

The Christian Theology Reader Alister E Mcgrath

Christianity is the world's largest religious grouping. It has undergone massive change in the twentieth century, and seems poised to undergo major transformations in the next. In this important and timely book, one of Christianity's most prolific and respected writers examines these changes, and their implications for the future.

A major new introduction to the global history of Christianity, written by one of the world's leading theologians and author of numerous bestselling textbooks. Provides a truly global review by exploring the development of Christianity and related issues in Asia, Latin America and Africa, and not just focusing on Western concerns. Spanning more than two millennia and combining elements of theology, history, and culture, it traces the development of all three branches of Christianity – Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox – providing context to Christianity's origins and its links to Judaism. Looks beyond denominational history at Christianity's impact on individuals, society, politics, and intellectual thought, as well as on art, architecture, and the natural sciences. Combines McGrath's acute historical sensibility with formidable organizational skill, breaking the material down into accessible, self-contained historical periods. Offers an accessible and student-oriented text, assuming little or no advance theological or historical knowledge on the part of the reader.

Four outstanding McGrath books are here in one volume that gives a clear, thoughtful, and highly readable introduction to the basic doctrines of the Christian faith.

Darwinism and the Divine examines the implications of evolutionary thought for natural theology, from the time of publication of Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* to current debates on creationism and intelligent design. Questions whether Darwin's theory of natural selection really shook our fundamental beliefs, or whether they served to transform and illuminate our views on the origins and meaning of life. Identifies the forms of natural theology that emerged in 19th-century England and how they were affected by Darwinism. The most detailed study yet of the intellectual background to William Paley's famous and influential approach to natural theology, set out in 1802. Brings together material from a variety of disciplines, including the history of ideas, historical and systematic theology, evolutionary biology, anthropology, sociology, and the cognitive science of religion. Considers how Christian belief has adapted to Darwinism, and asks whether there is a place for design both in the world of science and the world of theology. A thought-provoking exploration of 21st-century views on evolutionary thought and natural theology, written by the world-renowned theologian and bestselling author.

ECPA 2014 Christian Book Award Winner (Non-Fiction)! Fifty years after his death, C. S. Lewis continues to inspire and fascinate millions. His legacy remains varied and vast. He was a towering intellectual figure, a popular fiction author who inspired a global movie franchise around the world of Narnia, and an atheist-turned-Christian thinker. In *C.S. Lewis—A Life*, Alister McGrath, prolific author and respected professor at King's College of London, paints a definitive portrait of the life of C. S. Lewis. After thoroughly examining recently published Lewis correspondence, Alister challenges some of the previously held beliefs about the exact timing

of Lewis's shift from atheism to theism and then to Christianity. He paints a portrait of an eccentric thinker who became an inspiring, though reluctant, prophet for our times. You won't want to miss this fascinating portrait of a creative genius who inspired generations.

This fourth edition of the international bestseller is the ideal introduction for those who are new to Christian theology. In this revised and expanded edition, the author introduces readers to the central ideas and beliefs, the key debates and the leading thinkers of Christianity. Throughout, the aim is to bring clarity and brevity to the central ideas of theology, both traditional and contemporary. The text comprehensively covers the individual doctrines that form the Christian belief system, weaving together these doctrines, their history, and the intellectual nuance behind them into an inter-connected web. All major Christian denominations are explored, as are their differences and shared customs and beliefs. This rich tapestry results in a clear view of Christianity, providing a coherent vision of the religion in its main forms.

The Christian Theology Reader John Wiley & Sons

The land of Aedyn is a paradise beyond all imagining. But when this paradise falls, strangers from another world must be called to fight for the truth. Peter and Julia never suspected that a trip to their grandparents' home in Oxford would contain anything out of the ordinary. But that was before Julia stumbled upon a mysterious garden that shone on moonless nights. It was no accident that she fell into the pool, pulling her brother along with her, but now they're lost in a strange new world and they don't know whom they can trust. Should they believe the mysterious, hooded lords? The ancient monk who appears only when least expected? Or the silent slaves who have a dark secret of their own? In a world inhabited by strange beasts and magical whisperings, two children called from another world will have to discover who they truly are, fighting desperate battles within themselves before they can lead the great revolution.

Since its first publication, *Christian Theology: An Introduction* has established itself as the leading introductory textbook world-wide. Now, Alister McGrath provides a full new edition which maintains the strengths, structure and features of the first edition in its comprehensive but user-friendly style and coverage. At the same time, it has been revised and updated in light of feedback from students and lecturers internationally. In addition to general updating and expansion, changes include: The addition of significant new historical sections dealing with Byzantine theology, Eastern Orthodoxy, Roman Catholicism, Charismatic and Pentecostal Christianity, and Third World Christianity. The addition of major new theological sections, including sections dealing with the development of the discipline of theology, twentieth-century ecclesiology, ninth- and twentieth century sacramental debates, and the interaction of Christian theology and the natural sciences. The chapters on Christianity and the World Religions and Last Things have been rewritten and expanded. Addition of a major new section detailing theological resources available on the Internet. All citations are now sourced, and linked to the readings provided in the accompanying *Christian Theology Reader*. The glossary has been expanded. Based on many years' experience of teaching Christian theology, Alister McGrath has provided the finest textbook available in the field. This new edition strengthens its position, and will be welcomed by professors and their students alike.

Alister McGrath is one of the premier evangelical theologians of our day. In this book, leading evangelical scholars, including Gabriel Fackre,

John Frame, William Abraham, Gerald Bray, and Clark Pinnock, use McGrath's work as a lens through which to offer a contemporary assessment of evangelical theology. The volume sets McGrath in context and argues that a dynamic brand of evangelical theology—such as what his thinking represents—is necessary for the evangelical wing of the church to be *semper reformanda* (always reforming). Chapters focus on the essence, identity, strengths, weaknesses, and future of evangelical theology, offering a snapshot of a movement in transition.

The Christian doctrine of justification is of immense interest to historians and theologians, and continues to be of major importance in modern ecumenical discussions. The present work appeared in its first edition in 1986, and rapidly became the leading reference work on the subject. Its many acclaimed features include a detailed assessment of the semantic background of the concept in the ancient Near East, a thorough examination of the doctrine of the medieval period, and especially careful analysis of its development during the critical years of the sixteenth century. The third edition thoroughly updates the work, adding material where necessary, and responding to developments in scholarly literature. It will be an essential resource for all concerned with the development of Christian doctrine, the history of the Reformation debates on the identity of Christianity, and modern discussions between Protestants and Roman Catholics over the nature of salvation.

Alister E. McGrath is one of the world's leading theologians, with a doctorate in the sciences. Richard Dawkins is one of the bestselling popular science writers, with outspoken and controversial views on religion. This fascinating and provoking work is the first book-length response to Dawkins' ideas, and offers an ideal introduction to the topical issues of science and religion. Addresses fundamental questions about Dawkins' approach to science and religion: Is the gene actually selfish? Is the blind watchmaker a suitable analogy? Are there other ways of looking at things? Tackles Dawkins' hostile and controversial views on religion, and examines the religious implications of his scientific ideas, making for a fascinating and provoking debate. Written in a very engaging and accessible style, ideal to those approaching scientific and religious issues for the first time. Alister McGrath is uniquely qualified to write this book. He is one of the world's best known and most respected theologians, with a strong research background in molecular biophysics. A superb book by one of the world's leading theologians, which will attract wide interest in the growing popular science market, similar to Susan Blackmore's *The Meme Machine* (1999). Alister McGrath's *Christian Theology: An Introduction* is one of the most internationally-acclaimed and popular Christian theology textbooks in use today. This 5th edition has been completely revised, and now features new and extended material, numerous additional illustrations, and companion resources, ensuring it retains its reputation as the ideal introduction to Christian theology. Fully updated 5th edition of the bestselling textbook, incorporating expanded material, numerous student features and new illustrations. Features new sections on Copernicanism and Darwinism. Includes extended discussions of Augustine's doctrine of creation, Trinitarian theologies of religion, and the relation of Christianity to other faiths. May be used as a stand-alone volume, or alongside the *Christian Theology Reader*, 4th edition for a complete overview of the subject. Retains the chapter structure of the 4th edition, ensuring comparability with earlier editions and courses based on these. Accompanied by a revised instructor's website featuring expanded resources including study questions and answers; visit www.wiley.com/go/mcgrath for more details and to register for access.

A compelling guide for anyone on a quest for spiritual understanding

Our understanding of human rationality has changed significantly since the beginning of the century, with growing emphasis being placed on multiple rationalities, each adapted to the specific tasks of communities of practice. We may think of the world as an ontological unity—but we use a plurality of methods to investigate and represent this world. This development has called into question both the appeal to a universal rationality, characteristic of the Enlightenment, and also the simple 'modern-postmodern' binary. *The Territories of Human Reason* is the first

major study to explore the emergence of multiple situated rationalities. It focuses on the relation of the natural sciences and Christian theology, but its approach can easily be extended to other disciplines. It provides a robust intellectual framework for discussion of transdisciplinarity, which has become a major theme in many parts of the academic world. Alister E. McGrath offers a major reappraisal of what it means to be 'rational' which will have significant impact on older discussions of this theme. He sets out to explore the consequences of the seemingly inexorable move away from the notion of a single universal rationality towards a plurality of cultural and domain-specific methodologies and rationalities. What does this mean for the natural sciences? For the philosophy of science? For Christian theology? And for the interdisciplinary field of science and religion? How can a single individual hold together scientific and religious ideas, when these arise from quite different rational approaches? This groundbreaking volume sets out to engage these questions and will provoke intense discussion and debate.

This text fills the need for a clear, informative, helpful and well-written introduction to Christian spirituality. Includes a detailed guide to resources in spirituality available on the Internet Written by a leading theological educationalist in a clear and accessible manner Encourages active engagement with primary sources through worked case studies

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.

The new edition of this popular textbook by leading theologian, Alister E. McGrath, will be essential reading for anyone wanting to understand the dynamics of the world's largest religion. Fully revised to include greater coverage of the Catholic perspective, contemporary issues, non-Western Christianity, globalization and women, this is a truly comprehensive, lively, and jargon-free introduction to Christianity. Written for beginners to this subject, and assumes no knowledge of Christian beliefs or practices. Includes an introduction to biblical sources and discussion of the central figure of Jesus. Features comprehensive discussions of Christian theology, the history of Christianity from its origins to the present day, and Christianity in the modern world. Increases coverage of contemporary issues, the Catholic perspective, non-Western Christianity, globalization and women Contains accessible and student-friendly features, including numerous illustrations, suggestions for further reading, a glossary of Christian terms, and brief readings from illustrative Christian sources.

'Beginning with the current skepticism about God's very existence, Dr. McGrath starts off with some convincing apologetics. The book would be worth buying for this alone. But he does not rely on apologetics., He knows that the only way to be sure about the living God is to encounter him: and this can happen to people who know almost nothing about him. 'Dr. McGrath then develops a number of models which

help us to form some conception of God, leading into an important chapter on God as personal. . . There follows a shrewd chapter on the Incarnation, with some very straight talk to theologians who affect to dispense with the deity of Jesus: at the same time Dr. McGrath makes it clear that Jesus is not an exhaustive definition of God. The last four chapters are on the Trinity proper. They are skillfully put together, and avoid dangers such as Modalism on the one hand or Tritheism on the other. Dr. McGrath's fellow-theologians could learn a lot from this book, not least on how to communicate. . . Ordinary Christians devoid of theological training (will find this book a marvelous guide.' -Michael Green In this quick and vibrant little book, Kelly Kapic presents the nature, method and manners of theological study for newcomers to the field. He emphasizes that theology is more than a school of thought about God, but an endeavor that affects who we are. "Theology is about life," writes Kapic. "It is not a conversation our souls can afford to avoid."

Throughout history there have been great and articulate defenders of the faith, from Augustine and Aquinas to Jonathan Edwards, G. K. Chesterton, Francis Schaeffer, and C. S. Lewis. But with new challenges comes the need for a fresh apologetic that specifically addresses the arguments levied against faith in our time of scientific atheism and skepticism. In the spirit of C. S. Lewis's *Mere Christianity*, Alister McGrath's *Mere Apologetics* seeks to equip readers to engage gracefully and intelligently with the challenges facing the faith today while drawing appropriately on the wisdom of the past. Rather than supplying the fine detail of every apologetic issue in order to win arguments, *Mere Apologetics* teaches a method that appeals not only to the mind but also to the heart and the imagination. This highly accessible, easy-to-read book is perfect for pastors, teachers, students, and lay people who want to speak clearly and lovingly to the issues that confront people of faith today.

Why the Church must defend the truth. Our ongoing fascination with alternative Christianities is on display every time a never-before-seen gospel text is revealed, an archaeological discovery about Jesus makes front-page news, or a new work of fiction challenges the very foundations of the church. Now, in a timely corrective to this trend, renowned church historian Alister McGrath examines the history of subversive ideas, overturning common misconceptions that heresy is somehow more spiritual or liberating than traditional dogma. In so doing, he presents a powerful, passionate orthodoxy that will equip the church to meet the challenge from renewed forms of heresy today.

Beginning with an introduction to Biblical sources and Jesus as a central figure the book then examines theology, history and the present situation in which Christianity finds itself. The author treats it as a way of life and not just a set of ideas.

Freshly updated for this second edition with considerable new material, this authoritative introduction to the history of Christian theology covers its development from the beginnings of the Patristic period just decades after Jesus's ministry, through to contemporary theological trends. A substantially updated new edition of this popular textbook exploring the entire history of Christian thought, written by the bestselling author and internationally-renowned theologian Features additional coverage of orthodox theology, the Holy Spirit, and medieval mysticism, alongside new sections on liberation, feminist, and Latino theologies, and on the global spread of Christianity Accessibly structured into four sections covering the Patristic period, the Middle Ages and Renaissance, the reformation and post-reformation eras, and the modern period spanning 1750 to the present day, addressing the key issues and people in each Includes case studies and primary readings at the end of each section, alongside comprehensive glossaries of key theologians, developments, and terminology Supported by additional resources available on publication at www.wiley.com/go/mcgrath

In this bold and provocative new book, the author of *In the Beginning* and *The Reenchantment of Nature* challenges the widely held assumption that the world is becoming more secular and demonstrates why atheism cannot provide the moral and intellectual guidance essential for coping with the complexities of modern life. Atheism is one of the most important movements in modern Western culture. For the last two hundred years, it seemed to be on the verge of eliminating religion as an outmoded and dangerous superstition. Recent years, however, have witnessed the decline of disbelief and a rise in religious devotion throughout the world. In *THE TWILIGHT OF ATHEISM*, the distinguished historian and theologian Alister McGrath examines what went wrong with the atheist dream and explains why religion and faith are destined to play a central role in the twenty-first century. A former atheist who is now one of Christianity's foremost scholars, McGrath traces the history of atheism from its emergence in eighteenth-century Europe as a revolutionary worldview that offered liberation from the rigidity of traditional religion and the oppression of tyrannical monarchs, to its golden age in the first half of the twentieth century. Blending thoughtful, authoritative historical analysis with incisive portraits of such leading and influential atheists as Sigmund Freud and Richard Dawkins, McGrath exposes the flaws at the heart of atheism, and argues that the renewal of faith is a natural, inevitable, and necessary response to its failures. *THE TWILIGHT OF ATHEISM* will unsettle believers and nonbelievers alike. A powerful rebuttal of the philosophy that, for better and for worse, has exerted tremendous influence on Western history, it carries major implications for the future of both religion and unbelief in our society.

There is currently huge interest in the question of human nature and identity, and what the human future might look like. Who are we? Why are we here? What is our future? Are we alone? And what can religion bring, alongside biology and anthropology, to these important and exciting questions? *The Great Mystery* focuses on this fascinating field of study. Alister McGrath, bestselling author and Andreas Idreos Professor of Science and Religion at Oxford University, explores the question of human nature from both scientific and religious perspectives, and weaves together the results to open up and explore some of the deepest and most important questions about who we are, why we matter, and what our future might be. A follow-up to his critically acclaimed *Inventing the Universe*, in *The Great Mystery* Alister McGrath once again brings together science with religion to yield an enriched vision of reality, along with rigorous and thoroughly up-to-date scholarship and intellectual accessibility.

Now available in a fully-revised and updated new edition, this popular textbook by one of the world's leading theologians offers a lively, jargon-free introduction to Christianity. Features a wealth of new material on global Christianity, American Christianity, the Orthodox Church, current theological debates, and Christianity in relation to other world religions Includes enhanced and expanded student-friendly features, including numerous illustrations, suggestions for further reading, a glossary of Christian terms, and brief readings from primary Christian sources Written in an accessible and engaging style that assumes no prior knowledge of Christian beliefs or practices, making it an invaluable resource for beginners to the subject as well as those looking for a refresher Incorporates coverage of Catholicism, Orthodoxy, Protestantism, Evangelicalism, and Pentecostalism A glossary, related websites, and other resources from Dr. McGrath are available online at www.alistermcgrathwiley.com

Marking the 50th anniversary of Lewis' death, *The Intellectual World of C. S. Lewis* sees leading Christian thinker Alister McGrath offering a fresh approach to understanding the key themes at the centre of Lewis' theological work and intellectual development. Brings together a collection of original essays exploring important themes within Lewis' work, offering new connections and insights into his theology. Throws new light on subjects including Lewis' intellectual development, the uses of images in literature and theology, the place of myth in modern thought, the role of the imagination in making sense of the world, the celebrated 'argument from desire', and Lewis' place as an Anglican thinker and a Christian theologian. Written by Alister McGrath, one of the world's leading Christian thinkers and authors; this exceptional pairing of McGrath and Lewis brings together the work of two outstanding theologians in one volume.

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.

The third volume of an extended and systematic exploration of the relation between Christian theology and the natural sciences, focussing on the origins and place of theory in Christian theology.

This text looks at the historical, theological, philosophical & scientific aspects of the interaction of science & religion. It includes issues raised by Richard Dawkins concerning evolution, and the anthropic principle in relation to cosmology.

A New Interpretation of Protestantism and Its Impact on the World The radical idea that individuals could interpret the Bible for themselves spawned a revolution that is still being played out on the world stage today. This innovation lies at the heart of Protestantism's remarkable instability and adaptability. World-renowned scholar Alister McGrath sheds new light on the fascinating figures and movements that continue to inspire debate and division across the full spectrum of Protestant churches and communities worldwide.

Avoiding any form of denominational or theological bias, this essential textbook provides full coverage of the first 2,000 years of Christian theological debate, including substantial information on historical, philosophical, and systemic theology. Includes an extensive glossary of terms and an updated guide to theological resources on the Internet.

Reimagining Nature is a new introduction to the fast developing area of natural theology, written by one of the world's leading theologians. The text engages in serious theological dialogue whilst looking at how past developments might

illuminate and inform theory and practice in the present. This text sets out to explore what a properly Christian approach to natural theology might look like and how this relates to alternative interpretations of our experience of the natural world. Alister McGrath is ideally placed to write the book as one of the world's best known theologians and a chief proponent of natural theology. This new work offers an account of the development of natural theology throughout history and informs of its likely contribution in the present. This feeds in current debates about the relationship between science and religion, and religion and the humanities. Engages in serious theological dialogue, primarily with Augustine, Aquinas, Barth and Brunner, and includes the work of natural scientists, philosophers of science, and poets.

In exploring Christian discipleship, Alister McGrath encourages readers to move beyond a superficial grasp of their faith to discover its depth and riches. He equips readers to grow in wisdom and develop an accurate Christian worldview that informs the way they think, imagine, and act. Helpfully drawing on the insights of other illuminating writers, including Dorothy L. Sayers, C. S. Lewis, John Stott, and J. I. Packer, McGrath offers counsel on holding on to hope while journeying through darkness and on how to live meaningfully in a world in which things don't always seem to make sense.

The King James Bible was a landmark in the history of the English language, and an inspiration to poets, dramatists, artists and politicians. Without the King James Bible there would have been no *Paradise Lost*, no *Pilgrim's Progress*, no Handel's *Messiah*. Yet more than a literary, even more than a religious influence, it was seen as a social, economic and political text. Those seeking to overthrow the English monarchy and those wanting to retain it, both sought support from the same Bible. So how did this remarkable translation come to be written? To answer this question is to throw open the doors of a world which was being transformed by the new technology of printing. In reading about the greatest English text ever produced we must close our eyes to our own world in which books are plentiful and readily available and enter another, very different universe...

An updated and expanded version of Alister McGrath's definitive study of the history of the Christian doctrine of justification. It brings together into a single volume the enormous amount of material from the first edition, while adding new sections dealing with recent developments in Pauline scholarship and ecumenical debates over the doctrine. Alister E. McGrath begins his book by critically engaging the views of George Lindbeck on doctrine before moving on to present a fresh understanding of the nature and function of Christian doctrine within the church. Particular attention is paid to the way in which doctrine acts as a demarcator between communities of faith, providing important insights into contemporary ecumenical debates. McGrath also explores the crucial issue of the authority of the past in Christian theology, focusing especially on how doctrine serves to maintain continuity within the Christian tradition. The Genesis of

Doctrine represents an exploration of a "middle way" in relation to the significance of Christian doctrine, rejecting both those approaches that insist on the uncritical repetition of the doctrinal heritage of the past and those that disallow the authority of past doctrinal formulations. The book concludes by considering whether doctrine has a future within the church, answering this question in the affirmative on the basis of a number of important theological and cultural considerations. Product Description: Explores the crucial issue of the authority of the past in Christian theology, focusing especially on how doctrine serves to maintain continuity within the Christian tradition.

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