

BOOK BRIEFS

Up From Grief, by Bernadine Kreis and Alice Pattie. New York: Seabury, 1969. 146 pages. \$3.95.

From her own experience and that of more than three hundred persons interviewed, the author describes the varied facets of the three stages of grief—shock, suffering, and recovery. Within this framework, the role of the minister is discussed. While the book lacks in biblical orientation, the author does share valuable insights into the feelings and thoughts of a person experiencing grief. Every pastor, especially those new in the ministry, will profit from reading this book.

Living Books of Moses—A Paraphrase of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House, 1969. 531 pages. \$4.95.

This latest of the “Living” series, done by Ken Taylor and his translating associates, is as vivid and clear as the earlier volumes. The earnest reader will get a fuller picture of the Books of Moses and find the reading genuinely fruitful and rewarding. Take the Joseph narratives, for example. They read like a highly fascinating story, and one finds himself hesitant to stop reading. Young people, even children, will find the accounts of Joseph and his brothers delightfully capable of holding their attention.

Word and Action, New Forms of Liturgy. New York: Seabury Press, 1969. 199 pages. \$2.95 (paperback).

In the past decade numerous Eucharistic liturgies have appeared, a testimony to the vitality of the contemporary liturgical revival. Here are some of the “official” and “unofficial” new liturgies in use in North America, with an illuminating introductory essay by John C. Kirby of the Divinity Faculty, McGill University, Montreal. It is noteworthy that “churches which formerly had an elaborate ceremonial are moving toward simplicity and those which had little or none are adopting some stylized forms” (Introduction).

The Prophets of Israel, from Ahijah to Hosea, by H. L. Ellison. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1969. 176 pages. \$4.50.

The son of a Hebrew Christian missionary among the Jews, a priest of the Anglican Church, and a professor of Old Testament, makes intelligible to us those prophets whose work was done among the northern tribes, stressing Amos and Hosea in particular. The prophets, seen in their political and religious contexts, continue to speak eloquently to man's condition. Erudite knowledge of the subject clarifies many an obscure text.

The Master's Men, by William Barclay. Nashville: Abingdon Press. 126 pages. \$1.25 (paperback).

This is an American reprint of a book published earlier in Britain, a readable, scholarly work that gives colorful pictures of each of the disciples. It is for preachers and the general reader.

Devotions for Personal and Group Renewal, by Wallace Fridy. Nashville: Abingdon, 1969. 144 pages. \$2.75.

This little book of twenty-eight devotions should be in the hands of those interested in personal and group renewal of the spiritual life. Eminently readable, rich in insight and inspiration, it is bound to pull a man God-ward. It is one of the best of its kind in recent years.

John the Baptist, As Witness and Martyr, by Marcus L. Loane. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1968. 122 pages. \$3.50 (paperback).

This is interpretive biography with a richly devotional approach, by the Archbishop of Sydney. Chapters deal with the baptism and the temptation of Jesus, John's testimony to Jesus, His comment concerning John, concluding with three messages on the execution of John the Baptist.

Escape from Phoniness, by Aaron J. Ungersma. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1969. 127 pages. \$1.95 (paperback).

Hippie revolt and campus rebellion have called attention to the phoniness in society. The stated purpose of this book is to offer ways of escape from phoniness in view of the multiplicity of temptations today

to play the phony. The bluff, the bully, and the phony demonstrate their inner inadequacy by “devious and manipulatory ways of relating to others” (p. 11). Some chapter titles are “The Hollow Self,” “The Isolated Self,” “The Divided Self,” and “The Responsible Self.”

Amos Among the Prophets, by J. K. Howard. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1968. 120 pages. \$2.95.

This book is in two main parts. First, Amos is seen against the background of the developing prophetic movement. The second part is the commentary proper in which the message of the prophet is related to its historical setting and principles of conduct are presented, which remain valid for the church today. The author is a graduate in medicine (Edinburgh) and in theology (London).

Lectures on Preaching, by Phillips Brooks. Introduction by Ralph G. Turnbull. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1969. 381 pages. \$2.95.

This is another paperback reprint in the series “Notable Books on Preaching.” Previous titles include R.C.H. Lenski, *The Sermon*; A. Z. Gossip, *In Christ’s Stead*; and J. Stalker, *The Preacher and His Models*. Brooks’ treatise continues to hold a front-ranking position in the by now lengthy list of titles that comprise the annual “Yale Lectures on Preaching.” This volume is ever contemporaneous.

The American Voice, edited by Gerald Willen. New York: Weybright and Talley, 1968. 351 pages (paperback).

When our national life becomes disordered, it is well to take a “backward glance” at ourselves. This book points to the cancers that are within modern American society: hatred, assassination, abuse of the individual, racial oppression—historical legacies that threaten to destroy this “young-old nation.” Compelling documentary evidence is to be found in the writers of fiction, not only in their fiction but in their non-fiction, much of which speaks directly of social, political, and economic concerns. The book contains representative selections from nineteen authors, among them Hawthorne, Cooper, Mark Twain, Frank Norris, Henry James, Edith Wharton, and Theodore Dreiser.

Where in the World is God? by Richard L. Harding. Chicago: Moody Press, 1968. 96 pages (paperback). 95 cents.

This dramatic little book in analyzing recent world headlines seeks to uncover fundamental problems involved and to point to the practical solution.

In Castro's Clutches, by Clifton E. Fite. (Foreword by W. A. Criswell). Chicago: Moody Press, 1969. \$3.95.

The painful story of a father's desperate struggle to regain his missionary son's release from Castro's prison is a remarkable account of divine province.

A Drink at Joel's Place, by Jess Moody. Waco, Texas: Word Books, 1967. 125 pages. \$3.50.

One hundred twenty-five pages of religious communication in the contemporary idiom. Hookers, shockers, stingers—all are found in abundance. It speaks realistically about today's church, but is somewhat repetitive.

The Will To Win, by James C. Hefley. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1968. 106 pages. \$2.95.

Here is the third book by the author dealing with major figures in the world of athletics. This book demonstrates to a young person that Christianity is meaningful in the lives of his heroes. The variety of situations shows how the spiritual can invade and be dynamic in secular settings.

The Book of Obadiah, by Don W. Hillis. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1968. 75 pages. \$1.95.

This is another book in the Shield Bible Study Series, which are inexpensive Bible study guides. The first half of the book concerns itself with excellent background material including a section on the location of Edom. The exposition demonstrates research, which should be helpful to student and preacher.

The Exploration of Faith; Triumphs in Hebrews Eleven, by R.E.V. White. Chicago: Moody Press, 1969. 125 pages. \$3.50.

This is a book that teaches the practical, experiential aspects of dynamic faith. It relates the story of faith as demonstrated in the lives of "God's Faithfuls' Hall of Fame." Here is an exhilarating spiritual tonic for all Christians. It is the work of the principal of the Baptist Theological College of Scotland.

The Quiet Revolution, The Radical Impact of Jesus on Men of His Time, by James D. Smart. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1969. 158 pages. \$2.95 (paperback).

If youth's disillusionment with the Church arises from the feeling that it is too conservative and too satisfied with the status quo to introduce a new age, the author reminds us that the Church is the result of the most permanent and effective revolution in history. Ten brief encounters recorded in the New Testament show the impact of the individual's confrontation with Jesus. This is a timely little volume.

A Reader's Guide to Religious Literature, by Beatrice Batson. Chicago: Moody Press, 1968. 188 pages. \$2.25 (paperback).

A handbook that examines the writings of representative authors from the early middle ages to the twentieth century. Authors treated include Augustine, Dante, John A. Donne, Richard Baxter, John Bunyan, Milton, William Law, John Henry Newman, Browning, Francis Mauriac, T. S. Eliot, and C. S. Lewis. Familiarity with the works outlined here will contribute much to a liberal education.

Answers for the Now Generation, by Carl F. H. Henry. Chicago: Moody Press, 1969. 95 pages. .95 (paperback).

This book is the result of discussion groups with the author, conducted in California on several college campuses. A revolutionary younger generation demands forthright answers to questions concerning "Christianity and Science," "Christianity and Evil," "Knowledge of God," "Man's Nature," "Revelation," "The Bible and Theology." The author furnishes meaningful answers to hard questions.

Breakthrough, Rediscovery of the Holy Spirit, by Alan Walker. Nashville: Abingdon, 1969. 92 pages. \$2.75.

The author believes that Pentecost is a repeatable experience. Some chapter headings include "The Spirit makes New People," "The Spirit Brings Maturity," "Special Baptism of the Spirit," and "The Spirit Renews the Church." This little book challenges all who read it to discover afresh the meaning and power of the Spirit.