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In Search of Goodness Canongate Books

The recent spate of books and articles reflecting on the question of evil might make one forget that the question of just what constitutes goodness is no less urgent or perplexing. Everyone wants to think of him- or herself as good. But what does a good life look like? And how do people become good? Are there multiple, competing possibilities for what counts as a good life, all equally worthy? Or, is there a unified and transcendent conception of the good that should guide our judgment of the possibilities? What does a good life look like when it is guided by God? How is a good life involved with the lives of others? And, finally, how good is good enough? These questions are the focus of *In Search of Goodness*, the product of a year-long conversation about goodness. The eight essays in this volume challenge the dichotomies that usually govern how goodness has been discussed in the past: altruism versus egoism; reason versus emotion; or moral choice versus moral character. Instead, the contributors seek to expand the terms of the discussion by coming at

goodness from a variety of perspectives: psychological, philosophic, literary, religious, and political. In each case, they emphasize the lived realities and particulars of moral phenomena, taking up examples and illustrations from life, literature, and film. From Achilles and Billy Budd, to Oskar Schindler and Shel Silverstein's *The Giving Tree*, to Iris Murdoch and the citizens of Flagstaff, Arizona, readers will find a wealth of thought-provoking insights to help them better understand this most basic, but complex, element of human life and happiness.

[The Gospel According to Mark](#) Moody Publishers

The publication of the King James version of the Bible, translated between 1603 and 1611, coincided with an extraordinary flowering of English literature and is universally acknowledged as the greatest influence on English-language literature in history. Now, world-class literary writers introduce the book of the King James Bible in a series of beautifully designed, small-format volumes. The introducers' passionate, provocative, and personal engagements with the spirituality and the language of the text make the Bible come alive as a stunning work of literature and remind us of its overwhelming contemporary relevance.

Smyth & Helwys Publishing, Inc.

This work is vintage Morris and provides valuable insights to those studying the gospel from a scholar who has lived with the Greek New Testament for decades.

[The Gospel According To Matthew](#) Abingdon Press

Drawing on great church teachers through the centuries and on the classical Christian creeds and confessions, this book asks both what Matthew's Gospel said to its first hearers and what it says to readers today. It shows how the focus of Matthew shifts, from Jesus teaching about who he is to teaching mainly about what his church is.

[Ministry Through the Stages of Adulthood](#) The Good Book Company

Drawn from the many books, writings, and interviews by Richard Rohr, one of the most popular spiritual writers today, this collection introduces many of the teachings for which he has become known, all organized around the central theme of Love.

[Thirsty for God](#) Inter-Varsity Press

In this latest collection of Cycle A gospel sermons for Pentecost (last third), Albert Butzer shows that we Christians live our lives with one leg in the ancient and sacred world of the Bible and the other leg in our modern, scientific world. The job of the preacher is to make holy sense of the

intersection of these two worlds. It is a great honor and a sacred responsibility to do this, as well as a weekly lesson in humility. Preaching is risky business. And good preachers quake every time they step into the preaching moment. Al Butzer understands this privilege, this power, this promise of preaching, he has been at it a long time, and his quaking is as fresh today as it was 35 years ago. His sermons crawl inside our lives, because his life is much like ours. He does not pontificate; he persuades. He does not prescribe; he wonders. He does not scold; he inspires. Through story and metaphor and creative twists of theology, he widens the lens of our lives and helps us see in new ways. Susan Andrews Moderator of the 215th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, USA These sermons do precisely what the author intends: They help the reader live at the intersection of holy scripture and daily life. They never stray from that complex and often ambiguous intersection where all faithful people must live. Read these sermons to hear a word of God's wide grace proclaimed with courage and deep faith in the living God who is still at work in our lives. Al Butzer is a seasoned preacher whose gifts are displayed in this collection. Roy Howard Book Editor for The Presbyterian Outlook Sermon titles included: All Are Invited, But... (Matthew 22:1-14) Stamped With God's Own Image (Matthew 22:15-22) The Rule of Love (Matthew 22:34-46) The Word Above All Earthly Powers (John 8:31-36) Blessed to Be Among the Company of Mourners (Matthew 5:1-12) Albert G. Butzer, III has served as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach, Virginia since 2007. A graduate of Tufts University and Princeton Theological Seminary, he previously served congregations in Short Hills, New Jersey; Oak Park, Illinois; and Fairfax, Virginia. He was elected moderator of Chicago Presbytery in 1992 and three times served as a commissioner to meetings of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, USA. He is the author of Tears of Sadness; Tears of Gladness also published by CSS Publishing. In 2011 he received an Award of Merit (Second Place) from the Associated Church Press for his essay, "Making Sense of Difficult Texts," originally published in The Presbyterian Outlook.

[Christ and the Law in the 1535 Galatians Commentary](#) Fortress Press

This volume, based on seventy-three sermons that consecutively cover Matthew's Gospel, receives strength through the very roughness and directness of the word spoken under the inspiration of vast, visible audiences while addressed to the impressionable hearts of men. From first to last, the various units in the exposition proceed on the assumption that it was the intention of the writer to set forth the Person of our Lord in relation to His kingly office. So from the mystic account of His advent in human history, through the record of the authority of His ethical enunciation, the mercifulness of His method, the majesty of His death, and the glory of His resurrection, to the ringing claim of "all authority," and the clarion command to "disciple the nations," we are ever in the presence of the King. In an enthusiastic review, the Sunday School Times observes, "It will prove a mine of treasure for teaching the Sunday school lessons. There is hardly a page from which some expression of great force does not strike out at the reader."

[Richard Rohr](#) Paulist Press

What if you could study Mark with your favorite Bible scholars from across the ages? With The Preacher's Outline & Sermon Bible, you can! This unique resource is designed to empower pastors and leaders to effectively preach and teach God's Word. This is much more than a commentary - it takes the best scholarly works available and combines them in a single resource. Inside each volume of The Preacher's Outline & Sermon Bible, you'll find: - A verse-by-verse outline alongside

each passage of Scripture that draws out key concepts. - In-depth commentary synthesized from hundreds of trusted sources, including Matthew Henry, John MacArthur, Charles Spurgeon...and many more. - Thoughts designed to provide practical application of Scripture for your congregation. - Deeper studies that expand on original Greek sources, provide historical background, and explain key points. - An Outline & Subject Index designed for topical study - perfect for quickly creating messages on a particular theme. There's a volume of The Preacher's Outline & Sermon Bible series for nearly any sermon you can imagine. Explore the full series on our website at outlinebible.org

Thematic Plans for Years A, B, and C Canongate Books

Business, education, law, service industries, medicine, government wherever you work, in whatever capacity, the Scriptures have something to say about it. This "Theology of Work Bible Commentary" is an in-depth Bible study tool put together by a group of biblical scholars, pastors, and workplace Christians to help you discover what the first part of the Old Testament from Creation to Abraham and the Patriarchs to the Exodus from Egypt and the Law of Moses says about work. "

[Essential Teachings on Love](#) Fortress Press

This thought-provoking book explores the very roots of religious thinking. Draws on contemporary images of religion as well as providing fascinating insights into religious fundamentalism.

[A Preacher's Guide to Lectionary Sermon Series, Volume 2](#) University of Chicago Press

Social-science Commentary on the Synoptic Gospels Fortress Press

[Dissident Discipleship](#) AuthorHouse

Paul was the most influential figure in the early Christian church. In this epistle, written to the founders of the church in Rome, he sets out some of his ideas on the importance of faith in overcoming mankind's innate sinfulness and in obtaining redemption. With an introduction by Ruth Rendell

Preacher's Outline & Sermon Bible-KJV-Mark Brazos Press

This is the final volume in a unique new commentary series that helps the preacher identify and reflect on the social implications of the biblical readings in the Revised Common Lectionary. The essays concentrate on the themes of social justice in the weekly texts and how those themes can be teachable moments for preaching social justice in the church. In addition to the lectionary days, there are essays for twenty-two "Holy Days of Justice," including Martin Luther King Day, Earth Day, World AIDS Day, and Children's Sabbath. These days are intended to enlarge the church's awareness of God's call for justice and of the many ways that call comes to the church and world today.

[Gospel Sermons for Pentecost \(Last Third\) Cycle A](#) Canongate U.S.

The earliest of the four Gospels, the book portrays Jesus as an enigmatic figure, struggling with enemies, his inner and external demons, and with his devoted but disconcerted disciples. Unlike other gospels, his parables are obscure, to be explained secretly to his followers. With an introduction by Nick Cave

[Lent in Plain Sight](#) Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing

300 anecdotes and illustrations for pastors, writers, teachers, and other Christian communicators on a variety of topics. Each entry includes Scripture references, cross-references to related topics,

and an anecdote or illustration, and its source.

[Authorized King James Version](#) Abingdon Press

A working pastor is always looking for fresh preaching perspectives. This hands-on resource from the author of a long-standing column in the journal *Lectionary Homiletics* covers the entire three-year lectionary cycle with brief reflections designed to generate fresh and timely sermon ideas. Each reflection is limited to two pages and provides an interpretation of one or more lections for every month of the year. While some focus on a single lection, others draw forth a theological/pastoral theme that stretches across several lections, suggesting how to approach an entire month homiletically.

[Truth for Life](#) Presbyterian Publishing Corp

This 12-volume series covers all of the Sundays in the three-year lectionary cycle, along with moveable occasions. For each lectionary text, preachers will find brief essays--one each on the exegetical, theological, pastoral, and homiletical challenges of the text. Each volume also contains an index of biblical passages so that nonlectionary preachers may make use of it.

[The Gospel According to Matthew](#) CSS Publishing

Insightful and heart-warming, this classic book is written for those who seek to know God better. It unfolds life-impacting, biblical truths and has been called a "soul-stirring celebration of the pleasures of knowing God."

[End Times](#) Orbis Books

There has been a distinct tendency in modern scholarship to underestimate Luther's teaching on love by overemphasizing his teaching on justification. Calling this tendency into question, this volume advances the thesis that Luther's teaching on faith and love operates as the overriding thematic pair in the dynamics of Christ and the law--structurally and conceptually undergirding the 1535 Galatians commentary. The research situates itself in the landscape of Luther scholarship via a special attention to Finnish Luther scholars and scholarship.

[Luther on Faith and Love](#) Westminster John Knox Press

Neither ascent nor decline. Except for the point, the still point, here would be no dance and there is only the dance. (T. S. Eliot. *Four Quartets*) The metaphor of the dance is one I have chosen to describe the movement of the Spirit in my life as pastor in a small Protestant congregation in northern California during 1978-88. I dance a light and joyful dance when I remember that God in Christ is the still point of the dance around which the various parts of myself arrange themselves. As the people of God and I dance together we become a healing energy field in which the Holy Spirit powerfully moves. I have written this book in gratitude for the gift of the presence of the Christ as the creator of our dance together with all creation. It is a book for pastors and for students in training for church ministry, but it is for lovers, parents, business executives, and teachers as well. I invite you, my brothers and sisters, to dance with me. From a colleague: Your book is very good; very readable, very insightful and sometimes profound. I appreciate your open (and courageous) description of your personal spiritual journey, also your description of Psychosynthesis and its possible manner of application to ones self and to the activity of the Church. . . . I think . . . that your work could be particularly helpful as a teaching tool for ministers and Seminary students. THE PASTOR WHO LEARNED TO DANCE: HOW I LEARNED TO BE MYSELF IN THE CHURCH by Howard S. Fuller

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