

Volume

133

A bimonthly audio magazine of contemporary culture & Christian conviction

Disc 1

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Darío Fernández-Morera, on the real history of Islamic Spain in the Middle Ages
- 3 Francis Oakley, on the long-standing belief in sacral kingship and the secularization of politics in the late Middle Ages
- 4 Oliver O'Donovan, on why all political authority can only be properly understood by way of analogy with God's kingship
- 5 Thomas Storck, on the conflicts between "Americanism" and Catholic social teaching

Disc 2

- 1 John Safranek, on the self-contradictory character of modern liberalism
- 2 Brian Brock, on the challenges and opportunities of being a "Church theologian" in a secular university
- 3 George Marsden, on the birth and influential life of C. S. Lewis's Mere Christianity

*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.

The issue date for Volume 133 is May/June 2016. It was published March 2017.

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Tolerance and politics

Darío Fernández-Morera's The Myth of the Andalusian Paradise: Muslims, Christians, and Jews under Islamic Rule in Medieval Spain* (2016) is published by ISI Books. Fernández-Morera cites many scholars who share his skepticism about tolerance in the rule of al-Andalus, but their work is largely in academic journals and in non-English texts. Among the scholars whose work he cites are: Soha Abboud-Haggar, María Luisa Ávila, Luis A. García Moreno, and Antonio Domínguez Ortiz. A. J. Convers's The Long Truce: How Toleration Made the World Safe for Power and Profit (2001) was published by Spence Publishing Company. In his book, Conyers distinguished between the modern liberal doctrine of toleration and a Christian practice of toleration, based on a confidence in the reality and knowability of the truth about what is good, which is in turn tied to the fact of the Incarnation, whereby Truth takes loving human form among us. Christian tolerance is an expression of the theological virtues of faith, hope, and love. "It is an openness toward what is true, recognizing that the truth of God is true for all people, and to the extent that other cultures or religions have been illuminated by truth it is none other than the truth of the one God, the God to whom Jesus himself gives full and incarnate witness."

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The secularization of modern politics

Francis Oakley's three-volume study of *The Emergence of Western Political Thought in the Latin Middle Ages* is published by Yale University Press. The first volume, *Empty Bottles of Gentilism: Kingship and the Divine in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages (to 1050)**, was published in 2010. The second volume, *The Mortgage of the Past: Reshaping the Ancient Political Inheritance (1050-1300)**, was published in 2012. Volume three, *The Watershed of Modern Politics: Law, Virtue, Kingship, and Consent (1300-1650)**, appeared in 2015. Oliver O'Donovan's comments about the Kingdom of God being a *real* kingdom are included in his seminal study, *The Desire of the Nations: Rediscovering the Roots of Political Theology** (Cambridge, 1996). See also *Bonds of Imperfection: Christian Politics, Past and Present** (Eerdmans, 2004), a collection of essays by Oliver O'Donovan and Joan Lockwood O'Donovan.

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Liberalism, Americanism, etc.

Thomas Storck's *From Christendom to Americanism and Beyond** (2015) was published by Angelico Press. John P. Safranek's *The Myth of Liberalism** (2015) was published by

the Catholic University of America Press. In the introductory essay to the anthology Retrieving Origins and the Claim of Multiculturalism* (Eerdmans, 2014), edited by Antonio López (interviewed on vol. 130) and Javier Prades, López notes that, "liberal anthropology believes that everything comes after a human choice and is determined by it: work, leisure, family relations, gender, even our own bodies. The perception of freedom as the capacity to determine itself through choice represents therefore the architectonic criterion of liberal culture. ... [S] ince every difference (gender, cultural, religious, political, etc.) is the expression of the same abstract freedom, each difference is ultimately seen as indifferent, that is to say, as not essentially different from the others and hence as irrelevant. . . Concretely speaking, this means that a liberal society will be able to host within itself different cultures and religions only if they remain private, that is, irrelevant, and hence harmless, to the all-encompassing anarchic horizon. . . . Liberalism, apparently

more on

Other books mentioned

itself to liberalism's self-understanding."

Brian Brock's *Captive to Christ, Open to the World: On Doing Christian Ethics in Public** (2014) was published by Cascade Books. George Marsden's *C. S. Lewis's* Mere Christianity: *A Biography* (2016) was published by Princeton University Press.

allowing the coexistence of different cultures, traditions, and

religions within itself, de facto prevents and seeks to eliminate the

existence of any culture, tradition, or religion that does not fold

The MARS HILL AUDIO *Journal* is produced at our studio in rural central Virginia, outside of historic Charlottesville. The *Journal* is one of several audio products we distribute, all of them intended to encourage greater wisdom about interaction with contemporary culture.

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