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Haynes' "The battle for Bonhoeffer: Debating discipleship in the age of Trump" (book review)

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Book Reviews



Haynes, S. R. (2018). *The battle for Bonhoeffer: Debating discipleship in the age of Trump*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. 193 pp. \$19.99. ISBN 9780802876010

Stephen Haynes, professor of religious studies at Rhodes College, presents a unique perspective of the impact of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's life and legacy. Haynes contributes an incredible scholarly book to enhance Bonhoeffer studies. He gives a researcher a wonderful scholarly resource for the study of Dietrich Bonhoeffer in politics and discipleship. Haynes' book provides a good resource to a researcher interested in political theology.

The clarity and thoroughness is satisfactory except for Haynes' critical review of Eric Metaxas work on Dietrich Bonhoeffer in the beginning of the book. However, Haynes' argument becomes clearer in later chapters. Plus, when Haynes describes other Bonhoeffer scholars' viewpoints, his argument solidified and gave clarity in the Postscript section provided to the reader. He displays a concern for Evangelical Christians supporting President Donald Trump. He challenges Evangelical Christians to consider writing in Bonhoeffer in future United State presidential elections when there are no candidates you are able to support because of being a Christian and a voting citizen of the United States.

This book is well documented with a bibliography, contents section, notes. Therefore, a researcher has an opportunity to review extensive bibliography supplied in Haynes' book. The extensive notes section allows researchers to gain information and provides websites for more resources.

Haynes' book provides a great opportunity to provide discussions in classes studying Dietrich Bonhoeffer. The book could be a suggested reading in a class in Bible college or seminary class studying discipleship. Another possibility to use Haynes' book is a class that covers theology and culture. Haynes' book respectfully portrays Dietrich Bonhoeffer's influence to Christians and to the academy. He provides a resource for those who have not heard or read about Dietrich Bonhoeffer and to introduce Dietrich Bonhoeffer to them.

Reviewer

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