

Throughout, Reeves engages with Paul's letters and NT scholarship but in a non-threatening way for his diverse readers (using endnotes). I particularly liked his wide-ranging illustrations from everyday life as a pastor and professor in America. They are engaging, showing he understands where people are and their struggles/questions. His three aims are clearly met. This is not a book with simple modern steps to achieve a better spirituality, but a valuable engagement with ancient Christian spirituality as exemplified by Paul's teaching and life focused on Christ's crucifixion, burial and resurrection. Reeves calls his readers to imitate Paul and so follow Jesus.

Robert S. Dutch

*Studying Paul's Letters: Contemporary Perspectives and Methods*

Joseph A. Marchal, ed.

Minneapolis: Fortress, 2012, 978-0-8006-9818-8, £21.99, xiv + 233 pb

This volume of 11 essays explores Paul's letters from a variety of interpretative approaches. Some of the hermeneutical methods have been employed in other recent volumes (e.g., historiography, rhetoric, feminism and Jewish perspectives), but a welcome development here is the application of more recent methodologies: visual, economic and spatial perspectives, and African American, Asian American and Queer approaches. An introductory chapter explains how best to use the book, and each subsequent chapter concludes with a bibliography for further reading. Naturally, after delineating the respective methodological approach, the chapters engage with specific Pauline texts. These include: the Christ-hymn of Phil. 2.6-11; 1 Thess. 2.14-16 and chs. 4-5; Gal. 3.6-14; 4.21-5.1; Rom. 8.14-39 and ch. 12; and Philemon.

This is an insightful and useful book on hermeneutical methodologies and those interpretive decisions which can shape multifaceted perspectives of Paul. Even with the overlap of similar approaches employed elsewhere, it is engaging to see analyses of different biblical texts. Where this book is most useful is engagement with newer approaches. The chapters on space (Nasrallah), economics (Oakes), visual perspectives (Lopez) and African American approaches (Williams) are particularly noteworthy. Curiously, however, and given the actual nature and purpose of Paul's letters, perspectives which are typically omitted from volumes of this sort are faith or pastoral readings, or analyses which reflect upon the conflict-ridden nature of Paul's communities. There may even be a case for examining whether Paul was actually a poor communicator—or perhaps that is a step too far in contemporary Pauline scholarship?

Mark T. Finney

*Sünde und Rechtfertigung bei Paulus: Eine exegetische Untersuchung zum paulinischen Sündenverständnis aus soteriologischer Sicht*

Eun-Geol Lyu

WUNT 2.318; Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2011, 978-3-16-151006-9, €84.00, xv + 405 pb

This revised Heidelberg dissertation offers a three-part analysis of Pauline soteriology: Lyu argues that a theology of atonement formed part of Paul's original gospel