

shortcomings of the methodological tools in our biblical critical tool-box and about the way texts are themselves brought to life in ever fresh interpretative and often interdisciplinary contexts.

Biblical Criticism: A Guide for the Perplexed

by *Eryl W. Davies*

Guides for the Perplexed. Bloomsbury T & T Clark, New York, 2013. 176 pp. \$24.95. ISBN 978-0-5671-4594-9.

This “guide” explains to the uninitiated in a readable and accessible form how strategies originally derived from secular literary criticism have been adopted by biblical scholars in order to understand the text of Scripture and to appreciate its relevance. Whereas the historical-critical approach was concerned with the moment of a text’s production (authorship, date, place of writing, etc.), the literary approach is concerned with the moment of the text’s reception. The book shows how and why approaches such as “reader-response criticism,” “feminist criticism,” “ideological criticism,” “canonical criticism” and “post-colonial criticism” are now becoming more popular in many quarters.

The Rhetoric of the Gospel: Theological Artistry in the Gospels and Acts, Second Edition

by *C. Clifton Black*

Westminster John Knox, Louisville, 2013. 250 pp. \$35.00. ISBN 978-0-664-23822-3.

While most books on biblical rhetoric focus primarily on the Epistles, this volume

considers the variety of rhetorical critical approaches now being applied to the Gospels (including Luke-Acts). This updated edition takes into account recent research since the first volume was published in 2001 and features two brand new chapters. It provides an overview of the different forms of rhetorical criticism, with examples from the Gospel of John; studies of characterization in Matthew and Luke; an analysis of classical rhetorical criteria found in Mark and Luke-Acts; and an analysis of the rhetoric of the parables with implications for contemporary preaching.

Can Only One Religion be True? Paul Knitter and Harold Netland in Dialogue

by *Robert Stewart*

Fortress, Minneapolis, 2013. 272 pp. \$24.00. ISBN 978-0-8006-9928-4.

This volume highlights points of agreement and disagreement on the subject of religious pluralism. The dialogue partners in the discussion are Paul F. Knitter, Paul Tillich Professor of Theology, World Religions, and Culture at Union Theological Seminary (New York), and Harold A. Netland, Professor of Mission and Evangelism and Director of Intercultural Studies at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Illinois. A transcript of the March 2009 Point-Counterpoint event between Knitter and Netland allows the reader to see how each presents his position in light of the other’s, as well as their responses to selected audience questions. The balance of the volume is comprised of substantive essays on various facets of the question of religious pluralism from a diverse set of scholars.