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## Jones' "Practicing Christian Doctrine: An Introduction to Thinking and Living Theologically" (Book Review)

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surprising that the message was not well received by the Spanish settlers. While Montesinos and the settlers were Spanish, Christian, and Catholic, they represented two opposite points of view. These opposing views are seen throughout the history of Christianity in Latin America. Gonzalez and Gonzalez present in this work sources that reveal calls for radical transformation, attempts to maintain the oppressed in a submissive state, the influence of non-Catholic Christians, and rebellion against oppression.

This book is organized in a way for the reader to gain needed insight into the contents of various historical texts. Its organization compliments the fact that it is also well written and provides a much needed resource for Latin American Christianity. I certainly intend to add this title to my library's holdings.

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**Practicing Christian Doctrine:  
An Introduction to Thinking and Living Theologically,**  
by Beth Felker Jones. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2014.  
256 pp. \$22.99. ISBN 9780801049330

*Reviewed by Steve Emerson, Director of the Library,  
California Baptist University, Riverside, CA*

Beth Felker Jones, Associate Professor of Theology at Wheaton College, offers an introduction to theology that seeks to balance Scripture, doctrine, and practice in her helpful work *Practicing Christian Doctrine: An Introduction to Thinking and Living Theologically*. She argues that studying doctrine for the sole purpose of increasing knowledge is ultimately a fruitless endeavor; instead, “our beliefs must be put into practice,” and we must “perform the book of Scripture” (p. 2). In keeping with her thesis, page insets throughout the book include prayers, hymns, and devotional poetry, all of which encourage the reader to practice doctrine. The concluding section of every chapter discusses concrete ways for Christians to put particular theological beliefs into action.

Jones presents theology from a broadly evangelical perspective rather than from the viewpoint of a particular denominational tradition. She steers a course between theological liberalism and separatist fundamentalism, and within this middle ground she discusses the range of doctrinal beliefs held by evangelicals. For example, in her chapter on soteriology she presents a balanced view of both Calvinism and Arminianism, discussing strengths and weaknesses of both positions.

Why another introduction to Christian doctrine? Jones balances traditional discussions of significant theologians from the history of Christian thought (Athanasius, Augustine, Luther, etc.) with voices from contemporary global Christianity. For

example, in her examination of Christology she juxtaposes the ideas of traditional thinkers like Cyril of Alexandria with the theology of current Ghanaian theologian Mercy Amba Oduyoye. The result is a rich blend of distinctive perspectives that offer fresh insights into traditional Christian themes.

Jones organizes her work according to the traditional topics of systematic theology (Theological Prolegomena, Revelation and Scripture, the Doctrine of God, Creation and Providence, Theological Anthropology, Christology, Soteriology, Pneumatology, Ecclesiology, and Eschatology). College undergraduates are the primary intended audience, and because of its concise summaries and accessible explanations of complex doctrines the work will be a useful textbook for them in many future Introduction to Christian Doctrine courses. It is a recommended addition to the collections of all libraries that support such areas of study.

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**Revolution in World Missions:  
One Man's Mission to Change a Generation,**

by K. P. Yohannan. Carrollton, TX: GFA Books, 2004. 230 pp. \$5.95.  
ISBN 9781595890610

*Reviewed by Stanford Terhune, North Canton, Ohio*

The last of six sons of a Christian mother, K. P. Yohannan was born in Kerala, India, in 1950, and grew up to become the founder and international director of the Gospel for Asia mission. This book is his personal story of how a shy boy was changed by Jesus Christ into a dynamic missionary speaker and leader to raise up an army of indigenous missionaries whose goal is to preach the gospel to two billion people in India and other Asian countries. Beginning as a street evangelist at age 16, he worked with teams of missionaries in northern India. He came to understand that thousands of indigenous missionaries must go into thousands of unreached local villages, convert the residents, and create disciples and local churches. Gospel for Asia missionaries receive three years of Bible school training, and suffer from deprivation and persecution to save millions from hell by bringing them to trust in Jesus Christ before they die.

Yohannan met his German wife while they were doing missionary work together. He was led by God to attend Criswell Bible Institute in Dallas, and begin Gospel for Asia in Carrollton, Texas. He was shocked at how extravagant American Christians were, spending millions of dollars on church buildings and providing themselves with comfortable lifestyles while millions of Asians were dying without hearing the gospel. He urges Americans to send \$30 per month to help fund indigenous missionaries for \$120–240 per month rather than spend over \$40,000 per year to