

Using the Bible Today (TMM1051)

Common Awards



Level 4 Module

Diversifying the Curriculum

Books



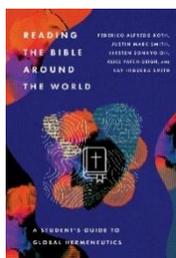
Kim-Cragg, HyeRan R. (2021) *Postcolonial Preaching: Creating a Ripple Effect*. London: Lexington Books.

Content:

This book explores what it might look like to preach from a postcolonial perspective. Chapter 6: 'Exegesis: Exploring a Postcolonial Contrapuntal Reading for Interpreting Scripture' especially critiques the historical critical method of interpreting the Bible for its heavy focus on the world 'behind' the biblical text. This book instead offers a "contrapuntal reading strategy" (64) for interpreting and preaching the Bible that focuses more on the 'before' the text and the colonial injustices that have occurred in our modern world. Using what she coins the "3B" principles – "the world *behind* the text, the world *between* the text and the world *before* the text" (66) – Kim-Cragg locates postcolonial preaching within the locus of biblical interpretation in an accessible way that Level 4 students can understand. With a practical sermon example from Pablo Jiménez on Matthew 13:45-46, Kim-Cragg's book will broaden students' homiletical horizons and introduce them to a postcolonial method of preaching the Bible.

Author:

HyeRan Kim-Cragg is a Korean scholar and Principal of Emmanuel College, Toronto.



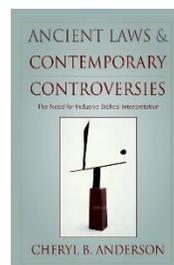
Roth, Federico A. et al. (2022) *Reading the Bible Around the World: A Student's Guide to Global Hermeneutics*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Content:

This book outlines the many rich methods of reading the Bible from around the world (including: Latin America, Africa, Asia and Diaspora), and is an excellent resource for Level 4 students. Chapter 1: 'Introduction: Why We Need Global Approaches' by Justin Marc Smith especially is a good chapter that helps students to decenter dominant historical critical methods of reading the Bible (originating from Euro-North America) and understand the importance of engaging with non-Western approaches to reading the Bible.

Authors:

Federico Alfredo Roth is a Latin-American biblical scholar.



Anderson, Cheryl (2009) *Ancient Laws and Contemporary Controversies: The Need for Inclusive Biblical Interpretation*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Content:

This book highlights the great contribution that Global Majority Heritage perspectives bring to the field of Old Testament studies. Chapter 6: 'Biblical Authority and the Ethics' in particular explores the power dynamics behind the notion of biblical authority that have historically been used to oppress and abuse others. This chapter will be good for students to read as they begin to explore different understandings of biblical authority.

Author:

Cheryl Anderson is an African-American woman and an Old Testament professor at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, US.

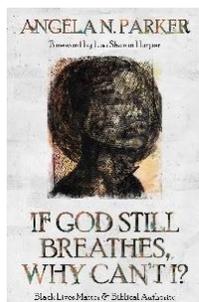
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Parker, Angela N. (2021) *If God Still Breathes, Why Can't I? Black Lives Matter & Biblical Authority*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans.

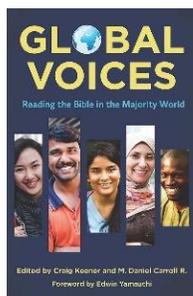
Content:

In this book Parker invites students to move beyond an “uncritical” and “superficial” reading of the bible, to begin “think about the hard questions of the text” (10). Chapter 2: ‘White Supremacist Authoritarianism Is Not God’s Breath’ (22-29) in particular explores the question of biblical authority and asks the question: “does the protective strategy of biblical inerrancy and infallibility really protect the biblical text, or does it serve primarily to keep certain groups in power?” (28). This book will enable students to reflect on the topic of biblical authority.

Author:

Angela N. Parker is an African-American womanist Biblical scholar.

Edited Volumes



Keener, Craig and Rodas, Caroll Daniel M. (2013) *Global Voices: Reading the Bible in the Majority World*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Academic.

Content:

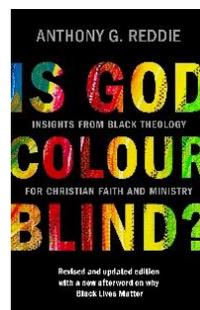
This excellent edited volume contains contributions from biblical scholars from all across the majority world and thus showcases the beauty of multi-ethnic approaches to reading the Bible. With scholarly contributions from across Asia (such as David A. DeSilva; Nijay Gupta and Khiok-Khng Yeo), Latin-America (such as M. Daniel Carroll Rodas) and the Caribbean (such as Osvaldo Padilla), this volume

provides examples of how biblical texts can be practically applied to the contemporary issues facing diverse communities today.

Editors:

M. Daniel Carroll Rodas is half-Guatemalan and teaches at Wheaton College in the US; Craig S. Keener is a white American scholar based at Asbury Theological Seminary in the US.

Book Chapters



Reddie, Anthony G. (2020) ‘Preaching the Bible: is this the kingdom of heaven?’ In: Reddie, Anthony G. *Is God Colour-Blind?: Insights from Black Theology for Christian Faith and Ministry*. London: SPCK.

Content:

Pioneering his own “improvised and participative approach to preaching” that involves the use of interactive games and exercises for the congregation (42) Reddie demonstrates from his own practice what it can look like to preach the Bible in a way that is informed by Black theology. Written particularly with students training for ministry in mind, this book provides a practical worked example from Matthew 25:14-30 (The Parable of the Talents) for students to learn from.

Author:

Anthony G. Reddie is a Black British theologian and academic based at the University of Oxford, UK.

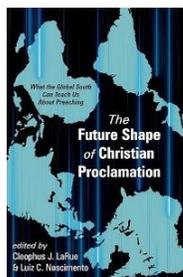
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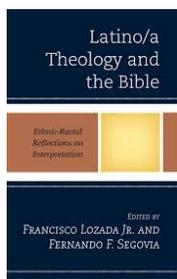
Tomlin, Carol (2020) 'The Hermeneutics of African Caribbean Homiletics.' In: LaRue, Cleophus J. and Nascimento, Luiz C. (eds.) *The Future Shape of Christian Proclamation: What the Global South Can Teach Us About Preaching*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock Publishers.

Content:

Traced back to the mass migration of Afro-Caribbeans (the Windrush generation) into the UK, this chapter explores ten major areas of African Caribbean preaching, including: the "expressive and performative nature of preaching; deductive versus inductive sermons; approaches to sermonic preparation and delivery; and influences of prosperity theology" (53) that will expand and enrich student's understanding of preaching the Bible. Tomlin locates the origin of Pentecostal preaching within the locus of African American oral tradition and highlights its focus on the post-slavery and post-colonial experiences of its congregants.

Author:

Carol Tomlin is a Black British scholar and a Visiting Fellow in Christian Studies at the University of Leeds, UK.



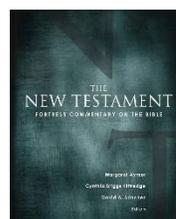
Alfaro, Sammy (2021) 'Reading and Hearing Scripture in the Latina/o Pentecostal Community.' In: Lozada, Francisco and Segovia, Fernando F. (eds.) *Latino/a Theology and the Bible: Ethnic-racial Reflections on Interpretation*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Academic.

Content:

This chapter explores the central role that the Bible plays within the modern Latina/o Pentecostal community where it is viewed as a "living text that informs their everyday experience of God through the Spirit" (29). The chapter outlines the main elements of Pentecostal theological hermeneutics, its views on biblical authority and ends with a Latina/o Pentecostal reading of Acts 6:1-7. This chapter will give students a good overview of how the Bible is read, understood and applied within a Latina/o church community.

Author:

Sammy Alfaro is Hispanic American Assistant Professor of Christian Studies at Grand Canyon University.



Pui-Lan, Kwok (2014) 'Reading the Christian New Testament in the Contemporary World.' In: Aymer, Margaret, Kittredge, Cynthia B. and Sánchez, David A. (eds.) *Fortress Commentary on the Bible: The New Testament*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Academic.

Content:

In this book Pui-Lan outlines the importance for students to read the New Testament from global perspectives. This chapter raises the question of biblical authority in relation to diverse biblical interpretations and demonstrates how all interpretation is contextual. This chapter also outlines liberational and contemporary approaches to reading the Bible originating from Latin-America, India and Africa that seek to address the specific issues that those contexts face. The final section of the chapter explores how the New Testament can be

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used to address contemporary issues such as: antisemitism and same-sex marriage.

Author:

Kwok Pui-Lan is a Hong Kong-born feminist theologian who lives in the USA.

Video

What are the different types of sermons? (3:03)

Content:



In this short 3-minute video David Mende outlines and explains three different approaches to preaching: topical, textual and expository. This short and accessible video can be used as a conversation starter about the different communication methods students could employ when preaching the Bible.

Speaker:

David Mende is an Indian pastor-teacher at El-Shaddai Assembly of God Church, Hyderabad and an adjunct faculty member at Southern Asia Bible College (SABC) in Bangalore, India.

Journal Article

***Ibita, Maricel S. (2024). 'Mary and Maternal Health: Decolonizing Luke 1–2 Amidst the Crisis of Teen Pregnancy.'** *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* 47(1): 77-92.



Content:

Written in response to the current teenage pregnancy crisis in the Philippines, Ibita offers a decolonial characterisation of Mary in Luke 1-2 that could be used to address this issue. By highlighting Mary's "intersecting struggles as a young, poor, pregnant woman living under the Roman occupation" (89) Ibita aims to combat and

prevent teenage pregnancy in the Philippines.

Content warning – this article discusses sensitive issues, including trauma related to non-consensual sexual activity which may be upsetting to some readers.

Author:

Maricel S. Ibita is an Associate Professor at the Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines.