Byun's "Justice Awakening: How You and Your Church Can Help End Human Trafficking" (Book Review)

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Illustrated Life of Paul,

Reviewed by Tiffany Norris, Public Services Librarian, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, TX

Through detailed maps, stunning current photos, and reproductions of classical art, Charles Quarles, professor at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, tells the story of the life of Paul. This introduction to perhaps the most noted biblical figure outside of Jesus is accessible, interesting, and well researched. While there is not a large amount of new material, the illustrations, as expected from the title, are the strongest selling points of the book. It is organized into relatively brief, logical divisions that would work well to provide introductory or supplemental information in a setting such as a Bible study class.

While the book does take some narrative liberties in describing the events in Paul’s life (such as his thoughts, feelings, and motivations that are not described in the Bible), the book also provides useful context for Paul’s writings throughout his life, explaining Pharisaic and Roman customs, for instance. Examples of illustrations include a current picture of the traditional site where Paul was lowered out of the window in Damascus, Raphael’s painting of Paul preaching in Athens, and a map with two possible routes of the Damascus Road, where he was converted.

Justice Awakening: How You and Your Church Can Help End Human Trafficking,

Reviewed by Laura E. Walton, Circulation Librarian, Miller Library, Cornerstone University, Grand Rapids, MI

Eddie Byun, pastor of Onnuri English Ministry in Seoul, South Korea, provides an overview of human trafficking in our world today along with practical ways in which the church can work to end it. Although this book is small in size, its message is poignant and relevant. In five chapters, Byun delivers a concise overview of modern-day slavery, where it is happening around the world, and why Christians should be working to expose this issue to the world and eradicate the problem. Byun draws on his own experiences within his church and ministry to give ideas and inspire others to join the fight against modern-day slavery and human trafficking.
While this volume is not an academic work, it is formatted in a way that lends itself to group discussion. Byun also includes appendixes with helpful resources for further study and even a sample sermon that is encouraged to be shared. This would be a helpful addition to academic libraries with collections that support ministry and social work students.

The King’s Hand,
ISBN 9781782640776

Reviewed by Sherill L. Harriger, Library Director, Pontious Learning Resource Center, Warner University, Lakes Wales, FL

Anna Thayer has penned an epic fantasy trilogy entitled The Knight of Eldaran. In the first book of the trilogy, The Traitor’s Heir, she introduces the reader to Eamon Goodman. Eamon is a man conflicted because he has sworn allegiance to two very different rulers – the evil Master of the River Realm, Edelred, and the one true and rightful king, Hughan, who has declared Eamon to be his first knight. While in the city of Dunthriuk, Eamon gets lost in the trappings of power, esteem, and social standing provided by the Master and in the process loses himself and all thoughts of his allegiance to Hughan. However, now he has been commanded by the Master of the River Realm to confront Hughan with a terrible request: bring back the head of Hughan’s closest ally or pay the price. He has seven days to succeed in his ghastly mission or nearly a hundred of the men under his command will be tortured and slaughtered because of him. How will the king react to seeing Eamon, knowing the full extent of his betrayal? How can Eamon face the king after willfully committing such treachery against him and his people? But he must go; he has no choice.

A Little Book for New Theologians: Why and How to Study Theology,
ISBN 9780830839759

Reviewed by Tiffany Norris, Public Services Librarian, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, TX

Perhaps particularly in academia, it is useful to be reminded of the necessity of humility in theological reflection. Kelly Kapic keeps this reminder ever-present in this succinct, but thorough, argument for thinking through what we believe, why we believe it, and if our actions line up with those beliefs. Kapic states: “Given the