

Booklists - A 29  
1947-48

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REPORT OF THE RELIGIOUS BOOK SELECTION COMMITTEE

MAY 1 1950

The fifty titles appearing on this year's list are the result of careful selection by a committee of five eminent theologians. This committee, serving for its second year consists of the following members:

The Reverend John Tracy Ellis,  
Associate Professor of History  
Catholic University of America, Wash. D.C.

Dr. Frederick Clifton Grant,  
Professor of Biblical Theology  
Union Theological Seminary, New York

Dr. Jacob R. Marcus,  
Professor of Jewish History  
Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, Ohio

Dr. H. Richard Niebuhr,  
Professor of Christian Ethics  
Yale University Divinity School, New Haven, Conn.

Dr. Hugh Vernon White  
Professor of Christian Theology  
Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, Calif.

Through the generous cooperation of the Religious Publishers' Group, one hundred and sixty-five volumes were submitted to each reviewer, who chose the fifty titles he wished to see included on the list. From these five lists, the Chairman compiled the final list of those titles receiving the most votes. Only one book appeared on all lists, Lowrie, "Art in the Early Church."

The following ten titles were on four lists:

- Attwater Christian Churches of the East
- Baron Modern Nationalism and Religion
- Butler Best Sermons, 1947-1948.
- Anonymous Cloud of Unknowing

Grant	Bible in Church
Maus	Worlds Great Madonnas
Maynard	Humanist as Hero
Nelson	Christian Way in Race Relations
Seaver	Albert Schweitzer
Trueblood	Alternative to Futility

Since not all publishers submitted books for review, there are undoubtedly titles worthy of consideration that could not be included on the list.

It is hoped that the annotations, designed to indicate the scope of the book, rather than to evaluate its contents, will prove helpful to librarians, clergyman and laymen in selecting those titles best fitted to their needs.

Constance Ewing, Chairman

FIFTY OUTSTANDING RELIGIOUS BOOKS

May 1947 - May 1948

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

- Attwater, Donald      Christian Churches of the East. v.1. Bruce, 1947.      \$4.00  
A descriptive introduction to those churches in the East which are  
in communion with Rome. Informative for both Catholic and non-  
Catholic.
- Aulen, Gustaf      Church, Law and Society.      Scribner, 1948.      \$2.00  
A discussion of the church's responsibility in public affairs,  
written by a leading Swedish scholar and church leader.
- Bailey, A.E.      Christ and His Gospel in Recent Art. Scribner, 1948.      \$2.00  
Beautiful illustrations with pertinent but brief comments
- Baron, S.W.      Modern Nationalism and Religion.      Harper, 1947      \$5.00  
A noted Jewish historian traces the inter-relations of modern  
nationalism and religion. The Rauschenbusch lectures for 1944.
- Berdyayev, Nicholas      The Russian Idea.      Macmillan, 1948.      \$2.75  
The mind and soul of 19th century Russia as reflected in its writers  
and interpreted by a sensitive thinker of our own day.
- Bishop, C.H.      France Alive.      Declan X McMullen, 1947.      \$3.00  
An account of the religious revival in Catholic and Protestant  
France.
- Blackwood, A.W., comp.      The Protestant Pulpit; an Anthology of Master  
Sermons from the Reformation to Our Own Day.      \$2.75  
Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1947.  
Half the sermons in this collection are by contemporary preachers.
- Boehme, Jacob      The Way to Christ. Tr. by J.J. Stoudé. Harper, 1947.      \$3.00  
Eight treatises by one of the great mystics of all time.
- The Book of Saints; a Dictionary of Servants of God Canonized by the  
Catholic Church.      Macmillan, 1947.      \$6.00  
A reference work.
- Bowman, J.W.      The Religion of Maturity. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1948.      \$3.00  
Seeks to demonstrate that the New Testament religion continues the  
prophetic revelation of the Old Testament.
- Brown, T.S., comp.      Treasury of Religious Plays. Association Pr., 1947.      \$3.00  
Twenty plays and radio dramatizations chosen to meet the needs of  
churches, clubs, schools -- groups of all ages.
- Burkhart, R.A.      How the Church Grows.      Harper, 1947.      \$2.25  
Not only voices the widespread desire for a rebirth of the church,  
but gives practical suggestions about what may be done in any local  
situation.

- Butler, G.P. ed. Best Sermons, 1947-1948 edition. Harper, 1947. \$2.75  
Includes sermons by Catholic, Protestant and Jewish preachers,  
from Europe as well as America.
- Cadbury, H.J. Jesus: What Manner of Man? Macmillan, 1947. \$2.25  
The Shaffer lectures for 1946, in which the author inquires into the  
workings of the mind of Jesus.
- The Cloud of Unknowing. Harper, 1948. \$1.50  
An abridgment of a 14th century devotional classic by an anonymous  
Christian mystic.
- Dodd, C.H. The Johannine Epistles. Harper, 1947. \$2.75  
A highly readable and illuminating commentary on the Moffat  
translation. Written by a leading scholar.
- Farmer, H.H. God and Men. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1947. \$2.00  
Emphasizes an intense personalism in the Christian view of life.
- Fletcher, J.F., ed. Christianity and Property. Westminster, 1947. \$2.50  
A careful examination of the historical development of Christian  
thought about property.
- Graham, Aelred The Christ of Catholicism. Longmans, Green, 1947. \$4.00  
Not about doctrines but about Christ as apprehended in the faith of  
the Catholic Christian.
- Grant, R.M. The Bible in the Church. Macmillan, 1948. \$2.50  
A history of the interpretation of the Scriptures.
- Hamilton, Edith Witness to the Truth. Norton, 1948 \$3.00  
A well-known classical scholar seeks to rediscover the Christ, free  
from the incrustations with which ritual and theological dogma have  
surrounded Him.
- Harkness, Georgia Prayer and the Common Life. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1948. \$2.50  
A discussion in clear and simple language of the foundations of prayer,  
its methods, and its fruits, emphasizing the need of spiritual  
resources in achieving world peace and security.
- Johnson, Samuel Dr. Johnson's Prayers, ed. by Elton Trueblood.  
Harper, 1947 \$1.50  
Arranged topically, these prayers are valuable for their intrinsic  
merit and as a window into the inner life of Samuel Johnson.
- Kaplan, M.M. The Future of the American Jew. Macmillan, 1948. \$6.00  
The problem of Judaism as a religious culture in contemporary society.
- Kemp, C.F. Physicians of the Soul; a History of Pastoral Counseling.  
Macmillan, 1947. \$2.75  
Traces the history of the church's ministering to the personal  
problems of individuals from the time of Jesus to the present day.
- Knox, John On the Meaning of Christ. Scribner, 1947. \$2.50  
A fresh and revealing approach to the significance of Christ for  
the Christian faith.

- Lewis, C.S.                      Miracles.                                      Macmillan, 1947.                      \$2.50  
The popular Oxford scholar presents, with competence and disarming casualness, an argument for a super-naturalist interpretation of the world.
- Lowrie, Walter                      Art in the Early Church.                      Pantheon, 1947.                      \$6.50  
A factual handbook, beautifully printed, with 500 illustrations not elsewhere collected.
- Luccock, H.E. and Brentano, Frances, eds.      Questing Spirit; Religion in the Literature of Our Time.                      Coward-McCann, 1947.                      \$5.00  
An anthology selected from British and American literature of the 20th century.
- McNeill, J.T.                      Books of Faith and Power                      Harper, 1947.                      \$2.00  
A critical and historical interpretation of six great classics of Protestantism.
- Maritain, Jacques                      The Person and the Common Good.                      Scribner, 1947.                      \$2.00  
A brief illuminating discussion of the nature of personality and of the relations of persons and society.
- Marlow, G.F.                      Churches of Old New England; Their Architecture and Their Architects, Their Pastors and Their People.                      Macmillan, 1947.                      \$3.75
- Matthews, I.G.                      The Religious Pilgrimage of Israel.                      Harper, 1947.                      \$4.00  
A distinguished and concise review of the progress of Hebrew religion from its earliest stages to the Council at Lydda.
- Maus, C.P.                      The World's Great Madonnas.                      Harper, 1947.                      \$4.95  
Pictures, poetry, music and stories centering in the life of the Madonna and Her Son.
- Maynard, Theodore                      Humanist as Hero; the Life of Sir Thomas More.                      Macmillan, 1947.                      \$3.00  
Intimate and vivid appraisal of this sixteenth century scholar and Christian martyr, and of the time in which he lived.
- Nelson, W.S., ed.                      The Christian Way in Race Relations.                      Harper, 1948.                      \$2.50  
A significant book of essays on various aspects of the theme. Written by members of the Institute of Religion who know the nature of the American caste system intimately.
- O'Connor, W.R.                      The Eternal Quest; The Teachings of St. Thomas Aquinas on the Natural Desire for God.                      Longmans, Green, 1947.                      \$4.00
- Papini, Giovanni                      The Letters of Pope Celestine VI to All Mankind                      Dutton, 1948.                      \$3.00  
Literary power and devotional zeal are combined in these letters of an imaginary prelate who with great Christian humility laments the sins of the human family and calls for action in a desperate world.
- Pascal, Blaise                      Great Shorter Works of Pascal. Tr. by Emile Cailliet and J.C. Blankenagel.                      Westminster Pr., 1948.                      \$4.50  
Includes mostly letters, revealing the infinite variety of genius of the great Christian scholar-mystic.

- Paterson, John                The Goodly Fellowship of the Prophets. Scribner, 1948. \$3.00  
A non-technical, readable and informative account of the character  
and message of the great prophets. Based on sound scholarship.
- Reed, L.D.                     The Lutheran Liturgy.                Muhlenberg Pr., 1947.         \$7.50  
A definite work for specialists in church liturgy. Important to  
all interested in the revival of liturgical services.
- Ramakrishna: Prophet of New India. Tr. by Swami Nikhilananda. Harper, 1948. \$3.50  
The first popular edition of a great modern Hindu classic,  
translated and edited with full introduction by a well-known  
Eastern student of philosophy.
- Ricciotti, Giuseppe     The Life of Christ.                Bruce, 1947.                    \$7.50  
A great scholar presents in its best form the conservative view of  
the story of Jesus Christ.
- Schweitzer, Albert     An Anthology, ed. by C.R. Joy.       Harper, 1947.                 \$3.75  
Brief excerpts from Schweitzer's writings, arranged under  
appropriate chapter and topical headings.
- Scott, E.F.                 Paul's Epistle to the Romans.       Scribner, 1947.               \$2.00  
An excellent introduction sharply focussing the essential points.
- Seaver, George             Albert Schweitzer, the Man and His Mind.  
Harper, 1947                               \$3.75  
A careful biography of the the great missionary and scholar;  
a critical, illuminating interpretation of his thought.
- Taylor, A.E.                The Christian Hope of Immortality.   Macmillan, 1947.             \$2.00  
A philosophical approach to the subject by one of the wisest  
philosophers of our time.
- Thurman, Howard            The Negro Spiritual Speaks of Life and Death.  
Harper, 1947.                             \$1.00  
Simply stated yet with profound wisdom this, short essay shows the  
slave singers' unique contribution to man's thought on immortality.
- Trueblood, Elton           Alternative to Futility.               Harper, 1948.                 \$1.00  
Develops the theme that the spiritual crisis of the modern world  
can be met only by means of new types of religious organizations.
- Van Dusen, H.P.            World Christianity, Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow.  
Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1947.               \$2.50  
A survey of the movement toward world organization of the churches.