Building Bridges for Human Solidarity in the Light of Pope Francis’ Encyclical Letter, Fratelli Tutti:
A conference organized by Global Ministries University, the Institute for Interreligious Dialogue and Islamic Studies (IRDIS) and the State Islamic University, Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta, Indonesia (UIN). Other sponsors include the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue (PCID), the Harmony Institute, Umma University, the Maryknoll Office of Global Concerns, and the Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies (PISAI)

August 19-21, 2021
Tangaza University College, Nairobi, Kenya

--A Selective Bibliography--

This conference will draw upon the experience of people from diverse religious, cultural, and economic backgrounds who are developing new ways to transcend many of the divisions that are afflicting the human community and our common home on planet earth. Among these: Environmental Issues and Climate Change, the Challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic, and Racism and Racial Discrimination. To aid in further exploration and understanding of these issues, I’ve compiled a list of resources for those who would like to research these areas more deeply. The annotations describing the items are edited from the book jackets (as described on Amazon) or from descriptions in WorldCat. All works described below are available either as eBooks, or as printed books available through Amazon and most libraries. Please feel free to contact me for assistance in locating these materials.

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Theology and the Environment

Climate change is the greatest moral challenge humanity has ever faced as it magnifies all forms of global social injustice. Antal argues that it’s time for the church to meet this moral challenge and suggests ways people of faith can reorient what they prize through new approaches to worship, preaching, and other spiritual practices that honor creation and cultivate hope.

Barnett illuminates the hidden role and complicated legacy of religion in the emergence of a global environmental consciousness.


Explores the character traits and virtues required for Christians to be responsible keepers of the earth and to flourish in the challenging decades to come.

**The Dalai Lama, John D. Dunne, and Daniel Goleman.** *Ecology, Ethics, and Interdependence: The Dalai Lama in Conversation with Leading Thinkers on Climate Change*, 2018. Internet resource.

Leading scientists, academics, ethicists, and activists, as well as His Holiness the Dalai Lama and His Holiness the Karmapa, gathered in Dharamsala, India, for the twenty-third Mind and Life conference to discuss arguably the most urgent questions facing humanity today: the environmental deterioration of our planet, the rights of animals, and the needs of an ecosystem.


Scholars and activists from Christian communities as far-flung as Honduras, the Philippines, Colombia, and Kenya present a global angle on the global ecological crisis—in both its material and spiritual senses—and offer Catholic resources for responding to it. This volume explores the deep interconnections between the global North and the global South, and analyzes the relationship among the physical environment, human society, culture, theology, and economics—the "integral ecology" described by Pope Francis in *Laudato Si'*. 

**Cichos, Katarzyna, Jarosław A. Sobkowiak, Radosław Zenderowski, Ryszard F. Sadowski, Beata Zbarachewicz, and Stanisław Dziekoński.** *Sustainable Development Goals and the Catholic Church: Catholic Social Teaching and the UN's Agenda 2030*, 2021. Internet resource.

This book identifies both the consistencies and disparities between Catholic Social Teaching and the United Nation's (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With Pope Francis' *Laudato si'* encyclical, Catholicism seems to be engaging more than ever with environmental and developmental concerns. However, there remains the question of how these theological statements will be put into practice. The ongoing involvement of the Catholic Church in social matters makes it a significant potential partner in issues around development. This book brings together authors from multiple
disciplines to assess how the political and legal aspects of each of the UN’s 17 SDGs are addressed by Catholic Social Teaching.

The authors offer both a Christian critique of environmental destruction and an ecological critique of Christianity. They encourage an ecological reformation of the Christian tradition for the sake of the whole earth. Each of the essays explores one of the core Christian symbols, seeks to capture the current state of the debate in this regard, identifies emerging horizons for such an ecological reformation and invites conversation on the road ahead.

This book serves as an introduction to the burgeoning field of ecotheology, illustrating both its variety and its commonality across different Christian theological divides. Written in clear, accessible style, this book walks readers through difficult concepts and shows the way different sources in Christian theology have responded to one of the most significant cultural issues of our time.

Gathered from the writings and discourses of Pope Francis on the environment, *Our Mother Earth* sets forth a Christian vision of ecology.

Gale discusses Islam and the environment, Islamic environmental justice, law and ethics, and Muslim environmentalism as religious practice.

This volume explores themes of ecotheology, ecofeminism, environmental pollution and degradation, climate change, human and environmental rights, sustainable development, human-animal relations through totem and taboo, sacred sites and spaces, and other environmental topics in ways that add immeasurably to the study of African environmentalisms and the interaction of law and religion. In terms of religion, the capability of humans not only to sin and destroy the earth, but also to repair and
redeem it, is very much in evidence across Christianity, Islam, and Africa’s many indigenous religious and cultural traditions. In terms of law, the need for effective policies and for states and governments to work with indigenous groups and communities towards environmental solutions is also apparent.

Scholarship on African American history and culture has often neglected the tradition of African American women who engage in theological and religious reflection on their ethical and moral responsibility to care for the earth. Melanie Harris argues that African American women make distinctive contributions to the environmental justice movement in the ways that they theologize, theorize, practice spiritual activism, and come into religious understandings about our relationship with the earth. Incorporating elements of her family history to set the stage for her argument, Harris intersperses her academic reflections with her own personal stories and anecdotes.

Irwin, Kevin W. *A Commentary on Laudato Si’: Examining the Background, Contributions, Implementation and Future of Pope Francis’s Encyclical*, 2016. Internet resource.
From one of today’s most respected Church scholars comes an essential commentary on Pope Francis’ highly influential encyclical letter *Laudato Si*: *On Care for Our Common Home*. This book complements the encyclical and shows its timeliness and the way it reflects Pope Francis’ vision for the world and how he understands his teaching role in a truly global church in multicultural world.

In Indic religious traditions, a many rituals and myths exist in which the environment is revered. Despite this, India’s natural resources are under heavy pressure with its growing economy and exploding population. Presenting the texts of Bishnois, their environmental history, and their contemporary activism; investigating the Swadhyaya movement from an ecological perspective; and exploring the Bhil communities and their Sacred Groves, this book applies a non-Western hermeneutical model to interpret the religious traditions of Indic communities.

The environmental crisis has prompted religious leaders and lay people to look to their traditions for resources to respond to environmental degradation. In this book, Mari Joerstad contributes to this effort by examining an ignored feature of the Hebrew Bible: its attribution of activity and affect to trees, fields, soil, and mountains. The Bible presents a social cosmos, in which humans are one kind
of person among many. Using a combination of the tools of biblical studies and anthropological writings on animism, Joerstad traces the activity of non-animal nature through the canon.


Just as God loves creation, so are Christians called to care for it. Now, amid the accelerating degradation of our global environment, that task has taken on greater urgency than ever. How should Christians respond to the climate crisis and widespread pollution of earth’s shared commons, water, and air? How might Christian communities think about human responsibility to other living creatures? In roundtable format, scholars navigate the layers of what it means for humans to live in right relationship with earth’s life systems.


Borrowing an approach from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s leadership, which brought together both secular and religious arguments for ending segregation, this book addresses physical evidence of climate change while demonstrating through biblical teachings the religious imperative for preserving our inherited world.


Can Buddhists be a critical voice in the green conversation? Leading Buddhist environmentalist Stephanie Kaza has spent her career exploring the intersection of religion and ecology. With so much at stake, she offers guidance on how people and communities can draw on Buddhist concepts and practices to live more sustainable lives on our one and only home.


A major study of environmentalism and Islam in practice and theory, with an historical overview that sets out future challenges, including reformulating the *fiqh* or Islamic legal tradition to take the ecological dimension seriously.


The publication of Laudato Si’ was a moment of great importance for Catholics and for the world. Fr. Joshtrom Kureethadam, one of the church’s top experts on the document, provides a thoughtful, passionate, and highly accessible commentary on its key ideas and themes.
This landmark work is simultaneously a manifesto, a blueprint, a call to action, and a deep comfort for troubling times. David R. Loy lays out the principles and perspectives of Ecodharma—a Buddhist response to our ecological predicament, introducing a new term for a new development of the Buddhist tradition.

Buddha taught detachment from ego, not detachment from the world. This book provides the basis for radical social reform, emphasizing that all things are interrelated. When we can regard the world as our lover, and as a part of ourselves we become better able to change our lives for the better.

Hannah Malcolm brings together voices from a multiplicity of different perspectives and backgrounds to reflect upon what a theology of climate grief looks like in their own context - from small island countries to inner-city suburbs, from refugees to those in wealthy western contexts.

An insightful study of the intersection of religion, ecology, and philosophy. Drawing on such seminal thinkers as Thomas Berry, Gilles Deleuze, and Felix Guattari, the author weaves an engaging narrative of a way toward Whole Earth thinking.

How can Daoism, China’s indigenous religion, give us the aesthetic, ethical, political, and spiritual tools to address the root causes of our ecological crisis and construct a sustainable future? James Miller shows how Daoism orients individuals toward a holistic understanding of religion and nature.

Leading theologians, ethicists, scientists, and economists provide accessible overviews of the encyclical *Laudato Si*'s major teachings, the science it engages, and the policies required to address the climate crisis.


"Famous theologian Jürgen Moltmann returns here to the theme that he so powerfully addressed in his groundbreaking work, *Theology of Hope*. In the twenty-first century, he tells us, hope is challenged by ideologies and global trends that would deny hope and even life itself. Terrorist violence, social and economic inequality, and most especially the looming crisis of climate change all contribute to a cultural moment of profound despair. Moltmann reminds us that Christian faith has much to say in response to a despairing world. In "the eternal yes of the living God," we affirm the goodness and ongoing purpose of our fragile humanity. Likewise, God's love empowers us to love life and resist a culture of death.


A new dialogue between truths of science and religion provides a basis for articulating and disseminating an environmental ethos which could result in the emergence of a well-organized and highly effective worldwide movement in religious environmentalism.


The book explores how African Christians in Ghana can think eco-theologically about the nexus of mining, waste pollution, water pollution, and land degradation. In 2017, the government of Ghana banned illegal mining and declared war against any activity that does not complement environmental protection and conservation of natural resources. The Christian church needs academic resources to support the campaign against the destruction of the land, water bodies, and environment. The papers presented generate theological imaginations in shaping the political campaign against the destruction of the land and the environment. This volume will serve as a textbook for theological students, the church, and other governmental agencies.


Leading scholars reflect on the legal, economic, practical, and philosophical implications of religious values. Inspired by the celebrated encyclical *Laudato Si’*, they offer gracefully written and learned reflections on what it would mean to express an ethic of compassion and care for the world.

The damage of climate change, a phenomenon to which we all contribute through our collective carbon emissions, presents an unprecedented ethical problem, one that touches a foundational moral principle of Christianity: Jesus's dictate to love thy neighbor. This book offers a series of reflective essays that consider the Christian ethics of climate change and suggest ways to fold the neighbors of the future into our spiritual lives as an impetus to meaningful personal, social, and ultimately environmental transformations.


Using her expertise in ancient Israelite society as well as in biblical theology, the author walks readers through biblical passages, showing how significant environmental theology is in the Bible's witness and sharing case studies connecting modern day examples and Scripture.


The moral values and interpretive systems of religions are crucially involved in how people imagine the challenges of sustainability and how societies mobilize to enhance ecosystem resilience and human well-being. This handbook provides the most comprehensive and authoritative overview of the field. It encourages both appreciative and critical angles regarding religious traditions, communities, attitude, and practices.


The author draws on his long-standing and widely recognized engagement with ecological theology to propose that the traditions of the Protestant Reformation, rightly read, offer rich resources today for those who are struggling to move forward to respond theologically to the crisis of a planet in peril and thereby to celebrate nature by faith.


This book works with the premise that all of creation, including humankind, needs to hear the good news of Jesus' resurrection in this age in which humanity is crucifying creation. Informed by years of experience as an environmental activist and minister, Leah Schade equips preachers to interpret the Bible through a green lens, become rooted in environmental theology, and learn how to understand their preaching context in terms of the political, cultural, and biotic setting of their congregation.

By reconstructing the teachings of classic thinkers to reflect the scientific understanding of the world, this title shows how to 'green' the Catholic faith: to value the goodness and beauty of creation, to acknowledge the kinship of all creatures, to use creation with gratitude and restraint, and to live virtuously within the earth community.


In this book, Daniel Scheid draws on Catholic social thought to construct what he calls the "cosmic common good," a new norm for interreligious ecological ethics. The cosmic common good can also be found in Hindu, Buddhist, and American Indian religious traditions. By placing a Catholic cosmic common good in dialogue with Hindu dharmic ecology, Buddhist interdependence, and American Indian balance with all our relations, Scheid constructs a theologically authentic moral framework that re-visions humanity's role in the universe.


This work emerges from the pastoral and theological experience of Reverend Robert Shore-Goss, who worked with his congregation by making the earth a member of the church, by greening worship, and by helping the church building and operations attain a carbon neutral footprint. Shore-Goss explores an eco-spirituality grounded in incarnational compassion, following the lived praxis of Jesus and the commission of the risen Christ as Gardener. Thus, Jesus becomes the "green face of God".


In the 1980s, Skolimowski developed a new concept that he called "eco-theology," inspired by the earlier works of Teilhard and Bergson. He realized that the idea of evolution was much more far-reaching than merely a theory about biology. Evolution encompassed not only all life, but also the Earth as a whole, the origins of the planets and stars, and indeed the entire universe. It must encompass all aspects of humanity and human culture, including such traditional concepts as God and religion. If everything evolves, then religious truth must evolve, spirituality must evolve, and even God must evolve. These basic insights have far-reaching consequences. Eco-theology fully integrates humanity into the natural world. This is no New-Age philosophy, no fuzzy-headed wishful thinking.
This is serious philosophical innovation by an Oxford-trained philosopher, in an area of gravest concern. Eco-theology is badly needed today; our very survival depends on it.


This collection focuses on providing a set of captivating essays on the specifics of concrete cases of environmental activism involving most of the main Asian religions from several countries. Case studies are drawn from the religions of Animism, Buddhism, Daoism, Hinduism, Islam, and Jainism. They are from the countries of Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, and Thailand.


A foundational resource for readers investigating religiously motivated environmentalism, this book provides both a global overview of the subject and a detailed discussion of key figures, concepts, organizations, events, and documents.


Thanissara relates the Buddha’s awakening to the sea-change occurring on Earth in present time as we as a civilization become aware of the ethical bankruptcy of the nuclear and fossil fuel industry and the psychopathic corporate and military abuse of power currently terrorizing our planet. She relates the Buddha’s story to real-life individuals who are living through these transitional times, such as Iraq war veterans, First Nation People, and the Dalai Lama. *Time to Stand Up* gives examples of the Buddha’s activism, such as challenging a racist caste system and violence against animals, stopping war, transforming a serial killer, and laying down a nonhierarchical structure of community governance, actions that would seem radical even today. She shows how core Buddhist practices can inspire a wake-up call for action for our sick and suffering planet Earth.


Monica Weis suggests that Merton’s interest in nature, which developed significantly during his years at the Abbey of Gethsemane, laid the foundation for his growing environmental consciousness. Tracing Merton’s awareness of the natural world from his childhood to the final years of his life, Weis explores his deepening sense of place and desire for solitude, his love and responsibility for all living things, and his evolving ecological awareness.

A groundbreaking book that brings together voices from Buddhism, Sufism, Christianity, and Native American traditions, as well as from physics, deep psychology, and other environmental disciplines, calling on us to reassess our underlying attitudes and beliefs about the Earth and wake up to our spiritual as well as physical responsibilities toward the planet,


Law professor and humorist Jay Wexler travels the globe to understand the complexity of these problems and learn how society can best address them. He feasts on whale blubber in northern Alaska, bumps along in the back of a battered jeep in Guatemala, clambers down the crowded beaches of Mumbai, and learns how to pluck a dead eagle in Colorado, all to answer the question "Can religious practice and environmental protection coexist?"


Wright connects the problems facing our common home with both the theology of *Laudato Si’* and concrete, hope-filled activities Christians are undertaking to mitigate our ecological crises and inspire the deep commitment to creation the gospel demands.

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**THEOLOGY AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**


This book blends an examination of emerging research on the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in marginalized communities with the author’s own research on social and poverty isolation in India, and his own experience as told in diaries written whilst in lockdown in a poor district of Santiago, Chile. It challenges majority world churches and religions in a post-pandemic world to learn from each other and from Jesus’ own identification with the outcast and urges them to take on a way of life and prophetic learning from the world of the poor.


Draws from anthropology and theology to provide an analysis of the role of the church in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As virtual reality becomes increasingly prominent throughout society, churches must assess how to respond thoughtfully and biblically. In *Virtual Reality Church*, theologians Darrell Bock and Jonathan Armstrong present a systematic reflection on how to faithfully apply virtual reality for ministry purposes. They examine the risks--like compromising the meaning of tangible worship--and opportunities--like safely reaching persecuted churches--of integrating revolutionary technologies into the Christian life.


Why bother with the interpretive categories of biblical faith when in fact our energy and interest are focused on more immediate matters? The answer is simple and obvious. We linger because, in the midst of our immediate preoccupation with our felt jeopardy and our hope for relief, our imagination does indeed range beyond the immediate to larger, deeper wonderments. Our free-ranging imagination is not finally or fully contained in the immediacy of our stress, anxiety, and jeopardy. Beyond these demanding immediacies, we have a deep sense that our life is not fully contained in the cause-and-effect reasoning of the Enlightenment that seeks to explain and control. There is more than that and other than that to our life in God's world!


This collection of essays was written in the year 2020 by students enrolled in Missional Formation classes held at Asbury Theological Seminary and taught by Dr. Robert Danielson. Each essay records a Church's response to COVID-19 in the middle of the epidemic. Without knowing the end of the story, an effort was made to record exactly what pastors and congregations were thinking in the middle of the crisis using ethnographic methods. The assignment was designed to get to an understanding of how United States Christians in the middle of a pandemic were theologizing about the crisis.


A curated selection of ideas, wisdom, and inspiration on the challenges we will face on the other side of the Covid-19 pandemic.

This book analyzes how the particular dynamics and effects emerging from the COVID-19 crisis both impact and are perceived by its most vulnerable yet visionary populations, based on their pragmatic and prescient analysis of the American experiment of freedom with regards to race and religion. It addresses the various ways the COVID-19 crisis marks not merely a moment in time, but also a world-historical event that threatens to leave its imprint on lives and cultures for decades to come.


In the fifth century BCE, Siddhartha Gautama, the Buddha, put forward Four Noble Truths for the benefit of humankind. His teaching, the Dhamma, has remained central to Buddhist practice, and is unique among religions in that it speaks primarily to the presence and nature of suffering in the world. That makes the Dhamma so relevant to the suffering caused by the present pandemic of coronavirus. In just a few months, coronavirus has changed the way of life for the world, for the East and the West, for young and old, for the previously healthy and for those with medical issues. We are all affected—if not from succumbing to the virus oneself, then to witnessing the distress of the wider world. The core Truths—The Truth of suffering, The Truth of the cause of suffering, The Truth of the cessation of suffering, The Truth of the path that leads to the cessation of suffering—have remained the same for millennia, and now have a deeply necessary role to play in the contemporary world. The author links the Four Noble Truths with the coronavirus experience, explains the way suffering is embedded in the notions of self and the characteristics of existence, and sets out the Brahma-vihara: the four virtues of universal love, compassion, sympathetic joy, and equanimity.


The leader of the Catholic Church discusses what the COVID-19 crisis revealed about the cruelty and inequality of society, what it can teach about handling upheaval, and how to make the world safer, fairer, and healthier for all people.


Coronaspection is a groundbreaking series of forty video interviews concerning COVID-19 and its spiritual challenges, featuring major faith leaders worldwide. Coronaspection was created as a means of providing hope and inspiration to faithful of all religions, as humanity struggled, and as it continues to struggle, with the challenges posed by COVID-19.

This volume addresses the collective sense that the pandemic is more than a problem to manage our way out of. Rather, it is a moment to consider our broken relationship with the natural world, and our alienation from a deeper sense of purpose and meaning. The contributors, though differing in their diagnoses and recommendations, share the conviction that the chief ground of any such reorientation ineluctably involves our collective engagement with both ecology and theology.


This small volume addresses existential questions concerning Christians amid the pervasive threat of COVID-19. Each author shares his personal experience during the crisis while reflecting from a Christian perspective within his personal responsibility each with a different focus. All four see meaning in the crisis as Pope Francis expresses in the foreword: it has yet again made us aware of our transience, frailty, and mortality.


Through an examination of Pope Francis’s words and actions during the coronavirus pandemic, the author finds a model of leadership for a suffering world.


From thousands of surveys of church leaders and in-person consultations, Thom Rainer and his Church Answers team have gathered the essential wisdom churches need to face the challenges and opportunities that the quarantine crisis creates.


The author shows that a careful reading of the Bible and Christian history offers simple though profound answers to our many questions, including: What should be the Christian response to the pandemic? How should we think about God? How do we live in the present? Why should we lament?
What should we learn about ourselves? How do we recover? Written by one of the world's foremost New Testament scholars.

**THEOLOGY AND RACISM/RACIAL ISSUES**


Bantum argues that our attempts to heal racism will not succeed until we address what gives rise to racism in the first place: a fallen understanding of our bodies that sees difference as something to resist, defeat, or subdue. Therefore, he examines the question of race, but through the lens of our bodies and what our bodies mean in the midst of a complicated, racialized world, one that perpetually dehumanizes dark bodies.


Christians addressing racism in American society must begin with a frank assessment of how race figures in the churches themselves, and how to equip people to be agents for change in and beyond their church communities.


A resource designed to help parishes, RCIA programs, campus ministries, and Catholic readers unpack and grapple with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ new document on racism, published in 2018. *Open Wide Our Hearts* is a call to a humble and expansive love that respects human dignity and unites us all in Christ.


The only Catholic bishop who has consistently written on race matters, Bishop Braxton begins this timely book with a probing personal introduction in which he describes his family's history and his experience as an African American that he brought to his ministry as a Catholic priest and bishop. In speeches, homilies, and pastoral letters—in some cases prompted by police shootings and the Black Lives Matter movement—he lays out a vision of healing for the church and the nation, informed by a quest for conversion, justice, and reconciliation.

Brueggemann brings the "transformative potential" of the biblical texts to bear on critical contemporary contexts, including but not limited to economic disparities, racial injustice and white supremacy, climate and care for creation, and the power of memory and mentoring. He delves deeply in the Psalms, which he says, "provides a foundational script for living into the fullest and deepest realities of human existence." And he draws from the Prophets his foundational concept of totalism, which he defines as "automated fragmentation of social life such that we habitually and callously disregard our relations with others."


More than twenty-five years have passed since the publication in 1979 of "Brothers and Sisters to Us," the U.S. Bishops' statement against racism, and during this time white Catholic theologians have remained relatively silent on this topic. In this hard-hitting study, prominent Roman Catholic theologians address white privilege and the way it contributes to racism. They maintain that systems of white privilege are a significant factor in maintaining evil systems of racism in our country and that most white theologians and ethicists remain ignorant of their negative impact.


Cheah examines how the racial ideology of white supremacy has been played out in the two different ways by which convert Buddhists and sympathizers and Burmese ethnic Buddhists have adapted Buddhist religious practices to the American context.


The book challenges readers to move beyond conventional perceptions of Asian Americans as model minorities and to confront the ways in which Asian Americans are socially restrained by whiteness. Rather than being insulated from the logics of white racism in the modern United States, being Asian American is tragically defined by those logics. Coming to grips with how Asian Americans are disciplined by race reveals the prospects for Asian American self-determination and raises the
question of whether resistance to the social demands and allure of whiteness is realistically possible, for Asian Americans and non-Asian Americans alike.


First published in 1969, this book provided the first systematic presentation of Black Theology, while also introducing the voice of an African American theologian who would shake the foundations of American theology. Relating the militant struggle for liberation with the gospel message of salvation, James Cone laid out the foundation for an interpretation of Christianity from the perspective of the oppressed that retains its urgency and challenge today.


This book is a timely analysis of the securitisation of Islam in the US and an original contribution to securitisation theory by introducing the notion of 'indirect securitising speech acts' and the role of emotions and affect in securitisation studies. It is an innovative approach to Islamophobia, everyday racism and security.


At the center of the story of American Christianity lies an integral connection between race relations and Christian unity. Despite claims that Jesus Christ transcends all racial barriers, the most segregated hour in America is still Sunday mornings when Christians gather for worship. In this book fourteen historians and other scholars examine how the sobering historical realities of race relations and Christianity have created both unity and division within American churches from the 1790s into the twenty-first century.


This book, containing essays by Latino, Asian, African American, and Native American Buddhist practitioners, lay people, and Dharma teachers—including Alice Walker, Maxine Hong Kingston and Thich Nhat Hanh—addresses the connection between diversity, racism, and Buddhism at four levels: the personal, the interpersonal, the institutional, and the cultural. Recognizing that attention to the pain of racism is essential, the overarching theme of this work is how the Dharma becomes an effective antidote to the suffering and a vehicle for healing and liberation.

In this book, theologian and blogger Drew G.I. Hart places police brutality, mass incarceration, antiBlack stereotypes, poverty, and everyday acts of racism within the larger framework of white supremacy. Leading readers toward Jesus, Hart offers concrete practices for churches that seek solidarity with the oppressed and are committed to racial justice.


According to Hill Fletcher, the tendency of Christians to view themselves as the “chosen ones” has often been translated into racial categories as well. Thus, Christian supremacy has historically lent itself to white supremacy, with disastrous consequences. Hill Fletcher proposes educational strategies that will help foster racial healing in America, the first of which is to demand of white Christians that they accept their responsibility for racist policies and structural discrimination in America.


Some of today’s problematic ideologies of racial and religious difference can be traced back to constructions of the relationship between Judaism and early Christianity. New Testament studies, which developed contemporaneously with Europe’s colonial expansion and racial ideologies, is, David Horrell argues, therefore an important site at which to probe critically these ideological constructions and their contemporary implications. Horrell explores the ways in which ‘ethnic’ (and ‘religious’) characteristics feature in key Jewish and early Christian texts, challenging the widely accepted dichotomy between a Judaism that is ethnically defined and a Christianity that is open and inclusive. Then, through an engagement with whiteness studies, he offers a critique of the implicit whiteness and Christianness that continue to dominate New Testament studies today, arguing that a diversity of embodied perspectives is epistemologically necessary.


Drawing on history, public opinion surveys, and personal experience, Robert P. Jones delivers a provocative examination of the unholy relationship between American Christianity and white supremacy and issues an urgent call for white Christians to reckon with this legacy for the sake of themselves and the nation.
Khan, Mariam. *It's Not About the Burqa: Muslim Women on Faith, Feminism, Sexuality and Race*, 2020. Internet resource.

Seventeen Muslim women speak frankly about the hijab and wavering faith, about love and divorce, about feminism, queer identity, sex, and the twin threats of a disapproving community and a racist country. With a mix of British and international women writers these essays are funny, warm, sometimes sad, and often angry; each of them is a passionate declaration calling time on the oppression, the lazy stereotyping, the misogyny and the Islamophobia. What does it mean, exactly, to be a Muslim woman in the West today? According to the media, it's all about the burqa. This book explains what it's really about.


Through a systems theoretical and deconstructive account of religion and the political theology of St. Paul, this book traces how the racism and violence of modern Western Christianity is a symptom of its failure to secure its own myth of sovereignty within a complex world of plurality. It focuses on Pauline political theology as reflective of an inherent religious "autoimmunity" built into Christian community, a theory of theological-political violence located within Western Christianity. Kline then traces major theoretical aspects of the historical "apparatus" of Christian Identity, demonstrating that it is ultimately around the figure of the Black slave that racialized Christian identity becomes a system of anti-Blackness and white supremacy. The book concludes by offering strategies for thinking resistance against such racialized Christian identity by constructing a "pragmatics of faith," engaging Deleuze's and Guattari's use of the term pragmatics, Moten's theory of Black fugitivity, and Long's account of African American religious production.


In this volume, senior scholars come together to explore how Jewish and African American experiences can make us think differently about the nexus of religion and politics, or political theology. Some wrestle with historical figures, such as William Shakespeare, W. E. B. Du Bois, Nazi journalist Wilhelm Stapel, and Austrian historian Otto Brunner. Others ponder what political theology can contribute to contemporary politics, particularly relating to Israel's complicated religious/racial/national identity and to the religious currents in African American politics. Lloyd opens novel avenues for research in intellectual history, religious studies, political theory, and cultural studies, showing how timely questions about religion and politics must be reframed when race is considered.

A leading Black Catholic moral theologian addresses the thorny issue of racial justice past and present. Massingale writes from an abiding conviction that the Catholic faith and the Black experience make essential contributions in the continuing struggle against racial injustice that is the work of all people.


This volume locates the contemporary study of anti-Semitism and Islamophobia squarely within the fields of race and racism. By harnessing the explanatory power of long-established organizing concepts within the study of race and racism, this collection of articles makes a historically informed, theoretical, and empirical contribution to aligning these analytical pursuits. The collection brings together a range of perspectives on this subject, including a comparison between Islamophobia in early modern Spain and twenty-first century Europe, an examination of the ‘new anti-Semitism’, and an analysis of online anti-Muslim and anti-Semitic jokes.


According to Mitchell, a “color-blind” post-racial world is neither achievable nor desirable. Against claims that race is an outmoded construct, he contends that race is not simply something to be seen but is a fundamental medium through which we experience human otherness. Race also makes racism visible and is thus our best weapon against it.


Race is one of the hardest topics to discuss in America. Many white Christians avoid talking about it altogether. But a commitment to peacemaking requires white people to step out of their comfort and privilege and into the work of anti-racism. This book is an invitation to white Christians to come to the table and join this hard work and holy calling. Written in the wake of George Floyd's death, it draws on the Sermon on the Mount, Spirituals, and personal stories from author Osheta Moore's work as a pastor in St. Paul, Minnesota.


This book consists of discussions during a small symposium on the same topic held at Harvard University Divinity School in Spring 2007. While scholars of the New Testament
and its Roman environment have recently focused attention on ethnicity and gender, the two questions have often been discussed separately, and without reference to the contemporary critical study of race theory. This interdisciplinary volume addresses this lack by drawing together new essays by prominent scholars in the fields of New Testament, classics, and Jewish studies.


"Witnessing Whiteness analyzes the current racial climate of American Christianity and argues for a new ethics of responsibility to confront white supremacy. Examining the current manifestations of racism in American churches, exploring the theological roots of white supremacy, and reflecting on the ways whiteness impacts even well-meaning, progressive white theologians, this book diagnoses the ways all of white theology and white Christian practice are implicated in white supremacy.


Part One of this landmark book is the author’s creative synthesis of research and writing worldwide on the nature of race and racism and insights from philosophers, ethicists, and social thinkers on this problem and its attendant, equally pernicious outliers, tribalism and xenophobia. Part one is shaped to be the single best book available for courses on racism. Part Two is a collection of both full and partial texts of documents from both papal and conciliar Catholic teaching and from documents on the same subject authored by bishops and church bodies from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America, and Oceania.


Perlmutter begins with the arrival of white Europeans, moves through the eighteenth and industrially expanding nineteenth centuries; the explosion of immigration and its attendant problems in the twentieth century; and a fifth chapter explores how prejudice (racial, religious, and ethnic) has been institutionalized.


This study develops a Christian theological response to the problems of race and anti-Black racism in conversation with Black theology and womanist theology. It provides a detailed introduction to multiple voices, developments, and tensions in these two theological traditions over the last half century, offering an overview of James Cone’s arguments and their reception. Ultimately, it argues
that the credibility of Christian theological witness depends significantly on the quality of Christian theology's response to anti-Black racism.


White privilege and racial injustice have persisted in the Church throughout most of our nation's history. Theology, as a discipline, has remained silent about racism and, at its worst, overtly supported racist practices. This book examines: 1) what racism is and how it functions, especially in the contemporary setting; 2) how the United States has claimed to be God's chosen nation, yet systematically disadvantages persons of color; 3) how theology's silence sustains racial injustice in the Church, rather than excises it; and 4) how reformulating theological discourse can contribute to racial justice within ecclesial communities and the larger landscape of society.


A handbook for fighting racism that provides readers with practical tools and suggestions, along with real-world examples of change, to enable them to become proactive initiators of racial justice.


Disrupting the racist and sexist biases in conversations on reconciliation Walker-Barnes offers a compelling argument that the Christian racial reconciliation movement is incapable of responding to modern-day racism. She demonstrates how reconciliation's roots in the evangelical, male-centered Promise Keepers' movement has resulted in a patriarchal and largely symbolic effort, focused upon improving relationships between men from various racial-ethnic groups. Walker-Barnes argues that highlighting the voices of women of color is critical to developing any genuine efforts toward reconciliation.


Religion is a racialized category, even when race is not explicitly mentioned. Vial argues that because the concepts of religion and race are rooted in the post-Enlightenment project of reimagining what it means to be human, we cannot simply will ourselves to stop using them. Only by acknowledging that religion is already racialized can we begin to understand how the two concepts are intertwined and how they operate in our modern world. He calls for us to examine that baggage critically, and to be fully conscious of the ways in which religion always carries with it dangerous ideas of race.

America's problem with race has deep roots, with the country's foundation tied to the near extermination of one race of people and the enslavement of another. Racism is truly our nation's original sin. Wallis offers a prophetic and deeply personal call to action in overcoming the racism so ingrained in American society. He speaks candidly to Christians--particularly white Christians--urging them to cross a new bridge toward racial justice and healing. Whenever divided cultures and gridlocked power structures fail to end systemic sin, faith communities can help lead the way to grassroots change. Probing yet positive, biblically rooted yet highly practical, this book shows people of faith how they can work together to overcome the embedded racism in America, galvanizing a movement to cross the bridge to a multiracial church and a new America.


Contributors to this book use Buddhist philosophical and contemplative traditions, both ancient and modern, and deploy critical philosophy of race, and critical whiteness studies, to address the proverbial elephant in the room: whiteness.