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The Christianity Reader Asian American Christianity Reader The Christianity Reader The Christian Theology Reader Early Christian Reader T&T Clark Reader in Abortion and Religion Religion, Media and Culture: A Reader The Bloomsbury Reader in Religion and Childhood In the World A Reader in Sociology; Christian Perspectives Reading Christian Theology in the Protestant Tradition A Reader in African Christian Theology History of Christianity in India Leibniz on God and Religion Christianity, Democracy, and the American Ideal Reading Renunciation Psychological Perspectives on Christian Ministry The Philosophy of Religion Reader Reinventing Christianity The J. H. Bavinck Reader Religion The New Testament and Other Early Christian Writings Anno Domini: The Story of Christianity in the British Isles The Christian Reader: a Collection of Piece from the Most Celebrated Authors. Selected ... by J. Slater Early Christian Life and Thought in Social Context Christianity Through the Centuries An Introduction to Christian Theology The Insider/Outsider Problem in the Study of Religion Love How Christianity Built Western Civilization A Firm Foundation Christelijke theologie Reading C.S. Lewis Defining Magic Demons and the Devil in Ancient and Medieval Christianity Foundations for Soul Care Theology Reading, Writing, and Bookish Circles in the Ancient Mediterranean NINETEENTH CENTURY READER'S GUIDE Christian Theology

This Reader brings together a selection of key writings to explore the relationship between religion, media and cultures of everyday life. It provides an overview of the main debates and developments in this growing field, focusing on four major themes: Religion, spirituality and consumer culture Media and the transformation of religion The sacred senses: visual, material and audio culture Religion, and the ethics of media and culture. This collection is an invaluable resource for students, academics and researchers wanting a deeper understanding of religion and contemporary culture. Magic has been an important term in Western history and continues to be an essential topic in the modern academic study of religion, anthropology, sociology, and cultural history. Defining Magic is the first volume to assemble key texts that aim at determining the nature of magic, establish its boundaries and key features, and explain its working. The reader brings together seminal writings from antiquity to today. The texts have been selected on the strength of their success in defining magic as a category, their impact on future scholarship, and their originality. The writings are divided into chronological sections and each essay is separately introduced for student readers. Together, these texts - from Philosophy, Theology, Religious Studies, and Anthropology - reveal the breadth of critical approaches and responses to defining what is magic. CONTRIBUTORS: Aquinas, Augustine, Helena Petrovna Blavatsky, Dennis Diderot, Emile Durkheim, Edward Evans-Pritchard, James Frazer, Susan Greenwood, Robin Horton, Edmund Leach, Gerardus van der Leeuw, Christopher Leirich, Bronislaw Malinowski, Marcel Mauss, Agrippa von Nettesheim, Plato, Pliny, Plotin, Isidore of Sevilla, Jesper Sorensen, Kimberley Stratton, Randall Styers, Edward Tylor This collection of essays analyzes the role of demons and the devil in ancient and medieval Christianity. Proceeding from a variety of scholarly perspectives—historical, philosophical and theological, as well as philological, liturgical and theoretical—the volume's diverse approach matches the complexity of its chosen theme. Bringing together Leibniz's writings on God and religion for the very first time, Leibniz on God and Religion: A Reader reflects the growing importance now placed on Leibniz's philosophical theology. This reader features a wealth of material, from journal articles and book reviews published in Leibniz's lifetime to private notes and essays, as well as items from his correspondence. Organised thematically into the following sections, this reader captures the changes in Leibniz's thinking over the course of his career: The Catholic Demonstrations The existence and nature of God Reason and faith Ethics and the love of God The Bible Miracles and mysteries The churches and their doctrines Grace and predestination Sin, evil, and theodicy The afterlife Non-Christian religions In preparing this reader, Strickland has returned to Leibniz's original manuscripts to ensure accurate translations of key texts, the majority of which have not been available in English before. The reader also contains a number of texts previously unpublished in any form. Alongside the translations, this reader contains an introductory essay, explanatory notes on all of the texts, and suggestions for further reading.

This valuable sourcebook enables students of all levels to achieve a well-rounded understanding of Leibniz's philosophical theology. Thirty classic and contemporary readings - from such writers as Kant, Hume, Schleiermacher, and Otto, to Ninian Smart, Mircea Eliade, Karen McCarthy-Brown, and Wendy Doniger. This textbook is an interdisciplinary collection of scholarly and religious articles about Asian American Christianity. Its four sections -- contexts, sites, identity, and voices ? offer in-depth understanding of both Catholic and Protestant traditions, practices, theologies, and faith communities. It also highlights diversity and complexity across lines of gender, generation, denomination, race and ethnicity in Asian American Christianity. There has long been a need for a comprehensive but truly introductory single-authored textbook in theology. By introducing the reader to the biblical, doctrinal and contemporary dimensions of Christianity with the help of illustrated examples from selected primary texts, the book provides an excellent grounding in theology for both students of the discipline and the general reader. The work explores key 'tools' for the scientific study of theology, endeavouring both to affirm the rationale behind Christian thinking, and also to familiarize the reader with significant contrary positions. The solid foundations in biblical theology and hermeneutics given in the book will enable students to read Judeo-Christian scripture intelligently. Key testimonies regarding Jesus Christ are scrutinized and the nature of the New Testament discussed. As well as the emergence of doctrinal orthodoxy and the later disagreements which have shaped contemporary Christianity, the reader will become familiar with the dimensions of current Christian thinking in its dialogue with post-modernity. Written for the general reader with an interest in how Christianity spread and developed throughout the British Isles, Anno Domini: The Story of Christianity in the British Isles explores the progress of Christianity in all four countries. It also looks at how it contributed greatly to the formation of our culture in the process. The book explores the theme of Christianity thoroughly, but step-by-step, taking the reader through the early centuries where the Saints played major roles to spread the faith and inspire others, on to the arrival of St Augustine in the South and how the mission that followed led to the gradual ascendancy of the Church of Rome over the Celtic churches. It then takes the reader through the English Reformation, imparting facts and outlooks on the situation in an easy-to-understand way, exploring the religious dissent that followed for many centuries until society learned to live peaceably with religious differences. Finally we come to the twenty-first century, where traditional values have lapsed and secularisation has increased. And the story continues as Christians of every persuasion are challenged to respond to present issues. A clear, well-laid out and thoroughly researched book that explains the progress of Christianity with an enthusiasm that should infect its reader, Anno Domini will interest the mind and inspire the heart. Teaches students to write well and introduces them to quality classic and contemporary essays. Now revised and updated. Crucial themes and issues explored by a premier missiologist Johan Herman Bavinck (1895-1964) was a prominent twentieth-century Dutch Calvinist missiologist who wrestled with the tension between religious absolutism and relativism, as many Christians do in today's pluralistic context. The J. H. Bavinck Reader gathers together a choice selection of Bavinck's significant writings that are essential for understanding his theology of missions, his approach to world religions, and his religious psychology. His treatment of religious consciousness and Christian faith expands on the brief treatment of it in his own work The Church Between Temple and Mosque. The concluding chapters show how Bavinck's theoretical reflection on religious consciousness was rooted in his close observation during his years as a missionary in Indonesia. Offering a constructive way forward, Bavinck affirms both the particularity of salvation in Christ and the universality of the Christian hope. A substantial introduction enhances the book with the most thorough biographical sketch of Bavinck available. 3,000 years of ideas about the nature of love in Western culture are brought together in this concise history. By blending the works of many scholars and examining the significant lives, works, and movements associated with love, Love: A Brief History Through Western Christianity traces the evolution and impact of this timeless topic. Takes the reader on a lightning but enlightening journey through 3,000 years of the idea of love Examines the influential movements, people, and work that have helped

shape our notion of love in Western culture, written by a key figure in religious history Tackles the historical and religious concept in Western society, and our efforts to apply ideas of love to social concerns Explores diverse periods and examples – from the theological and philosophical texts of figures such as Augustine, Luther, and Feuerbach to intellectual movements like Romanticism and tragic historic figures such as Abelard and Heloise Contributes valuable insights into one of history’s most inexhaustible and timeless topics, spanning biblical views of love including monasticism and pietism, romantic notions of love, through to today’s liberal religion and concept of love as self-fulfillment. In this groundbreaking work of first-order scholarship, Eric Johnson makes a vitally important contribution to the field of Christian counseling. He first presents a detailed overview and appreciative but critical evaluation of the reigning paradigms in the field of Christian counseling, particularly biblical counseling and integration. Building on their respective strengths, he seeks to move beyond the current impasse in the field and develop a more unified and robustly Christian understanding. Drawing upon the Bible and various Christian intellectual and soul care traditions, and through a Christian reinterpretation of relevant modern psychological theory and research, Johnson proceeds to offer a new framework for the care of souls that is comprehensive in scope, yet flows from a Christian understanding of human beings--what amounts to a distinctly Christian version of psychology. This book is a must-read for any serious Christian teacher, student, or practitioner in the fields of psychology or counseling. Early Christian Life and Thought in Social Context fills a vacuum in current scholarship. While there exist a number of anthologies of sources for students of the New Testament and early Judaism, this book integrates concise explanatory comment on various aspects of the historical and social situation of the early Christians with substantial extracts from early Christian, early Jewish, and Graeco-Roman sources. Reflecting current trends and research interests in the field this up to date introduction explores key writings from both the Western theistic tradition and from non-Western, non-theistic sources. It features: section introductions, discussion questions, extensive bibliographies and a supporting website. Today, the voices from the secular left are hard at work removing any trace of religion from government and the law. Meanwhile, secular historians have successfully limited Christianity’s contribution in history to the Crusades and Inquisitions; as if that is all Christians have to speak for. The real story is quite different, primarily that everything good in Western Civilization has its roots in the Christian religion. How Christianity Built Western Civilization is the epic tale of how our Christian forefathers stood up to history’s darkest forces, to forge a new way of life, grounded in the biblical worldview. Over the centuries it has become evident that Western Civilization has emerged as mankind’s greatest achievement. It is here where the greatest political and economic systems were born, and here that we see the concept of human rights emerge, along with the modern scientific process and the greatest discoveries. It is in the West that we find the most advanced educational institutions, along with the greatest charities, artistic masterpieces and architectural innovations. Is this a coincidence, or the deliberate result of our worldview? How Christianity Built Western Civilization answers this question with chapters on human rights, modern science, universal education, charity, art and architecture; focusing entirely on the revolutionary milestones and individuals that made these achievements possible. Each chapter unfolds chronologically, starting with the biblical foundation and moving through the work of the early and Medieval Church, arriving at modern times. The author builds a compelling case demonstrating how Western Civilization would be indistinguishable from India, China or Africa today, if not for the teachings of Christ and the Bible. The ideal basic textbook for introductory courses in early Christianity For studying early Christianity in its historical context, standard editions of the New Testament fail to provide the best resources. They present the earliest Christian writings out of chronological order and omit writings similar in age and historical importance to the books of the New Testament. In Early Christian Reader, these texts are arranged in a more historically meaningful order. The books of the New Testament are presented in the NRSV, the most widely accepted version in university classrooms today. Also included are translations of the Gospel of Thomas, the Didache, the Letter of Barnabas, 1 Clement, and the letters of Ignatius. Each work's introduction discusses the date and place of composition, authorship, audience, basic themes, literary features, the Jewish and Hellenistic contexts, and suggestions for further readings in the secondary literature. Generous notes illuminate specific historical, lexical, and interpretive issues. Broader issues affecting the treatment of these texts

are introduced in seven lead articles. Each section opens with discussions of pseudonymous authorship, church tradition, synoptic sources, epistles as documents, conflicting doctrines, and originating events. This approach allows Early Christian Reader to offer an objective, informed entrée into the complex world of the earliest Christian literature. Informative appendixes, maps, and charts make this an ideal text for the university or college classroom. Early Christian Reader includes the following texts, indexes, and maps: The Letters of Paul • 1 Thessalonians • 1 Corinthians • Philippians • Philemon • 2 Corinthians • Galatians • Romans Letters Attributed to Paul • Colossians • Ephesians • 2 Thessalonians • Titus • 1 Timothy • 2 Timothy Letters Associated with Peter • 1 Peter • Jude • 2 Peter Biography, Anecdote, and History • Mark • Matthew • Luke • Acts • Gospel of Thomas Writings Attributed to John • John • 1 John • 2 John • 3 John • Revelation Other Early Writings • James • Didache • Barnabas • Hebrews • 1 Clement • Ignatius, Romans • Ignatius, Ephesians • Ignatius, Magnesians • Ignatius, Trallians • Ignatius, Philadelphians • Ignatius, Smyrnaeans • Ignatius, Polycarp Appendixes • Coins and Money • Major Figures in the Herodian Family • The Jewish Civil Year • Early Christian Use of the Jewish Bible • The Lost Sayings of Source: "Q" • Dating the Early Christian Texts • The Literary Context of the Early Christians Maps • The Land of Israel/Palestine in the First Century of the Common Era • The Roman Empire • Jerusalem in the Second Temple Period Introductions and notes in the Early Christian Reader were written and edited by Steve Mason and Tom Robinson with contributions from Michael W. Holmes, Robert A. Kraft and Jay C. Treat, and Stephen J. Patterson. A study of how asceticism was promoted through Biblical interpretation, Reading Renunciation uses contemporary literary theory to unravel the writing strategies of the early Christian authors. Not a general discussion of early Christian teachings on celibacy and marriage, the book is a close examination, in the author's words, of how "the Fathers' axiology of abstinence informed their interpretation of Scriptural texts and incited the production of ascetic meaning." Elizabeth Clark begins with a survey of scholarship concerning early Christian asceticism that is designed to orient the nonspecialist. Section Two is organized around potentially troubling issues posed by Old Testament texts that demanded skillful handling by ascetically inclined Christian exegetes. The third section, "Reading Paul," focuses on the hermeneutical problems raised by I Corinthians 7, and the Deutero-Pauline and Pastoral Epistles. Elizabeth Clark's remarkable work will be of interest to scholars of late antiquity, religion, literary theory, and history. A Firm Foundation is a book primarily for Christians, and those interested in gaining a better understanding of the Christian faith. It describes in detail, the six fundamental truths of Christianity - namely: Repentance from dead works; Faith towards God; Doctrine of baptisms; Laying on of hands; Resurrection of the dead; Eternal judgment. With one chapter dedicated to each of the above topics, the reader is able to clearly comprehend the elementary truths of the Christian faith. In the book’s quest to explain the essentials of Christianity, the reader is exposed to a broad spectrum of thought on their reading journey. And soon realizes that many of the topics discussed are applicable to the issues and concerns of every-day life. The author does an excellent job of utilizing ancient scripture to answer modern-day questions. A Firm Foundation will answer such questions as: “What will happen to me when I die?” and “Can I know for certain that I’ll go to heaven?” to name a few. Aside from answering questions of life and death, the reader will also discover what sets Christianity apart from other world religions. The book also tackles such controversial topics as; speaking in tongues; faith versus works; and the relationship between judgment and grace. Unlike many Christian authors, who paint an unrealistic picture of life, free from any hardship or pain, Mornay Johnson boldly declares that as humans, we are not immune from life’s adversities. He is also quick to add, that albeit we are not exempt from hardship, the Bible offers to necessary promises, provision and principles to surmount any obstacle faced this side of eternity. A Firm Foundation was chosen as the book’s title because it encapsulates the need for security and stability in a world of volatility and unsteadiness. The book is extremely informative. And the author has used examples from his own life, and those close to him, to explain how one can go about ensuring a life of firmness and immovability. Whether you’ve been a believer for a decade, a day, or simply curious about the Christian faith, this book will certainly appeal to you. It is written in such a manner that while it can stimulate the most learned of minds, it can also be understood by the most simple. The author has also managed to achieve optimum balance between theoretical information and practical application. This is a must read book for anyone looking for stability and security in their life.

Christian Theology: An Introduction, one of the most internationally-acclaimed Christian theology textbooks in use, has been completely rewritten for the 6th edition. It now features new and extended material and companion resources, ensuring it retains its reputation as the ideal introduction for students. A new edition of the bestselling Christian theology textbook to celebrate its 25th anniversary. Rewritten throughout for exceptional clarity and accessibility, and adds substantial new material on the Holy Spirit. Features increased coverage of postcolonial theology, and feminist theology, and prodigious development of world theology. Increases the focus on contemporary theology to complement the excellent coverage of historical material. A new 2-color design includes more pedagogical features including textboxes and sidebars to aid learning. Follows an introduction that charts the growth and development of African theology, Parratt examines the differing theological assumptions and methodologies throughout the continent. He also shows how Africans are rethinking the central dogmas of the Christian faith - Scripture, God, christology, the church, and eschatology - and evaluates Africa's political theologies, giving special attention to theological approaches to African socialism and to South African black theology. This volume introduces students to the history of cultural and theological responses to abortion as background for understanding a diversity of ethical positions in contemporary Christian, Jewish, and Muslim writings. Politicized debates about abortion are often presented in terms of a binary rhetoric of prolife versus prochoice; however, this collection of essays shows how that binary often breaks down when abortion is seen from different religious perspectives and in light of the voices of women themselves. While abortion is a global phenomenon, this volume focuses on the U.S. context. American abortion politics and culture wars have been dominated by Christian voices; nevertheless, Jewish and Muslim abortion ethics engage many of the same issues from different cultural and religious perspectives. Finally, this volume presents important examples of recent social scientific studies about the relationship of religion and abortion in the diverse cultural, racial, and economic fabric of American society. Pedagogical features include: - Introduction to the subject matter by the editors - Introductory essays to all five parts of the book - Questions for classroom discussion Additional pedagogical materials can be found at:

<https://abortionreligionreader.com/> The twenty-seven books of the New Testament were not the only writings produced by early Christians. Nor were they the only ones to be accepted, at one time or another, as sacred Scripture. Unfortunately, nearly all the other early Christian writings have been lost or destroyed. But approximately twenty-five books written at about the same time as the New Testament have survived--books that reveal the rich diversity of early Christian views about God, Jesus, the world, salvation, ethics, and ritual practice. This reader presents, for the first time in one volume, every Christian writing known to have been produced during the first hundred years of the church (30-130 C.E.). In addition to the New Testament itself, it includes other, noncanonical Gospels, Acts, Epistles, and Apocalypses, as well as additional important writings, such as those of the Apostolic Fathers. Each text is provided in an up-to-date and readable translation (including the NRSV for the New Testament), and introduced with a succinct and incisive discussion of its author, date of composition, and overarching themes. This second edition adds The Martyrdom of Polycarp, an important text that will enhance the collection's utility in the classroom. It also features Ehrman's new, accessible translations of many of the noncanonical works and provides updated introductions that incorporate the most recent scholarship. With an opening overview that shows how the canon of the New Testament came to be formulated--the process by which some Christian books came to be regarded as sacred Scripture whereas others came to be excluded--this accessible reader will meet the needs of students, scholars, and general readers alike. An ideal primary text for courses in the New Testament, Christian Origins, and Early Church History, it can be used in conjunction with its companion volume, the author's *The New Testament: A Historical Introduction to the Early Christian Writings*, 3/e (OUP, 2003). Christianity is the world's most populous religion, with some two billion adherents. As a world religion, Christianity has flourished because it is capable of taking on new forms in new contexts. To understand both the religion's history and its present state, Mary Gerhart and Fabian Udoh gather original texts—from early Christian writings to contemporary documents on church-related issues—in *The Christianity Reader*. The most comprehensive anthology of Christian texts ever in English, this is a landmark sourcebook for the study of Christianity's historical diversity. With newly edited, annotated, and translated primary texts, along with supplemental analytical essays, the volume allows

Christianity, at long last, to speak in its many voices. Focusing on Christianity as a religion, Gerhart and Udoh select texts that illuminate issues such as theology, mysticism, and ritual, while also articulating the stories of previously marginalized groups, as well as those in new and growing epicenters of the religion. With nearly three hundred selections, the texts encompass the entire history of Christian writings excluding the New Testament, from Justin Martyr and Tertullian to Fabien Eboussi Boulaga and Teresa of Calcutta. Eight thematic sections cover biblical traditions and interpretations; early influences; nascent forms; patterns of worship; structures of community; philosophy, theology, and mysticism; twentieth-century issues and challenges; and the contemporary relationship between Christianity and other world religions. The Reader's contents are arranged chronologically and are supported with introductions and source notes that explain the rationale for their inclusion and their context. Providing a far richer selection than ever before available in a single volume, *The Christianity Reader* will be welcomed as both a classroom resource and a work of reference for decades to come. The third edition of *Christianity Through the Centuries* brings the reader up-to-date by discussing events and developments in the church into the 1990s. This edition has been redesigned with new typography and greatly improved graphics to increase clarity, accessibility, and usefulness. - New chapters examine recent trends and developments (expanding the last section from 2 chapters to 5) - New photos. Over 100 photos in all -- more than twice the number in the previous edition - Single-column format for greater readability and a contemporary look - Improved maps (21) and charts (39) Building on the features that have made *Christianity Through the Centuries* an indispensable text, the author not only explains the development of doctrines, movements, and institutions, but also gives attention to "the impact of Christianity on its times and to the mark of the times on Christianity." Strongly divided evaluations of C.S. Lewis's work persist today based on his perspectives and writings on religion, particularly Christianity. Those who approve tend to see his work as of value primarily because it gives his academic and cultural value to his advocacy of Christianity. Conversely, those who disapprove of that advocacy tend to see the worth of his writing as vitiated by his apologetic agenda. Wesley Kort's book sets a new standard in C.S. Lewis studies, arguing for an alternative perspective that considers Lewis's work as a whole, investigating why and at what points Lewis turns to religion generally and to Christianity particularly in order to advance his arguments. This book provides a captivating look into the many cultural, academic, and literary contexts that influenced his many texts. The book examines the standing of Lewis's work, how best to approach his work, as well as the understandings that lead to mistaken readings of him. This indispensable C.S. Lewis resource comments separately on each of more than a dozen of Lewis's major books, connecting readers to the particular literature, religion, and philosophy of C.S. Lewis. These commentaries are free-standing essays, analyses and interpretations of texts that can be read individually and in any order. Scholars and fans of C.S. Lewis will appreciate Kort's commentary and guide to the texts in this new light. *Reading Christian Theology in the Protestant Tradition* offers a distinctive approach to the value of classic works through the lens of Protestantism. Protestant theology did not start with the Reformation, but built on the Medieval thought. Thus this book begins with the first Christian theologians, covering 2000 years of theological writing from the church fathers to Moltmann. Five major periods of church history are represented in 12 key works each, carefully explained and interpreted by an expert in the field. The focus lies not only on the context of the work itself but also on its reception and influence on the Protestant tradition. *Mysticism and beyond: the importance of prayer; The meaning of sin and grace; Rediscovering the Bible; What is true communion?; Rediscovering the festivals and the life of the earth; Finding one's destiny: walking with Christ; The significance of religion in life and death; Christ's second coming: the truth for our time; Universal religion: the meaning of love.* *De ideale introductie in alle onderdelen van de christelijke theologie. Herziene en geactualiseerde uitgave! - Een modern leerboek, geschreven door iemand die het vak van onderwijzen als geen ander beheerst - Geknipt voor beginners in de theologie - Gedetailleerde uitleg van alle sleutelwoorden en begrippen - Vermijdt ingewikkelde theologische bijzaken - Bevat een uitgebreide samenvatting van theologische termen en suggesties voor verdere studie - De ideale introductie in alle onderdelen van de christelijke theologie - Bedoeld voor zelfstudie, voor cursussen, opleidingen of universiteit* From recent sex abuse scandals in the Roman Catholic Church, to arguments about faith schools and religious indoctrination, this volume considers the interconnection

between the actual lives of children and the position of children as placeholders for the future. Childhood has often been a particular site of struggle for negotiating the location of religion in public and everyday social life, and children's involvement and non-involvement in religion raises strong feelings because they represent the future of religious and secular communities, even of society itself. The Bloomsbury Reader in Religion and Childhood provides a rich resource for students and scholars of this interdisciplinary field, and addresses wider questions about the distinctiveness of childhood and its religious dimensions in historical and contemporary perspective. Divided into five thematic parts, the volume provides classic, contemporary, and specially commissioned readings from a range of perspectives, including the sociological, anthropological, historical, and theological. Case studies range from Augustine's description of childhood in Confessions, the psychology of religion and childhood, to religion in children's literature, religious education, and Qur'anic schools. - Religious traditions covered include Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism, in the UK and Europe, USA, Latin America and Africa - An introduction situates each thematic part, and each reading is contextualised by the editors - Guidance on further reading and study questions are provided on the book's webpage With 2 new articles representing the Evangelical and Pentecostal parts of the African Church and a third written from a woman's perspective, this new edition offers an updated and expanded insight into African theology. Regarded as the leading text in Christian theology for the last 25 years, Alister E. McGrath's The Christian Theology Reader is now available in a new 5th edition featuring completely revised and updated content. Brings together more than 350 readings from over 200 sources that chart 2,000 years of Christian history Situates each reading within the appropriate historical and theological context with its own introduction, commentary, and study questions Includes new readings on world Christianity and feminist, liberation, and postcolonial theologies, as well as more selections by female theologians and theologians from the developing world Contains additional pedagogical features, such as new discussion questions and case studies, and a robust website with new videos by the author to aid student learning Designed to function as a stand-alone volume, or as a companion to Christian Theology: An Introduction, 6th edition, for a complete overview of the subject Christianity is the world's most populous religion, with some two billion adherents. As a world religion, Christianity has flourished because it is capable of taking on new forms in new contexts. 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By integrating conversations across disciplines, especially focusing on classical studies and Jewish and Christian studies, this volume addresses several imbalances in scholarship on reading and textual activity in the ancient Mediterranean. Contributors intentionally place Jewish, Christian, Roman, Greek and other reading circles back into their encompassing historical context, avoiding subdivisions along modern subject lines, divisions still bearing marks of cultural and ideological interests. In their examination, contributors avoid dwelling upon traditional methodological debates over orality vs. literacy and social classifications of literacy, instead turning their attention to the

social-historical: groups of people, circles and networks, strata and class, scribal culture, material culture, epigraphic and papyrological evidence, functions and types of literacy and the social relationships that all of these entail. Overall, the volume contributes to an emerging and important interdisciplinary collaboration between specialists in ancient literacy, encouraging future discussion between two currently divided fields. This highly successful and popular book is now available in a thoroughly expanded and updated new edition. Alister E. McGrath, one of the world's leading theologians, provides readers with a concise and balanced introduction to Christianity as it has been interpreted by many of its greatest thinkers and commentators, from its beginning to the modern day. Theology: The Basic Readings, 3rd Edition comprises sixty-eight readings spanning twenty centuries of Christian history. To help readers engage with the material, each reading is accompanied by an introduction, comments, study questions, and a helpful glossary of terms used by its author. Readings are drawn from a broad theological spectrum and include both historical and contemporary, mainstream, and cutting-edge approaches Uses the Apostles' Creed as a framework to introduce readers to writings on key issues, such as faith, God, Jesus, creation, and salvation Represents two thousand years of sustained critical reflection within western Christianity Encourages readers to interact with each text and to engage with primary sources Serves as an ideal companion to the bestselling, Theology: The Basics or as a standalone text Theology: The Basic Readings, 3rd Edition is an essential guide to the topics, themes, controversies, and reflections on Christianity as they have been understood by many of its greatest commentators. Why Democracy needs Christianity: Maritain explains that in a society unleavened by religious ideals, an enduring democracy can never take root. And once a religious people abandons its faith, even the greatest democracy must wither and die.

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