

Volume

107

A bimonthly audio magazine of contemporary culture & Christian conviction

Disc 1

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Victor Lee Austin, on why authority is not a barrier to true freedom, and is necessary for human flourishing (and will be forever)
- 3 Ellen Charry, on why happiness has been underplayed in Christian theology (and why it shouldn't be)
- 4 Anthony Esolen, on the explicit and implicit teaching that has caused many young people to be cynical and unhappy

Disc 2

- 1 Ferdinand Schlingensiepen, on the ambivalence of postwar Germans to the anti-Nazi resistance movement (and to Dietrich Bonhoeffer)
- 2 Allen Verhey, on why it's dangerous to draw too stark a line between nature and supernature
- 3 Calvin Stapert, on the historical, theological, and musical elements that combined to produce Handel's Messiah
- *An asterisk means that the book is in print; if you wish to purchase it from our friends at Splintered Light Books, call 1.800.979.3310.

The issue date for Volume 107 is January/February 2011.

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Authority

Victor Lee Austin's Up with Authority: Why We Need Authority to Flourish as Human Beings* (2010) was published by T & T Clark. The works by Yves Simon that were cited by Austin include A General Theory of Authority* (Notre Dame, 1962) and Nature and Functions of Authority* (Marquette, 1940). Other works cited in Austin's book include: Craig Bartholomew, editor: A Royal Priestbood? The Use of the Bible Ethically and Politically: A Dialogue with Oliver O'Donovan* (Zondervan 2002); Douglas Farrow, Ascension and Ecclesia: On the Significance of the Doctrine of the Ascension for Ecclesiology and Christian Cosmology* (Eerdmans, 1999); Richard Hooker, Of the Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity* (Oxford, 1845); Herbert McCabe, God Still Matters (2002, Continuum) and The Good Life: Ethics and the Pursuit of Happiness* (2005, Continuum); Oliver O'Donovan, Resurrection and Moral Order: An Outline for Evangelical Ethics* (Eerdmans, 1994) and The Desire of Nations: Rediscovering the Roots of Political Theology* (Cambridge, 1996); Michael Polanyi, Personal Knowledge: Towards a Post-Critical Philosophy* (Chicago, 1962) and *The Tacit Dimension* (Doubleday, 1966); and Jeffrey Stout, The Flight from Authority: Religion, Morality, and the Quest for Autonomy (Notre Dame, 1981).

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Happiness

Ellen Charry's God and the Art of Happiness* (2010) was published by Eerdmans. Her earlier book, By the Renewing of Your Minds: The Pastoral Function of Christian Doctrine* (1997), was published by Oxford. Robert J. Spitzer's *Healing the Culture*: A Commonsense Philosophy of Happiness, Freedom and the Life Issues* (Ignatius Press, 2000) is influenced by Pope John Paul II's "personalist" philosophy and his diagnosis of the "culture of death." David Naugle's Reordered Love, Reordered Lives: Learning the Deep Meaning of Happiness* (Eerdmans, 2008) uses an Augustinian model of properly ordered loves to discuss a practical theology of happiness. Pascal Bruckner is a critic of what he calls the "duty to be happy, . . . the ideology peculiar to the second half of the twentieth century that urges us to evaluate everything in terms of pleasure and displeaure, a summons to euphoria that makes those who do not respond to it ashamed or uneasy." Bruckner affirms the Enlightenment view of happiness, which "triumphed as ideas of salvation and grandeur waned, in a double rejection

of religion and feudal heroism: We prefer to be happy rather than sublime or saved." In his book, Perpetual Euphoria: On the Duty to Be Happy* (published in French in 2000, in English from Princeton, 2010), Bruckner reflects on the trajectory of assumptions about happiness for Voltaire. While critical of what he sees as the premodern Christian postponement of happiness, at times, he seems to suggest that—unshackled from divinely appointed boundaries—the modern project of happiness was bound to run wild: "Since the Enlightenment, the range of what is considered unbearable has been expanding: what was previously seen as a matter of course is now seen as unjust, arbitrary. What has changed in comparison to earlier centuries is not the total number of our afflictions but our intellectual attitude toward them. To be modern is to be incapable of playing the hand we are dealt with."

Other Works Mentioned

Anthony Esolen's *Ten Ways to Destroy the Imagination of Your Child** (2010) was published by ISI Books. Allen Verhey's *Nature and Altering It** (2010) was published by Eerdmans. Ferdinand Schlingensiepen, *Dietrich Bonboeffer, 1906-1945: Martyr, Thinker, Man of Resistance* (2010) was published by T & T Clark. Calvin Stapert's *Handel's Messiab: Comfort for God's People** (2010) was published by Eerdmans, as were his earlier books, *My Only Comfort: Death, Deliverance, and Discipleship in the Music of Bach** (2000) and *A New Song for an Old World: Musical Thought in the Early Church** (2007). His 2010 book *J. S. Bach** is part of the History Makers Series from Lion U.K.

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