

BOOK NOTICES

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Inclusion in this section does not preclude subsequent review of a book.

Gaustad, Edwin S. *Liberty of Conscience: Roger Williams in America*. Library of Religious Biography. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 1991. xiv + 229 pp. Paperback, \$14.95.

As one of the first contributions in Eerdmans' new Library of Religious Biography, Gaustad's work is a helpful treatment of a controversial figure. If this work represents the quality of the rest of the series, readers will be able to look forward to each volume with enthusiasm. The great lack of the volume, however, is documentation.

Unlike most other commentaries, the International Theological Commentary series has a primary aim of providing theological interpretations of the Old Testament that are applicable to the international Christian community rather than merely to those who live in the West. Farmer's work focuses on what is "good" for humankind and how people should live their lives on earth, as set forth in Proverbs and Ecclesiastes.

Hasel, Gerhard F. *Old Testament Theology: Basic Issues in the Current Debate*. Rev. and exp. 4th ed. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 1991. x + 262 pp. Paperback, \$14.95.

The fourth edition of Hasel's widely accepted survey of OT theology up-

dates his third edition by taking into account the many works that have appeared in the field since 1982. As in previous editions, Hasel surveys works by Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Jewish scholars from many parts of the world.

Holmes, Arthur F. *Shaping Character: Moral Education in the Christian College*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 1991. ix + 82 pp. Paperback, \$7.95.

Shaping Character arises out of a three-year Christian Consortium project. Holmes orients his readers to the present ethical climate, to the theological dimensions of ethics, and to moral development theory. Beyond that, he poses three objectives for ethics education and makes suggestions regarding the function of college faculty in such education.

Schultze, Quentin J. *Televangelism and American Culture: The Business of Popular Religion*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1991. 264 pp. \$16.95.

This book presents an informative examination of the business, personalities, and techniques underlying America's electronic church. Schultze holds that Christians can use television, radio, and other media if they understand and meet the dangers. After studying television's effect on religion, the book describes the church in

a media-worshipping society and maps out an effective use of the media.

Tate, Marvin E. *Psalms 51-100*. Word Biblical Commentary, vol. 20. Dallas: Word Books, 1990. xxvii + 579 pp. \$24.99.

As a follow-up to the late Peter Craigie's volume on Psalms 1-50, Tate's contribution is a welcome addition to the Word Commentary series. The author traces all the biographical, historical, literary, and practical concepts in these psalms and demonstrates how the purpose of each one unfolds. An up-to-date bibliography precedes each psalm.

von Rad, Gerhard. *Holy War in Ancient Israel*. Translated and edited by Marva J. Dawn. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 1991. vii + 166 pp. Paperback, \$14.95.

Holy War is the first English translation of *Der Heilige Krieg im alten Israel* (3d ed., 1958). This classic treatment uplifts the human factor in Israel's institution of holy war, in contrast to the biblical interpretation that uplifts the divine and miraculous. The volume features a very helpful bibliography by Judith E. Sanderson.

Wentz, Richard E. *Religion in the New World: The Shaping of Religious Traditions in the United States*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1990. xiii + 370 pp. Paperback, \$19.95.

This volume is a survey text that provides a comprehensive treatment of American religious traditions from the perspective of a history-of-religions approach. A highlight of the work is that it gives extensive coverage to figures and movements that are often ignored.

Williams, Peter W. *America's Religions: Traditions and Cultures*. New York: Macmillan, 1990. xviii + 478 pp. \$21.75.

This work provides a helpful survey of American religion including native American religious life, religious bodies originating in the Middle East and Europe, and traditions developed in colonial America and the early republic. In addition, it surveys the transformation of those traditions and the development of new ones in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Wright, Christopher J. H. *God's People in God's Land: Family, Land, and Property in the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 1990. xx + 284 pp. Paperback, \$16.95.

In this book Wright examines the economic laws, institutions, and customs of ancient Israel from an ethical perspective by asking how the economic facts of Israel's social structure were related to the nation's religious beliefs.