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**The Paradoxical Vision A Public Theology for the Twenty-first Century** Fortress Press What are the implications of a person's faith for Christian social ethics? Robert Benne elaborates a basic theological-ethical framework for engaging the Christian vision with its surrounding public environment--political, ethical, cultural, and intellectual. He offers practical ways in which religious traditions do, in fact, engage the public environment. **Emerging Hope A Strategy for Reaching Postmodern Generations** InterVarsity Press How do we "do" church in this era of cynicism? Jimmy Long looks at the connections between postmodernism and the emerging generations--GenXers and millennials--highlighting implications for evangelism and discipleship. Here is a hopeful strategy for ministry that will appeal to a generation starved for belonging. **Authority Vested A Story of Identity and Change in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod** Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Like other major Protestant denominations in the United States, the 2.6-million-member Luther Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS), founded in 1847, has struggled with issues of relevance and identity in society at large. In this book Mary Todd chronicles the history of this struggle for identity in the LCMS, critically examining the central--often contentious--issue of authority in relation to Scripture, ministry, and the role of women in the church. In recounting the history of the denomination, Todd uses the ministry of women as a case study to show how the LCMS has continually redefined its concept of authority in order to maintain its own historic identity. Based on oral histories and solid archival research, *Authority Vested* not only explores the internal life of a significant denomination but also offers critical insights for other churches seeking to maintain their Christian distinctives in religiously pluralistic America. **A Report from the Front Lines Conversations on Public Theology: A Festschrift in Honor of Robert Benne** Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing "In tribute to the ongoing influence of Robert Benne, director of the Center for Religion and Society at Roanoke College, fourteen of his friends and colleagues have produced *A Report from the Front Lines*, in which they consider the role of theology in the public arena at this turn of the twenty-first century. They speak powerfully to the cultural paralysis of the Western world, where educated leaders claim that morality must not interfere with science or public policy, by showing the relevance of orthodox Christianity to humanity's most pressing problems. The constant theme weaving through the volume is Benne's own conviction that Christians can and must engage in the public square with positions forged out of their religious commitments, using arguments whose presuppositions allow room for special revelation, but whose resultant logic is translated into a shared universal rationality." --Book Jacket. **Religious Leaders and Conflict Transformation** Northern Ireland and Beyond Cambridge University Press Religious dimension of contemporary conflicts and the rise of faith-based movements worldwide require policymakers to identify the channels through which religious leaders can play a constructive role. While religious fundamentalisms are in the news every day, we do not hear about the potential and actual role of religious actors in creating a peaceful and just society. Countering this trend, Sandal draws attention to how religious actors helped prepare the ground for stabilizing political initiatives, ranging from abolition of apartheid (South Africa), to the signing of the Lome Peace Agreement (Sierra Leone). Taking Northern Ireland as a basis and using declarations and speeches of more than forty years, this book builds a new perspective that recognizes the religious actors' agency, showing how religious actors can have an impact on public opinion and policy making in today's world. **Christian Faith, Philosophy & International Relations** The Lamb and the Wolf BRILL How can the turbulent world of international relations be understood and addressed from a Christian faith perspective? In this book fundamental theological and philosophical perspectives are presented from various Christian traditions: Neo-calvinism, Catholic social teaching, critical theory and Christian realism. **Religion and the Liberal State in Niebuhr's Christian Realism** Springer Nature This book intends to analyze Reinhold Niebuhr's understanding of the state in his Christian Realism. Although his overall notion was thoroughly analyzed in different disciplines and respects, this specific focus can be diagnosed as a lacuna. The task of this book is to develop a hypothesis in terms of under what political, social, organizational or intellectual context Niebuhr made use of what definition of the state. When did he support the extension of state power (e. g. in war times, during economic crisis) and when did he criticize tendencies toward autocratic structures inside Western style democracies? **Christian Justice and Public Policy** Cambridge University Press Explores Christian insights into justice and suggests their relevance to issues of practice and theory. **A Graceful Life Lutheran Spirituality for Today** Augsburg Books The author understands spirituality to be the attitudes, convictions, and practices that give a definite shape to religious faith. Further, he asserts that spirituality is experiential and practical, for it concerns the specific forms by which faith is expressed and nurtured. The book describes the special emphases of Lutheran spirituality and recommends practices that nurture a vital spirituality. After an introductory chapter on the contemporary context, each of the seven chapters explores a major theme of Lutheran spirituality. A final chapter speculates on the future of Lutheran spirituality. Each chapter includes questions for reflection and group and individual practices. An appendix gives suggestions for group use. **Theology in Transition Public Theologies in Post-Apartheid South Africa** LIT Verlag Münster South African theologians have long been powerful voices in the hard-fought political transition from a repressive apartheid regime to a young democracy. A key question is: What should the public role of churches be in this democracy? The simultaneously emerging global discussion on public theology has been one important point of reference, offering a number of frameworks for thinking about the churches' public role. This book considers answers given by South African theologians, beginning with an historical review of approaches taken during apartheid and tracing their development in the two decades following. (Series: Theology in the Public Square / Theologie in der Öffentlichkeit, Vol. 8) [Subject: Religious Studies, African Studies] **The Future of Faith in American Politics** The Public Witness of the Evangelical Center Baylor University Press A provocative look at the political beliefs of evangelical Christians **The Way Out of Darkness** Vital Public Theology AuthorHouse This book is about the vital leadership role that true religion must play in society in order to be relevant for the threatening challenges and in order to be true to the mission and the high calling of God in Christ in this 21st Century. To highlight this challenge, the author brings forth a most difficult and bothersome question that has evolved out of the dynamic mix of cultural diversity in, That question is: How can the Christian Americans hold on to their patriotism for America and their loyalty to Jesus Christ with uncompromising conviction, and yet, be inclusive of the growing influx of cultural diversity and religious pluralism in a high technological society? This book provides the theological foundation for validating the Christian and American heritage in America; and how this unique heritage must learn how to relate, redemptively, to cultural diversity, ecumenism, universalism and the world. The enlightening principles and practice of public theology offer a ray of light and a star of hope out of the darkness. **Interruption and Imagination** Public Theology in Times of Crisis Wipf and Stock Publishers As we are faced with recurring crises--financial, migration, climate, etc.--there is a need to reconsider public theology as both a practice and a field of study. By discussing public statements made by Christians faced with different kinds of crisis, this book contributes to the development and understanding of public theology. The public statements addressed are three kairois documents: The Kairos Document from South Africa in the mid-1980s; The Road to Damascus document from authors in developing countries, issued in 1989; and the Palestinian Kairos Document from 2009. The discussion is structured around three problems of public theology: social analysis, politics and ethics, and language and voice. Fretheim suggests a constructionist understanding of public theology--a public theology that interrupts current debates and expands the imagination of the public sphere. As public theology is concerned with public life and social issues, Interruption and Imagination will be of interest to scholars and students of theology, political science, sociology, and religious studies, as well as practitioners, policymakers, and professionals in the public sector, civil society, churches, and Christian organizations. **Choosing the Good Christian Ethics in a Complex World** Baker Books An intelligent discussion of the foundations and methods in ethics and ways to apply a Christian worldview to our secular culture. **Theology in the Public Sphere** Public Theology as a Catalyst for Open Debate SCM Press A substantial and definitive introduction to public theology by one of the leading experts in the field. A key text for third year undergraduate modules and MA courses in Social Ethics, Political Theology and Public Theology. **The Gospel in Black and White** Theological Resources for Racial Reconciliation InterVarsity Press After signal victories of the civil rights movement in the sixties, recent events have shown that the divide between black and white Americans remains alarmingly wide. And as African- and Euro-Americans perhaps increasingly find themselves at odds politically and culturally, Sunday-morning worship dismayingly remains the most segregated hour of the week. Yet Christians of both races affirm that the gospel calls them together, that they at least should be one people, of one Lord, one faith, one baptism. In that spirit, the incisive and challenging essays in this book consider what rigorous theological work can contribute to the noble and ongoing quest for racial reconciliation. Some of the church's most exciting black and white thinkers are gathered here by editor Dennis Okholm to address issues of theological method, hermeneutics, soteriology, ecclesiology and social ethics--always with an eye to closing the gaping wound of racism and serving God's kingdom across color lines. **Two Kingdoms and Two Cities** Mapping Theological Traditions of Church, Culture, and Civil Order Fortress Press The recent emergence of "two kingdoms" and "two cities" approaches to Christian social thinking are shown to have a key--and often unacknowledged--connection to Luther's reshaping of the Augustinian paradigm. The project works for a better understanding of Luther's own thought to help understand the convergences and divergences of Christian political theology in the twentieth century and today. In particular, Luther's two-kingdom thinking issued forth in a strong distinction of law and gospel that was also worked out in twofold pairs of Israel and church, general and special revelation, creation and redemption, and especially the outward and inward life. The work traces this legacy through acceptance and modification by Niebuhr and Bonhoeffer, Lutheran and Catholic neoconservatives, Reformed two-kingdom proponents, Augustinian liberals, and finally Oliver O'Donovan. The conclusion reflects on both the historical narrative and its connection to an account of modern liberalism, as well as a theological reflection on hermeneutical decisions of the "twoness" of Christian theology. **Before Auschwitz** What Christian Theology Must Learn from the Rise of

Nazism Wipf and Stock Publishers What can Christian theology in North America learn from the rise of Nazism in Germany in the 1920s and 1930s? This book explores an explosion of scholarship in recent decades that has reopened questions once thought to be settled about the relationships between Nazism, Liberalism, and Christianity. In the process of criticizing the retrospective fallacy and urging a properly hermeneutical historiography, its method in historical theology causes us to reflect back upon our tacit commitments, suggesting that we are closer to fascism than we are aware and that, although the devil never shows its face twice in exactly the same way, the particular hubris of grasping after "final solutions" along biopolitical lines--that is, the "racially scientific" version of fascism that was Nazism--is and remains near at hand today, within our horizon of possibilities unrecognized in just the ways that it was unrecognized by Germans before Auschwitz. The book takes a fresh look at the theology of Adolf Hitler and finds themes that are disturbingly familiar. It summons to the renewal of Christian theology after Christendom in the form of critical dogmatics, where the motif of the Beloved Community replaces the fallen idol descended from Charlemagne. The Self-Giving God and Salvation History The Trinitarian Theology of Johannes Von Hofmann A&C Black Analyzes Johannes von Hofmann's entire theological oeuvre. Justification in a Post-Christian Society ISD LLC Since the Reformation in the sixteenth century, Lutheran traditions have impacted culture and politics in many societies. At the same time, Lutheran belief has had an effect on personal faith, morality, and ethics. Modern society, however, is quite different from that at the time of the Reformation. How should we evaluate Lutheran tradition in today's Western multicultural and post-Christian society? Is it possible to develop a Lutheran theological position that can be regarded as reasonable in a society that evidences a considerable weakening of the role of Christianity? What are the challenges raised by cultural diversity for a Lutheran theology and ethics? Is it possible to develop a Lutheran identity in a multicultural society, and is there any fruitful Lutheran contribution to the coexistence of different religious and non-religious traditions in the future? A Companion to Public Theology BRILL The Companion to Public Theology offers a collection of cutting-edge essays by an international group of scholars that provides a foundation for public theology as well as engagement with a wide range of public issues in dialogue with other disciplines. The Cambridge Companion to Christian Ethics Cambridge University Press Twenty essays providing an authoritative introduction to Christian ethics, addressing issues such as war, social justice, ecology, sexuality and medicine. Social Selves and Political Reforms Five Visions in Contemporary Christian Ethics A&C Black Snarr's book explores and evaluates five different visions of the social self from five key ethicists (Rauschenbusch, Niebuhr, Hauerwas, Harrison, and Townes). Exodus Church and Civil Society Public Theology and Social Theory in the Work of Jürgen Moltmann Routledge This book investigates the intersection of theology and social theory in the work of Jürgen Moltmann. In particular, it examines the way in which his concept of the "Exodus Church" can illuminate the importance of the idea of civil society for a Christian public theology. The concept of civil society can aid in moving from the narrower category of "political theology," a term used frequently by Moltmann to emphasize the church's public commitment, to a broader understanding of theology's public task, which takes into account the plurality of ends and institutions within society. The idea of the Exodus Church enables deeper understanding of Christian ethical participation within a complex modern society. Church & State Lutheran Perspectives Fortress Press In an age marked by controversy over public support of religious schools, federal encouragement of religious providers of social services, and sexuality education, the whole arena of church-state relations appears in flux. In this volume, seven experts probe the meaning of religion in public life for Christians when the "Protestant establishment" has given way to pervasive religious pluralism and a growing secularism. Working specifically out of Lutheran traditions, the authors probe the deeper legal, moral, and religious questions at issue in the current debate. They not only rethink classical sources about law and gospel and two-kingdoms theory but also resurrect neglected resources for Christian civil resistance. They then look to contemporary developments and show how functional interaction of church and state is compatible with their strong institutional separation. Finally, three chapters probe the most hotly contested First Amendment questions: religious liberty, education, and land use. Religion and the State Infobase Publishing Presents a guide to the issues related to religion and the state, including definitions, primary sources, important documents, research tools, organizations, and notable persons. The Spirit in Public Theology Appropriating the Legacy of Abraham Kuyper Wipf and Stock Publishers In The Spirit in Public Theology, Bacote shows how Dutch politician and church leader Abraham Kuyper lived a thoroughly Christian life, and explains why Christians need to follow Kuyper by taking their faith into the public sphere. Identifying the characteristics of a true Christian worldview, Bacote demonstrates the need for a public theology that stresses engagement between the church and the world. The Spirit in Public Theology should be required reading for pastors, students, and all Christians who want to take their faith beyond the four walls of the Church. Lutherans Today American Lutheran Identity in the Twenty-First Century Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing In the middle of the twentieth century, American Lutherans were newsworthy enough to find themselves on the cover of Time magazine. Their claim to fame? In an era when American churches were beginning to look and act alike, Lutherans' strong confessional nature and stress on theology as well as their liturgy and ethnicity set them apart. They were "Protestants with a difference" at a time when differences were supposed to be dissolving in the American melting pot. Subsequent years have posed serious questions to Lutheran identity, as disputes about the true nature of Lutheranism and the meaning of the Lutheran confessions, the structure of ministry, ecumenism, sexuality, and multiculturalism have all left their mark on Lutheran denominations. In Lutherans Today several historians, social scientists, journalists, and other leading experts map out the place of Lutheranism in the landscape of contemporary American Christianity and explore the directions in which it is heading in the new millennium. Presenting new and original research, the book is divided into two sections. The first examines change and movements within American Lutheranism. Distinguished church historian Mark Noll here sets the scene by arguing that the predicament of American Lutheranism has always been the struggle to remain faithful to the enduring witness of the European Reformation while also accommodating itself to the democratic pluralism of the New World. Six other chapters discuss the Missouri Synod, the "Lutheran Left," the Called to Common Mission agreement, the evangelical catholic movement within Lutheranism, the rise of "megachurches," and Lutheran charismatics. The second section considers trends and issues related to Lutheran identity, including politics and the pastorate, the impact of immigration and multiculturalism, the loss of Lutheran identity at Lutheran colleges and universities, and conflicting patterns of commitment among Lutheran youth. As a whole, Lutherans Today will be valuable not only to all Lutherans but also to those interested in the development and current state of religious life in America. Contributors: Robert Benne Richard Cimino Maria Erling Mark Granquist Dan Hofrenning Robert Longman Steve Montreal Mark Noll Jim Petersen Eugene C. Roehlkepartain Alvin J. Schmidt Scott Thumma Mary Todd Jeff Walz Luther and the Beloved Community A Path for Christian Theology After Christendom Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Is Christian belief tenable today? Is it possible to be a creedal Christian? With the help of Martin Luther, Paul Hinlicky here explores classical Christian beliefs regarding the person and work of Christ and human nature and destiny. He also counters contemporary objections to creedal faith, from the so-called new perspective on Paul to Pope Benedict's rejection of the Augsburg Confession to the continuing challenge of Marx. Luther and the Beloved Community does not present Luther's medieval thought as a possibility for today, but does make him available for the future as a teacher of the faith and a help for tackling contemporary questions of Christian belief. According to Hinlicky, Luther is misused and misunderstood by those of his own tradition and needs to be understood not as hero of the faith but rather as the proponent of a beloved community that does not yet fully exist. In performing this makeover, Hinlicky reveals genuine new insights concealed within Luther's rhetoric. Critical Social Theory Prophetic Reason, Civil Society, and Christian Imagination Fortress Press Critical theory explained and espoused Simpson ably introduces critical social theory, the German-born intellectual movement that has spawned sharp criticisms of modernity, its use of reason, and our highly technological, bureaucratic culture. Part 1 recounts the emergence of critical social theory within the Frankfurt School of Social Research and the theological stirrings that the Frankfurt project sparked, especially in Paul Tillich. Part 2 explores Jürgen Habermas' reconception and expansion of critical social theory, especially his ideas about hermeneutics, praxis, communicative action, and civil society as the locus of prophetic social movements. Finally, in Part 3 Simpson shows how Christian theology employs critical social theory for the tasks of prophetic reason in a global civil society. Simpson's work is at once a programmatic introduction and a creative theological proposal for public theology. Encyclopedia of Religion in American Politics Greenwood Publishing Group Today, such issues as abortion, capital punishment, sex education, racism, prayer in public schools, and family values keep religion and politics closely entwined in American public life. This encyclopedia is an A-to-Z listing of a broad range of topics related to religious issues and politics, ranging from the religious freedom sought by the Pilgrims in the 1620s to the rise of the religious right in the 1980s. Shaping Public Theology Selections from the Writings of Max L. Stackhouse Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Max L. Stackhouse is one of the most prolific and influential American theologians of the last half century, and he has been widely recognized for his contributions to the emerging field of public theology. This volume compiles some of Stackhouse's most significant shorter writings. These selections make clear his central role in the development of public theology as a distinct disciplinary perspective in the fields of Christian theology and theological ethics. Shaping Public Theology serves as an introduction to Stackhouse's extensive corpus; readers will see the depth and breadth of his comprehensive public theology while also gaining insight into his singular importance for the field. Health Care as a Social Good Religious Values and American Democracy Georgetown University Press Health Care as a Social Good: Religious Values and the American Democracy argues that as escalating costs absorb a greater percentage of family income and government budgets, it is through the implementation of religious values that Americans can create a more community-based system. Transformation of the US health care system is a national priority and Americans need to work together now to bypass our differences. Craig insists that instilling core values will help us achieve this transformation, creating a new and better system that reflects the ideals of American democracy and the common good. The Moment and Late Writings Mercer University Press On 18 December 1854 Kierkegaard began to publish a series of newspaper articles critical of the Danish state church. The essays in this IKC volume view these writings not only in the context of the theological, philosophical, and social events of that time but also the 2005-2006 Danish cartoon controversy. War and Border Crossings Ethics when Cultures Clash Rowman & Littlefield Visit our website for sample chapters! Serve and Protect Selected Essays on Just Policing Wipf and Stock Publishers This collection of essays on policing and the use of force, while written over the course of the last twenty-five years, remains relevant and timely. Although issues in policing and questions about excessive force and brutality have been addressed by criminologists, sociologists, philosophers, and criminal justice ethicists, only a handful of the theological ethicists treat this pressing matter. While the Christian moral tradition has a voluminous record of theological attention to violence and nonviolence, war and peace, there is a dearth of references to policing. And most considerations of criminal justice issues by Christians and their churches concentrate on prison reform, or abolition, and the death penalty, but not policing. These essays, authored by a theological ethicist possessing professional experience in law enforcement, seek to fill this curious gap. They offer a framework for moral reasoning concerning the justification for police use of force and the just application of such force, and they propose just policing as a model that is consonant with promoting a just peace in communities and society. In addition, they explore the implications of such an approach for wider, international questions about just war, terrorism, the responsibility to protect, and post-war justice. Reclaiming Narrative for Public Theology SUNY Press Argues for American national narratives in Christian theology that respect the separation of church and state and a diverse, multifaith society. Freedom's Distant Shores American Protestants and Post-colonial Alliances with Africa Baylor University Press This volume examines relations between U.S. Protestants and Africa since the end of colonial rule. It draws attention to shifting ecclesiastical and socio-political priorities, especially the decreased momentum of social justice advocacy and the growing missionary influence of churches emphasizing spiritual revival and personal prosperity. The book provides a thought-provoking assessment of U.S. Protestant involvements with Africa, and it proposes forms of engagement that build upon ecclesiastical dynamism within American and African contexts. The Cumulative Book Index Visions of Hope Emerging Theologians and the Future of the Church Orbis Books Fifty years after the Second Vatican Council, emerging theologians are in a unique position to

offer hopeful visions for the next fifty years of the Church in light of the pressing internal and external challenges it faces today. Rooted in the texts of Vatican II and a commitment to the church, *Visions of Hope* brings together the research of leading young scholars around five important topics: dialogue, ecclesiology, ethics, liturgy and ministry. These ideas represent the future shape of the Church because they are from the theologians who are planting the seminal ideas of Church.