Between Philosophy and Religion: Hermeneutics and ontology This book proposes a theological reading of 1 Thessalonians, making an important response to the increasing demand to relate biblical scholarship more closely to theological concerns. Paddison's interpretation adheres very closely to the text and is divided into three parts. Part I offers a theological critique of dominant historical-critical readings of 1 Thessalonians. Part II examines the history of interpretation of 1 Thessalonians focusing on the pre-Modern exegesis of Thomas Aquinas and John Calvin. Paddison explores what theological exegetes can learn from Thomas Aquinas' Lectura and John Calvin's commentary on 1 Thessalonians. Aided by the insights of these neglected pre-Modern commentators, Part III presents a theologically driven interpretation of the letter. Theological exegesis is practised as a dialogue with Paul, the canon and a plethora of theological voices to elucidate Paddison's central argument, that the astonishing subject-matter of 1 Thessalonians is God's all-powerful hold over death.

Theology, Hermeneutics, and Imagination Contingency refers to an event that may be happening in future, but also may not happen. The concept plays has a long history dating from Aristotle who defined contingency as that which is possible but not necessary. The concept of contingency and related concepts as free will, the rejection of essentialisation and
priority of the possible put a major challenge to theology in the 21st century. The book addresses this challenge from the perspective of practical theology. In doing so, it connects to the general debate in theology on naming God, hermeneutics, human agency and methodology.

Constructing Reality in Comparative Theology The T&T Clark Handbook of Political Theology is a comprehensive reference resource informed by serious theological scholarship in the three Abrahamic traditions. The engaging and original contributions within this collection represent the epitome of contemporary scholarship in theology, religion, philosophy, history, law, and political science, from leading scholars in their area of specialization. Comprised of five sections that illuminate the rise and relevance of political theology, this handbook begins with the birth of contemporary “political theology,” and is followed by discussions of historical resources and past examples of interaction between theology and politics from all three Abrahamic traditions. The third section surveys the leading figures and movements that have had an impact on the discipline of political theology in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries; and the contributors then build on previously discussed historical resources and methods to engage with contemporary issues and challenges, emphasizing interreligious dialogue, even while addressing concerns of relevance to a particular faith tradition. The volume concludes with three essays that look at the future of political theology from the perspective of each Abrahamic religion. Complete with select bibliographies for each topic, this companion features the most current overview of political theology that will reach a broader, global audience of students and scholars.

Fragile Finitude This book explores the contemporary crisis of biblical interpretation by examining modern and postmodern forms of the ‘hermeneutics of suspicion’. Garrett Green looks at several thinkers who played key roles in creating a radically suspicious reading of the Bible. After Kant, Hamann and Feuerbach comes Nietzsche, who marked the turn from modern to postmodern suspicion. Green argues that similarities between Derrida's deconstruction and Barth's theology of signs show that postmodern suspicion ought not to be viewed simply as a threat to theology but as a secular counterpart to its own hermeneutical insights. When theology attends to its proper task of describing the grammar of scriptural imagination, it discovers a source of suspicion more radical than the secular, the hermeneutical expression of God's gracious judgement. Green concludes that Christians are committed to the hermeneutical imperative, the never-ending struggle for the meaning of scripture in the hopeful insecurity of the faithful imagination.

Responsibility and the Enhancement of Life "In Fragile Finitude, the long-awaited follow-up to Sacred Attunement(2008), Fishbane clears new ground for theological experience and its expressions through a novel reinterpretation of the Book of Job. His reinterpretation is based on the traditional four types of Jewish Scriptural exegesis: the contextual plain sense; the rabbinic legal and theological sense; the figural philosophical and spiritual sense; and the symbolic mystical sense. The first focuses on worldly experience; the second on communal forms of life and thought in the rabbinic tradition; the third on personal development; and the fourth on transcendent and cosmic orientations. Through these four modes, Fishbane manages to transform Jewish theology from within, at once reinvigorating a long tradition and moving beyond it. What he offers is nothing short of a way to reorient our lives in relation to the Divine and our fellow humans"--
Salvation for the Sinned-Against: The problem of the barbarous excess of human suffering is becoming the main question of global Christianity. In an intercultural, globalizing world, how do we envision the wounds of sin and God’s saving work of healing, liberation, and redemption? Salvation for the Sinned-Against attempts to address these questions and to suggest a renewed understanding of God’s salvation for the victims of sin within the intercultural and globalizing context of the twenty-first century. It offers a thorough treatment of Edward Schillebeeckx, intercultural hermeneutics, and the Korean concept of han, and brings them into dialogue with the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World Gaudium et spes. This book is the first in-depth study of han from a Roman Catholic perspective and the first to attempt to integrate han into Roman Catholic theology in order to begin to envision salvation for the sinned-against creature. Its insights into the experience and message of salvation for the sinned-against (as well as the perpetrators) speak not only to the ecclesial sphere but to the public sphere and beyond. Although written from a Western, North American social location, this is a book that can be useful far beyond this context.

Taking Position John Calvin (1509–64) was the pinnacle of the sixteenth-century Protestant Reformation in Europe. As we celebrate the five hundred-year anniversary of his birth, it is worthy to explore Calvin’s covenant theology, which may be one of the best windows to understand and evaluate his theology as a whole. In recent years, the Federal Vision has been surfaced in the American conservative Reformed and evangelical circles. It has strong hermeneutical, theological, and practical attachment with Calvin. Although Calvin was a covenant theologian, he firmly maintained the evangelical distinction between law and gospel, especially in his exposition of justification by faith alone (sola fide) and salvation by grace alone (sola gratia) with a balanced emphasis of believers’ covenantal obedience. Moreover, we will find out that Calvin not only applied the distinction between law and gospel to soteriology but also in the depiction of redemptive history. In Calvin, the distinction between law and gospel was foundational for the depiction of biblical vision of eschatology in the Garden of Eden before the Fall and under the Old Covenant. However, the exponents of the Federal Vision deny any validity of the distinction between law and gospel in hermeneutics, theology, and practice while they identify themselves with those of Calvin. In that sense, we may identify the Federal Vision not with the Protestant Reformation and Calvin but as consistent monocovenantalism in which they deny the distinction between law and gospel and apply that monocovenantal principle consistently to their understandings of hermeneutics, soteriology, the doctrine of double predestination, and sacramental theology.

Postcolonial Public Theology In the 21st century and in a globalized world, how can an ethic of responsibility orient the powerful human striving for the enhancement of life? – This question is at the center of the program of theological humanism developed by the American ethicist William Schweiker. His ethic of responsibility takes the integrity of all human as well non-human life as a central criterion for the enhancement of life. The contributions of this collection dedicated to William Schweiker discuss and explore key elements of his work, in exemplary studies and from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. They examine the contours of this ethic, analyze the claims of a moral realism, and investigate the backgrounds of his theological humanism. [Verantwortung und Lebensverbesserung] Wie kann eine Ethik der Verantwortung im 21. Jahrhundert in einem globalen Horizont des Handelns das machtvolle menschliche Streben nach einer Verbesserung des Lebens orientieren? – Diese Frage steht im Mittelpunkt des Programms eines theologischen Humanismus des amerikanischen Ethikers William Schweiker. Die von ihm vertretene Verantwortungsethik beansprucht die Integrität des
Das Alte Testament als deutsche Kolonie Recent years have seen a paradigm shift in Christian self-understanding. In place of the eurocentric model of »Christendom«, a new understanding is emerging of Christianity as a world movement with considerable cultural variety. Concomitant with this changing self-perception, a new theological discipline begins to take shape which analyzes the inter- and transcultural character and performance of global Christianity: Intercultural Theology. Judith Gruber discusses this nascent theological approach in two parts. She first gives a critical analysis of its historical development - in the first part of the book, two theological sub-disciplines of particular relevance are analysed: (1) missionology and its reflection on the encounter of Western Christianity with other cultures in the context of colonialism; (2) contextual theologies which focus on the particularity and dignity of the diverse cultural contexts of theological practice, but fail to sufficiently integrate the universal dimension of
Christianity into their theological reflections. Secondly, this study offers a constructive theological approach to intercultural theology. It does that by bringing systematic theology into conversation with cultural studies. This interdisciplinary approach adds significant complexity to existing reflections on Intercultural Theology: Re-reading the theological history of Christianity within the critical framework of cultural theories exposes a host of disparate and conflictive Christianities underneath its dominant master narrative, and, moreover, it no longer allows a recourse to essentialist concepts of Christian identity, with which previous approaches to Intercultural Theology have mitigated this unsettling cultural plurality of Christianity: After the »Cultural Turn«, which has made a metaphysical epistemology untenable, new ways for thinking the unity and universality of Christianity have to be paved. The book draws on Paul Ricoeur’s and Michel Foucault’s concept of the event and on Michel deCerteau’s proposal of a »Weak Christianity« in order to develop such a post-metaphysical framework, which allows to conceive of the unity and universality of Christianity without concealing its cultural plurality and contingency.


Ricoeur on Moral Religion "Hermeneutical Theology and the Imperative of Public Ethics is a groundbreaking attempt to present constructive missional theology in an integrative and interdisciplinary framework as it provocatively utilizes and contextualizes Reformation theology and hermeneutics concerning ethical theology embedded within the wider horizon of World Christianity. Mission as constructive theology is explored and refined in an hermeneutical and interdisciplinary fashion, underlying a new horizon of postcolonial theology and mission in light of God’s act of speech. Missional church founded up God’s grace of justification and Christ’s diakonia of reconciliation becomes ethically oriented public church as it is engaged in mutireligious diversity of people’s lives and lifeworld in the postcolonial context of World Christianity. "

Wide-Awake in God’s World Through an examination of Christian interaction with other religions, Paul S. Chung constructs a theology of comparative religion. In the course of this construction, he employs the work of Ernst Troeltsch, Robert Bellah, and Karl Barth, while offering case studies of transformative interaction between Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam. Chung’s interdisciplinary approach opens up avenues for the inter-religious understanding and melding, for instance exploring the development of a Protestant Islam. Throughout, he provides new conceptions of the religions involved and the realities they assert.

Theological Hermeneutics in the Classical Pentecostal Tradition Recognizing both the potential of biblical prohibition of images for causing religious conflict and the promise of a more nuanced appreciation of the role of images in human experience, this book constructs a framework for understanding the place of images, and their prohibition, within the biblical text and Christian religious practice.

Beyond Biblical Theology This book presents the work of leading hermeneutical theorists alongside emerging thinkers,
examining the current state of hermeneutics within the Pentecostal tradition. The volume’s contributors present constructive ideas about the future of hermeneutics at the intersection of theology of the Spirit, Pentecostal Christianity, and other disciplines. This collection offers cutting-edge scholarship that engages with and pulls from a broad range of fields and points toward the future of Pneumatological hermeneutics. The volume’s interdisciplinary essays are broken up into four sections: philosophical hermeneutics, biblical-theological hermeneutics, social and cultural hermeneutics, and hermeneutics in the social and physical sciences.

Hermeneutics of Doctrine in a Learning Church Ray S. Anderson lays out a new and renewing theological foundation for engaging in Christian ministry. Illuminated by discussion and case studies, he shows how a biblically informed approach addresses real issues in Christ’s power.

Recovering Theological Hermeneutics This book develops an integrated hermeneutic that connects the Bible to spiritual formation and the development of Christian virtues. The author shows how the whole Bible can be understood as a wisdom text that directs its readers morally, shapes them in their deepest affections and convictions, and impacts how they look at the world and live in it. Offering an innovative hermeneutical approach, it will serve as an ideal supplement to standard hermeneutics textbooks.

The Shape of Practical Theology This book proposes an original typology for grasping the differences between diverse types of biblical interpretation, fashioned in a triangle around a major theological and philosophical lacuna: the relation between divine and human action. Despite their purported concern for reading God’s word, most modern and postmodern approaches to biblical interpretation do not seriously consider the role of divine agency as having a real influence in and on the process of reading Scripture. Mark Bowald seeks to correct and clarify this deficiency by demonstrating the inevitable role that divine agency plays in contemporary proposals in relation to human agency enacted in the composition of the biblical text and the reader. This book presents an important contribution to the emerging field of theological hermeneutics.

Paul Ricoeur and the Poetic Imperative Reading Heikki Räisänen’s hermeneutics in context, Timo Eskola explores the development of Western New Testament interpretation. Proposing sociology as the link between standard historicism and poststructuralism, Räisänen reinterprets the sociology of knowledge. He substitutes sacralized culturalism for biblical theology.

Theology in an Age of Contingency Is anything ever not an interpretation? Does interpretation go all the way down? Is there such a thing as a pure fact that is interpretation-free? If not, how are we supposed to know what to think and do? These tantalizing questions are tackled by renowned American thinker John D Caputo in this wide-reaching exploration of what the traditional term ‘hermeneutics’ can mean in a postmodern, twenty-first century world. As a contemporary of Derrida’s and longstanding champion of rethinking the disciplines of theology and philosophy, for decades Caputo has been forming alliances across disciplines and drawing in readers with his compelling approach to what he calls “radical hermeneutics.” In this new introduction, drawing upon a range of thinkers from Heidegger to the Parisian "1968ers" and
Intercultural Hermeneutics - Understanding Culture and Religion In Hermeneutics of Doctrine in a Learning Church, Gregory Ryan offers an account of the dynamic, multi-dimensional task of interpreting Christian tradition, with reference to doctrinal hermeneutics, Receptive Ecumenism, and the 'pastorality of doctrine' seen in Pope Francis.

Comparative Theology Among Multiple Modernities In this important new book, Brian Gregor gives a comprehensive account of Paul Ricoeur's philosophy of religion, which focuses on the regeneration of human capability. Gregor documents the thinkers, movements, and themes that shaped Ricoeur's thought and gives a critical examination of Ricoeur's philosophical interpretation of religion.

Intercultural Theology This volume exhibits the engaging and challenging work of public and ecumenical theologian Piet Naud. The collection of 26 essays, written over three decades, constitutes an important contribution to public theology by critically and creatively evaluating diverse pathways through the landscape of Ecumenical, African, and Reformed theologies.

Grace, Governance and Globalization Religious Education is on trial in Germany and other European countries. The focal questions are whether teachers should communicate essential issues about religion and religions to their pupils in a neutral way or whether they should convey personal and individual convictions as well. How should public schools in civil societies deal with positions of truth in the context of cultural and lifeworld conditions? Are there pedagogical concerns about professional teachers expressing an individual commitment in class? What is the significance of denomination in RE? The articles of this volume offer new perspectives by means of empirical studies and theoretical consideration.

Rendering the Word in Theological Hermeneutics Looks at Ricoeur's writings on love and justice, prominent toward the end of his life, and how these serve as an interpretive key to his thought as a whole.

Theological Hermeneutics and 1 Thessalonians Postcolonial Public Theology is a tour de force, a study in theological reflection in conversation with the most compelling intellectual discourses of our time that offers prophetic challenge to the hegemony of economic globalisation. While evolutionary science searches for an ethically responsible practice of rationality, and inter-religious engagement forces Christians to grapple with the realities of cultural hybridity, Postcolonial Public Theology makes the case for public theology to turn toward postcolonial imagination, demonstrating a fresh rethinking of the public and global issues that continue to emerge in the aftermath of colonialism. Paul S. Chung provides students and scholars with a fascinating framework for imagining a polycentric Christianity as well as for discussing the continuing importance of Christian theology in the public arena.

Hermeneutical Theology and the Imperative of Public Ethics In der kurzen Zeitspanne zwischen 1785 und 1810 vollzog die
Pathways in Theology Explores the contemporary crisis of biblical interpretation by examining modern and postmodern 'hermeneutics of suspicion'.

A Hermeneutic of Wisdom In Theological Hermeneutics in the Classical Pentecostal Tradition, L. William Oliverio Jr. accounts for the development of Classical Pentecostal theological hermeneutics through four hermeneutical types and concludes with a philosophical basis for future Pentecostal theological hermeneutics within the contours of a hermeneutical realism.

I Found God in Me What role does, could or should theology play in current discussions about our political realities? Is there a place for theological worldviews in the public conversation about policy making? Should theology critically unmask the underlying theological and metaphysical sources of contemporary politics? The contributors to this volume reflect on new questions in public and political theology, inspired by the theology of Edward Schillebeeckx. They discuss a variety of theological traditions and theories that could offer substantial contributions to current political challenges, and debate whether theology should contribute to the liberation of communities of poor and suffering people.

Thiselton on Hermeneutics This book examines the troubled relationship between Athens and Jerusalem as it has become intensified by global multiculturalism, religious fundamentalism, and the return of the religious in postmodern thought. Instead of legislating a 'proper' relation between philosophy and theology, this study shows that the way to negotiate the space between them is by doing hermeneutics. Offering interpretations of Radical Orthodoxy, Protestant Liberalism, and contemporary Thomism, the book makes a convincing case that the hermeneutic age, inaugurated by Heidegger, Gadamer, and Ricoeur, has only just begun. Rather than being translated into each other, philosophy and theology must be left free to be themselves.

The Imperatives of Progressive Islam New hermeneutical challenges abound within the process of globalisation especially as they pertain to culture and religion. Consequently, a new form of hermeneutics approached from an intercultural perspective is needed. This requires, if not a new set of hermeneutical tools then, at least, a serious, profound and critical analysis and constructive adaptation of the already available set of hermeneutical tools. Intercultural hermeneutics in the understanding of religion and culture and among cultures and religions is being proposed here as this new form of art or science of understanding.
The Blackwell Companion to Hermeneutics

In an expressivist culture, effective engagement must acknowledge teenagers’ freedom to choose their own spiritual path. Yet, in an evangelical theology, faithful formation must hold on to biblical authority. As we seek to engage young people with the Bible, key questions need to be explored. Such questions include: how can pedagogical freedom be affirmed without undermining theological authority; and how can authority be asserted without diminishing personal freedom? This study explores a freedom-authority dialectic in theological dialogue with the educational philosophy of Maxine Greene. Greene’s reflection on the arts and the imagination are brought into conversation with insights from Charles Taylor, Garret Green, and Nicholas Wolterstorff. As a work of practical theology, the book concludes with a framework to shape the purpose, content, and values for Bible engagement in contemporary youth ministry.

Hermeneutics

Hermeneutics is an interdisciplinary study of how we interpret texts, especially biblical texts, in the light of theories of understanding in philosophy, meaning in literary theory, and of theology. This volume brings together the seminal thought of a leading contemporary pioneer in this field. Thiselton’s The Two Horizons was a classic on how horizons of biblical texts engage creatively with the horizons of the modern world. The author’s later New Horizons in Hermeneutics explored still more deeply the transforming capacities of biblical texts, while his massive commentary on 1 Corinthians interpreted an epistle. This volume collects many of Anthony Thiselton’s more notable writings from some seven books and 70 articles, to which he adds his own re-appraisals of earlier work. It uniquely expounds the thought of a major contemporary British theologian through his own words, and includes his own critical assessments.

Redemptive-Historical Hermeneutics and Homiletics

“This book is a careful, historical demonstration of the way in which hermeneutics was secularized yet continues to borrow on the capital of Christian theology. By exposing the problems inherent in secular hermeneutics and correcting the histories of philosophical hermeneutics on record, Zimmerman points a way forward beyond secular hermeneutics. This is a bold project that should be read not only by theologians but, more especially, by those philosophers working in the wake of Heidegger, Gadamer, Derrida, and Levinas. This book is an excellent addition to any course in philosophical hermeneutics.” -- James K. A. Smith, author of The Fall of Interpretation

"In Recovering Theological Hermeneutics, Zimmerman offers a compelling argument for the claim that hermeneutics must be theological if it is to be truly hermeneutical. Through a fair and careful reading of premodern and postmodern hermeneutical theorists, he shows their true kinship. Building appreciatively (though not uncritically) upon insights of Gadamer, Levinas, and Derrida, Zimmerman draws from Bonhoeffer and Balthasar to construct an incarnational hermeneutic. Zimmerman provides us with a deeply Christian view of human understanding—one that results in neither hermeneutical triumphalism nor hermeneutical despair but affirms understanding as relational, historical, and ultimately based on God’s revelation.” -- Bruce Ellis Benson, author of Graven Ideologies: Nietzsche, Derrida, and Marion on Modern Idolatry

"Recovering Theological Hermeneutics is an important contribution to hermeneutics. Zimmerman provides not only a detailed and convincing historical analysis but also an outline of theological hermeneutics that is ethical, incarnational, and thus, in the best sense of the word, truly evangelical. Far from naively idealizing a premodern point of view, Zimmerman convincingly works through modern and postmodern thought. In so doing, he shows the often-overlooked potential of the premodern Christian tradition without ignoring its difficulties and shortcomings—a challenge to both
Hermeneutics Between Philosophy and Theology I Found God in Me is the first womanist biblical hermeneutics reader. In it readers have access, in one volume, to articles on womanist interpretative theories and theology as well as cutting-edge womanist readings of biblical texts by womanist biblical scholars. This book is an excellent resource for women of color, pastors, and seminarians interested in relevant readings of the biblical text, as well as scholars and teachers teaching courses in womanist biblical hermeneutics, feminist interpretation, African American hermeneutics, and biblical courses that value diversity and dialogue as crucial to excellent pedagogy.

Theology, Hermeneutics, and Imagination In Ricoeur on Moral Religion, James Carter argues that Paul Ricoeur's later philosophical writings provide a highly instructive interpretive key with which to assess his philosophical project as a whole. This first systematic study of the 'later Ricoeur' offers a critical yet sympathetic reconstruction of Ricoeur's hermeneutics of ethical life, which demonstrates his significant contribution to contemporary philosophy of religion and moral philosophy. What emerges is a clear and distinctive moral religion that binds humans together universally on the basis of the life they share as capable beings. Carter also uncovers a hitherto unforeseen thread in Ricoeur's writings concerning ethical life, pulled through his own readings of Spinoza, Aristotle, and Kant. Ricoeur's hermeneutics is structured by a Kantian architectonic informed at different levels by these three philosophers, who ground a rich, holistic, and ultimately rationalist account of ethical life and religion that resists the trappings of both positivism and postmodernism.

Hermeneutics of the Ban on Images, The Cover -- Title -- Copyright -- Dedication -- Contents -- Note on transliteration -- Foreword -- Introduction: broader contextualisation of progressive Islam -- 1 The poiesis imperative -- 2 The epistemological imperative -- 3 The religious pluralism imperative -- 4 The Islamic liberation theology imperative -- 5 The human rights imperative -- 6 The ethical imperative in Islamic jurisprudence/law -- 7 The gender-justice imperative -- 8 The imperative of non-patriarchal Islamic hermeneutics -- Conclusion: the future of progressive Islam -- Select Bibliography -- Index

Ricoeur's Hermeneutics of Religion In Between Philosophy and Religion Volumes I and II, Brayton Polka examines Spinoza's three major works--on religion, politics, and ethics--in order to show that his thought is at once biblical and modern. Indeed, Polka argues that Spinoza is biblical only insofar as he is understood to be one of the great philosophers of modernity and that he is modern only when it is understood that he is unique in making the interpretation of the Bible central to philosophy and philosophy central to the interpretation of the Bible. This book and its companion volume are essential reading for any scholar of Spinoza.