Take and read

selected by Amy Plantinga Pauw in the May 30, 2006 issue

In Review



Grant Me Justice! HIV/AIDS and Gender Readings of the Bible

Musa W. Dube and Musimbi Kanyoro, eds. Orbis



The Bonhoeffer Legacy: Post-Holocaust Perspectives

Stephen R. Haynes Fortress



Scriptures in Dialogue: Christians and Muslims Studying the Bible and the Qur'an Together

Michael Ipgrave, ed. Church Publishing



Bearing the Word: Prophesy in the Biblical and Qur'anic Perspective

Michael Ipgrave, ed. Church Publishing



INABINING Redemption

INCOME. RELEASE



Imagining Redemption

David H. Kelsey Westminster John Knox



Christ is the Question

Wayne A. Meeks Westminster John Knox



The Economy of Grace

Kathryn Tanner Fortress



The Wounding and Healing of Desire: Weaving Heaven and Earth

Wendy Farley Westminster John Knox



The Community of the Word: Toward an Evangelical Ecclesiology

Mark Husbands and Daniel J. Treier, eds. InterVarsity

These searching biblical reflections on the HIV/AIDS crisis pay special attention to the perspectives and suffering of women. The essays are authored principally by African women scholars. The volume includes a postscript by Letty Russell.

Written while the author was acutely ill and unable to read, this book gives an account of humanity's deep woundedness and its capacity for deep healing. The book's vivid style and lush imagery are reminiscent of *Showings*, by Julian of Norwich. Farley writes from a Christian perspective and also draws on themes and practices of Tibetan Buddhism.

In this 100th-anniversary year of Bonhoeffer's birth, Haynes explores Bonhoeffer's theological legacy from the perspective of postwar Holocaust studies. He finds

"persistent ambivalence" in Bonhoeffer's writings on the Nazi persecution of Jews.

Emerging from a 2004 Wheaton College conference by the same name, this collection of essays by leading evangelical scholars criticizes the inadequacies (and often the absence) of evangelical reflection on the church. The essayists suggest that an emphasis on moral witness, sacramental life and mission will provide a way forward.

These are the two latest volumes emerging from a series of discussions between leading Christian and Muslim scholars convened by the archbishop of Canterbury. The gatherings aim to build bridges and deepen the dialogue between the two faith communities by devoting attention to their sacred texts.

Many theologians have presented abstract views of Christian redemption. Kelsey grapples with this doctrine in a very concrete, particular case: the experiences of a father and his son who suffers from Guillain-Barré syndrome. Kelsey's emphasis on the role of imagination in redemption will be helpful to suffering people and their pastors.

Meeks brings a wise and engaging voice to the ongoing historical, hermeneutical and theological debate about the identity of Jesus Christ. He insists that learning this identity is an ongoing process and concludes that "the God of the Bible will astonish the people who claim to be God's over and over again, but God will not betray those who put their confidence in God's story."

In this thought-provoking book Tanner develops the notion of theological economy, God's way of managing the world household. She uses principles of universal inclusion, unconditional giving and noncompetitive possession to expand our economic imaginations beyond what seem like the inevitabilities of global capitalism.