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Heisler's "Spirit-Led Preaching: The Holy Spirit's Role in Sermon Preparation and Delivery" (Book Review)

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rape by definition is more about violence than sex, many Catholic hospitals will allow the use of some kind of contraceptive up to 150 hours after a rape attack. As might be imagined, others would not allow the use of any means that might in fact cause an abortion.

Finally, how does the use of artificial contraception work out in the realms of population control and justice for women? She discusses the issues involved here showing that while population control by means of using contraceptives is not acceptable in the eyes of the church. On the other hand, natural family planning has been encouraged.

It becomes obvious that Kalbian has done extensive research into this topic. There are copious endnotes with each chapter and an extensive bibliography. Either would be extremely helpful in further research on the topic. An index is also included. Though not in as much use as endnotes, this work really cries out for footnotes to allow immediate access to supportive documentation.

This book would be a good addition to any theological library, Protestant or Catholic. While one might wish the author had included more discussion on relevant Protestant views, that would surely have made it a huge undertaking. Instead, this work offers insight to the way Catholic ethicists and theologians have struggled with *Humane vitae* it is a eye-opening introduction into the many issues involved with contraception as faced by believers in the Sovereignty of God.

**Spirit-Led Preaching: The Holy Spirit's Role in
Sermon Preparation and Delivery,**

by Greg Heisler. Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 2007.
156 pp. \$12.45. ISBN 9780805443882

Reviewed by Craig Rosenbeck, Graduate Student, University of North Texas, Denton, TX

Greg Heisler, associate professor of preaching at Southeastern Seminary, challenges the reader to evaluate the Holy Spirit's role in the preacher's preparation leading into preaching the sermon. The book becomes intriguing to the reader through practical applications and theological topics. The purpose of the book is accomplished because the author entices the reader on how to improve their preaching by relying on the Holy Spirit in preparation and delivery. Although, the definition of spirit-lead preaching by the author is academic, he unfolds the definition extremely well.

The way this book contributes to the field is by being read in a seminary preaching class because it is written by a seminary preaching professor. The manner by which

the author writes allows the reader to imagine being in the classroom with him. This book contributes to the field by being extremely beneficial to pastors. The book would be helpful to pastors because the author maneuvers the reader through pastor's sanctification along with understanding anointing in preaching. Overall this would be a highly recommended book in an academic setting or in a pastor's study. The book is concise and it is easy to follow the author's thought throughout.

St. Augustine's Interpretation of the Psalms of Ascent,

by Gerald McLarney. Washington, DC: The Catholic University of America Press, 2014. 244 pp. \$65.00. ISBN 9780813227030

Reviewed by Stefana Dan Laing, Assistant librarian, Harvard School for Theological Studies, Southwestern Baptist Theological Library, Houston, TX

The idea of continuity with the past holds increasing interest for Evangelicals who appreciate and seek to appropriate the legacy of the ancient church. This particular volume focuses on how early Christians read and understood Israel's songbook and appropriated it for themselves as Christians. Gerald McLarney, Adjunct Professor of Theology at St. Joseph's College in Alberta, Canada, examines Augustine of Hippo's "exegetical strategy" in the Psalms and "how Augustine interprets the Psalms for his audience" (p. 3). The author delimits his topic by choosing the sermons on the Songs of Ascents (Ps. 120-134), thereby treating a logical unit in the Psalms as well as a sermon unit in Augustine's own ministry (p. 89), as it appears he preached them successively in a relatively brief span in the years AD 406-7 or 410-11 (p. 95).

Reading the Bible and using it in worship provided an integrated life of devotion and doctrine. McLarney boldly offers Augustine as a model preacher who held strongly to the idea of historical continuity, and who deftly marshalled a "hermeneutic of alignment" in his preaching in order to bring the listener into contact with the text in all its richness (pp. 33-38). Augustine's main task through his *Expositions on the Songs of Ascent* was to help his listeners interact with the text and to hear all the "voices" there present: Christ, the prophets, the Apostle Paul, and the North African martyrs. In this re-worked version of his dissertation, McLarney examines Augustine's hermeneutical movement from homiletical exegesis and exposition, to application to the congregation's life of faith centering "on the figure of Jesus Christ" (p. 5). This approach represents the fruit of the preacher's labor and possibly the most beneficial part (for the congregation) of the homiletical task. As he preached these spiritually uplifting psalms, Augustine never forgot his pastoral task, so that his exposition is not pure intellectual endeavor but, in McLarney's words, "the text itself gives voice to the innermost desires of a soul longing for the divine, and in singing the psalter,