

# The Christian Faith An Introduction To Christian Doctrine

A ten-lesson guide to learning and incorporating the Christian faith covers the Bible, Jesus and the Gospels, church history, Christian beliefs, other religions, prayer, evangelism, and living a Christian life, among other important topics. Original.

This text fills the need for a clear, informative, helpful and well-written introduction to Christian spirituality. Includes a detailed guide to resources in spirituality available on the Internet Written by a leading theological educationalist in a clear and accessible manner Encourages active engagement with primary sources through worked case studies

The new edition of this popular textbook by leading theologian, Alister E. McGrath, will be essential reading for anyone wanting to understand the dynamics of the world's largest religion. Fully revised to include greater coverage of the Catholic perspective, contemporary issues, non-Western Christianity, globalization and women, this is a truly comprehensive, lively, and jargon-free introduction to Christianity. Written for beginners to this subject, and assumes no knowledge of Christian beliefs or practices. Includes an introduction to biblical sources and discussion of the central figure of Jesus. Features comprehensive discussions of Christian theology, the history of Christianity from its origins to the present day, and Christianity in the modern world. Increases coverage of contemporary issues, the Catholic perspective, non-Western Christianity, globalization and women Contains accessible and student-friendly features, including numerous illustrations, suggestions for further reading, a glossary of

Christian terms, and brief readings from illustrative Christian sources.

This book is intended as an introductory text for interested readers and tertiary students new to the formal study of theology. Each of the fifteen chapters - including the Epilogue - focuses on an area of major importance for the Christian faith. Suggestions for further reading and accessible web sites are provided at the end of each chapter. A glossary of theological terms and an extended bibliography are also provided as appendices.

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The desert fathers wanted to get away from a church co-opted by empire and a Christian faith grown cold and listless. They retreated to the desert to do battle against demons and against their own worst desires. They had no intention of being famous; yet ironically their Sayings have inspired millions of imitators over the centuries. This guide is meant to accompany a

reading of the Sayings of the Desert Fathers, in hopes that readers with lives quite different than those third- and fourth-century dwellers of the Egyptian desert might nevertheless come to imitate their lives of poverty, chastity, and obedience; and more importantly, that readers might grow more imaginative and passionate in their following of the same Lord.

A basic Christian claim is that God is active in human history to accomplish his purpose, which he will do in the end. This book considers some of the implications of this far-reaching claim. Christian faith is bound up with our personal history but beyond that stretches far into the past. Faith is not identical with historical knowledge, for example with knowledge of the facts about Jesus, facts which must be established historically. That involves using the historian's methods of investigation. What does 'God reveals himself in history' mean? Christians claim to find an ultimate meaning in history. But how can that be? How is it possible to find an overall meaning in history, theistic or otherwise? Since Christians appeal to the New Testament in making the claim that God revealed himself in Jesus, we must go beyond that book to the Christian community which existed before there was a New Testament and out of whose midst its writings came. To understand those books we must interpret. So where do our principles of interpretation come from, and how valid are they? This is the question of tradition. This small book is an introduction to these interesting topics. Hopefully it will help to clarify important issues and lead the reader to investigate such central matters further.

Drawing on the whole body of C.S. Lewis' published fiction and non-fiction, as well as previously unpublished letters, Richard Purtill offers a clear, comprehensive assessment of Lewis' defense of Christianity. He examines Lewis' thinking on religion in light of contemporary thought, giving attention to such central issues as: the nature of God, the divinity of Christ, the manifestation of miracles in history, the challenge of faith, the meaning of death and the afterlife. C.S. Lewis' Case for the Christian Faith is an excellent introduction to Lewis's best thinking on the major themes of the Christian tradition. Those who know his writing will find a new appreciation of his "Christian imagination" and a deep respect for his distinctive contribution to an understanding of Christianity.

Creeds and confessions throughout Christian history provide a unique vantage point from which to study the Christian faith. To this end, Donald Fairbairn and Ryan Reeves construct a story that captures both the central importance of creeds and confessions over the centuries and their unrealized potential to introduce readers to the overall sweep of church history. The book features texts of classic creeds and confessions as well as informational sidebars.

Those looking for a single resource that collects clear teachings on the most important doctrines of Christianity need look no further than Gregg Allison's 50 Core Truths of the Christian Faith. This volume covers foundational doctrines of the nature and works of God, the Bible, God's created beings, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, salvation, the church, and

the end times. And each chapter features clear guidance for how to teach and apply the doctrine today. Pastors, Sunday school teachers, and lay students of theology will find this an indispensable resource for understanding and teaching Christian theology.

In today's secular world, the Christian faith is viewed as only one aspect of what could be called "religious life." Acknowledging this, Hendrikus Berkhof begins this thought-provoking study with a sketch of religion and faith in general before narrowing it down to a discussion of the specific place of Christian faith in all of reality.

From original sin to eternal life, the function of prayer to the role of the church, renowned theologian Keith Ward offers a comprehensive survey of the diversity of Christian thinking in this introduction to the world's largest faith. By presenting three different interpretations for over fifteen key doctrines, he invites anyone interested in the contemporary spiritual landscape to consider the Christian faith from a new and refreshing perspective.

This is a large print of the Introduction to the Christian Faith (Discipler's Edition).

An accessible introduction to Christian philosophical theology Philosophical or analytic theology seeks to employ philosophical tools while studying topics in Christian theology and examining the logical consistency or intelligibility of some of the key doctrines of the Christian faith. In this accessible primer, *An Introduction to Christian Philosophical Theology*, authors Stephen T. Davis and Eric T. Yang first explain the scope, relevance, and value of philosophical theology and then applies its conceptual tools to examine each of the core Christian doctrines: Revelation and Scripture The Trinity The Incarnation Redemption and the

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atonement, Resurrection and life after death The final chapter briefly addresses some additional theological issues including petitionary prayer, eschatology, and original sin. Designed for beginning students and non-specialists this guide provides the ideal entry point for not only understanding what philosophical theology is but also for how it can provide valuable insights for how we think about the core doctrines of the Christian faith.

A major new introduction to the global history of Christianity, written by one of the world's leading theologians and author of numerous bestselling textbooks. Provides a truly global review by exploring the development of Christianity and related issues in Asia, Latin America and Africa, and not just focusing on Western concerns Spanning more than two millennia and combining elements of theology, history, and culture, it traces the development of all three branches of Christianity – Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox – providing context to Christianity's origins and its links to Judaism Looks beyond denominational history at Christianity's impact on individuals, society, politics, and intellectual thought, as well as on art, architecture, and the natural sciences Combines McGrath's acute historical sensibility with formidable organizational skill, breaking the material down into accessible, self-contained historical periods Offers an accessible and student-oriented text, assuming little or no advance theological or historical knowledge on the part of the reader

Called to Believe is an abridgment and condensation of the more comprehensive text, *Called to Believe, Teach, and Confess*. It offers an accessible, introductory overview of the major doctrines of Christianity. Written from a Lutheran Christian perspective, this book is a helpful resource for those within that tradition and to others who seek a deeper and broader understanding of Christian teaching. Firmly rooted in Scripture, this book directs the reader

back to the Bible. It emphasizes the interrelatedness of all Christian teachings, with its central teaching being the doctrine of justification by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. It also includes the text of the three ecumenical creeds accompanied by a brief introduction to their historical background. This book is ideal as an introductory text for university or advanced high school students and for other Christian adults who seek to expand their knowledge of God's revelation and its application in human lives. It introduces and uses classic theological vocabulary and terminology, while offering clear definitions and application. Key terms, study questions, and a glossary help make this a valuable resource. Suggested readings from Scripture, and secondary sources guide the reader into deeper study.

An introduction to the life of the Orthodox Churches of the Christian East from 312 up to the year 2000.

**Beginnings: An Introduction to the Christian Faith** introduces twelve core beliefs and practices of believers in Christ. We invite inquirers to begin an intentional journey with Jesus. This study is designed to give your congregation tools to create a small-group experience where people can ask questions about the Christian faith, explore their walk with God, and form or deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ and Christian community. The 12 sessions introduce the most basic themes of Christianity and explore the most fundamental questions of religion. In each two-hour session, participants will share a meal, watch a short video/DVD segment, develop the spiritual disciplines of Christian conversation and study of Scripture, engage in meaningful discussion and reflection, explore Christian faith and teachings, and grow in depth of experience through the small group. Session titles: So Is This All There Is? Who is Jesus and Why Should I Care? Why Am I Not Where I Want to Be? What Happens When I Die? Can I

Trust God? How Does God Speak to Me? If I Don't Feel Lost, Why Do I Need to Be Found? Can I Start Again? How Do I Speak to God? How Can I Make a Life and Not Just a Living? Why Should I Join Any Group That Will Have Me as a Member? Love Feast! The planning kit includes: 1 DVD with each sessions video presentation 1 Director's Manual 1 Small-Group Leader's Guide 1 Participant's Guide 1 Along the Way: A Participant's Companion Book Each field of study comes with its own set of questions; each period of time refines and redirects those questions. The Christian religion as we find it in the twenty-first century presents a unique set of problems to be solved and questions to be answered. In this introduction to the philosophy of the Christian religion, eminent philosopher and theologian Nancey Murphy applies the tools of philosophical analysis to a set of core yet contemporary religious questions: what does our historical moment mean for the possibility of knowing God? Is faith still possible? Does God intervene in human history? Is there such a thing as universal knowledge of God? Written with the needs of students encountering the philosophy of religion for the first time in mind, this book provides a comprehensive introduction to the fundamental questions inherent in Christian faith. Murphy also provides tools for how to answer those questions.

This book presents in twelve lessons a well-rounded picture of the Christian faith: how to become a Christian, what God does or doesn't do for us when we ask Him to save us and what God does or doesn't require of a Christian so one can "count the cost" of following Christ. The third edition of this successful book, which applies the science of psychology to problems of religion. Dr Thouless explores such questions as: why do people believe? Why are their beliefs often held with irrational strength? How are changes in belief systems related to mental

health? What are reasonable attitudes towards alternative belief systems? This edition includes samples of the experimental and statistical studies of religious problems, including the author's own study of the strength of religious beliefs. This edition also pays more attention to the problems of non-Christian religious systems, with special consideration given to the problems of mutual toleration. Finally Dr Thouless considers whether it is reasonable for modern man to adhere to any religious belief system. This is an excellent textbook for students of the social sciences, particularly psychology and theology, and will also interest the general reader who has an intellectual curiosity about religion.

An introduction to Christian theology explores the Bible's amazing story, from creation to the return of Christ, presenting the leading doctrines of Christianity and exploring how they have been shaped throughout the centuries.

"We live in a world increasingly separated from the Christian tradition and the basic understanding of the faith that previous ages might have taken for granted. The voices of faith seem increasingly strident and off-putting to many. There is a need for a calmer, basic introduction to faith that recognizes the value of doubt and the questions raised in a secular society. A systematic introduction to Christianity for newcomers needs to begin with a discussion of faith itself and then move on to a discussion of such Christian basics as God, Trinity, Church, sin, atonement, prayer, and Christian living."

In clear, simple terms, and with constant appeal to Scripture, Peter Barnes gives an introduction to fundamental truths of the Faith.

For those newcomers who are often confused by the worship service, as well as those who have been sitting in the pews without fully understanding what happens on Sunday

morning, an Episcopal priest guides readers through the entire service, explaining the postures, the Christian year, the colors used during various seasons, and all the elements in the Service of the Eucharist. Original.

In this brief and winsome book, Michael Reeves presents an introduction to the Christian faith that is rooted in the triune God. He takes cues from preachers and teachers down through the ages, setting key doctrines of creation, the person and work of Christ, and life in the Spirit into a simple framework of the Christian life.

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