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Miles' "A God of Many Understandings?: The Gospel and a Theology of Religions" (Book Review)

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A God of Many Understandings?: The Gospel and a Theology of Religions,
ISBN 9780805448221

Reviewed by Tiffany Pettis, Interlibrary Loan and Information Technology Librarian,
Southwestern Assemblies of God University, Waxahachie, TX

Todd Miles’ *A God of Many Understandings?* seeks to answer the question, “How should Christians live among people of other faiths?” The chapters are clearly titled, making the table of contents quite useful for gaining a quick overview of topics covered. The book is written in a scholarly manner, with scripture references interwoven with the text as support for Miles’ points; the book is well-researched and well-written.

Although the book’s stated purpose is to develop a theology of religions, the majority of the book is spent establishing and defending Christian truths. While a foundation is necessary for building, only the final chapter actually addresses the point of the book. A reader seeking to understand a theology of religions need read only the first and last chapters, perhaps referencing the other chapters as needed.

This book is not for the lay reader, but is rather a theological discourse on exclusivism, inclusivism, pluralism, and universalism. Heavy on the theology side, this text would be a good addition to an academic library with strong theological, biblical, or missiological programs.

The God We Worship: An Exploration of Liturgical Theology,
$20.00; ISBN 9780802872494

Reviewed by Bruce Flanders, Director, Mabee Library,
MidAmerica Nazarene University, Olathe, KS

The goal of this book is to identify and comment upon points of Christian liturgy shared by various Christian faith traditions, including Orthodox, Catholic, Episcopal, Lutheran, and Reformed and Presbyterian churches. Wolterstorff, who is Noah Porter Professor Emeritus of Philosophical Theology at Yale University and Senior Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture at the University of Virginia, focuses not so much upon liturgical texts but on liturgical practices – the ways in which liturgies are “actualized” (p. 4), through listening, singing, speaking, and bodily