

## BOOK NOTICE

- 1. Antony Fernando, *Christian Path to Mental Maturity. A Lucid Exposition of Christianity for the Multi-religious Classroom*, Kadawata, Sri Lanka: Intercultural Book Promoters, 1998, pp.iii+262; Ind.Rs. 260,--; US \$ 18.00.**  
'This easy-to-read exposition of Christianity as a path to mental maturity is based on an analysis of the Bible done, very likely for the first time, from a Comparative Religion's perspective. Because of that perspective, the author has been able to present the message of the Bible in a down-to-earth manner where faith does not appear to go against reason. The author believes that in a world of multi-religious traditions and religionless trends, common sense should not be set aside when talking of Christianity to thinking Christians, ex-Christians or non-Christians. The book thus is equally eye-opening to believers and non-believers, to scholars and laymen. It is also of great interest and benefit to those who turn to religion for insights to cope with their day-to-day problems.'
- 2. Jean L. Mercier, *From Socrates to Wittgenstein. A Critical History of the Key-Concepts of Western Philosophy*, Bangalore: Asian Trading Corporation, 1998, pp.127; Rs.45,--.**  
As the title indicates, this small work is a critical survey of the key concepts in the Western philosophy. It begins with Heraclitus of Greece (ca.500 BC) and ends with the linguistic philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein (1889-1951). The four parts of the book are: (i) Greek Philosophy, (ii) Medieval Philosophy, (iii) Modern Philosophy, and (iv) Contemporary Philosophy. The appendix deals with the philosophy of Teilhard de Chardin and J.Krishnamurti.
- 3. Jean L. Mercier, *Being Human. Basic Elements of Philosophical Anthropology*, Bangalore: Asian Trading Corporation, 1998, pp.131, Rs.45,--.**  
This is the second book in the "Philosophy for all Series". The concept of man is analyzed both in the Indian (Upanisadic, Buddhist, Samkhyan, Jaina, etc.) and in the Western (Greek, Hebrew, etc.) perspectives. This small work also deals with some modern philosophical concepts of man.
- 4. A. Peter Abir, *Conflict and Conquest. An Exegetico-Theological Study of Revelation 12, 7-12*, Bangalore: Asian Trading Corporation, 1998, pp.xxiv+319, Rs.100,--.**  
This work is the revised version of a doctoral thesis submitted at the Gregorian University, Rome.  
This work has four parts. The two chapters of the first part deal with "Background of Revelation" and "Literary Study of Rev 12, 7-12". Second part has three chapters, namely, "War in Heaven", "the Defeat of the Dragon by the Conquering Christ", and "Conquest by the Witnessing church". Part three deals with "The Rhetorical function of the Conflict".
- 5. Jules Gomes, *Turn to God: Rejoice in Hope. Reflections for Urban Congregations*, Bangalore: Asian Trading Corporation, 1998, pp.viii+96; Rs.40,--.**
- 6. Melannie Svoboda, *SND Traits of a Healthy Spirituality*, Bangalore: Asian Trading Corporation, 1998, pp.131; Rs.80,--.**

7. **George Olivera**, *Virtue in Diverse Traditions. An Introduction*, Bangalore: Asian Trading Corporation, 1998, pp.xv+263, Rs.150,--.  
The work analyses the concept of virtue from philosophical and religious points of view. It has nine chapters: (i) Understanding Virtue in Aristotelian Thought, (ii) Understanding Virtue in Thomas Aquinas Thought, (iii) Hume's Understanding on Virtue, (iv) Kantian Analysis, (v) Way of Life in Classical Hinduism, (vi) Jaina Notion of Virtue, (vii) Buddhism on Virtue, (viii) Renascent Hinduism: Gandhi's Version, and (ix) Islam on Moral Life.
8. **George Murickan, SJ**, *My Encounter with Terminal Cancer*, Anand: Gujarat Sahitya Prakash, 1998, pp.xv+138, Rs.60,--; \$ 6.00
9. **L.M. Bermejo, SJ**, *Ablaze in the Splendour of God. Amazing Saints*, Anand: Gujarat Sahitya Prakash, 1998, pp.xii+298; Rs.85,--; \$10.00.
10. **Joseph Neuner, SJ**, *My Faith. The Apostolic Creed: An Explanation and Meditative Reflections*, Anand: Gujarat Sahitya Prakash, 1998, pp.viii+162: Rs.62,--; \$7.00.
11. **Swami Mukhyananda**, *Vedanta. The Science of Integral Reality vis-à-vis Modern Science*, Calcutta: Centre for Reshaping Our World-view, Ramakrishna Math and Mission, 1998, pp.x+303, Rs.125,--.  
This work is written as 'Centenary Tribute' on Swami Vivekananda's 'Triumphant Return from the West to India on 26<sup>th</sup> January 1897'. Advaita Vedanta and modern Western science is the subject matter of this brilliant work. In seven chapters the author ably explains different aspects of Advaita Vedanta and its compatibility with modern science. The author concludes: 'A harmonious combination of Vedanta and Science will raise humanity to a higher level of culture and a fuller ideal in life and lead Man to fulfilment both in Secular and Spiritual fields by helping him to attain *Abhudaya* (secular prosperity) and *Nishreyas* (spiritual felicity), the *summum bonum* based on *dharma* (ethics and morality)'.
12. **Walter Brueggemann**, *A Commentary on Jeremiah. Exile and Homecoming*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998, pp.xiv+502, paperback; ISBN 0-8028-0280-X; \$ 32.00.  
'Offering a fresh look at the critical theological issues in the Jeremiah tradition, Brueggemann argues that Jeremiah's voice compels us to rediscern our own situation, issuing an urgent invitation to faith, obedience, justice and compassion.'
13. **Rocco Buttiglione**, *Carol Wojtyla. The Thought of the Man Who Became Pope John Paul II* (Trns. by Paolo Guietti & Francesca Murphy), Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997, pp.xvi+384, hardcover; ISBN: 0-8028-3848-0; \$ 35.00.  
This work is based on an accurate study of all of Pope John Paul's works and all the secondary literature. It gives a complete picture of his thought and writings.
14. **James D.G. Dunn**, *The Theology of Paul the Apostle*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998, pp.xxxvi+808, hardcover; ISBN: 0-8028-38844-8; \$ 45.00.

'This book, James Dunn's magnum opus, represents a major contribution to the ongoing discussion regarding what Paul's theology is and what its continuing relevance is to the study and practice of religion and theology.

15. **Craig A. Evans and Peter W. Flint (eds.)**, *Eschatology, Messianism, and the Dead Sea Scrolls*, Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, 1997, pp.xii+176, paperback; ISBN: 0-8020-4230-5; \$ 20.00.

This is the first volume in the series of *Studies in the Dead Sea Scrolls and Related Literature*. It contains eight essays by eminent scholars. Some of the themes are: Old Testament Foundations of Messianism, The Figure of Daniel at Qumran, The Teacher of Righteousness, the Expectation of the End in the Scrolls, Jesus, Paul and John seen in the Light of Qumran.

16. **Frank H. Gorman, Jr.**, *Divine Presence and Community. A Commentary on the Book of Leviticus*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997, pp.xii+163, paperback; ISBN: 0-8028-0110-2; \$ 18.00.

'Through a careful application of exegesis and exposition, the author shows that Leviticus is, foremost, a call to holiness, a weaving together of ritual and ethical issues to provide the community with a means for enacting and actualizing the covenant relationship.'

17. **Joel B. Green**, *The Gospel of Luke*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997, pp.xcii+928, hardcover; ISBN: 0-8028-2315-7; \$ 50.00.

This massive volume is the first book in the *New International Commentary on the New Testament (NICNT)*. 'This highly original commentary on the Gospel of Luke is unique for the way it combines concerns about first-century culture in the Roman world with the understanding of the text of Luke as a wholistic, historical narrative. It contains sixty pages of bibliography and sixty pages of indexes.

18. **Christopher R. Seitz**, *World without End. The Old Testament as Abiding Theological Witness*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998, pp.xii+355, paperback; ISBN: 0-8028-4322-0; \$ 28.00.

The book contains twenty-one essays in three parts. Part I: the Old Testament in Christian theological reflection. Part II: Exegesis, especially of Isaiah. Part III: the Old Testament in relation to the special concerns of modern world.

19. **Ben Witherington III**, *The Acts of the Apostles. A Social-Retrocal Commentary*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998, pp.xlvii+875, paperback; ISBN: 0-8028-4501-0; \$ 50.00.

'Written in a readable style, with more detailed interaction with scholarly discussion found in the various excursuses, this commentary draws on the best new insights from a number of disciplines to provide the reader with the benefits of recent innovative ways of analyzing the text of Acts.' It also contains a number pictures and charts.

**CSWR**  
**Centre for the Study of World Religions**  
1998 - 1999  
**Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram**  
**Dharmaram College**  
**Bangalore 560029, India**

CSWR was founded in 1971 to fathom the mystery Indian religiosity and to foster the dialogical harmony of the religions, a unique accomplishment of Indian heritage. In India which is the womb of world religions, like Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism as well as the haven of main line religions like Christianity and Islam, various religious pursuits could survive and blossom because of the age old Indian legacy of religious co-existence and cooperation anchored in the socio-cultural life of Indian polity. Today this religiosity of harmony and understanding of religions is to be articulated more clearly in a focused vision and translated into a concrete social action with a commitment when the very political and societal fabric is torn apart in the name of fraud and fake religious claims and identities; the forces of disintegration are looming large on the future horizon of India. Against this backdrop of ominous political and social uncertainties the mission and message of CSWR have, more than ever before, become poignantly relevant and meaningful. While we are bracing ourselves to face the challenges of Third Millennium, the dire need of the hour is to bring harmony of religions as a constitutive and formative value of our political and cultural psyche and of our spirituality for a cohesive and vibrant India. With this vision, both in heart and brain, the CSWR activities of the coming academic year, apart from the regular programmes, are envisaged on an experimental basis in three modules i. Understanding my neighbour's religion; ii. Fellowship of religious harmony in God experience; iii. Leadership training in inter-religious mission.

**CSWR TEAM:**

Director: Fr. Antony Kalliath  
Secretaries: Antony Velathiparambil  
Stephen Thachil  
Sunny Punnaveliparambil  
Mathew Puthenpurackal

**July**

Inter-Religious Dialogue and The Religions of the Little Tradition  
 Pro. Dr. John Carman, Harvard University, USA

**August 1-31**

Religion in Contemporary Indian life

(One Month long Course for Overseas Students: Discourses on Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Jainism, Zoroastrianism, Islam, Vision of Aurobindo, Religions of the "Little Tradition", Encounter of Christianity and Hinduism plus pilgrimages to various religious centres and ashrams; Training in various Meditations).

**September**

- Inter-Religious Fellowship Meeting
- Training in Vipasana Meditation

**October**

- Discussion on the Relevance of Gandhian Vision of and Approach to Inter-Religious Harmony
- Fellowship in Religious Experience (FIRE)
- Leadership Training for Inter-Religious Ministry (for the religious)

**November**

- Guru Nanak Jayanthi, Discourse on brother/sisterhood as Interreligious Harmony.
- Fellowship in Religious Experience (FIRE)
- Leadership Training for Inter-Religious Ministry (for Teachers)
- Discourse on Inter-Religious Harmony and the Importance of Festivals in Indian Religiosity.
- Cultural Feast of Religious Harmony

**December**

- TEAPE Lectures:

*The Title:* Must Christians be Different? God, Faith and Justice in a Multi-Faith World

Prof. Dr. Michael Barnes S.J. Cambridge University, UK

- *Christu Jaynathi*: Celebration of Human Community of Love and Peace

### **January**

- Discourse on Islamic Law and the Harmony of Religious Experience
- Fellowship in Religious Experience
- Leadership Training for Interreligious Ministry (for Students)

### **February 25**

- Discourse on Inter-Religious Fellowship as Celebration of God Experience.
- Fellowship in Religious Experience (FIRE)
- Training in *Pranic* Meditation

### **March**

- Three Day Consultation on Inter-Faith Value Dissemination among the Growing Generation
- Fellowship in Religious Experience(FIRE)

*Please contact for more information on programmes:*

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