

Exploring Christian Spirituality

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sandra schneiders commands respect as one of the most significant and influential figures in the emergence of the study of christian spirituality as an academic discipline as the focused and disciplined exploration of religious experience this book honors her contributions to the field by addressing issues that are emerging at the creative edges of the discipline in this volume colleagues and students of dr schneiders and other collaborators in the academic discipline of christian spirituality examine crucial issues from their various disciplinary and methodological perspectives questions of methodology address the status of spirituality as a discipline interdisciplinarity and self implication other essays explore the edges of christian spirituality and biblical spirituality gender studies the natural sciences nature writing the social sciences and interfaith issues this collection of essays will provoke students and scholars of christian spirituality as well as practitioners to continue critically thinking discussing writing and practicing it

a broad based ecumenical anthology on spirituality that explores the contours and riches of its contemporary expression within the christian tradition

offering both a concise introduction to the spiritual vision of the mystic and scientist pierre teilhard de chardin and a fascinating survey of contemporary themes in spirituality through a teilhardian

lens this revised edition shows how Teilhard's perception of Christ in all things was the key to his holistic vision

How do Christians cultivate a vibrant and Christ-centered spirituality that is rooted in biblical clarity? Spiritual formation—the cultivation of a relationship with God—lies at the heart of what it means to be a Christian in the body of Christ. But with the rise of diverse spiritual practices from Zen meditation to out-of-body experiences, the idea of spirituality has become watered down by postmodern culture. Christian spirituality, on the other hand, embraces devotion to the Triune God abiding in Christ, the pursuit of holiness, and the cultivation of virtues. But what exactly falls within the scope of Christian spirituality? This volume of the Counterpoints series focuses on the church's search for spiritual identity, meaning, and significance as interpreted by four of the major Christian traditions: Eastern Orthodoxy (represented by Bradley Nassif), Roman Catholic (represented by Scott Hahn), Progressive Protestant (represented by Joseph Driskill), and Evangelical (represented by Evan Howard). The Counterpoints series presents a comparison and critique of scholarly views on topics important to Christians that are both fair minded and respectful of the biblical text. Each volume is a one-stop reference that allows readers to evaluate the different positions on a specific issue and form their own educated opinion.

In recent decades, Christian spirituality, spiritual formation, and spiritual theology have become important concepts in the global evangelical community. Consequently, an accessible and reliable academic resource is needed on these topics—one that will offer a discerning orientation to the wealth of ecumenical resources available while still highlighting the distinct heritage and affirming the core grace-centered values of classic evangelical spirituality. The *Dictionary of Christian Spirituality* reflects an overarching interpretive framework for evangelical spiritual formation: a holistic and grace-filled spirituality that encompasses relational connecting, transformational becoming, and vocational doing dynamics. At the same time, contributors respectfully acknowledge the differences between Reformed holiness and Pentecostal paradigms of the spiritual life and by bringing together writers from around the world who share a common orthodoxy, this reference work is truly global and international in both its topical scope and contributors. Entries give appropriate attention to concepts, concerns, and formative figures in the evangelical tradition of spirituality that other reference work neglect. They offer a discerning orientation to the wealth of ecumenical resources available, exploring the similarities and differences between Christianity and alternate spiritualities without lapsing into relativism. The *Dictionary of Christian Spirituality* is a resource that covers a wide range of topics relating to Christian spirituality and is biblically engaged, accessible, and relevant for all contemporary Christians.

A brief history of spirituality tells the story of Christian spirituality from its origins in the New Testament to the present day. It charts the main figures, ideas, images, and historical periods showing how and why spirituality has changed and developed over the centuries. It draws out the distinctive themes of Christian spirituality, exploring the historical and cultural events and experiences that changed people's attitudes and practices. Coverage extends right up to the modern day, exploring the huge changes in spirituality in recent years and the way it is nowadays often contrasted with religion. Written by a leading commentator on spirituality and published in the popular *Brief Histories* series.

of religion series

engagingly written by one of the world's leading scholars in this field this comprehensively revised edition tells the story of christian spirituality from its origins in the new testament right up to the present day charts the main figures ideas images and historical periods showing how and why spirituality has changed and developed over the centuries includes new chapters on the nature and meaning of spirituality and on spirituality in the 21st century and an account of the development and main features of devotional spirituality provides new coverage of christian spirituality's relationship to other faiths throughout history and their influence and impact on christian beliefs and practices features expanded sections on mysticism its relationship to spirituality the key mystical figures and the development of ideas of the mystical explores the interplay between culture geography and spirituality taking a global perspective by tracing spiritual developments across continents

this pocket dictionary is an a to z introduction and resource for curious newcomers and novice students of spirituality don thorsen charts the christian spiritual pilgrimage through its many traditions schools of thought and tested practices among the over 300 definitions you'll find terms and ideas traditions and movements practices and rituals and texts and theology

this volume edited by jeffrey p greenman and george kalantzis marks another compilation from the wheaton theology conference 2009's event produced the wealth of work represented here exploring the theological foundations for a faithful approach to the church practices that contribute to spiritual formation that is to our sanctification in the power of the holy spirit including essays from keynote speakers dallas willard and gordon fee as well as contributing essays by noted presenters such as chris hall david gushee linda cannell cherith fee nordling and lawrence cunningham this book offers a stimulating exploration of the historical biblical and theological dimensions of spiritual formation it will be of special interest to those who serve as pastors spiritual directors church ministry leaders and christian educators

integrating the wisdom of christian tradition and psychological findings on effective decision making this book presents a view of christian discernment that honors the body spirit unity of the person and the broad and mysterious ways we can be led by the spirit of god in our life choices going beyond discernment skills and concrete practices this book presents a coherent theoretical understanding of discernment that grounds the many spiritual practices used by christians today by providing a broad and inclusive understanding of the multiple ways god can provide guidance to individuals this book helps individuals to honor the unique and idiosyncratic way that they receive divine guidance as well as provides guidelines that guard against possible self deception and personal blind spots while including anecdotal accounts and practical elements of christian discernment this book provides a conceptual understanding of discernment that will be helpful for those training to be professional ministers pastors priests religious counselors and spiritual directors it is unique in applying christian tradition and contemporary psychological insights to the process of discernment

within each of the four gospels there is a foundational spirit a spirituality of the gospels that is to

say each gospel contains rich images and values central to the vision of the person of jesus and to the path toward spiritual transformation in his image in this volume patrick hartin first looks at each gospel and asks such questions as who is jesus and what transformation does this encounter with jesus invite hartin then follows with examples of people who have appropriated the transformative power of these particular spiritualties from saint antony and dorothy day to saint augustine and archbishop romero hartin s twofold approach gives us a deeper appreciation for the spiritual dimension of the gospels and helps us to be transformed in christ by their message and vision

christian spirituality is a concise and accessible overview of the ways christians over the centuries have approached god in prayer and practice in ten chapters lawrence cunningham and keith egan explain the dynamics of spiritual life each chapter exploring a single theme such as scripture journeying meditation contemplation asceticism mysticism solitude community friendship eucharist the themes are not mutually exclusive since believers frequently embrace several or all of these ways at once but in different times and places people have tended to focus on one or another so that they have become discernible paths to the holy the authors explore each theme in depth tracing its evolution over the centuries within this historical framework the book provides the reader with a taste of the different ways christians have sought or lived in the presence of god each chapter concludes with a list of selected works for further reading and with exercises intended to provide a personal experience of the way

many discussions of christian spirituality draw on a range of traditions and disciplines but little attention is given to the bible itself drawing on the old and new testaments john calvin and the puritans peter adam expounds a biblical model of spirituality in this new studies in biblical theology volume

christian spirituality in africa holistically approaches the convergence of east west and christian traditional african religions its theological historical and anthropological perspectives contribute to a balanced understanding of christian spirituality transformation in an african context

this book provides a new introduction to the study of christian spirituality exploring it through the human sciences and ranging from philosophy and hermeneutics to psychology history sociology and anthropology systematic and progressive it introduces the key approaches and shows how they relate to the understanding study and practice of spirituality covering a vast amount of ground from traditional themes such as images of god spiritual direction and pilgrimage to more contemporary issues such as place and space cyberspace and postcolonialism the author takes an ecumenical inclusive stance allowing the book to be used in a wide variety of courses and across denominations

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