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The New Comparative Theology Interreligious

This book is an extended, critical reflection on the state of interreligious dialogue in its modern version. While there has been some important writing in the field of comparative theology, there has been no extended, critical reflection on the state of the discipline in its modern version, its strengths and problematic areas as it grows as a serious theological and scholarly discipline. This ...

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This volume, edited by Francis X. Clooney, S.J. from the Harvard Divinity School, comprises ten essays by young scholars working in the burgeoning field of comp

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Lucidly written and highly accessible, "Comparative Theology" teaches us how to read sacred texts---our own and others'---with humble minds and open hearts, so that we can see both similarities and differences between our religious tradition and others'. Warning us not to take his book as a recipe for doing comparative theology.

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Comparative Theology (CT) in its modern form is a relatively new field of study, and debate on the theorisation of various of its aspects and its credentials for inclusion in the academic study of religion has already generated a burgeoning literature.¹In a recent review, S. Mark Heim has commented that CT in the sense

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used in this essay:

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Comparative theology is a relatively new discipline within theology, which holds together "comparative" and "theology" in creative tension. It represents a particular type of theological practice committed to deep interreligious learning while staying rooted in a particular religious tradition. Moreover, while many of its proponents come from the Christian religious tradition, it can have as a starting point the theology of any religious tradition.

Comparative theology - Wikipedia

Comparative theology is a relatively new discipline within theology, which holds together "comparative" and "theology" in creative tension. It represents a particular type of theological practice committed to deep interreligious learning while staying rooted in a particular religious

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New Comparative Theology : Interreligious Insights from ...

ISBN: 9780567141378 9780567310484 0567310485 0567141373: OCLC Number: 606768165: Description: xix, 208 pages ; 24 cm: Contents: Introduction / James L. Fredericks --Comparative theology : between identity and alterity / A. Bagus Laksana --Relating theology of religions and comparative theology / Kristin Beise Kiblinger --The new comparative theology and the problem of theological hegemonism ...

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Drawing upon the author's three decades of work in comparative theology, this is a pertinent and comprehensive introduction to the field, which offers a clear guide to the reader, enabling them to engage in comparative study. The author has three decades of experience of work in the field of comparative theology and is ideally placed to write this book Today's increasing religious diversity makes this a pertinent and timely publication Unique in the depth of its introduction and explanation of the discipline of 'comparative theology' Provides examples of how comparative theology works in the new global context of human religiosity Draws on examples specific to Hindu-Christian studies to show how it is possible to understand more deeply the wider diversity around us. Clearly guides the reader, enabling them to engage in comparative study

Christian theologians have for some decades affirmed that they have no monopoly on encounters with God or ultimate reality and that other religions also have access to religious truth and transformation. If that is the case, the time has come for Christians not only to learn about but also from their religious neighbors. Circling the Elephant affirms that the best way to be truly open to the mystery of the infinite is to move away from defensive postures of religious isolationism and self-sufficiency and to move, in vulnerability and openness, toward the mystery of the neighbor. Employing the ancient Indian allegory of the elephant and blind(folded) men, John J. Thatamanil argues for the integration of three often-separated theological projects: theologies of religious diversity (the work of accounting for why there are so many different understandings of the elephant), comparative theology (the venture of walking over to a different side of the elephant), and constructive theology (the endeavor of re-describing the elephant in light of the other two tasks). Circling the Elephant also offers an analysis of why we have fallen short in the past. Interreligious learning has been obstructed by problematic ideas about "religion" and "religions," Thatamanil argues, while also pointing out the troubling resonances between reified notions of "religion" and "race." He contests these notions and offers a new theory of the religious that makes interreligious learning both possible and desirable. Christians have much to learn from their religious neighbors, even about such central features of Christian theology as Christ and the Trinity. This book envisions religious diversity as a promise, not a problem, and proposes a new theology of religious diversity that opens the door to robust interreligious learning and Christian transformation through encountering the other.

For a generation and more, the contribution of Christian theology to interreligious understanding has been a subject of debate. Some think of theological

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perspectives are of themselves inherently too narrow to support interreligious learning, and argue for an approach that is neutral or, on a more popular level, grounded simply open-minded direct experience. In response, comparative theology argues that theology, as faith seeking understanding, offers a vital perspective and a way of advancing interreligious dialogue, aided rather than hindered by commitments; theological perspectives can both complement and step beyond the study of religions by methods detached and merely neutral. Thus comparative theology has been successful in persuading many that interreligious learning from one faith perspective to another is both possible and worthwhile, and so the work of comparative theology has become more recognized and established globally. With this success there has come to the fore new challenges regarding method: How does one do comparative theological work in a way that is theologically grounded, genuinely open to learning from the other, sophisticated in pursuing comparisons, and fruitful on both the academic and practical levels? *How To Do Comparative Theology* therefore contributes to the maturation of method in the field of comparative theological studies, learning across religious borders, by bringing together essays drawing on different Christian traditions of learning, Judaism and Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism, the wisdom of senior scholars, and also insights from a younger generation of scholars who have studied theology and religion in new ways, and are more attuned to the language of the "spiritual but not religious." The essays in this volume show great diversity in method, and also—over and over and from many angles—coherence in intent, a commitment to one learning from the other, and a confidence that one's home tradition benefits from fair and unhampered learning from other and very different spiritual and religious traditions. It therefore shows the diversity and coherence of comparative theology as an emerging discipline today.

Interreligious Reading After Vatican II brings together for the first time leading scholars from within and outside the Catholic tradition to discuss and undertake interreligious reading in the light of Vatican II. Focuses on Scriptural Reasoning and Comparative Theology, and considers the relationship between interreligious engagement and Receptive Ecumenism within the Church Details key events in the history of forms of study across faith traditions Offers a fresh analysis of the impact and on-going legacy of the Second Vatican Council Tackles questions about scripture, doctrine, tradition, philosophy and ecumenism in connection with theories and practices of interreligious reading and reasoning Inspires readers to think about how to engage with others within and beyond their own religious tradition

The first systematic overview of the field of comparative theology *Meaning and Method in Comparative Theology* offers a synthesis of and a blueprint for the emerging field of comparative theology. It discusses various approaches to the field, the impact of religious views of other religions on the way in which comparative theology is conducted, and the particularities of comparative theological hermeneutics. It also provides an overview of the types of learning and of the importance of comparative theology for traditional confessional theology. Though drawing mainly from examples of Christian comparative theology, the book presents a methodological framework that may be applied to any religious tradition. *Meaning and Method in Comparative Theology* begins with an elaboration on the basic distinction between confessional and meta-confessional approaches to

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comparative theology. The book also identifies and examines six possible types of comparative theological learning and addresses various questions regarding the relationship between comparative and confessional theology. Provides a unique and objective look at the field of comparative theology for scholars of religion and theologians who want to understand or situate their work within the broader field. Contains methodological questions and approaches that apply to comparative theologians from any religious tradition. Recognizes and affirms the diversity within the field, while advancing unique perspectives that might be the object of continued discussions among theologians. Meaning and Method in Comparative Theology offers an important basis for scholars to position their own work within the broader field of comparative theology and is an essential resource for anyone interested in theology conducted in dialogue with other religious traditions.

Printed Edition of the Special Issue Published in Religions, with a Summary by Perry Schmidt-Leukel

In a world that is more religiously diverse than ever before, our coworkers and neighbors may well be adherents of other faiths. But how many of us really grasp the similarities and differences between the major world religions? Comparative theology is one increasingly important way to bridge this gap, especially for Christian leaders and professors, but also for lay people and students. Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen introduces the nature and work of comparative theology, then delves into a detailed doctrine-by-doctrine comparison of Christian teachings with those of historical and contemporary Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, and Hinduism. With every doctrine, he first presents a summary of consensual Christian belief and then orients the reader to the distinctive teachings of other faith traditions, highlighting parallels and differences. Ideal for students, ministers, instructors, and lay people interested in interfaith dialogue, *Doing the Work of Comparative Theology* distills the comparative-theological rigor of Kärkkäinen's *Constructive Christian Theology for the Pluralistic World* series into an accessible and user-friendly textbook. Readers will not only learn basic methodology but also begin to undertake the actual work of comparative theology.

This text maps the field of comparative theology in global context, offering original and critical perspectives on issues such as origins, religion, gender, the subaltern, and hermeneutics.

Learning Interreligiously offers a series of about one hundred short pieces, written online between 2008 and 2016. They are meant for a wide range of readers interested in interreligious dialogue, interreligious learning, and the realities of Hindu-Christian encounter today, and are rich in insights drawn from teaching, travels in America and India, and the author's research on sacred texts. The author, a Catholic priest who has spent more than forty years learning from Hinduism and observing religion as a plus and minus in today's world, has much to share with readers. Some pieces were prompted by items in the news, some go deeper into traditions and probe the rich Scriptures and practices going back millennia, some seek simply to provoke fresh thinking, and others invite spiritual reflection. The book is divided into several parts so that readers can focus on individual events that made the news or on longer term and more concerted study. Familiar texts such as the Yoga Sutras, the Bhagavad Gita, the Qur'an, and key

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passages from the New Testament will be considered for their spiritual possibilities. Readers will find much here to learn from and respond to as they too consider religion in today's world.

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