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Kostenberger and Croteau's "Which Bible Translation Should I Use?: A Comparison of 4 Major Recent Versions" (Book Review)

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The Way of the Wesleys: A Short Introduction,

by John R. Tyson. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2014. 202 pp. \$16.00.

ISBN 9780802869548

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

Can a seminary professor write a church history in a manner intelligible to the average lay person? Look no further than *The Way of the Wesleys*, an eminently-readable review of the theological system expounded through Charles and John Wesley's hymns and sermons. This impressive introduction to the Wesleyan doctrinal legacy is organized into 14 chapters, each of which illuminates the Wesleys' life and times, as well as the brothers' ability to translate complex theological points into easily-grasped lessons for spiritual training and faithful Christian living through clear and direct preaching and hymn writing. The book describes the impact of their evangelical and experiential views regarding vital Christian life, and their role in a transatlantic revival and the creation of what would become the Methodist theological tradition. Each chapter details the Wesleyan influence on a particular Christian doctrine: the Bible, sin, the new birth, holiness, grace, the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, Christian perfection, the atonement, the Trinity, the means of grace, the Lord's Supper, life in the world, and an ecumenical view of Christian unity. Cleverly woven throughout the text are relevant passages from a wide variety of Wesleyan hymns. Christians from both the Methodist family of churches, as well as other Christian traditions, may benefit especially from an outstanding summary of Christian perfection, also known as "full sanctification" or "entire sanctification" (p. 91) – a doctrine that can cause much consternation and confusion. This book, with its focus on theological context rather than biographical history, presents a particularly valuable perspective on this important area of protestant church history.

Which Bible Translation Should I Use?:

A Comparison of 4 Major Recent Versions,

edited by Andreas J. Köstenberger and Davide A. Croteau. Nashville, TN: B&H Academic, 2012. 204 pp. \$ 14.99. ISBN 9781433676468

Reviewed by Gary R. Averill, Librarian, Spiritual Life Bible College, Minneapolis, MN

This book allows translation team members of four different Bible versions (ESV, HCSB, NIV, NLT) to tell their own story of why their version of the Bible is the best. In the beginning of the book, there is an excellent brief introduction introducing the reader to the history of the different English translations and what makes them different from each other. Then the editors introduce the readers to

the verses they have chosen for the translators to discuss. Each verse is quoted in all four Bible versions so the reader can see the differences for each of the verses. Using only certain verses has good and bad points. The good is that all the translators are discussing the same verses so the reader has a baseline to work with. The bad is that there is a lot repetition. Due to the passion of these translators and that they are given no parameters other than to talk about the chosen verses (this means they can talk about what they feel are the weaknesses of the other three versions and those who do the translating), the reader does get a good idea of how these translations are formed.

The title may make it seem it is a book for the general public. This book is much more scholarly and dry than is usually accepted by the general public. This book is not as much for one looking for the perfect translation but more for those interested in the inner workings of creating a translation. An interesting addition is that this book uses QR codes, so that a person can go online to see and hear a lecture by that particular translator on what they just read. If a person does not have the QR application on their mobile device, they can go to Liberty University to see the different presentations at a symposium in their entirety. For those who have visual processing disorders, this feature is a godsend.

**Whosoever Will: A Biblical-Theological Critique of
Five-Point Calvinism,**

edited by David L. Allen and Steve W. Lemke. Nashville: B&H Publishing Group,
2010. 306 pp. \$24.99. ISBN 9780805464160

Reviewed by Gary Fittsimmons, Director of Library Services, Bryan College, Dayton, TN

This volume is a collection of essays from presenters at the John 3:16 Conference held November 6-7, 2008, by Jerry Vines Ministries at the First Baptist Church in Woodstock, Georgia, and cosponsored by New Orleans Baptist, Southwestern Baptist, Midwestern Baptist, Liberty Baptist, and Luther Rice Theological Seminaries. Editors David L. Allen (Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary) and Steve W. Lemke (New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary) begin with an introduction detailing the resurgence of interest in Calvinism among Baptists, delving into the history of the influence of Calvinist theology in the Baptist tradition and stating the purpose of the book to continue the dialog between Calvinistic and non-Calvinistic Baptists from a non-Calvinistic perspective while maintaining a unified spirit. Next, Jerry Vines offers a "Sermon on John 3:16" followed by five essays, each taking on one of the five points of Calvinism. The remaining five essays deal with other issues related to Calvinist theology. The book is an important presentation of the non-