



4-2017

Qureshi's "Answering jihad: A better way forward" (Book Review)

Carrie Beth Lowe
Johnson University

The Christian Librarian is the official publication of the Association of Christian Librarians (ACL). To learn more about ACL and its products and services please visit <http://www.acl.org/>

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/tcl>

 Part of the [Christianity Commons](#), and the [Islamic Studies Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Lowe, Carrie Beth (2017) "Qureshi's "Answering jihad: A better way forward" (Book Review)," *The Christian Librarian*: Vol. 60 : Iss. 1 , Article 15.
Available at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/tcl/vol60/iss1/15>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ George Fox University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Christian Librarian by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ George Fox University. For more information, please contact arolf@georgefox.edu.

Serena's two would be suitors, Nate and Tanner return in this episode. Quirky Aunt Martha and her Mafioso-friend, Carmen Malgucci add their unique talents to this adventure. Sandra Orchard introduces the reader to Serena's grandmother, Nana; Mrs. Gladys Hoffemeier, who owns a now forged Dali painting; Gladys's two adult children; a very talented inner city high school artist, named Tyrone; and others. The by-play and interaction of all the characters is fast paced and very natural feeling.

For libraries that offer recreational reading, the Serena Jones mysteries provide good quality entertainment. For mystery readers, this series (two titles thus far) offers a mental sleight-of-hand of challenge issued by an accomplished and dexterous magician. This book is recommended.

Reviewer

Kathleen F. Kempa, Southeastern University

Qureshi, N. (2016). *Answering jihad: A better way forward*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan. 173 pp. \$14.99. ISBN 9780310531388

In this short book, former Muslim turned Christian apologist Nabeel Qureshi answers eighteen questions he is frequently asked about jihad. The questions are grouped in three sections: "The origins of jihad," "Jihad today," and "Jihad in Judeo-Christian context." In the concluding chapter, Qureshi proposes an initial direction for a Christian response to jihad.

The appendices include a historical timeline of jihad, selected passages on jihad from one of the major collections of hadith (sayings of Muhammad), and a brief explanation of the caliphate. The appendix on the Ahmadi sect of Islam is largely recycled from Qureshi's autobiographical book, *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus*. A short glossary of Islamic/Arabic terms is included, but there is no index or bibliography.

Qureshi acknowledges this book's indebtedness to the work of Rice University professor of Islamic studies David Cook, and in particular, to Cook's book, *Understanding Jihad*. Several other works and authors are mentioned at various points in the book. A bibliography or further reading list would have aided the reader in pursuing these recommended works.

Qureshi mainly avoids policy level discussions of jihad and radical Islam. The book is best suited for Christians who want a better understanding of jihad to inform their interactions with and their witness to their Muslim neighbors. Several of the book's chapters address biblical passages on war, war in Christian history, and Jesus' teachings

on war and violence. Consequently, this book may also be of use to students or other readers desiring information on just war, pacifism, or conscientious objection. This book will be a useful addition to most library collections.

Reviewer

Carrie Beth Lowe, Johnson University

Kapic, K. M., & Jones, M. (Eds.). (2012). *The Ashgate Research Companion to John Owen's Theology*. Burlington, VT: Ashgate. 352 pp. \$49.95. ISBN 9781409484295

Shortly before the sweeping changes of the Enlightenment, John Owen left an indelible mark as a culturally and politically involved pastor-theologian. This Ashgate Research Companion provides a rich and timely addition to the conversation on Owen's great 17th century contribution to the world. His writings increasingly resonate with students of the Reformation today. Building upon conference presentations on John Owen scholarship at Cambridge University in 2008, the editors solicited additional chapters in order to round out the key issues in the life and work of this great church leader. The contributing authors meaningfully support the editors' division of the text under the headings of method, theology, and practice.

Highlights include the hermeneutical and contextual details behind Owen's colossal commentary on Hebrews (chapter 3), Owen's well-rounded intellectual pursuits as evidenced in his diverse personal library (chapter 6), the daily discipline of a Christ-centered beatific vision (chapter 8), and reflections on religious toleration during a time of war and upheaval (chapter 14). Graduate students and scholars will be sure to appreciate the background information and ample footnotes in each chapter.

This text offers a unique contribution of critical literature on Owen. Librarians and researchers will appreciate the truly remarkable bibliography of primary and secondary sources which alone is worth the cover price. This extensive list notes the works that Owens wrote, translated, contributed to, or wrote a preface for, in addition to responses from Owen's seventeenth-century contemporaries. Secondary sources include all manner of print material as well as unpublished dissertations. Given the rich insights of the essays and the excellent bibliographic resources, this Ashgate Research Companion is indeed indispensable for any engaging study of John Owen.

Reviewer

Jeremy W. Labosier, Biola University