

CTF Library Newsletter

January 2025



Welcome to the January issue of the CTF Library newsletter!

Happy new year!

Welcome to the January 2025 edition of the CTF Library newsletter. We hope you are all settling in to the new term.

In this month's special bumper edition, we are showcasing CTF staff research. Browse some of the books, edited volumes and articles at the forefront of theological studies that our house members have published throughout 2024 (pp. 3-7). From mission to ethics, biblical studies to photography, feminist theology to ecotheology, postcolonialism to trauma studies, and the future of theological education to *Stranger Things*, explore the diverse range of the CTF research community's important and exciting work.

Elsewhere in the library, we are delighted to announce that our CTF-ARU students are now able to borrow up to 20 print books from the Cambridge UL - see p. 8 for more details. We also have some quick updates to the library timetable, and proposed changes coming to our ebooks platform; read more on p. 8.

Jane and Grace
The Library Team

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newsletter:

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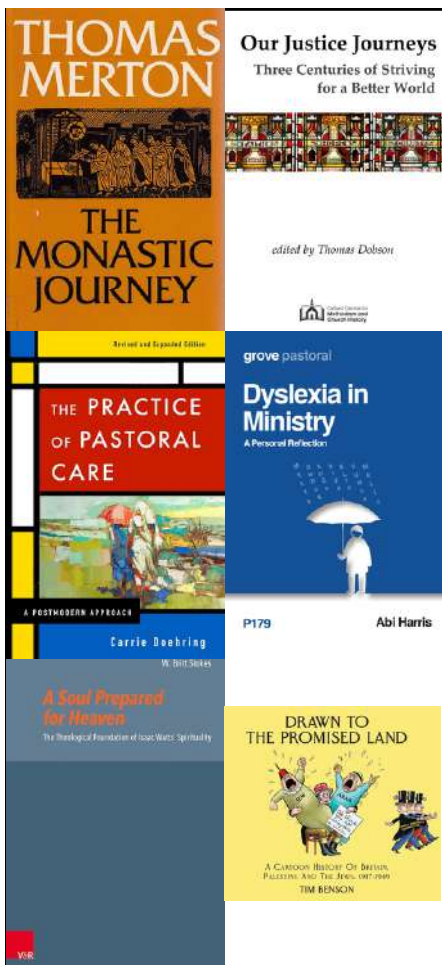
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What's new in CTF libraries?

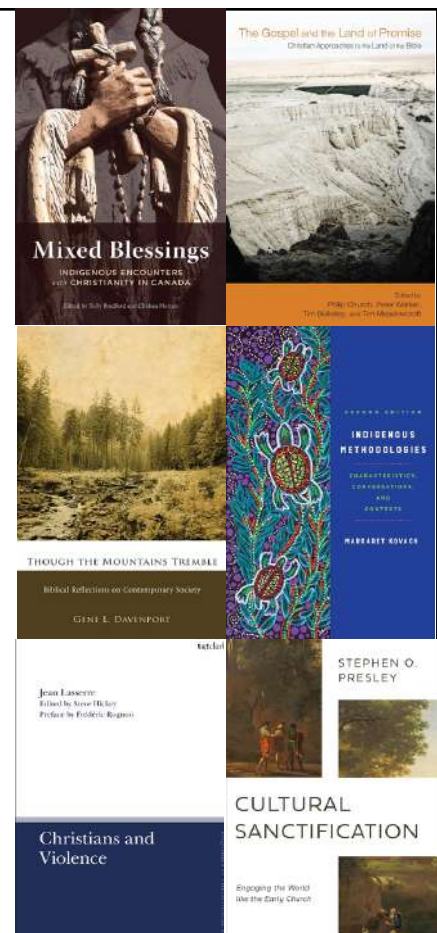
Highlights from collections across the CTF.

- **IOCS:** Merton, Thomas, *The Monastic Journey* (1977).
- **Wesley:** Dobson, Thomas, *Our Justice Journeys : Three Centuries of Striving for a Better World* (2023).
- **Westcott:** Doehring, Carrie, *The Practice of Pastoral Care: A Postmodern Approach, revised and expanded edition* (2015).
- **Westcott:** Harris, Abi, *Dyslexia in Ministry : a Personal Reflection* (2024).
- **Westminster:** Stokes, W. Britt, *A Soul Prepared for Heaven: the Theological Foundation of Isaac Watts' Spirituality* (2022).
- **Woolf:** Benson, Timothy S., *Drawn to the Promised Land : a Cartoon History of Britain, Palestine and the Jews : 1917-1949* (2024).

What's new in eDiscover?

Explore highlights from this month's new ebook acquisitions & many more on eDiscover.

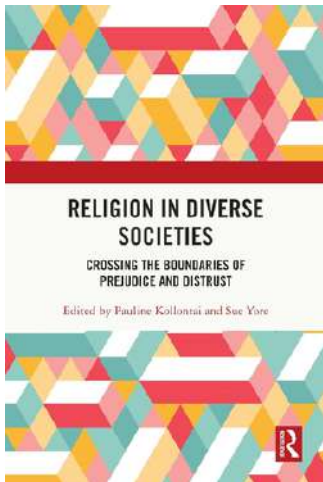
- Bradford, Tolly, and Chelsea Horton, *Mixed Blessings : Indigenous Encounters with Christianity in Canada* (2016).
- Church, Philip, et al, *The Gospel and the Land of Promise : Christian Approaches to the Land of the Bible* (2011).
- Davenport, Gene L., *Though the Mountains Tremble : Biblical Reflections on Contemporary Society* (2009).
- Kovach, Margaret, *Indigenous Methodologies : Characteristics, Conversations, and Contexts* (2021).
- Lasserre, Jean, and Frédéric Rognon, *Christians and Violence* (2024).
- Presley, Stephen O., *Cultural Sanctification : Engaging the World like the Early Church* (2024).



Staff research spotlight 2024-25

Every year, CTF staff members publish a wealth of exciting new research. Explore highlights from the CTF research community in 2024.

Would you like us to feature your publication in a future newsletter? Let us know at library@theofed.cam.ac.uk



Richard Davis

'The Christian Ministry of Reconciliation and Settler Decolonization in Aotearoa New Zealand', In *Religion in Diverse Societies: Crossing the Boundaries of Prejudice and Distrust*, edited by Pauline Kollontai and Sue Yore (Routledge, 2024)

This edited volume explores what is needed for theology to survive and thrive in the next generation. As well as declining student numbers and pressures on university theology departments, churches are increasingly questioning the value of theological study. The volume addresses the need for innovative responses to this crisis, which re-evaluate the place of theological study in the ecclesial, academic, social and cultural landscape.

Daniel Pratt-Morris-Chapman

'The Logic of Mission: Re-Thinking the Epistemology of Christian Missiology,' *Journal of Analytic Theology* 12 (2024): 29-46

This essay proposes a particularist approach to the study of Christian mission. This epistemological orientation requires us to begin with what we think we already know about both (a) the context and (b) the gospel before (c) evaluating how all that knowledge fits together.



[Read the article now!](#)

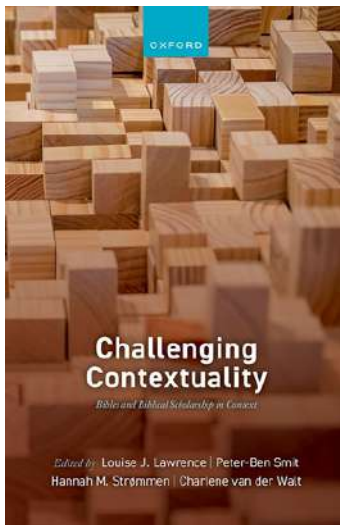


Anna Abram

'Leadership: Spiritual, Ethical, or Both?', *Stan Rzeczy [State of Affairs]* 1:24 (2024)

In this article, Anna Abram explores the modern and historical contexts and connotations of leadership, and the ambiguities of this term that seems to resist a straightforward definition. It clarifies the concepts of ethics and spirituality, arguing that these factors are intrinsic to positive leadership. The author discusses the complexities inherent in creating ethical environments in which positive and, above all, practical, leadership may flourish.

[Read the article now!](#)



[Read the ebook now!](#)

[Read online now!](#)

Helen Cameron

Cameron, H., and A.P. Rogers, 'Theological Action Research in conversation with Contextual Biblical Interpretation', in *Challenging Contextuality: Bibles and Biblical Scholarship in Context*, edited by L. Lawrence and others, (OUP, 2024)

This book brings together current and promising approaches to biblical interpretation, concerned with how contextual biblical interpretation challenges biblical scholarship. This chapter opens a dialogue between Theological Action Research and contextual biblical interpretation by questioning who in any context the readers are, and in what ways they use the Bible as scripture.

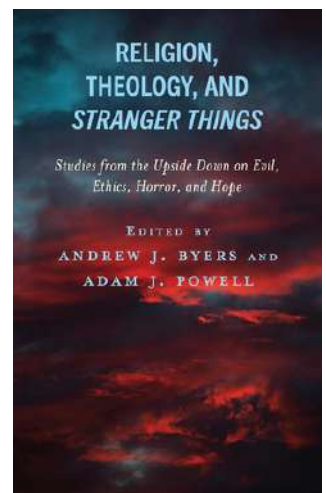
Further publications:

- 'Book Review: 'A Woman Shall Do It': Edith Gates, Neglected Pioneer (1883-1962)', *Baptist Quarterly*, 55(3), pp. 171.
- 'On deciding upon the right thing to do: Embracing the human capital case for studying theology', in Smith, G. and Todd, A. (eds.) *Future Faith: Public and Practical Theologies for the Contemporary World*.
- Day, J. and Cameron, H. (2024) *Project Violet Findings*, Oxford: Centre for Baptist Studies, Regent's Park College, Oxford.

Andy Byers

Byers, Andy, and Adam Powell, *Religion, Theology and Stranger Things: Studies from the Upside Down on Evil, Ethics, Horror, and Hope* (Bloomsbury, 2025)

This book brings interdisciplinary analysis to the teeming spiritual side of the hit television series *Stranger Things*. The volume addresses the series' many different theological, religious, and supernatural themes. From spiritualism to secularism, Mormon gender norms to monsters of abnormality, rock & roll to Dungeons & Dragons, the volume argues that imaginative realms can serve to showcase and to scrutinize the common impulses and needs of our culture and ourselves. Explore in particular Andy's chapter: **'Can Anything Good Come out of Hawkins? Self, Place, Evil, and Salvation in John's Gospel and *Stranger Things*, and the Secular Age,'** pp. 213–31



Further publications

- 'A Jewish Messiah for the World: John's Jesus as the Cosmic and Cosmopolitan Christ' in *John, Jesus, and History Volume 4: Jesus Remembered in the Johannine Later Situation*, edited by Paul N. Anderson (SBL Press, 2024), pp. 173–87
- 'The Johannine Community and the Johannine Community Vision: Historical Reflection, Rhetorical Construction, and Narrative Ecclesiology,' in *The Johannine Community in Contemporary Debate*, edited by Chris Segloneiks and Chris Skinner (Lexington/Fortress, 2024)

Andrew Dunlop

'Who Do You Think You Are? A Theological Reflection on Identity and Mission in the Anglican Diocese of Mauritius', *Practical Theology* 17.2 (2024): 135–47

This article reflects on a visit to the Diocese of Mauritius in the Anglican Province of the Indian Ocean. In its theological reflection, aspects of the author's Mauritian heritage are held together alongside Anglican tradition, the history of Anglican work on the island, and postcolonial theology. Dunlop makes suggestions to further the ministry and mission of the Anglican Church in Mauritius that is derived from the culture rather than imposed upon it through colonial legacy.



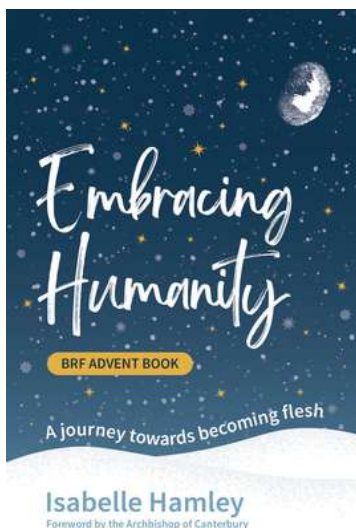
Isabelle Hamley

***Embracing Humanity : A Journey Towards Becoming Flesh* (BRF, 2024)**

This book explores what it meant for God to become flesh and how this enables us to understand what it means to be human. As contemporary society grapples with questions of identity, justice and medical ethics, *Embracing Humanity* deftly explores how different aspects of being human are both inhabited and transformed in the incarnation.

Further publications:

- 'Happy Are Those: Mapping out a Geography of Happiness Through the Psalms,' *The Journal of Disability and Religion* (December 2024)



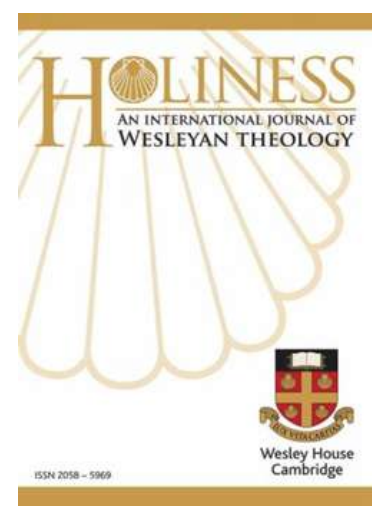
Dominic White

'Natural Contemplation – a Christian Healing for the Environment?', *Holiness* 9:2 (November 2024)

Recent studies have acknowledged the insufficiency of rational arguments to motivate us for necessary changes to save the planet: hence the attraction of non-religious ecospiritualities. Identifying Western Christianity's relationship with the environment as more moral than spiritual, White responds to the principle of right relation to the environment developed by the Methodist social creed tradition to recover the neglected tradition of natural contemplation from Christian cosmology and the monastic tradition.

Further publications:

- "Early Christian Initiation: a Somatic Ressourcement", *Worship*, 98, July 2024, pp. 258-277.



[Read the article now!](#)



Karen O'Donnell

Survival: Radical Spiritual Practices for Trauma Survivors. SCM Press, 2024.

In this book, leading trauma theologian Karen O'Donnell turns her attention to the impact that trauma has on spiritual practice, and considers the ways that trauma might require a wholesale reimagining of spiritual practice into something more suitable and sustaining for trauma survivors.

Further publications

- "Between God's Will and Human Intercession: Feminist Reimaginings of Intercessory Prayer in the Shadow of Trauma." *Concilium* (special issue on prayer), 2024/4 (Oct 2024): 69-77.
- "Feminist Theology." In *Ford's New Modern Theologians*, edited by Ashley Cocksworth, Rachel Muers, and David Ford, 325-37. Blackwell, 2024.
- Leith, Jenny, and Karen O'Donnell. "Complicating Conversations: English Anglican Perspectives on Abortion." *Anglican Theological Review* 106, no. 3 (August 2024): 237-51.
- "Evoking Consent: Feminist Theological Research and the Ethics of Sexual Consent." In *Feminist Theologies: A Companion*, edited by Kerrie Handasyde, Stephen Burns, and Katherine Massam. London: SCM Press, 2024.
- "Pregnancy: Human and Divine." In *Pregnancy and Birth: Critical Theological Conceptions*, edited by Karen O'Donnell and Claire Williams. SCM Press, 2024.

[Read the print book now!](#)

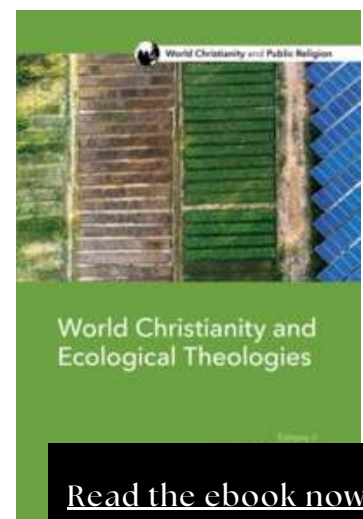
[Read the article now!](#)

[Read the print book now!](#)

Elizabeth Theokritoff

'Hearing the words of creatures: contemplative knowledge in the Orthodox tradition', in Barreto, Raimundo and others, eds. *World Christianity and Ecological Theologies*. Vol. 6 (Augsburg Fortress Publishers, 2024), 229-248

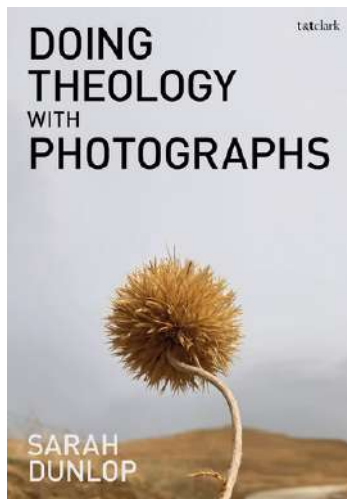
This volume invites scholars from different continents and contexts to a North-South dialogue on environmental ethics, political ecology, and ecofeminism. In a deeply theological contribution, Elizabeth Theokritoff takes a deep dive into Eastern theological tradition and its three waves of creation theology: patristics, nineteenth-century Russian religious philosophy, and ecological theology as cosmological thinking.



[Read the ebook now!](#)

Further publications

- 'Deification and ecology' in Gavriluk, Paul L., and others. *The Oxford Handbook of Deification*. Oxford University Press, 2024.
- 'Keeping This Place: Contemplative Vision and Ecological Living as Christian Witness: An Orthodox View'. *Mission Studies*, 41(3), 388-411.
- "'Not to waste the treasure": from sustainability to sacramental living' in *Climate Crisis and Sustainable Creaturely Care: Integrated Theology, Governance and Justice*, edited by Christina Nellist (Cambridge Scholars Press: 2024), pp. 351-363



[Read the print book now!](#)

Sarah Dunlop

***Doing Theology with Photographs* (T&T Clark, 2024)**

This book is the first of its kind to fully explain how to use photographs for research within Practical Theology. The book covers a variety of visual methods, including photojournalism, different types of photo elicitation, photo voice and studies of visual social media. It explores how photographs can be used to resource theological reflection and spirituality, thus linking research and faithful practice within the rational for using visual material.

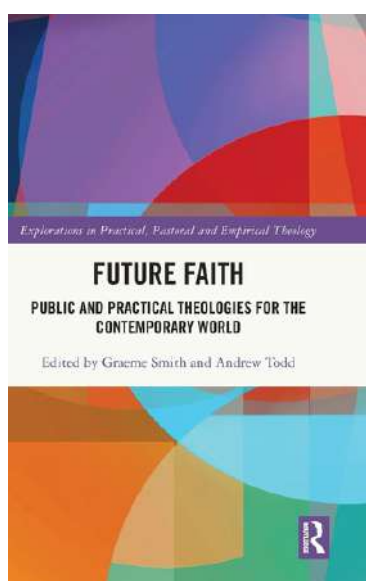
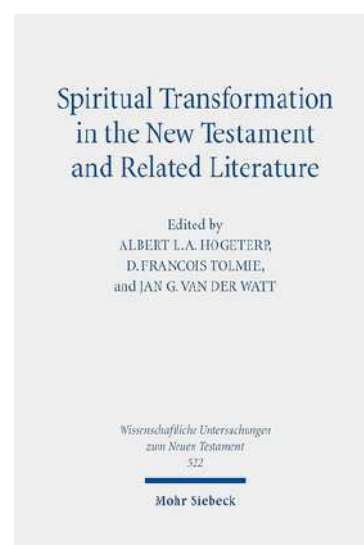
20% off this book for CTF members! ~~£21.99~~ £17.59

[Get your discount code here.](#)

Jonathan Soyars

'Transformative Spiritual Askēsis in the Mandates of the Shepherd of Hermas,' in *Spiritual Transformation in the New Testament and Related Literature*, ed. Albert Hogeterp and others, (Mohr Siebeck, 2024) pp.227-92

This volume explores what spiritual transformation means for Early Christianity and beyond, with articles ranging from Old Testament wisdom literature to the Dead Sea Scrolls, Graeco-Roman philosophy, the gospels, epistles, and Johannine literature of the New Testament and other Early Christian literature. Contributions provide reflections on the involvement of the self and agency in spiritual transformation and concern diverse anthropological dimensions of mind, emotions, body, and embodiment related to this phenomenon of metamorphosis.



[Read the ebook now!](#)

Andrew Todd

Smith, Graeme, and Andrew Todd, *Future Faith: Public and Practical Theologies for the Contemporary World* (Routledge, 2025)

This volume explores what is needed for theology to survive and thrive in the next generation. As well as declining student numbers and pressures on university theology departments, churches are increasingly questioning the value of theological study. The volume addresses the need for innovative responses to this crisis, which re-evaluate the place of theological study in the ecclesial, academic, social and cultural landscape.

Explore more staff research inside:

- Helen Cameron, 'On deciding upon the right thing to do: Embracing the human capital case for studying theology', pp. 205-20
- Andrew Todd, 'Theology and the Public Secular Sacred', pp. 50-65

January Library Team Updates



ARU borrowing at CUL

We are delighted to announce that all CTF/ARU students are now able to borrow up to **20 print books** from the Cambridge University Library (in addition to 20 books from CTF libraries).

Students can register for their card [here](#), then collect it from the UL.

Any questions, please get in touch at library@theofed.cam.ac.uk

Changes to ebooks and journals in 2025

Our journal and ebook supplier, EBSCO, is updating the look and feel of their platform. They plan for these changes to come into force in January.

[Read our guide to the changes here.](#)

We hope this transition will make searching journals more straightforward, but if you have any issues, please do get in touch.

Updated library drop-in schedule

We have changed our schedule! If you would like to drop in to talk to us in person, you can usually find us:

- Monday, 9.00-12.00 - Westminster College
- Wednesday, 13.00-16.00 - Westfield House
- Thursday, 9.00-12.00 - Westcott House
- Thursday, 13.00-16.00 - IOCS

What else we've been up to this month...

- Tidying up the libraries ready for the start of term
- Writing up reports for this term's ARUOG, CAOG, and DAOG
- New library cards and inductions for January starters

Thank you for reading!

Contact us:	library@theofed.cam.ac.uk
Or browse all library resources:	Library and Digital Resources on Hedwig
