

Wisconsin Bookwatch: October 2014  
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### The Christian Studies Shelf

Augustine's Theology of Preaching  
Peter T. Sanlon  
Fortress Press  
P.O. Box 1209, Minneapolis, MN 55440-1209  
9781451482782 \$24.00 <http://fortresspress.com>

Augustine's Theology of Preaching is a scholarly study of Augustine of Hippo (354-430), also known as Saint Augustine or Saint Austin, who is well known as a Christian theologian and philosopher. The focus here is on Augustine as a preacher, offering Augustine's own views on the craft of preaching, in terms accessible to readers of all backgrounds. Chapters address the historical context of Augustine's preaching, pagan oratory, how preachers were once trained, and much more. "We may summarize Augustine's use of interiority and temporality with regard to resurrection as follows: Jesus is resurrected temporally, so that the apostolic witnesses may believe and be healed interiorly. This leads to the word being preached. When the word is heard and believed, people experience an interior resurrection. The ability to believe in Jesus' resurrection arises from that act occurring temporally, as part of God's ongoing teleological plan..." An extensive bibliography and an index round out this welcome addition to Christian theological shelves. Also highly recommended for its philosophical and religious contemplation is "The Ethics of Death" (9780800699192, \$34.00), in which a philosophy/ethics professor Dennis R. Cooley and Religion Studies professor Lloyd Steffen discuss the moral, philosophical, and ethical quandaries revolving around death, including the complex, thorny issues surrounding abortion, the death penalty, war, suicide (whether assisted by a physician or not), euthanasia, and more.