

## Off the Shelf: New & Noteworthy - June 2011

Here are a few of the newest and most interesting publications to arrive at the library

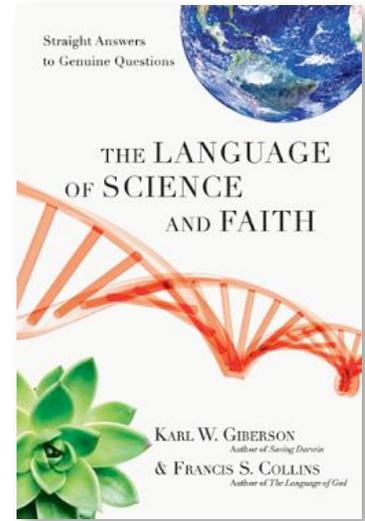
### *The Language of Science and Faith* by Karl W. Giberson and Francis S. Collins

This book aims to separate the false conclusions made by Christians and atheists alike from the actual results of research in astronomy, physics, geology and genetics. Through this process, Giberson and Collins find a world of grandeur and beauty, made by a supremely creative God.

"This book is destined to become a classic for those who, with an open mind, are willing to seriously wrestle with questions about the relationship of modern science with Christian faith. It is not for the faint of heart but is a treasure trove for those willing to dig deep into the critical subject." – **Dr. Tim Johnson**, Senior medical contributor for ABC News and author of *Finding God in the Questions*

Amazon Rating: 4.5 stars

LC Number: BL240.3 .G63 2011



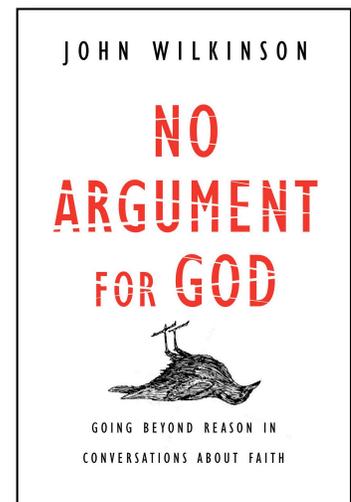
### *No Argument for God: Going Beyond Reason in Conversations about Faith* by John Wilkinson

In a time where professing your faith is deemed by atheists as a confession of intellectual feebleness, Wilkinson contends that the irrationality of faith is its greatest asset. This book turns the tables on the cult of reason, showing that it limits the conversation to *what* happened when we really to know *why* it happened. Wilkinson argues that we settle for investigation when what we need is revelation.

"Some people know the truth with a cock-sure confidence that is both admirable and annoying. Others have been through the battles of doubt and walk away from the battle with a limp, a limp that reveals that person is still walking straight ahead but with humility that emerges from deep engagement with God in the shadows of life. John Wilkinson's book is for the limpers, and it is a wonderful post-apologetics apologetic for an authentic faith." – **Scot McKnight**

Amazon Rating: 4.5 stars

LC Number: BT50 .W4725 2010

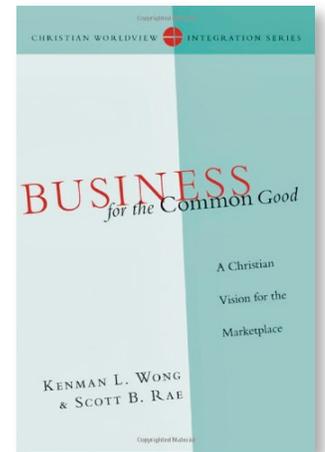


***Business for the Common Good: A Christian Vision for the Marketplace* by Kenman L. Wong and Scott B. Rae**

Kenman and Rae explore how the marketplace can be a venue for serving others and argue that business can be even more than an environment within which individual Christians grow in Christ-likeness. It can also be a means toward serving the common good.

“A veritable treasure-trove for anyone wishing to make fruitful connections between business and Christianity” – **Richard Higginson**, Cambridge University

Amazon Rating: 5 stars  
LC Number: HF5388 .W66 2011

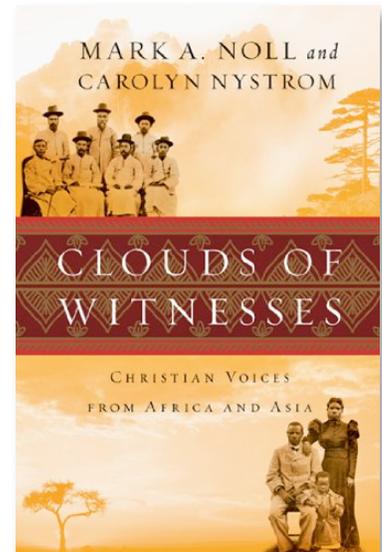


***Clouds of Witnesses: Christian Voices from Africa and Asia* by Mark A. Noll and Carolyn Nystrom**

In seventeen inspiring narratives, Mark A. Noll and Carolyn Nystrom introduce pivotal Christian leaders in Africa and Asia who demonstrate tenacious faith in the midst of deprivation, suffering and conflict. This kaleidoscope witness to the power of the gospel spans a century, from 1880-1980, and will both inspire and educate readers.

“This unique collection provides a timely reminder that non-Western Christianities, now the dominant form of the faith, were forged in historical situations that are far removed from the purview of most Western Christians. . . . The voices that speak for this volume speak for the whole church.” – **Jehu J. Hanciles**, Fuller Theological Seminary

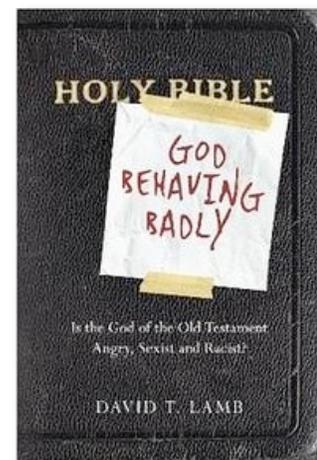
Amazon Rating: 5 stars  
LC Number: BR1720.3 .N65 2010



***God Behaving Badly: Is the God of the Old Testament Angry, Sexist and Racist?* By David T. Lamb**

How do we make sense of the seeming contradictions in God’s character between the Old and the New Testament? Lamb unpacks the complexity of the Old Testament and provides historical and cultural background to give context and better understanding for problematic passages in the Old Testament. Without minimizing the harsh realities of the biblical record, this book brings coherence to our understanding of God throughout the entire Bible.

“Written in a winsome and engaging way, this books is going to help many who wonder if the God of the Old Testament is indeed



the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.” – **John Goldingay**, Fuller Theological Seminary

Amazon Rating: 5 stars

LC Number: BS1192.6 .L35 2011

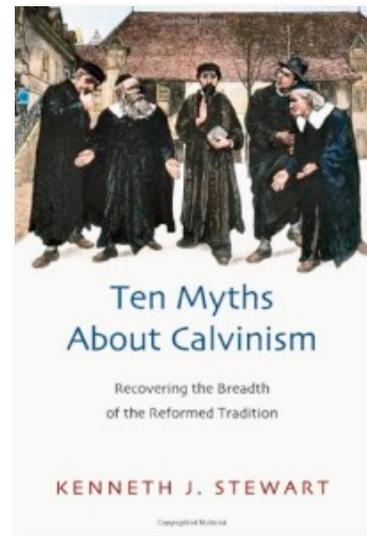
***Ten Myths About Calvinism: Recovering the Breadth of the Reformed Tradition***  
by **Kenneth J. Stewart**

In this book, Stewart identifies ten myths held by either Calvinists or non-Calvinists, or both, and sets the record straight by showing how they are gross mischaracterizations of that theological stream. Some key myths include:

- The popular acronym T.U.L.I.P. is the true yardstick for reformed believers.
- Calvinism holds that the redeemed will be saved regardless of their conduct.
- Calvinism has fostered racial inequality.
- Calvinism undermines the creative arts.

Amazon Rating: 4.5 stars

LC Number: BX9422.3 .S76 2011



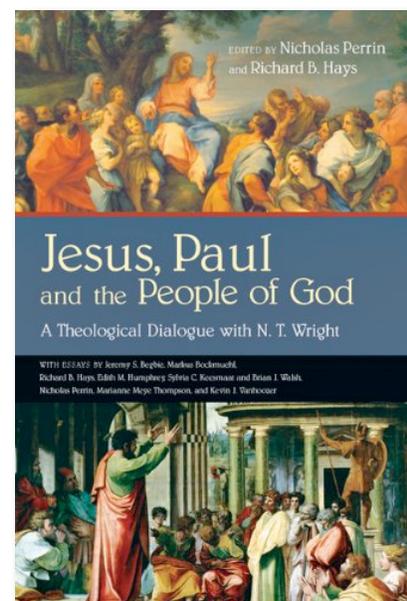
***Jesus, Paul and the People of God: A Theological Dialogue with N.T. Wright***  
edited by **Nicholas Perrin and Richard B. Hays**

Leading New Testament scholar N.T. Wright and nine other prominent biblical scholars and theologians gathered to consider Wright's extensive body of work at the 2010 Wheaton Theology Conference. The book is divided into two sections, "Jesus and the People of God" and "Paul and the People of God." In each section, essayists discuss various points Wright makes (or doesn't make) in his own writings, e.g., the absence of John's gospel in Wright's Jesus and the Victory of God. Wright then has a chance to respond to the critiques individually and in longer overviews of his own work.

Together these essays represent the best of critical yet charitable dialogue between scholars on theological themes vital to Christian faith that will propel New Testament scholarship for the next decade.

Amazon Rating: 4.5 stars

LC Number: BT198 .J476 2010



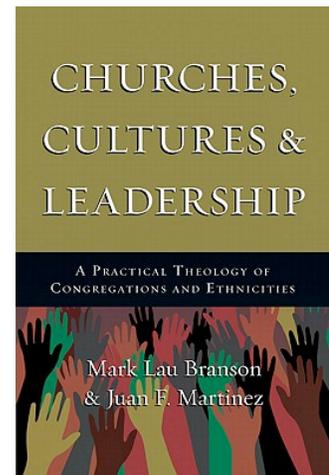
***Churches, Cultures and Leadership: A Practical Theology of Congregations and Ethnicities* by Mark Lau Branson and Juan F. Martínez**

“Branson and Martínez have gifted the church with a unique—the only one of its kind—work for practical and faithful intercultural life and for helping the church reflect the diversity of America.” – **Eldin Villafañem**, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

“Part biblical study, part handbook on ministry, for use in the classroom or in small groups, this is a foundational text.” – **Mark R. Gornik and Maria Liu Wong**, City Seminary of New York

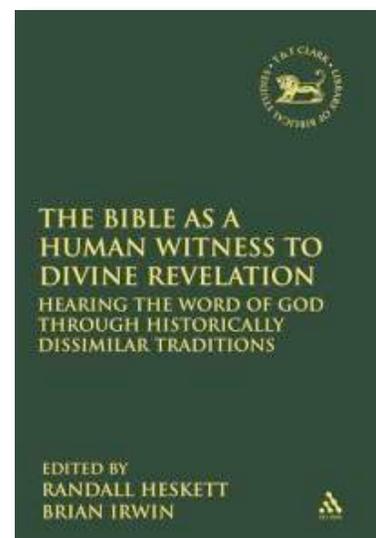
Amazon Rating: 5 stars

LC Number: BV639 .M56 B73 2011



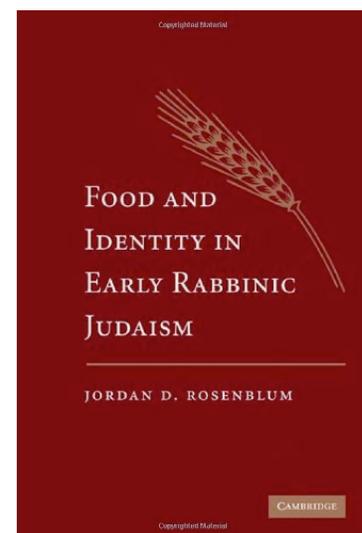
***The Bible as a Human Witness to Divine Revelation: Hearing the Word of God Through Historically Dissimilar Traditions* edited by Randall Heskett & Brian Irwin**

*The Bible as a Human Witness to Divine Revelation* provides examples of how major scholars have responded to the limits of the older-modern criticisms within the framework of still applying a variety of historical criticisms and paying attention to the later formation and context of the biblical book. It also helps readers understand how to hear “the word of God” through biblical text that are filled with historical dissimilarities or even contradictions. The book shows scholarly examples that respond to crises of both the pre-modern and modern eras as unfinished projects because pre-modernity tended to ignore the human dimensions of scripture and modernity tended to limit its inquiry only to that single dimension.



***Food and Identity in Early Rabbinic Judaism* by Jordan D. Rosenblum**

Food often defines societies and even civilizations, turning the biological need to eat into a culturally significant activity. Bringing together the scholarship of rabbinics with that of food studies, this volume first examines the historical reality of food production and consumption in Roman-era Palestine. It then explores how early rabbinic food regulations created a distinct Jewish, male, and rabbinic identity. Rosenblum's work demonstrates how rabbinic food practices constructed an edible identity.



“In this original and important study, Jordan Rosenblum carefully analyzes texts from the earliest stratum of rabbinic literature to understand how they treat eating practices and food. He meticulously and convincingly argues that the early rabbinic movement constructs identity by regulating what, with whom, and how one eats. Rosenblum judiciously draws on ideas from anthropology to tease out fresh insights from the ancient texts. Written in lucid and engaging prose, this outstanding book is essential reading for those interested in Jewish studies and the ancient world.”—**Gregg E. Gardner**, Harvard University