



Journal

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Politics and the Kingdom of God

James W. Skillen's *The Good of Politics: A Biblical, Historical, and Contemporary Introduction** (2014) is published by Baker Academic. See also Skillen's *In Pursuit of Justice: Christian-Democratic Explorations** (Rowman & Littlefield, 2004). Skillen's thinking about the nature of government is influenced by the work of the Dutch neo-Calvinist philosopher Herman Dooyeweerd. For a detailed study of Dooyeweerd's ideas, see Jonathan Chaplin's *Herman Dooyeweerd: Christian Philosopher of State and Civil Society** (University of Notre Dame Press, 2011). Chaplin and Skillen's former colleague Stanley Carlson-Thies both contributed to the anthology *Christianity and Civil Society: Catholic and Neo-Calvinist Perspectives** (Lexington, 2008), a collection that also includes essays by Jean Bethke-Elshtain, Russell Hittinger, and others. David Koyzis's book, *Political Visions & Illusions: A Survey & Christian Critique of Contemporary Ideologies** (IVP Academic, 2003) is also in general sympathy with Skillen's views. *From Irenaeus to Grotius: A Sourcebook in Christian Political Thought, 100-1625** (Eerdmans, 1999), edited by Oliver O'Donovan and Joan Lockwood O'Donovan, is an important volume illustrating the development (which is not necessarily to say the progress) of Christian thinking about political life. See also their collection of essays in *Bonds of Imperfection: Christian Politics, Past and Present** (Eerdmans, 2004). See also Oliver O'Donovan's, *The Desire of the Nations: Rediscovering the Roots of Political Theology** (Cambridge University Press, 1996) and *The Ways of Judgment** (Eerdmans, 2005). Joan Lockwood O'Donovan is also the author of *Theology of Law and Authority in the English Reformation* (Scholar's Press, 1991). James Skillen was a contributor to an anthology that examines Oliver O'Donovan's work: *A Royal Priesthood? The Use of the Bible Ethically and Politically** (Zondervan, 2002), edited by Craig G. Bartholomew. *The Blackwell Companion to Political Theology** (Wiley-Blackwell, 2006), edited by Peter Scott and William T. Cavanaugh, contains essays about a wide range of issues related to a theological understanding of politics, including Trinity, Creation, Christology, ecclesiology, and eschatology. Contributors include Stanley Hauerwas, Daniel M. Bell, Jr., Catherine Pickstock, and Robert W. Jenson. Other titles of possible interest include: William T. Cavanaugh, *Theopolitical Imagination: Discovering the Liturgy as a Political Act in an Age of Global Consumerism** (T & T Clark, 2002); *Christian Political Witness*,* edited by George Kalantzis (InterVarsity Press, 2014); Robert P. Kraynak,

Disc 1

- 1 **Introduction**
- 2 **James W. Skillen**, on the necessity of keeping our beliefs about Creation tied to our convictions about redemption, and the importance of understanding the place of all cultural life within God's plan of Creation
- 3 **Christian Smith**, on how American sociology is not (as is claimed) a disinterested scientific endeavor but the pursuit of a sacred project driven by sacred commitments
- 4 **B. W. Powe**, on the unique "apocalyptic" insights of Marshall McLuhan and Northrop Frye, colleagues at the University of Toronto for thirty-four years

Disc 2

- 1 **David Downing**, on C. S. Lewis's *The Pilgrim's Regress*, an allusive allegory in defense of Christianity, reason, and Romanticism
- 2 **Roger Scruton**, on the inability of materialism to give a satisfactory account of our experience of the material world
- 3 **Jonathan Arnold**, on the curious place of sacred music in a secular society

*An asterisk means that the book is in print; if you wish to purchase it from our friends at Eighth Day Books, call 1.800.841.2541.

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*Christian Faith and Modern Democracy: God and Politics in the Fallen World** (University of Notre Dame Press, 2001); Scott H. Moore, *The Limits of Liberal Democracy: Politics and Religion at the End of Modernity** (InterVarsity Press, 2009); and *The Teachings of Modern Christianity on Law, Politics, and Religion*,* edited by John Witte, Jr. (Columbia University Press, 2006).

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Sacred music

Jonathan Arnold's *Sacred Music in Secular Society** was published by Ashgate in 2014. You can hear and see Jonathan Arnold singing with The Sixteen, conducted by Harry Christophers, in the first four episodes of the BBC television series, *Sacred Music*, hosted by Simon Russell Beale. Works cited by Arnold in his book include: *Resonant Witness: Conversations between Music and Theology** (Eerdmans, 2011), edited by Jeremy Begbie and Steve Guthrie; *Music and Theology: Essays in Honor of Robin A. Leaver*,* edited by Daniel Zager (Scarecrow Press, 2006); and Albert Blackwell, *The Sacred in Music** (Westminster John Knox Press, 1999).

Other Works Mentioned

Christian Smith's *The Sacred Project of American Sociology** (2014) is published by Oxford University Press. B. W. Powe's *Marshall McLuhan and Northrop Frye: Apocalypse and Alchemy** (2014) is published by University of Toronto Press. The annotated edition of C. S. Lewis's *The Pilgrim's Regress** (2014) is published by Eerdmans. Roger Scruton's *The Soul of the World** (2014) is published by Princeton University Press.

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