

# BOOK BRIEFS

Exposition of the Psalms, by H. C. Leupold, DD. Grand Rapids: Baker, n.d. 1010 pages. \$8.95.

This volume by a professor of Old Testament at Lutheran Theological Seminary (Columbus, Ohio) was first published in 1959. It is a conservative commentary on the Psalms, with appeal for both pastor and intelligent layman. Each psalm is treated under the headings of a unifying outline. Key words are studies, problems are faced courageously, and contemporary relevance is abundant. The author's familiarity with scholarly literature of the Psalms is evident throughout.

*The Epistles of John*, by W. E. Vine. Zondervan, 1970. 128 pages. (paperback).

This is an American edition of an earlier British devotional commentary on the three epistles of John, by the author of many volumes on the Bible. The book is accurate and practical in treatment, set forth with clarity and warmth.

*Invitation to Dialogue: The Professional World*, by John Hendrix (editor). Nashville: Broadman Press, 1970. 126 pages.

Should the patient know the truth about his medical diagnosis? What about the morality and ethics of organ transplants? Are teacher strikes morally justifiable? How does one remain untouched in political power struggles? This book, by representatives of the professions, seeks to guide professionals in understanding major moral and ethical problems in our complex society.

*Biblical Sermon Guide, How to Prepare and Present a Biblical Sermon*, by Lloyd M. Perry. Grand Rapids: Baker. 131 pages. \$4.95.

This volume, designed particularly for classroom, is divided into four parts: Preparation, Organization, Variation of Outline, and Presentation. The book is rich in suggestions of texts and topics. It is eminently practical.

*For Sinners Only*, by Jacob D. Eppings. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1970. 142 pages. \$3.95.

The author makes the point that if Paul with his sinful record could receive the Sacrament, surely our sinful background and shortcomings need not bar us from the table. The Lord's Supper is *For Sinners Only*. Profitable for use in preconfession classes and for fresh perspective on the life of Paul.

*Deuteronomy*, by Bernard N. Schneider. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1970. 163 pages. \$2.95. (paperback).

A past moderator of the National Fellowship of Brethren Churches presents a panoramic view of God's dealings with His people, and we are made to realize afresh something of God's infinite love for His people. The author's exposition of this "favored book of Jesus" shows how relevant Deuteronomy is to the life of today.

*The Epistles of John*, by Donald W. Burdick. Chicago: Moody, 1970. 127 pages. 95¢ (paperback).

This is another book in the "Everyman's Bible Commentary" series. Analytical outlines of the epistles, which appear in the introductions, are woven into the text of the commentary, in this way contributing to unity and coherence of presentation.

*The Ministry of Reconciliation*, by Georgia Harkness, Nashville: Abingdon, 1971. 160 pages. \$2.45 (paperback).

The author sees reconciliation in terms of social concern and political and psychological insight, as well as in terms of the atoning work of Christ. As a practical treatise on the mission of the Christian church, this book, by an eminent scholar and churchwoman, helps meet a dominant challenge of our complex times.

*Sayings of the Jewish Fathers*, by Charles Taylor. Reprint. Prolegomenon by Judah Goldin. New York: Ktav. 1969. 2 vol. in 1, xviii + 192 + 50 + vi + 183. \$14.95.

This volume is a reprint of Charles Taylor's commentary on Pirke Aboth ("Chapters of the Fathers") and his catalogue and notes on the text. Most Christians are not familiar with this material, though there is ample reason for much additional concern for it. This reprint is a part of the Ktav republication series "The Library of Jewish Classics". Pirke Aboth is a treatise of the Mishnah containing a collection of ethical maxims from the rabbinical fathers. The title of the work is sometimes referred to as "The Ethics of the Fathers." The treatise is not a systematic ethical study, but rather a rabbinical "Book of Proverbs." Nevertheless, through the generally brief and concise statements these Hebrew sages cover a wide range of ethical concerns.

*A Sick World and the Healing Christ*, by Herbert F. Lindemann. St. Louis (Mo.): Concordia, 1971. 102 pages. \$1.95.

This book contains nine Lenten sermons that examine the present sickness of the world and then prescribe the Healing Christ. The author, Herbert F. Lindemann, is pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

With awareness and insight the author treats nine social and moral problems which characterize our contemporary scene—unrestraint, escapism, extremism, sensuality, addiction, revolution, spiritualism, frustration, reductionism. In dealing with these he does not simply assume a legalistic stance, nor does he dilute the Gospel to accommodate it to the prejudices of our scientific, materialistic age. To redeem the contemporary brokenness he prescribes the incarnate Christ, the crucified Christ, the risen Christ, the healing Christ. He recognizes that the only remedy for a sick world is the reconciliation that Christ provides—reconciliation to God, reconciliation to others, reconciliation to oneself. The author illustrates in this volume his own definition of a preacher—"the Lord's intermediary, with one hand on the ageless Gospel and the other very much in touch with the contemporary scene."