

The Season of Creation: A Preaching Commentary

edited by Norman C. Habel, David Rhoads, and H. Paul Santmire

Fortress, Minneapolis, 2011. 248 pp. \$35.00. ISBN 978-0-8006-9657-3.

As the global climate crisis worsens, many churches have sought to respond by instituting a movement to observe a liturgical season of creation. Scholars who have pioneered the connections between biblical scholarship, ecological theology, liturgy, and homiletics provide here a comprehensive resource for preaching and leading worship in this new season. Included are theological and practical introductions to observance of the season, biblical texts for its twelve Sundays in the three-year lectionary cycle, and astute commentary to help preachers and worship leaders guide their congregations into deeper connection with our imperiled planet. Theodore Hiebert, Ched Myers, and Barbara Rossing, along with the volume's three editors, are among the 14 contributors.

Miracle Discourse in the New Testament

edited by Duane F. Watson

Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, 2012. 288 pp. \$51.95 (cloth). ISBN 978-1-58983-118-6.

This volume explores the rhetorical role that miracle discourse plays in the argumentation of the New Testament and early Christianity. The investigation includes both the rhetoric within miracle discourse and the rhetorical role of miracle discourse as it was incorporated into the larger works in which it is now a part. The volume also examines the social,

cultural, religious, political, and ideological associations that miracle discourse had in the first-century Mediterranean world, bringing these insights to bear on the broader questions of early Christian origins. The contributors are Gregory Bloomquist, Wendy Cotter, David deSilva, Davina C. Lopez, Gail O'Day, Todd Penner, Vernon Robbins, and Duane Watson.

Four Views of the Apostle Paul

by Michael F. Bird (general editor), Thomas R. Schreiner, Luke Timothy Johnson, Douglas A. Campbell, and Mark D. Nanos

Counterpoints: Bible and Theology. Zondervan, Grand Rapids, 2012. 240 pp. \$17.99. ISBN 978-0-3103-2695-3.

Recent years have seen much controversy about the apostle Paul, his religious and social context, and its effects on his theology. In this volume, four leading scholars present their views on the best framework for describing Paul's theological perspective, including his view of salvation, the significance of Christ, and his vision for the churches. Contributors and views include the Reformed view (Thomas R. Schreiner), the Catholic view (Luke Timothy Johnson), the Post-New Perspective view (Douglas Campbell), and the Jewish view (Mark D. Nanos). Key questions guide each contributor: Was Judaism "legalistic" in Paul's day? What did Paul find wrong with "works of the law"? What did Paul mean by the "righteousness of God" and "justification"? Was Paul still within Judaism? Did the Reformers misinterpret Paul? Michael F. Bird covers foundational issues and provides helpful summaries in his introduction and conclusion.