
Comparative Religion web catalog

Title 1	Title 2	Author	Publisher	Media	Summary
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ARAB CHRISTIAN: A HISTORY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Cragg, Kenneth

Westminster/John Knox Press, 1991

BOOK

A startling case study that sheds light on the urgent worldwide issue of how Christians can contribute insights of faith in a pluralistic society. For those who want to believe that Christians and Muslims can find a common destiny in the Middle East and elsewhere. It takes an in-depth look at the survival of Arab Christianity.

BATTLE FOR GOD

Armstrong, Karen

Ballantine Books, 2000

BOOK

Contrary to popular belief, fundamentalism is not a throwback to some ancient form of religion but rather a response to the spiritual crisis of the modern world. The author focuses on three fundamentalist movements: Protestant fundamentalism in America, Jewish fundamentalism in Israel, and Islamic fundamentalism in Egypt and Iran - exploring how each has developed its own unique way of resisting the assaults of modernity.

BEYOND DA VINCI

Jones, Greg

Seabury Books, 2004

BOOK

An informed, factual and comprehensive response to Dan Brown's blockbuster best-seller, The Da Vinci Code. Beyond Da Vinci tackles the essential historical and theological errors at the heart of this fictional novel.

BEYOND ESTABLISHMENT: PROTESTANT IDENTITY IN A POST-PROTESTANT AGE

Carroll, Jackson W., and Wade Clark Roof, eds. Westminster/John Knox Press

BOOK

A novel, cultural approach to studying mainline Protestant denominations--what beliefs, values, symbols, stories, and style make a denomination distinct. Case studies show the effects on denominational identity of mergers, ethnic, and racial identity, and broader social and cultural changes.

BOOK OF MORMON

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

BOOK

An account "written by the Hand of Mormon" upon plates taken from the plates of Nephic. Translated by Joseph Smith, Jr. Another testament of Jesus Christ.

BRIEF GUIDE TO BELIEFS

IDEAS, THEOLOGIES, MYSTERIES, AND MOVEMENTS

Edwards, Linda

Westminster John Knox Press

BOOK

A brief guide to the wide and fascinating world of religious beliefs and practices, both accessible and authoritative. It provides a handy reference tool for Christians to comprehend the new pluralistic religious world in this post-modern era exploring tremendous range of traditions and viewpoints of other religions.

CHRISTIANS AND JEWS: PEOPLE OF GOD

Office of Theology and Worship

GAC, PCUSA, 2005

BOOK

Church Issues Series, No. 7 The office of Theology and Worship has published Christians and Jews; People of God as one part of its response to the General Assembly's action to reexamine and strengthen the relationship between Christians, Jews and the implications of this relationship for our evangelism and new church development.

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COMMON ROOTS: NEW HORIZONS--LEARNING ABOUT CHRISTIAN FAITH FROM DIALOGUE WITH JESUS					
	Ucko, Hans		WCC Publications		BOOK Risk Book Series. The reader is invited to reflect on some of the central themes of the Christian tradition--conceived in the Old Testament and carried on in the New: people of God, Messianic hope, kingdom of God, creation, being human...keeping in mind that the church and Christian theology are inextricably bound up with Judaism and the Jewish people.
DA VINCI CODE					
	Brown, Dan		Doubleday, 2003		BOOK Breaking the mold of traditional suspense novels, The Da Vinci Code is simultaneously lightening paced, intelligent, and intricately layered with remarkable research and detail. See also Beyond Da Vinci (#6995).
DWELLING PLACE FOR WISDOM					
	Panikkar, Raimon		Westminster Press/John Knox Press		BOOK The author sees wisdom as our universe, our world, our Mother Earth. He discusses an existential feminine approach to life and knowledge; a catholic and less fragmented anthropology; a recovery of the most ancient meaning of philosophy; and how to preserve one's own identity.
ENCOUNTER IN THE SPIRIT MUSLIM CHRISTIAN MEETINGS IN BIRMINGHAM					
	Wingate, Andrew		WCC Publications, 1988		BOOK This book describes the dialogue that actually takes place at Muslim-Christian meetings in Birmingham, England, a multi-racial and multi-religious city. The first part of the book presents a diary of their meetings and contacts. The second part, on the basis of this dialogue, reflects on issues of faith, prayer and theology. Its members have not changed their faiths, but they have grown in community and understanding. (Part of Risk Book Series)
FAITH AND PRACTICE					
	Religious Society of Friends		Religious Society of Friends, 1997		BOOK A Book of Christian Discipline (1997). Published for the Philadelphia annual meeting of the Religious Society of Friends as a guide for members and all those who seek to understand in greater detail the ways the Quakers endeavor to apply their fundamental affirmations.
FIELD GUIDE TO U.S. CONGREGATIONS WHO'S GOING WHERE AND WHY					
	Woolever, Cynthia & Deborah Bruce		Westminster John Knox Press, 2002		BOOK A comprehensive portrait of congregational life in the United States in the new millennium, based on the results of the U.S. Congregational Life Survey of more than 2,000 congregations and over 350,000 worshipers from many denominations. This book, complete with charts and graphs, highlights the results of the survey to (1) provide a closer look at congregational vitality, so congregations can better understand how they can renew and enrich their mission; and (2) describe the Americans religious landscape in the 21st century.
GOD AND THE NEW ATHEISM: A CRITICAL RESPONSE TO DAWKINS, HARRIS, AND HITCHENS					
	Haight, John F.		Westminster John Knox Press, 2008		BOOK Copy 2.

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GOD IN ALL WORLDS					
AN ANTHOLOGY OF CONTEMPORARY SPIRITUAL WRITING					
	Vardey, Lucinda, ed.		First Vintage Books, Random House, 1996	BOOK	Spanning fifty years and representing traditions from Christianity, Judaism and Hinduism to Gaia worship and New Age beliefs, this bountiful anthology forms an inclusive map of the spiritual journey and its landmarks. It describes prayer and meditation, the power of myth, the Mother goddess and the Cosmic Christ, the struggle with evil, the gifts of love and grace, the the awe-filled encounter with a divine Other that is intensely person yet has the capacity to transform the world.
GOD IS ONE: THE WAY OF ISLAM					
	Speight, R. Marston		Friendship Press, Inc., 2001	BOOK	Rev. Speight directed the Office on Christian-Muslim Relations of the National Council of Churches of Christ from 1979 - 1992. One-fifth of the world's people are Muslims, yet many of the rest of us know very little about them or their faith. The author's insight and knowledge help the reader confront barriers to understanding with concern and accuracy. Second Edition with Afterword and Study Guide.
GOD'S BREATH					
SACRED SCRIPTURES OF THE WORLD					
	Miller, John & Aaron Kenedi, editors		Marlowe & Company, 2000	BOOK	An essential companion for students of world religions. The editors have compiled selections and passages from great books of the spiritual life of some of the world's religions. Commentaries by Herman Wouk, Marcus Borg, Joseph Campbell, Henry David Thoreau, Sirdar Ikbali al-Shan, The Dalai Lama, Barbara Stoler Miller, and others, offer a foundation that provides emotional and intellectual security in our search for spirit.
HEART OF ISLAM, THE					
ENDURING VALUES FOR HUMANITY					
	Nasr, Seyyed Hossein		HarperOne, 2002	BOOK	The world's leading Islamicist and foremost Muslim expert on the West offers a timely expression of the core spiritual and social values of Islam, showing their complementarity of Jewish and Christian values as well as their positive contribution to a peaceful and humane global future.
HISTORICAL ROAD OF EASTERN ORTHODOXY					
	Schmemmann, Alexander		Holt, Rinehart and Winston	BOOK	The dissimilarities in doctrine and church organization which distinguish Eastern Orthodoxy from Protestantism and Roman Catholicism are grounded in a distinct history. The special culture, background, and religious experience of Eastern Orthodoxy help the reader discover an ancient and central Christian tradition.
HISTORY OF GOD					
THE 4,000-YEAR QUEST OF JUDAISM, CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM					
	Armstrong, Karen		Ballantine Books, 1994	BOOK	Why does God exist? How have the three dominant monotheistic religions, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam shaped and altered the conception of God? How have these religions influenced each other? The author traces the history of how men and women have perceived and experienced God, from the time of Abraham to the present.
HOW TO BE A PERFECT STRANGER, VOL. 2					
	Matlins, Stuart M./Arthur J. Magida, eds.		Jewish Lights Publishing	BOOK	Etiquette book covering most religions and denominations in the U.S. See Volume 1 for additional listings.

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HOW TO BE A PERFECT STRANGER: A GUIDE TO ETIQUETTE IN OTHER PEOPLE'S RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES

Magida, Arthur J., ed. Jewish Lights Publishing BOOK
 Helps guest of any other faith feel comfortable to participate without violating anyone's religious principles or hurting their feelings.
 Major religions and denominations are in alpha order in this volume and in Volume 2.

INTERFAITH LISTENING PILOT PROGRAM

General Assembly Council General Assembly Council, PCUSA, 2002 VIDEO
 Copy 2.

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM: A TEXTBOOK AND READER

Neusner, Jacob Westminster/John Knox Press BOOK
 Both an ancient and a modern religion that has a profound effect on Christianity and Islam. The author describes how Judaism is practiced in America today and surveys how it tookshape as people responded to political and religious crises.

JERUSALEM: ONE CITY, THREE FAITHS

Armstrong, Karen Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1996 BOOK
 The author explains what Jews, Christians, and Muslims have meant when they say that Jerusalem is "holy" to them. She points out some of the implications of its sanctity to each tradition. Three interconnected concepts recur throughout the book--the whole notion of God or the sacred; the question of myth; and symbolism.

KORAN (QUR'AN)

Penquin Group, 2000 BOOK
 Translated by N.J. Dawood with parallel Arabic text. The Koran (Qur'an) which means The Recital in Arabic, is one of the most influential books of prophetic literature. Universally accepted by Muslims to be the infallible Word of God as revealed to Mohammed by the Angel Gabriel nearly fourteen hundred years ago, the Koran still provides the rules of conduct fundamental to the Arab way of life.

LURE OF THE CULTS

Enroth, Ronald Christian Herald Books BOOK
 Ronald Enroth, a sociology professor and scholar on the cults, analyzed America's fascination with cults in the late 1970s.

MUHAMMAD: LEGACY OF A PROPHET

Kronemer, Alexander & Michael Wolfe Unity Productions Foundation, 2002 DVD
 The life story of the man who lives in the hearts and minds of Muslims. This film tells the story of the seventh century prophet who changed world history in 23 years, and continues to shape the lives of more than 1.2 billion people.

NEAREST IN AFFECTION: TOWARDS A CHRISTIAN

UNDERSTANDING OF ISLAM

Brown, Stuart WCC Publications, 1994 BOOK
 A short introduction to Islam for Christians but one which offers a wide-ranging overview of what Muslims believe and where their beliefs and practices reveal points of contact or divergence with Christianity.

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NEIGHBORS: MUSLIMS IN NORTH AMERICA

Mallon, Elias D.	Friendship Press, 1989	BOOK
Interviews with North American Muslims, who talk about their families, their work, their spiritual journeys. The author chairs the Roman Catholic-Muslim Dialogue in the Archdiocese of New York.		

NEW AGE SPIRITUALITY: AN ASSESSMENT

Ferguson, Duncan S., editor	Westminster/John Knox Press	BOOK
The essays contained in this resource will enable people to understand the many-sided character of the New Age movement and to make a balanced assessment of the movement's value.		

NEXT CHRISTENDOM

THE COMING OF GLOBAL CHRISTIANITY

Jenkins, Philip	Oxford University Press, 2002	BOOK
By the year 2050 only one Christian in five will be non-Latino and white, and the center of gravity of the Christian world will have shifted firmly to the Southern Hemisphere. This book is a first to take the full measure of the changing face of the Christian faith. The effects of varied beliefs on global politics will be enormous, as religious identification begins to take precedence over allegiance to secular nation-states.		

OUT OF THE BLUE: A STORY OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, FROM JIHAD TO GROUND ZERO

Bernstein, Richard and the Staff of the NY Times	Henry Holt & Company, 2002	BOOK
Author Richard Bernstein, with the staff of the New York Times, tells the compelling story of the people, forces, and events that led to one of them most unforgettable days in American history.		

OXFORD CONCISE DICTIONARY OF WORLD RELIGIONS

Bowker, John, editor	Oxford University Press, 2000	BOOK
A comprehensive, up-to-date dictionary of all the major world religions, past and present. Written by an expert team of contributors, the volume an extensive topic index grouping entries under themes, and an original and in-depth introductory essay. Over 8,200 entries include religions; movements, sects and cults; individuals; sacred sites; ethics; and themes such as asceticism, biogenetics, cosmology, and music and dance.		

PRESBYTERIANS AND MORMONS: A STUDY IN CONTRASTS

	Theology & Worship Ministry Unit, PCUSA	BOOK
A study guide that contrasts the teachings of the Latter-day Saints church with that of the Reformed/Presbyterian tradition. Prepared by the Presbytery of Utah for the General Assembly in Salt Lake City, 1990.		

RELIGIONS AROUND THE WORLD

Wolcot, Leonard and Carolyn	Abingdon Press, 1967	BOOK
This book explains man's early religious expressions and tells the story of the great religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Chinese religions, Northern Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.		

RELIGIONS OF AMERICA

Rosten, Leo, editor	Simon and Schuster	BOOK
Ferment and faith in an age of crisis. A new guide and almanac. Helpful resource that gives a quick explanation of the various Protestant denominations as well as Mormons, Christian Science, Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Pentecostal, etc. Also examines point of agreement and views of social issues.		

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RELIGIOUS LIBERTY: CATHOLIC STRUGGLES WITH PLURALISM

Murray, John Courtney		Westminster/John Knox Press		BOOK	Statements on religious freedom plus two essays recently made available to the reading public--one on religious freedom originally suppressed by the Vatican; and a discussion of human dignity.
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SACRED STRATEGIES: TRANSFORMING SYNAGOGUES FROM FUNCTIONAL TO VISIONARY

Aron, Isa, S. Cohen, L. Hoffman & A. Kelman		The Alban Institute, 2010		BOOK	Sacred Strategies is about eight synagogues that reached out and helped people connect to Jewish life in a new way - congregations that had gone from commonplace to extraordinary. They write for synagogue leaders eager to transform their congregations, federations and foundations interested in encouraging and supporting this transformation, and researchers in congregational studies who will want to explore further.
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SIX WORLD RELIGIONS

Aletrino, L.		Morehouse-Barlow		BOOK	Book containing information for the layperson on Islam, Brahmanism and Hinduism, Buddhism, Shintoism, The Inter-relation of Eastern Religions and Schools of Thought and Judaism. Non-technical, helpful information to help persons understand these religions. See also STUDY GUIDE FOR SIX WORLD RELIGIONS prepared by John E. Bates.
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STRIVING TOGETHER IN DIALOGUE

A MUSLIM-CHRISTIAN CALL TO REFLECTION AND ACTION

Office of Interfaith Relations		General Assembly Council, PCUSA, 2000		BOOK	Occasional Paper #8 produced by the Worldwide Ministries Division from an international Muslim-Christian meeting held in Amersfoort, Netherlands in November 2000 convened by the World Council of Churches. At that meeting Christian and Muslim religious leaders, educators, and activist discussed issues of religion, law and society, human rights, religious freedom, community rights, mission and community tensions.
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STUDY GUIDE FOR SIX WORLD RELIGIONS

Bates, John E.		Morehouse-Barlow		BOOK	Study Guide for the book by L. Aletrino. Includes many Suggestions for Discussion at the end of each chapter; also Suggestions for Further Reading.
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STUDYING CLASSICAL JUDAISM: A PRIMER

Neusner, Jacob		Westminster/John Knox Press		BOOK	The text demonstrates that religion is social and political and the single most powerful force in the shaping of human history and civilization.
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SYNAGOGUES IN A TIME OF CHANGE

Heller, Zachary I., ed.		The Alban Institute, 2009		BOOK	The issues faced by Judaism in America are not unique to Jewish religious movements. Many of the issues facing synagogues will be familiar to those of all faiths. Each writer brings unique expertise and perspective in describing the development of contemporary religious movements (denominations) in American Judaism, their interrelationships and tensions, and their prospects for the future. Religious groups of all kinds will find reflections of common struggles that can provide a vehicle for constructive conversations about their own pressing issues.
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TELLING TALES: MAKING SENSE OF CHRISTIAN AND JEWISH NONSENSE

Neusner, Jacob Westminster/John Knox Press BOOK

The author claims that instead of having dialogue, Christians and Jews have been exchanging monologues--parallel lines that never meet. He suggests that Jews and Christians exchange stories that will help each understand the other and ultimately provide a way to have true dialogue.

**TERROR IN THE MIND OF GOD
THE GLOBAL RISE OF RELIGIOUS VIOLENCE**

Juergensmeyer, Mark University of California Press, 2001 BOOK

This dark, enthralling book not only documents the global rise of religious terrorism, but seeks to understand the odd attraction of religion and violence.

THEOLOGY WITHOUT BOUNDARIES: ENCOUNTERS OF EASTERN ORTHODOXY AND WESTERN TRADITION

Calian, Carnegie Samuel Westminster/John Knox Press BOOK

The author, baptized in the Eastern Orthodox tradition, and raised a Protestant, promotes greater dialogue and exchange among Christians of the East and the West. Seeks to make Christians aware of the diversity of the faith.

TOWARDS UNDERSTANDING ISLAM: A PERSPECTIVE FOR CHRISTIANS

Bernadette Productions, Episcopal Radio-TV Foundatio VIDEO

Produced to promote understanding, appreciation and dialogue between Christians and Muslims. This three-part video introduces 1) the context of Islam; 2) the faith of Islam; and 3) dialogue between Christianity and Islam.

**TRANSFORMATION OF AMERICAN RELIGION
HOW WE ACTUALLY LIVE OUR FAITH**

Wolfe, Alan Free Press, 2003 BOOK

In this groundbreaking work, the author, a leading American social scientist, demonstrates that American religion has been transformed beyond recognition. God has met and struggled fiercely against American culture...and the culture has won. His book offers nothing less than a roadmap to our new national faith.

TRUTH AND FICTION IN THE DA VINCI CODE

Ehrman, Bart D. Oxford University Press, Inc., 2004 BOOK

A historian reveals what we really know about Jesus, Mary Magdalene, and Constantine. An insightful and entertaining look at the truth behind one of the biggest blockbusters in recent publishing history. This book is a very readable treatment of some very difficult themes, such as the reasons for the exclusino of some of the early gospels from the cana and the enormous influence of recent archeological discoveries.

UNDERSTANDING ISLAM AND THE MUSLIMS

Islamic Affairs Dept, Embassy of Saudi Arabia, 1989 PAMPHLET

This booklet prepared for the Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Washington, D.C., answers many questions one may have about Islam, Muslims, Muhammad, the Quran, their prayers, their thoughts on Jesus and Mary, family life, women, marriage, their view of death, dietary law, architecture, human rights, and Islam in the United States.

**VISION OF BUDDHISM
THE SPACE UNDER THE TREE**

Corless, Roger J. Paragon House, 1989 BOOK

An introduction to Buddhism portraying the life of Buddha in relation to Buddhist teaching and practices. The structure of the book is based of the Bodhi tree.

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**WHAT DO OUR NEIGHBORS BELIEVE? QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
ON JUDAISM, CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM.**

Greenstein, Howard R. etal	Westminster John Knox Press, 2007	BOOK
This helpful book offers clear and reliable introductions to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Readers may compare and contrast the faith traditions as they explore.		

**WHAT IS SCRIPTURE?
A COMPARATIVE APPROACH**

Smith, Wilfred Cantwell	Fortress Press, 1993	BOOK
The author asks how it is that certain texts have so seeped into human life - in a rich and powerful way - as to be deemed sacred. Examining the history and use of scripture in the world's major religious traditions, he shows how and why scripture continues to carry momentous and at times appalling power in human affairs. His creative proposal shows what it means to hold a text as sacred, or to treasure another's scripture.		

WHERE THE SPIRIT LEADS: AMERICAN DENOMINATIONS TODAY

Marty, Martin, editor	John Knox Press	BOOK
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**WHOSE RELIGION IS CHRISTIANITY?
THE GOSPEL BEYOND THE WEST**

Sanneh, Lamin	Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.	BOOK
Lamin Sanneh presents a stimulating new outlook on faith and culture by exploring Christianity's vibrant expression and explosive growth in the non-Western world.		