

FILE PDF DISRUPTIVE GRACE REFLECTIONS ON GOD SCRIPTURE AND THE CHURCH

Disruptive Grace

Walter Brueggemann has been one of the leading voices in Hebrew Bible interpretation for decades. His landmark works in Old Testament theology have inspired and informed a generation of students, scholars, and preachers. These chapters gather his recent addresses and essays, never published before, drawn from all three parts of the Hebrew Bible—Torah, prophets, and writings—and addressing the role of the Hebrew canon in the life of the church. Brueggemann turns his critical erudition to those practices—prophecy, lament, prayer, faithful imagination, and a holy economics—that alone may usher in a humane and peaceful future for our cities and our world, in defiance of the most ruthless aspects of capitalism, the arrogance of militarism, and the disciplines of the national security state.

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Walter Brueggemann has been one of the leading voices in Hebrew Bible interpretation for decades; his landmark works in Old Testament theology have inspired and informed a generation of students, scholars, and preachers. This volume brings his erudition to bear on those practices - prophecy, lament, prayer, faithful imagination, and a holy economics - that alone may usher in a humane and peaceful future for our cities. Carolyn Sharp's introductions to each section highlight the characteristic themes of Brueggemann's oeuvre that come to expression in these chapters. The result is more than an encounter with the ever challenging word of Scripture; "Disruptive Grace" also offers an introduction to the thought of a brilliant, passionate, and incisive interpreter of the Hebrew Bible.

Preaching from the Old Testament

In this new volume, prolific scholar Walter Brueggemann seeks to show Christian preachers how to consider the faith witnessed in several Old Testament traditions and to help them discover rich and suggestive connections to our contemporary faith challenges. The author also assumes that a wholesale sustained engagement with the Old Testament is worth the effort for the preacher. He recognizes what he calls the "sorry state" of Old Testament texts in the Revised Common Lectionary, which he claims often constitute a major disservice for the church and its preachers. The lectionary gerrymanders the Old Testament to make it serve other claims, most of the time not allowing it to have its own evangelical say. Brueggemann hopes that his exposition in this volume will evoke and energize fresh homiletical attention to the Old Testament, precisely because he believes the urgent work of the gospel in our society requires attentive listening to these ancient voices of bold insistent faith.

The Creative Word, Second Edition

Every faith community knows the challenges of inviting new members and the next generation into its shared life, without falling into an arid traditionalism or a shallow relativism. Walter Brueggemann finds a framework for education in the structure of the Hebrew Bible canon, with its assertion of center and limit (in the Torah), of challenge (in the Prophets), and of inquiry (in the Writings). Incorporating best insights from

canonical criticism, Old Testament theology, and pedagogical theory, this revised edition is introduced by Amy Erickson of Iliff School of Theology.

Tenacious Solidarity

Tenacious Solidarity features essays and new writings from 2014 to 2018. As all of Walter Brueggemann's writing is, the chapters are deeply biblical while also concerned with the identities, practices, and obligations of religious communities in contemporary contexts within the United States. Brueggemann consistently attempts to weave the biblical texts--vested as they are with the authority of a storyteller--into the deep contours of his readers' experiences, in order to foster a tenacious solidarity that might overcome both the psychic numbness cultivated by a 24-hour news cycle as well as the anxious possessiveness nurtured by so many privatized spiritualities. Brueggemann brings the "transformative potential" of the biblical texts to bear on critical contemporary contexts, including but not limited to economic disparities, racial injustice and white supremacy, climate and care for creation, and the power of memory and mentoring. He delves deeply in the Psalms, which he says, "provides a foundational script for living into the fullest and deepest realities of human existence." And he draws from the Prophets his foundational concept of totalism, which he defines as "automated fragmentation of social life such that we habitually and callously disregard our relations with others."

Preaching Jeremiah

Preeminent biblical scholar and preacher Walter Brueggemann says the book of Jeremiah is not a sermon, but it does sound the cadences of the tradition of Deuteronomy that serve as sermons--that is, as expositions based on remembered and treasured tradition. In this volume, Brueggemann conducts an experiment in homiletics. He wants us to wrestle with the question, What if we allow the canonical shape of the book of Jeremiah to instruct us concerning the shape and trajectory of the sermon? More specifically, he wonders: What if the book of Jeremiah is treated as a long sermonic reflection about the traumatic events that led to exile and displacement for the people of Judah? Why did it happen? Is God faithful? Does God punish? Is there any future? This theme and these questions can also be related to the crucifixion of Jesus and the displacement experienced by his followers. Brueggemann extends his wonderment further to the displacement experienced in modern American culture, as events jolt our notions of exceptionalism and chosenness. All of those same propensities were at work in ancient Israel in the wake of the displacement of Jerusalem, a wake given voice in the book of Jeremiah. Brueggemann analyzes the various parts of the sermon through the organization of the book of Jeremiah, looking at Introduction, Body, and Conclusion, comparing them to Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Resurrection Sunday. The task of the preacher mirrors the task of the prophet who seeks to pluck and tear down, as well as to plant and to build. The preacher cannot, as he says, participate in a cover-up. The preaching task requires honesty about what God requires and a clear proclamation of what God has done and will yet do.

Ancient Echoes

In Ancient Echoes, Walter Brueggemann -- one of our most influential biblical scholars -- responds to eight "truth claims" made by the radical right in US politics. In his book *Evil Geniuses: The Unmaking of America: A Recent History* (Random House 2020), Kurt Andersen enunciates eight "truth claims" made by the political right that champion aggressive self-sufficiency and self-security at the expense of the community. In the process, any hint of "the common good" among neighbors disappears from the scene. Brueggemann responds to each of these mistaken "truth claims" through the witness of scripture and an insistence upon a common good -- a neighborly practice of generosity, hospitality, forgiveness, justice, compassion, and mercy. The echoes of biblical faith reveal that these right wing "truth claims" contradict our long-running legacy of biblical faith.

Old Testament Theology

For Brueggemann, the Old Testament is an invitation to explore the rich pluralism and diversity of Israel's testimony of faith in Yahweh, the central figure of the Old Testament. This faith was expressed in a core testimony of nouns, verbs, and adjectives that characterized God. But Brueggemann also sees a counter-testimony, which quarrels and puts the core testimony to test. For Childs, the Old Testament is an invitation to consider the deep unity and coherence of Israel's faith as found in the canon. Childs explores the sweeping canonical role of each of the individual canonical witnesses to discover a symphony of concord. Here, in one place, the positions of Brueggemann and Childs are contrasted and compared.

Psalms

This text introduces the book of Psalms and provides an exposition of each psalm with attention to genre, liturgical connections, societal issues and the psalm's place in the book of Psalms as a whole. The treatments of the psalms feature a close look at particular issues raised by the text and the encounters between the world of the psalm and the world of contemporary readers. The exposition of each psalm provides a reader's guide to the text in conversation with relevant theological issues.

Disruptive Grace

Among the studies of Karl Barth's thought, no other work covers, as this one does, the areas of political, doctrinal, and ecumenical theology in single compass. Written by a leading Barth scholar, *Disruptive Grace* is unique not only for its range of study, depth of insight, and accuracy of presentation, but also for the way it displays the heart as well as the mind of the great Swiss pastor and theologian. Each of the book's three main sections consists of five major essays. Part 1 relates Barth to contemporary issues of social justice, war, and peace. Part 2 covers christology, pneumatology, the Trinity, scriptural interpretation, and the question of universal salvation. Part 3 discusses the Reformed tradition as Barth understood it in relation to Roman Catholicism, Lutheranism, modern liberalism, evangelical conservatism, and the postliberal theology of the contemporary Yale school. The book concludes with a meditation on the saving significance of Christ's death, a theme that runs throughout the book. The result of more than twenty-five years of intensive Barth research, this volume provides scholars, teachers, and students with a thorough discussion of the twentieth century's most significant Christian thinker.

The Practice of Homefulness

Contents 1 The Practice of Homefulness 2 A Myriad of "Truth and Reconciliation" Commissions 3 Bragging about the Right Stuff 4 A Culture of Life and the Politics of Death 5 Elisha as the Original Pentecost Guy 6 The Stunning Outcome of a One-Person Search Committee 7 The Non-negotiable Price of Sanity 8 The Family as World-Maker There is "a convergence of themes in this collection. The urgency of practice, the cruelty of homelessness and the demand of generating homefulness, and the performance of forgiveness that makes homefulness possible all converge. These themes, moreover, are unmistakably contemporary in a society that is mesmerized by market ideology that wants religion without public practice, that sees no harm in the homelessness of the 'unproductive,' and that eschews the forgiveness of debt that make neighborly life possible. I am glad if these essays bear testimony to the crisis we continue face and to the work to which we are continually called in faith." --from the Preface

Walter Brueggemann is William Marcellus McPheeters Professor of Old Testament Emeritus at Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia. He is the past President of the Society of Biblical Literature (1990) and the author of numerous books, including these from Cascade Books: *Embracing the Transformation*, *Remember You Are Dust*, *Truth-telling as Subversive Obedience*, *David and His Theologian*, *Praying the Psalms* (2nd ed.), and *A Pathway of Interpretation*.

Gravity and Grace

This newly revised edition provides insights from one of the leading Lutheran theologians of the twentieth century. The essays and reflections gathered in this volume provoke readers to think about and discuss topics such as risk and faith, nature and grace, the Word of God and genuine theology, real education, the beauty and meaning of language, necessary personal choices, aging, and social issues. Study questions are provided to encourage group discussion.

Grace Looks Amazing on You

What if today is the perfect time to notice God's grace in one another? Women are so often weighed down by comparison, anxiety, and fear that the idea that grace could look amazing on them feels unbelievable. But all around us are flashes of grace, shining examples of God's love. Amy Seiffert says it's the everyday moments that Jesus shines through: making time for a friend even when your to-do list is pages long; apologizing to your neighbor when you don't want to admit you are wrong; opening the Bible when your soul feels hollow and empty. Making the choice to accept God's limitless love no matter what and reflecting it back to the world around you--friend, that's when His grace looks amazing on you. A perfect gift to affirm and encourage any woman, *Grace Looks Amazing on You* is a timeless Christian message packed with personal story and reflection, Scripture, and deep biblical truth. This 100-day devotional will help you change your perspective so you can confidently radiate the grace of Christ.

Reflections on Grace

For about the last fifteen years of his life, Thomas A. Langford pondered how grace is central to Christian theology. This book records his reflections and provides numerous gems of mature Christian insight. From beginning to end, the book is christologically focused. Grace is not something that God gives us; rather, it is the way God gives us himself. Grace is a person--God present to human beings. Grace is not a gift but rather a giver. Grace is Jesus Christ. The central contribution of this work is its personalization of grace, its sharp focus on God present in Jesus Christ. Because its focus on grace gives the reader such a clear and thematically developed entry point, this work is a great introduction to theology and the life of the church, the kind that pastors and parishioners would certainly benefit from confronting.

Life After Grace

In *Life After Grace*, the sequel to her best-selling *Glimpses of Glory*, much respected Christian writer Carol Bechtel offers a collection of thirty reflections based on her monthly column in *Presbyterians Today*. Each entry includes a scripture passage and questions for reflection, making *Life After Grace* ideal for private devotion, group or individual study, and sermon preparation.

Chaos and Grace

It's no secret that we are addicted to control. We work to control our time, our TVs, our weight, and even our faith lives. We strive for efficiency and quantifiable results. But all that control, we soon find out, is exhausting. And it is contrary to God's plan for us. In *Chaos and Grace*, Mark Galli offers readers freedom from the need for control and order by reintroducing them to the mysterious work of the Holy Spirit. In this insightful book, Galli exposes our individual mistakes and the church's foibles and points the way to grace--which, as it happens, usually lies through chaos and crisis. Through Scripture he shows us that this problem is not unique to modern believers and helps us learn from the stories of God's people through the ages as they gave up and gave in to the transforming work of the Holy Spirit.

What's So Amazing About Grace? Bible Study Participant's Guide, Updated Edition

The future of Christianity depends on how we master the art of understanding and giving grace. At the end of the twentieth century, Philip Yancey wrote his classic bestseller *What's So Amazing About Grace?* as a testament to the power of God's grace and as a rallying cry to the Christian church to see the acting out of grace as its single most important contribution to the world. Now, in this 6-session, video-based participant's guide (DVD/video streaming sold separately), Yancey reexamines—with fresh material and new stories—the scandalous power of grace so that groups and individuals can reflect upon, share, and extend this amazing gift of Christ in new and transformative ways. In this study, you'll discover: The extent of God's love and what it means for us. Why the church seems to have lost the gift of grace-giving and why the world apart from the church can't offer it at all. What it would look like for us to truly understand, receive, and give the gift that God gives so generously to us. Yancey offers compelling and true portraits of grace's life-changing power. He searches for its presence in his own life and in the church. He asks how Christians today can contend graciously with moral issues that threaten all they hold dear. And he challenges each of us to become living answers to a world that desperately wants to know, "what's so amazing about grace?"

Grace Saves All

Grace is amazing. About this all Christians agree. Yet nearly all forms of Christianity put significant limits on grace. Those forms of Christianity which proclaim grace alone actually saves typically don't believe God gives grace to everyone; while those forms of Christianity which proclaim God gives grace to everyone typically don't believe grace alone actually saves. Must grace either be that which saves alone but doesn't go to all, or that which goes to all but doesn't save alone? In *Grace Saves All*, David Artman argues that grace saves alone and goes to all. This inclusive approach to Christianity is variously called universal reconciliation, universal salvation, or perhaps most accurately, Christian universalism. He contends that the inclusive/Christian universalist approach is necessary because it offers the only Christian theology which successfully defends the goodness of God. For it logically follows that if God is all-good, all-knowing, and all-powerful, then God must also be all-saving. Often dismissed as a modern feel-good theology, Christian universalism is an ancient, orthodox, and biblical theology which was expounded by early Christians and early church fathers. Artman brings much deserved attention to this wonderful spirituality.

Reckless Grace

Grace is the ultimate expression of love. We all know we need grace and forgiveness, but why is it so difficult to extend them to ourselves and others? In *Reckless Grace*, Bill Vanderbush and Brit Eaton challenge our understanding of forgiveness with powerful biblical evidence and show us how to step into the fullness of grace, bringing reconciliation and restoration to our relationships using: - practical steps and accessible tools to help identify and overcome barriers to grace - carefully crafted exercises and reflections that explore past and present hurts and work toward healing - gentle guidance in becoming gospel-centered and releasing grace into a fallen world. God isn't reckless, but the way he extends grace defies all reason. We can learn to freely give what we have been freely gifted.

Hyper-Grace

The deceptions sweeping the church are multiplying, to no surprise. The only thing of relative surprise is the lack of sufficient resources to counter it. There will always be weeds in within the wheat, but we don't have to hand knives and forks to the wolves for their lamb-chops. It's time for the church to stand up, use the sword of the Spirit, and cut off their hand if that is required, to catch the little foxes, or sometimes big fat ones, that are, truly, ruining many vineyards. These are not trivial things, nor are they grey areas. They are outright deceptions and manipulations of the Word, bolstered on charisma and popularity. In the guise of liberty, they bring a seduction of senility that binds people where they are at. True freedom, true grace, brings us to the cross, and bids us "Come ye here and die." True Christianity is not looking up at the cross at our savior, but dying up upon there with Him. As true as it has been in all time, this generation of preachers needs this clarion wake-up call: Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of

God: I speak this to your shame. 1 Corinthians 15:34 This book will answer: What is Grace? Is there a false grace? Why is there so much focus on Grace today? What is the place of the Law? What is repentance, and how does it factor into the life of a believer? Is there such a thing as a restoration of Grace happening today? If so, is there a counterfeit? What is the Bible's view on 'Grace'? Does God care about our sin once we're saved? What does the Finished Works of the Cross accomplish? What won't the Finished Works of the Cross do? What is the duty of a Christian once they're saved, and why isn't this a \"works salvation\"? What are some of the common misconceptions about Grace? When are we born again? What is the nature of hell and is it eternal? Are we by nature good? What are some of the things people actually wrongly teaching about Grace today? How do I keep myself from error? What are the six foundations of the faith and how do they keep me from errors concerning Grace? This book can either be informative on the basics of true Grace in comparison to the many false faces offered today, or it can become a tutorial on how to righteously, yet effectively, and aggressively, confront and challenge the current false Grace teachings. Included are numerous scriptural references on why the Christian should not be afraid to engage in debate with people even in gross error, as well as what not to do, and when to walk away. Reading this book will both equip you to be aware of the deceptions in the wider body of Christ, as well as prime you to effectively and intelligently refute them. Don't think your church is immune to this threat, because it isn't! You will also find references on, Who and what Biblically are heretics and heresies? What is 'Anathema'? Why did Paul use it? When should we? Should we judge? Are we allowed to judge? What are the Biblical guidelines for judgment? How can I expect a discussion with a false-grace advocate to go these days? What are the proper guidelines for talking to someone, especially when they are hostile or twisting the Word of God for their own purpose? How can I expect them to twist scripture? Does God judge us today? What is proper Biblical etiquette for having a conversation? And, what do you do if they don't have it? Expect to be challenged to live a life of bold faith cultivated in a heart of intimacy. Expect a message straight out of \"All the Words in Red\"

Grace and the Great Controversy

The author reveals how grace is the heart of the gospel'a liberating, life-giving and comforting melody throughout the Bible. Grace is our certainty of eternal life and God's all-encompassing acceptance. Without grace, our religious beliefs are bad news, thus this book's advice, Grace: never leave home without it! Learn how God's grace is absolute and all inclusive; something we never deserve or earn! Grace offers the most refreshing peace we will ever know. Grace is the solution to every problem and menacing crisis threatening our planet. Rightly understood, grace points exclusively and continuously to Jesus. Then why is God's gift of grace so controversial or even difficult for Christians to accept? Could it be because grace is totally unbelievable, unexpected and undeserved? Is this why legalism, the enemy of grace, is so common and hard to recognize in ourselves? Grappling with these questions, the author reveals how, from Eden to our day, cradled at the very heart of the great controversy is grace.

Pursued by Grace

In Pursued by Grace: A Pastor's Restorative Journey, Colin recounts his experience of moral failure and his public and humiliating removal from ministry as a lead pastor of a large congregation. He candidly shares the effects this had on his family and on himself as a husband, father, and member of the clergy. Supported by references from the scriptures and lessons learned from other literature, Colin weaves his own story in with a very thorough examination of what leads someone—especially a Christian leader—to sin. He offers a firsthand account of the true cost of sin, and juxtaposes that humiliating and alienating ordeal with the tender, yet firm, love of his Heavenly Father, his loyal wife, his family and his supportive friends. Pursued by Grace is a story of redemption, restoration and resilience in the face of failure. While of particular interest to pastors, bible college students, and other Christian and secular leaders, this book provides important reflections and lessons for anyone struggling to avoid temptation, recover from doing wrong, and follow a Christian path.

Preaching the Fear of God in a Fear-Filled World

Fear runs rampant in the world today, including fears related to the rise of nationalism, refugees, political corruption, violence, religious extremism, and climate crises. Amid these existential realities, the biblical idea of "the fear of God" poses theological opportunities and challenges for those who address these themes in their preaching and public ministry. This collection of conference presentations from the 2018 meeting of Societas Homiletica focuses on how preaching and homiletical studies around the world address the rhetorical, biblical, political, and spiritual dimensions of fear as it has emerged in recent decades in church and society.

Intrusive God, Disruptive Gospel

This engaging book guides readers through one of the most colorful books of the Bible, illuminating passages from Acts that show the Christian gospel expressing itself through the lives, speech, struggles, and adventures of Jesus's followers. The book emphasizes the disruptive character of the Christian gospel and shows how Acts repeatedly describes God as upsetting the status quo by changing people's lives, society's conventions, and our basic expectations of what's possible. Suited for individual and group study, this book by a New Testament scholar with a gift for popular communication asks serious questions and eschews pat answers, bringing Acts alive for contemporary reflection on the character of God, the challenges of faith, and the church.

The Bible and Social Justice

Although the cry for justice in human society is an important theme in the Bible, in many church and academic circles action for and discourse about social justice is carried on without a thorough exploration of this theme in Scripture. This volume brings together chapters by experts in the various sections of the Old and New Testaments to give a full spectrum of what the Bible has to say about social justice, and to point to ways forward for Christians seeking to think and act in harmony with God in pursuing social justice in the world today.

The Good Life

McCarthy is a masterful writer with an astute eye for the encapsulating anecdotes of our everyday lives. Digging in the garden of consumerist America, his spade roots out many economic and romantic assumptions, revealing the shallow but tenacious grip that many of those 'weeds' have on our lives. McCarthy invites us to cultivate a garden bearing real fruit, a fruit we often do not even realize we want, but when tasted, draws us on. --John Berkman, The Catholic University of America With style, warmth, and humor, David Matzko McCarthy challenges us to bring the gospel into our homes. His stories of spouse, children, neighbors, and friends help us remember that Christians can rise above personal foibles and social pressures to enjoy surprising generosity, love, and grace. --Lisa Cahill, Boston College How can we resist the empire's demand for our allegiance? This remains a fundamental question for Christian discipleship, and in 'The Good Life', McCarthy poses it afresh. But now the empire is not Rome but the market, and the arena of challenge is not the coliseum but Wal-Mart. He offers challenging wisdom to those of us in minivans who are trying to discern what God's disruptive grace means for our friendships, our neighborhoods, and our consumer habits. --James K. A. Smith, Calvin College A splendid theological analysis of everyday life for people who live ordinary, middle-class realities. McCarthy illumines everyday life with beautiful interpretations of scripture and the creed. He is clearly the best theologian today writing on the vocation of parenting and neighborly existence. --D. Stephen Long, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary Don't let the charm of his style or his mastery or the telling detail mislead you. McCarthy's 'The Good Life' is both a sustained critique of the consumerism that enslaves and a profound account of how God's graciousness can set us free. This is theology at its best. A 'how to' book about something that matters. --Elizabeth Newman, Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond A wonderful book. Rooted in Scripture, informed by the Christian tradition,

perceptive in its analysis of contemporary American culture, 'The Good Life' is full of practical wisdom for middle-class Christians seeking to live more faithfully in their relationships to people, places, and things. Take up and read! --Steve Bouma-Prediger, Hope College 'The Good Life' provides middle-class Christians a rich resource for theological reflections. McCarthy writes like a pastor and has a gift for making resistance to mainstream American culture seem both necessary and possible. --Julie Hanlon Rubio, author of A Christian Theology of Marriage and Family

Space for Grace

'Inclusive' is a term that is most closely associated with questions of human sexuality, but in relation to theology and to local church life it has many more dimensions which this book explores. Like so many others, the church of which Giles Goddard is rector was, fifty years ago, almost exclusively white, middle class and male-led. As the local community became more diverse, change was inevitable. Theology has followed rather than led this change and this book reflects on what inclusive theology is starting to look like in practice. Including stories of people who have either been instrumental in this change or who have stayed faithful through its various stages, it explores key questions for every local church: embracing the evangelical, orthodox and liberal and seeing beyond labels, treating everyone as equal before God, sharing leadership and responsibility, recognising that freedom needs limits, drawing people from the margins to the centre, and managing change. Theological reflection follows each story and an honest appraisal of the practical impact of change.

Grace in Practice

Grace in Practice is a challenging call to live life under grace -- a concept most Christians secretly have trouble with. Paul Zahl pulls no punches, contending that no matter how often we talk about salvation by grace, in our \"can-do\" society we often cling instead to a righteousness of works. Asserting throughout that grace always trumps both law and church, Zahl illuminates an expansive view of grace in everything, extending the good news of grace to all creation. Conversationally written and filled with fascinating insights, Grace in Practice will reward any Christian who seeks to understand the full measure of God's grace and the total freedom it offers.

Grace Changes Everything

Grace changes everything, period! If this is true, then why do we see Christians struggling with things the Bible clearly states we are freed from? For many, the \"abundant life\" promised by Jesus seems to be just out of reach. If we believe that God can do all things, then shouldn't our lives reflect this belief? According to the Bible, we are saved by grace through faith, and the gift is from God. This Scripture is talked about in many Christian settings, but do we really understand the implications of this passage? In Grace Changes Everything, discover the simple yet profound truths contained in Scripture that can lead us to the abundant life of freedom promised by Jesus. This life doesn't require a person to be a super-Christian or ultra-spiritual. In fact, the answers provided by Scripture may surprise you in their simplicity.

Overwhelmed by Grace

Every Christian has been saved by God's grace, but many believers have never grasped the glory of that grace. Can God's grace be resisted? Will it cause the believer to endure in faith? How is it related to divine election? Did Christ in His death have a particular group of people in mind? Brian Anderson in Overwhelmed By Grace meets a widespread need for the doctrines of grace to be clearly, simply, and Biblically explained for all believers. By the time you are done reading this book, you may also be overwhelmed by grace! Here is a well-reasoned, readable, Biblical explanation of the doctrines of grace. Many Christians find these truths difficult to wrestle with, and unfortunately there is a dearth of material that explains them well. Too many who attempt the task get bogged down in philosophical and historical

arguments before they ever deal clearly with the Biblical data. Brian Anderson avoids that pitfall and focuses his energies instead on simply giving a clear and understandable presentation of what Scripture teaches. I am very grateful for his wonderful, straightforward, and above all Biblical treatment of these crucial doctrines. John F. MacArthur, Jr. Pastor, Grace Community Church, Sun Valley, California President, Masters College and Masters Seminary Brian Anderson has written a solid, readable, engaging and very clear book for those who want to understand the nature of God's grace in the salvation of the lost. I warmly recommend it. Dr. John H. Armstrong Founder and President, Act 3 Brian Anderson served from 1990 to 2000 as the teaching pastor of a Bible church in Milpitas, California. Since that time he has been planting and overseeing house churches in Sonora, California.

The Francis Factor and The People of God

In this volume, Richard Hiers challenges the popular assumption that the Bible has a low view of women and that biblical law either ignores women or requires them to be subject and subservient to men. He does so by identifying and carefully examining hundreds of biblical texts and allowing them to speak for themselves. Among the findings: - that biblical tradition generally represents women positively, as strong and independent persons; - that no text represents wives as subject to their husbands and that no biblical law requires such subjection; - that biblical laws provide many protections for women's rights and interests--in several instances, rights equal to those enjoyed by men. The book focuses particularly on the Old Testament and Old Testament law, and argues that Old Testament laws and their underlying values provide important resources for Christian ethics and social policy today.

Women's Rights and the Bible

Given the extraordinary richness and range of contemporary theology, questions about the authority and inspiration of the Bible tend to garner ever increasing variety, complexity and controversy. Among those challenges include the questions posed by biblical criticism to the enterprise of Christian theology, and the place of scripture in the life of the contemporary church. Employing a range of conversation partners, this book will provide an up-to-date survey of the diverse ways in which contemporary theologians use the Bible 'to think with'. The volume enables students to compare different approaches to the reading of scripture. It also explores the ways in which the theological interpretation of scripture can be both a critical and a spiritual exercise.

Scripture: A Guide for the Perplexed

Popular Bible teacher and host of the Gospel Truth broadcast, Andrew Wommack takes on one of the biggest controversies of the church, the freedom of God's grace versus the faith of the believer. Wommack reveals that God's power is not released from only grace or only faith. God's blessings come through a balance of both grace and faith. Addressing many of the misconceptions believers are taught in the Church today, this book opens up the Scriptures revealing the vital connection between grace and faith. Many believers think they walk in both grace and faith when actually they are misusing one or both of these principles. Wommack addresses: * Some believers willingly sin believing God's grace will cover them, while the blessing of grace is not to sin, but to release guilt and condemnation when they make a mistake. * Other believers think they must "work" their faith by ritualistic prayer, confession, or Bible study. Although all these things are good, Jesus Christ set believers free from works of the law. God wants a relationship where He can communicate directly to each believer. * Grace and faith work together. When believers receive the unmerited favor or grace of God, they can release their faith without doubt or reservation and receive God's blessings. Andrew Wommack in his logical, practical style brings believers back on track in their Christian walk through living in the balance of grace and faith.

Living in the Balance of Grace and Faith

Grace Abounds All the More Popular author, storyteller, and prayer warrior Mary DeMuth brings a message of hope and of love in this 90-day devotional. As she leads you through the book of Romans—a story of God’s redemptive love—you will be reminded that nothing you can do will alter the life-changing reality what Jesus accomplished on the cross. Immerse yourself daily in scripture verses and prayers and meditate on the faithfulness of your Father, the gifts Jesus has given, and the unending hope of the Good News. Discover the love of the Savior for the first time—or all over again—when you put your faith into action with Mary’s easy-to-implement suggestions as you connect with God through worship, share Christ in community with others, and preach the truth of the Gospel to yourself. Prepare to be utterly changed as you receive the gift of outrageous grace every single day.

Outrageous Grace Every Day

What is the apostle Paul's message in his Letter to the Romans? And how does it apply to us today? Is there more to learn about Romans, and is there more for the church to hear today? Keith Stanglin takes this familiar epistle and makes sense of its author's original intent and its meaning for believers now. With attention both to the historical background and to our contemporary situation, he offers thirty-one meditations that take readers through the entire letter, beginning with the ancient arguments and arriving at modern exhortation. Each chapter is accompanied by discussion questions for use in classes and study groups. For scholars serving the church, this book is a welcome supplement to a technical commentary. For non-specialists, it is an introduction to Romans and an invitation to seek its wisdom. All readers will see Paul's message of God's grace in fresh ways.

Super-Abundant Grace

The Gospel of Grace This book is about the process of deciding how we determine our use of any particular biblical text. In essence, we are each other the architect of our own biblical house. Let’s take an honest look at how we have designed our individual house. In this inspired and engaging work, Mark Wickstrom shows how conflicting religious opinions derive not from contradictions in the Bible but from personal agendas that contradict the gospel of grace. He identifies the timeless truths, cultural norms, personal opinions, and random texts that suit personal agendas and may create divisions among the faithful. Read the Gospel of Grace to discover how to create deeper understanding and unity in faith communities large and small.

The Gospel Of Grace

Nurturing the Prophetic Imagination searches through biblical scholarship, theology, economics, sociology, politics, ecology, and history to discern the strands of God's justice and reconciliation at work in the contemporary world. Nurturing the Prophetic Imagination challenges Christians to engage the most troubling social problems of our time by first drinking deeply from the well of the historic prophetic traditions. Nurturing the Prophetic Imagination witnesses to a God that raises up prophets to speak at critical moments in every time, and to what it might look like for the Church to nurture the soil from which such prophetic voices spring. Rarely do such a wide variety of authors from such different backgrounds and vocations get together to name what the prophetic work of God looks like in our midst. The radical justice and reconciliation of God can be found in every corner of life, if we know where to look for it; Nurturing the Prophetic Imagination provides some guidance in this direction. Nurturing the Prophetic Imagination celebrates and seeks to build upon the legacy of eminent biblical scholar Walter Brueggemann's seminal work *The Prophetic Imagination*, first published in 1978, by assessing the core insights and themes he develops through a number of different lenses. These include contemporary biblical scholarship, theology, economics, sociology, politics, ecology, and church history. Nurturing the Prophetic Imagination also discusses the extent to which the Christian prophetic tradition continues to speak meaningfully within the contemporary world and thereby seeks to be a source for inspiring future generations of Christian prophets to do likewise.

Nurturing the Prophetic Imagination

The doctrine of God's grace has sparked some heated controversies in the history of the Christian church. What are dispensations of grace? Is grace really irresistible? In *Amazing Grace* noted theologian Timothy George looks at some of these debated questions. Grounded in Scripture, his insights continually draw the reader back to the fundamental truth of God's free and sovereign favor to ill-deserving sinners. Originally written to address the \"Calvinism controversy\" brewing within the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), this study was used in thousands of churches and study groups throughout the SBC and beyond. Now this popular primer on the basic themes of Reformed theology has been updated and expanded. Though written from George's Southern Baptist perspective, the book's irenic tone appeals to a wide audience and shows how sound Reformed theology has taken root within several Reformation traditions.

Amazing Grace (Second Edition)

In this book renowned scholar Walter Brueggemann brings us a characteristically penetrating and provocative account of the ways in which the Old Testament is offered as an alternative to the imperial narrative that can dominate ordinary imagination.

God, Neighbour, Empire

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