



A Quarterly Journal for Church Leadership
Volume 7 • Number 3 • SUMMER 1998

Enemy occupied territory—that is what the world is.
—C. S. LEWIS

The money, the pleasures, the daily business of the world
are so many traps to catch souls.
—J. C. RYLE

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

John Armstrong

Armstrong, John H., ed. *The Coming Evangelical Crisis: Current Challenges to the Authority of Scripture and the Gospel*. Chicago: Moody, 1996. A collection of essays which asks the question: "What will evangelicalism look like if it continues on the course it has followed for the past twenty-five years?"

Armstrong, John H., ed. *The Compromised Church: The Present Evangelical Crisis*. Wheaton: Crossway, 1998. A sequel to the previous book which shows how the church has compromised itself with the spirit of this present age.

Berkhof, Louis. *The History of Christian Doctrines*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1969 reprint of 1939 edition. A standard treatment which includes helpful resource material on the heresies addressed by the early church as related to "the world."

Bloesch, Donald G. *The Crisis of Piety: Essays Toward a Theology of the Christian Life*. Colorado Springs: Helmers & Howard, 1988. Bloesch, an evangelical theologian who writes with prophetic courage against the heresies of left and right, shows how piety is never trivial in living before God and man in this present age.

*Bloesch, Donald G. *Crumbling Foundations: Death and Rebirth in an Age of Upheaval*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984. A diagnosis of the dangers posed to

orthodox Christian faith and practice by secular culture, both from the political and social left and right.

- *Bloesch, Donald G. *Faith & Its Counterfeits*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1981. Challenges "worldly" compromises to the faith such as legalism, formalism, humanitarianism, enthusiasm, etc. A wise and extremely useful book which is out of print.
- Boice, James M. *Two Cities, Two Loves: Christian Responsibility in a Crumbling Culture*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1996. Boice sees American culture in serious decline and calls the church to return to Augustine and his classic, *The City of God*, as the voice we need to hear in such times.
- Boice, James M. and Benjamin E. Sasse, ed. *Here We Stand: A Call from Confessing Evangelicals*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996. A collection of extremely important essays that show how evangelicals have already surrendered to the world in their theology and methodology. "Our Dying Culture," by David Wells, is worth the price of the book.
- Bolton, Robert. *The Carnal Professor*. Morgan, Pennsylvania: Soli Deo Gloria, 1992 reprint of 1634 edition. Bolton (1572-1631) was an English Puritan. He wrote to prove why worldly profession demonstrates the absence of true grace in the soul.
- Boston, Thomas. *Human Nature in Its Fourfold State*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth. A frequently reprinted classic on showing man in the state of innocence, nature, grace and eternity. One of the very best of the Puritan classics.
- Brown, Harold O. J. *The Sensate Culture: Western Civilization Between Chaos and Transformation*. Dallas: Word, 1996. Brown demonstrates that the roots of cultural disintegration are found in the abandonment of the

- spiritual dimension. The result will be revolution, he argues, not just apostasy.
- Burroughs, Jeremiah. *A Treatise of Earthly-Mindedness*. Morgan, Pennsylvania: Soli Deo Gloria, 1991 reprint. Burroughs (1599-1646), an English Puritan, is one of the clearest and most useful of all Puritan divines. This is truly a classic on the subject.
- Burroughs, Jeremiah. *The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1979 reprint of 1648 original. The most common and pervasive sin of worldliness I discovered among my own congregation, as a pastor for twenty years, was discontentedness. This gem should be read by every serious Christian in our time!
- Chamblin, J. Knox. *Paul & the Self: Apostolic Teaching for Personal Wholeness*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1993. What was Paul's view of personhood? Chamblin provides a solid answer.
- Clark, Gordon H. *A Christian View of Men and Things: A Treatise Showing that Social Stability Demands a Christian Society*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1952. Clark, a philosopher-theologian, is always helpful in seeing the effect of non-Christian, and thus worldly, thought upon the church.
- *Guinness, Os and Seel, John, editors. *No God But God: Breaking with the Idols of Our Age*. Chicago: Moody, 1992. These essays are some of the very best material on worldliness, properly understood, available. If you have responsibility for leading the church read this book!
- Helm, Paul. *The Callings: The Gospel in the World*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1987. A popularly written but serious challenge to think about our "calling" to live in the world.

- *Hoekema, Anthony A. *Created in God's Image*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986. The late Anthony Hoekema was a wonderfully clear thinker and writer. His work is comprehensive and always careful.
- Hoffecker, W. Andrew, ed. *Building a Christian World View: God, Man and Knowledge*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1986. An introduction to epistemology that is useful for serious reflection on the subject of "world view."
- Hoffecker, W. Andrew, editor. *Building a Christian World View: The Universe, Society and Ethics*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1988. This is an important collection of essays on cosmology and how various societies have understood the world, or developed their own world view.
- *Horton, Michael S. *Beyond Culture Wars: Is America a Mission Field or a Battlefield?* Chicago: Moody, 1994. A must read for those who want to understand how and why the evangelical right has missed the calling of God for mission in the world.
- Horton, Michael S. *In the Face of God: The Dangers & Delights of Spiritual Intimacy*. Dallas: Word, 1996. A wonderful critique of consumer oriented spirituality which at times misses the positive contribution of a proper evangelical mystery in the life of faith.
- Horton, Michael S., general editor. *Power Religion: The Selling Out of the Evangelical Church?* Chicago: Moody, 1992. Challenges the "worldliness" of the modern evangelical movement in terms of its quest for power.
- *Horton, Michael S. *Where in the World Is the Church? A Christian View of Culture and Your Role in It*. Chicago: Moody, 1995. Horton argues that we should be "worldly Christians" in the right sense of this term.

- Divisions between secular and sacred are generally false and unhelpful. Horton shows why.
- Hughes, Philip Edgcumbe. *The True Image: The Origin and Destiny of Man in Christ*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989. Hughes, an Anglican, was an instructive theological writer who here deals with anthropology, creation and redemption in a comprehensive manner. Deals with classical views and raises some controversial opinion.
- Lloyd-Jones, D. Martyn. *Knowing the Times: Addresses Delivered on Various Occasions, 1942-1977*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1989. A useful collection which will help leaders think through some important issues they must face in terms of the world and present culture.
- MacDonald, Donald. *The Biblical Doctrine of Creation and the Fall*. Minneapolis: Klock & Klock, 1984 reprint of 1856 edition. Highly regarded by C.H. Spurgeon, this work deals well with creation, the *imago dei*, etc.
- McDonald, H. D. *The Christian View of Man*. Wheaton: Crossway, 1981. A little out-of-print volume which shows the value Christ placed upon human nature. A positive corrective.
- *Myers, Kenneth A. *All God's Children and Blue Suede Shoes: Christians & Popular Culture*. Wheaton: Crossway, 1989. Surveys the phenomenon of popular culture in terms of its roots, assumptions, and effects upon Christians and the church.
- Neve, J. L. *A History of Christian Thought*, 2 volumes. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Muhlenberg, 1946. An out-of-print standard text which will be found useful for serious theological study of the subject.

- *Niebuhr, H. Richard. *The Kingdom of God in America*. New York: Harper & Row, 1937. A serious attempt to interpret the meaning of Protestant Christianity in America. Important reading for leaders.
- *Noll, Mark A. *The Scandal of the Evangelical Mind*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994. A powerful polemic which shows the loss of the immense intellectual heritage that was once part and parcel of orthodox and evangelical faith.
- Orr, James. *God's Image in Man and Its Defacement in the Light of Modern Denials*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1948. Orr, who taught at the Free Church College in Glasgow, originally gave this material as the Stone Lectures at Princeton in 1903. Very important!
- *Packer, James I. *Knowing God*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity, 1973. Since the knowledge of God will keep us unspotted by the world's evil, Packer's book remains the modern classic for the believer who would "know" God as revealed in Holy Scripture.
- Schaeffer, Francis A. *The Complete Works of Francis A. Schaeffer: A Christian Worldview*, Five Volumes. Wheaton: Crossway, 1982. Volume One, subtitled "A Christian View of Philosophy and Culture," is exceptionally useful for the subject of the world.
- Seeberg, Reinhold. *Textbook of the History of Doctrines*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1954. The author, who was professor of Church History and Systematic Theology in Erlangen and Berlin in the last century, provides an invaluable resource for the study of doctrines historically. Material on "the world" is scattered throughout.
- Shedd, Russell Philip. *Man in Community: A Study of St. Paul's Application of Old Testament and Early Jewish Conceptions of Human Solidarity*. London: Epworth,

1958. Shedd, for many years a leading theologian in Brazil, wrote this as his Ph.D. dissertation for the University of Edinburgh. It is out of print but a valuable work.
- Sherlock, Charles. *The Doctrine of Humanity*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1996. Sherlock, an Australian theologian, writes an extremely fine up-to-date work that has much to say about "the world."
- Stott, John R. W. *The Contemporary Christian: Applying God's Word to Today's World*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1992. Stott, ever the careful student of both Scripture and the times, shows us why people reject the Christian faith in our time because they think it is irrelevant. Our challenge, he concludes, is to be "both conservative and radical at the same time."
- Torrance, Thomas F. *Calvin's Doctrine of Man*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1957. The standard work on the subject. Very useful.
- Tozer, A. W. *This World: Playground or Battleground?* Camp Hill, Pennsylvania: Christian Publications, 1989. Tozer is always provocative and uncomfortable, in a good way. He warned the evangelical church decades ago about encroaching worldliness.
- *Wells, David F. *No Place for Truth: Or Whatever Happened to Evangelical Theology?* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993. This is a modern prolegomena to theology which demonstrates how profoundly the spirit of the world has derailed serious Christian thought and practice.
- *Wells, David F. *God in the Wasteland: The Reality of Truth in a World of Fading Dreams*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994. The second book in the theology of Wells this one focuses upon the reality of God in this present world. First rate!

*Wells, David F. *Losing Our Virtue: Why the Church Must Recover Its Moral Vision*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998. The third volume in the continuing work of Wells this one shows us how Christian faith speaks to our present world.

*Highly Recommended