be a male and a female, or is marriage a more flexible covenant, which any two people can keep? Creation and Covenant analyzes latent but under-examined beliefs about sexual difference in the theology about marriage which has been dominant for centuries in the Christian west. The book opens by studying patristic teachings about marriage, which rested on mostly implicit and often incompatible beliefs about sexual difference. However, Roberts argues that Augustine developed a coherent theology of sexual difference, according it a shifting significance from creation to eschaton. Roberts traces how Augustine's theology influenced and was developed by subsequent theologians, such as Bernard of Clairvaux, Luther, Barth, and John Paul II. Finally, Roberts engages today's debates about gay marriage. Before becoming an academic, Dr. Roberts was a journalist. On behalf of PBS television, he covered both the Lambeth Conference in England and the World Council of Churches in Zimbabwe. During those years, he was disappointed by both the liberal and conservative arguments on homosexuality. Left-wingers seemed more interested in privacy, autonomy, and experience than in theology, and right-wingers seemed to have lots of prohibitions but little good news. In the final chapters, this book tries to do better, inviting liberals to improve the standard of their arguments, and explaining what is beautiful and persuasive about the traditional case.


The United Foundations of the Human Soul - Jeffrey C. Waddington 2015-07-24

This book endeavors to examine and critically assess the theological anthropology of Jonathan Edwards with a view to considering how this anthropological coheres with his apologetic methodology. Specifically, the question has been raised whether Edwards’ doctrine of man is consistent with the picture painted of Jonathan Edwards by John Gerstner that he was the epilogue of the classical apologist. It is argued that Edwards practiced an ecclectic apologetic sans apologetic self-awareness. In other words, Edwards was a child of his training and time.

The Sentences - Peter Lombard (Bishop of Paris) 2007

This volume makes available for the first time in English full translations of Book 2 of the Sentences. It consists of forty-four Distinctions and contains an introduction to Book 2, a list of the major chapter headings, and a bibliography.

The Literal Meaning of Genesis - Agustín (Santo, Obispo de Hipona) 1982

A thorough and conscientious commentary on the first three chapters from the Book of Genesis, completed in 415. Augustine’s purpose is to explain, to the best of his ability, what the author intended to say about what God did when he made heaven and earth. Contains Books 7-12. + On Genesis - St Augustine 2002
This volume contains three works on the Book of Genesis: On Genesis: A Refutation of the Manichees, Unfinished Literal Commentary on Genesis and the third and longest, The Literal Meaning of Genesis. No other part of the Hebrew Scriptures, aside from the Psalter and sections of the prophet Isaiah, captured the interest and aroused the attention of the early Church as did the opening chapters of the Book of Genesis. The subject of creation fascinated Augustine too, for whom the relationship between creator and creature was of utmost importance. Creation, Augustine believed, finds its fulfillment in returning to God, who waits for our freely given response to his offer of love. This volume brings Augustine’s works on the beginning of Genesis together for the first time in English and provides a comprehensive introduction to each one. The first two, On Genesis: A Refutation of the Manichees and Unfinished Literal Commentary on Genesis, are early works, written within ten years after Augustine’s conversion to Christianity. The third and longest, The Literal Meaning of Genesis, was produced at the height of Augustine’s maturity and has been ranked with his Confessions, The Trinity, and The City of God.

Individualism - Zubin Meer 2011-05-26
Individualism: Rationality, Logic of Modernity explores ideas of the modern sovereign individual in the western cultural tradition. Divided into two sections, this volume surveys the history of western individualism in both its early and later forms: chiefly from the sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries, and then individualism in the twentieth century. These essays boldly challenge not only the exclusionary framework and self-assured teleology, but also the metaphysical certainty of that remarkably tenacious narrative on ‘the rise of the individual.’ Some essays question the correlation of realist characterization to the eighteenth-century British novel, while others champion the continuing political relevance of selfishness in modernist fiction over and against postmodern nihilism. Yet others move to the foreground underappreciated topics, such as the role of courtly cultures in the development of individualism. Taken together, the essays provocatively revitalize and enrich our understanding of individualism as the generative premise of modernity itself. Authors especially considered include Locke, Defoe, Rousseau, and Kierkegaard. This volume first appeared and was presented at a conference of the American Comparative Literature Association held at Princeton University. Among the contributors are Nancy Armstrong, Deborah Cook, James Cruise, David Janemann, Lucy McNeese, Vivavsan Soni, Frederick Turner, and Philip Weinstein.

The Metaphysics of Light in the Hexaemeral Literature - Isidoros C. Katsos 2023-03-16
This volume critically re-evaluates the received interpretation of the nature of light in the ancient sources. Isidoros C. Katsos contests the prevalent view in the history of optics according to which pre-modernity theorized light as subordinate to sight (‘oculo-centrism’) by examining in depth the contrary textual evidence found in early Christian texts. It shows that, from Philo of Alexandria and Origen to Basil of Caesarea and Gregory of Nyssa, the Jewish-Christian commentary tradition on the hexaemeral literature (the biblical creation narrative) reflected deeply on the nature and physicality of light for the purposes of understanding the structure and purpose of material creation. Contemplation of nature allowed early Christian thinkers to conceptualize light as the explanatory principle of vision rather than subordinated to it. Contrary to the prevalent view, the hexaemeral literature necessitates a ‘luminocentric’ interpretation of the theory of light of Plato’s Timaeus in its reception history in the context of late antique cosmology. Hexaemeral luminocentrism invites the reader of Scripture to grasp not only the sensible properties of light, but also its causal principle as the first manifestation of the divine Logos in creation. The hexaemeral metaphysics thus provides the missing ground of meaning of the early Christian language of light.

Becoming Divine - Brandon G. Withrow 2018-01-01
Was Jonathan Edwards the stalwart and unquestioning Reformed theologian that he is often portrayed as being? In what ways did his own conversion fail to meet the standards of his Puritan ancestors? And how did this affect his understanding of the Divine Being and of the nature of justification? Becoming Divine investigates the early theological career of Edwards, finding him deep in a crisis of faith that drove him into an obsessive lifelong search for answers. Instead of a fear of God, which he had been taught to understand as proof of his conversion, he experienced a ‘surprising, amazing joy.’ Suddenly he saw the Divine Being in everything and felt himself transported into a heavenly world, becoming one with the Divine family. What he developed, as he sought to make sense of this unexpected joy, is a theology that is both ancient and early modern: a theology of divine participation rooted in the incarnation of Christ.

On Genesis - Saint Augustine 2010-04

Living Belief - Douglas F. Ottati 2022-06-07
A leading theologian’s concise guide to the beliefs, commitments, and practices of Christianity. What do Christians believe? But also, what do they do? And feel? With decades of experience teaching the essentials of Christian faith, Douglas Ottati still finds these questions—and more like them—dynamic and compelling. In Living Belief, he moves beyond trite answers, drawing from the deep well of tradition to offer up wisdom from the Apostles’ Creed, the Ten Commandments, the Sermon on the Mount, and the Lord’s Prayer. In so doing, Ottati explores key Christian themes, such as creation, redemption, and love—of neighbor, enemy, and the weak and dependent. Concise and approachable, Living Belief makes no claims to be a definitive account of Christian belief but rather attempts “to introduce a faith that remains a source of meaning and direction, that orientsthat, encourages and assures, that supplies moral standards and calls for contrition, and that furnishes grounds for perseverance and hope.” In connection with each chapter, Ottati includes questions for discussion, so that readers—those revisiting the core components of their Christian faith and those learning about it for the first time—can together continue the work, begun here, of understanding the multifaceted life of devotion that is Christianity.

Creation’s Beauty as Revelation - L. Clifton Edwards 2014-03-05
With an interdisciplinary approach, Edwards utilizes literature, aesthetics, world religions, and continental philosophy as avenues into the theology of natural beauty. This is an epistemological look at our aesthetically charged knowing of God through nature. Emphasizing our embodied experience of the world, Edwards examines the phenomenon of perceptual beauty, while questioning traditional notions of God’s metaphorical “beauty.” Drawing upon Michael Polanyi’s philosophy of science, Edwards explores the human aesthetic and religious interface with the natural world. This philosophical approach is then linked to the proposal of innovative answers to it. The transformation in our thinking about animals for which the book argues results from the main looking squarely for the first time at the sum of what we are already committed to believing about other animals and their place in God’s creation.

The Shadow of Creusa - Anders Cullhed 2015-04-24
Anders Cullhed’s study The Shadow of Creusa explores the early Christian confrontation with pagan culture as a remote anticipatory of many later clashes between religious orthodoxy and literary fictionality. After a careful survey of Saint Augustine’s critical attitudes to ancient myth and poetry, summarized as a long-drawn-out farewell, Cullhed examines other Late Antique dismissals as well as appropriations of the classical heritage. Macrobius, Martianus Capella and Boethius figure among the Late Antique intellectuals who attempted to save or even restore the old mythology by means of allegorical representation. On the other hand, pious poets such as Paulinus of Nola and some epic writers such as Lucan or Ausonius of Vienne turned against pagan lies, and the mighty arch-bishop of Milan, Saint Ambrose, played off unconditional Christian truth against the last Roman strongholds of cultural pluralism. Thus, The Shadow of Creusa elucidates a cultural conflict which was to leave traces all through the Middle Ages and reach down to our present day.

Process Approaches to Consciousness in Psychology, Neuroscience, and Philosophy of Mind - Michel Weber 2009-11-18
Opens a dialogue between process philosophy and contemporary consciousness studies.
A theological exploration of Genesis 2 which renews our vision of the purpose of marriage as the central drama within God's salvation plan. Marriage seems increasingly irrelevant to many people today. But is this a true understanding of marriage? Could it be that God may have expectations for marriage which are distinct from our own, and wholly unaffected by our feelings or debates? If God is the author and definer of marriage, then we must look to the Author to discern its meaning rather than ourselves. The Genesis of Marriage sets out a biblical theology of marriage, grounded in the Marriage Text of Genesis 2:18-25, and investigates how it fits in its own context of Genesis 1 - 3 and the whole of Scripture. Examining the Marriage Text exegetically and theologically, Shenk shows this as the climax and conclusion of the two creation accounts, and explores what this reveals about the nature and character of God. The doctrinal implications of this are then explored, answering such practical questions such as, 'What are the ethics of marriage?' and 'How do we approach the real-world concerns of separation, divorce, and remarriage?'. Shenk's exploration helps dispel our modern disillusionment with marriage, or at least our ideas and beliefs about marriage which may be at odds with God's, to reveal deep truth about the nature and character of God.