

# A Theology of Public Life

CHARLES T. MATHEWES

# **Religion Theology And American Public Life**

Adam L. Bond

#### **Religion Theology And American Public Life:**

Religion, Theology, and American Public Life Linell Elizabeth Cady, 1993-01-01 In this book Linell Cady analyzes the role of religion and theology in American public life **Theology in the Public Sphere** Sebastian Kim, 2013-01-03 A substantial and definitive introduction to public theology by one of the leading experts in the field A key text for third year undergraduate modules and MA courses in Social Ethics Political Theology and Public Theology Kristin E. Heyer, 2006-06-02 The United States was founded on a commitment to religious tolerance Based on this commitment it has become one of the most religiously diverse and religiously observant liberal democracies in the world Inherent in this political reality is the question What is the appropriate relationship between religious beliefs and public life This is not a new question but in contemporary US politics it has become a particularly insistent one In this intelligent wide ranging book Kristin Heyer provides new and nuanced answers Prophetic and Public employs the discourse of public theology to consider what constitutes appropriate religio political engagement According to Heyer public theology connects religious faith concepts and practices to their public relevance for the wider society. Her use of public theology concepts to address the appropriate possibilities and limits for religio political engagement in the United States is both useful and enlightening Heyer approaches the relationship between public morality and religious commitment through the example of the Catholic Church She looks at two prominent Catholics Michael Baxter and Bryan Hehir as a way of discussing norms for practice of public theology Heyer also analyzes case studies of three US Catholic advocacy groups The US Conference of Catholic Bishops NETWORK and Pax Christi USA Through her analysis she shows the various ways that the organizations Catholic identity impacts their social and political efforts From her investigations come norms that define possibilities and limits for political actions based on religious conviction This deeply thoughtful book examines what is truly fundamental and inescapable about public life and private religious belief in the United States In doing so it makes skillful use of the tools of theology philosophy law and advocacy to demonstrate that the Catholic Church reveals great diversity in its public theology providing legitimate options for a faithful response to urgent political issues Questioning the Human Lieven Boeve, Yves De Maeseneer, Ellen Van Stichel, 2014-08-15 Theological anthropology is being put to the test in the face of contemporary developments in the spheres of culture politics and science traditional perspectives on the human person are no longer adequate Yet can theological anthropology move beyond its previously established categories and renew itself in relation to contemporary insights The present collection of essays sets out to answer this question Uniting Roman Catholic theologians from across the globe it tackles from a theological perspective challenges related to the classical natural law tradition part 1 to the modern conception of the subject part 2 and to the postmodern awareness of diversity in a globalizing context part 3 Its contributors share a fundamental methodological choice of a critical constructive dialogue with contemporary culture science and philosophy This collection integrates a wider range of approaches than one usually finds in

theological volumes bringing together experts in systematic theology and in theological ethics Authors come from different American contexts including Black and Latino and from a European context that include both French and German Moreover the interdisciplinary insights upon which the different contributions draw stem from both the natural sciences such as neuroscience evolutionary biology and ethology and the humanities such as cultural studies philosophy and hermeneutics This volume will be essential reading for anyone seeking a state of the art account of theological anthropology of the uncertainties it is facing and of the responses it is in the process of formulating The shared Roman Catholic background of the authors of this collection makes this volume a helpful complement to recent publications that predominantly represent views from other theological traditions Pentecostal Public Theology Simo Frestadius, Mark J. Cartledge, 2024-07-11 This is the first academic work to focus explicitly on Pentecostal public theology in Europe Following a growing interest in understanding Pentecostal beliefs and practices with respect to the public sphere this book shifts the focus of Pentecostal engagement with politics society and culture from the Global South and North America to Europe This work also discusses themes such as Pentecostal public values identity nationalism poverty democracy education race and political engagement in the context of European Pentecostalism The book provides an historical overview by bringing together various European voices to discuss the current challenges and possible trajectories for Pentecostal public theology in a constructive fashion With contributions from leading and emerging European Pentecostal and Charismatic scholars this book is a must for scholars interested in understanding Pentecostal beliefs and practices in the public sphere in a European context

Reclaiming Narrative for Public Theology Mary Doak,2012-02-01 This book furthers the development of American public theology by arguing for the importance of narrative to a theological interpretation of the nation's social and political life. In contrast to both sectarian theologies that oppose a diverse public life and liberal theologies that have lost their distinctiveness narrative public theology seeks an engaged yet critical role consistent with the separation of church and state and respectful of the multireligious character of the United States Mary Doak argues for a public theology that focuses on the narrative imagination through which we envision our current circumstances and our hopes for the future This theology sees both our national stories and our religious ones as resources that can contribute to a public and pluralistic conversation about the direction of society Doak highlights arguments from Paul Ricoeur Johann Baptist Metz William Dean Stanley Hauerwas Franklin Gamwell and Ronald Thiemann that can both contribute to and challenge a narrative public theology She also proposes a model of public theology using narratives from Abraham Lincoln Virgil Elizondo and Delores Williams

<u>Visions of Hope</u> Kevin Ahern,2013 Fifty years after the Second Vatican Council emerging theologians are in a unique position to offer hopeful visions for the next fifty years of the Church in light of the pressing internal and external challenges it faces today Rooted in the texts of Vatican II and a commitment to the church Visions of Hope brings together the research of leading young scholars around five important topics dialogue ecclesiology ethics liturgy and ministry These ideas

represent the future shape of the Church because they are from the theologians who are planting the seminal ideas of The Imposing Preacher Adam L. Bond, 2013-06-01 While many American religious historians have focused on a Church few mainstream black Christian thinkers from across the twentieth century the story of Samuel DeWitt Proctor has remained obscured Yet his voice is essential to understanding the black social gospel In the complex mix of voices from the Religious Right Protestant fundamentalism and black liberation theology Proctor brought black middle class understanding of America life and contributed a voice that was Black Christian and American Bond's exploration of the life of Samuel DeWitt Proctor adds a crucial piece to our understanding of twentieth century American church history Book jacket Theology, and the University Linell E. Cady, Delwin Brown, 2002-10-10 Explores the relationship between religious studies and theology and the place of each in the modern secular university Pragmatic Historicism Sheila Greeve Davaney, 2000-09-07 Sheila Greeve Davaney develops a bold new option in theology and religious reflection pragmatic historicism which emerges out of the historicist assumptions of human situatedness particularity and plurality that have come to characterize Western thought The major theological attempts by postliberal and revisionist theology to incorporate these insights have failed to contend fully with the historicist challenge Davaney's pragmatic historicism more clearly repudiates essentialism universalism and confessionalism The theology that emerges is constructive and critical resisting all forms of confessionalism without resorting to new forms of universalism In its academic mode it is interpreted not in opposition to religious studies but as one subdiscipline within the study of religion whose major concerns are the identification analysis and critical reconstruction of religious ideas As such it is a form of cultural analysis and criticism The work includes a detailed exploration of the thought of philosophical pragmatists Richard Rorty Cornel West and Jeffrey Stout and theologians Sallie McFague John B Cobb Jr Gordon Kaufman Delwin Brown and William Dean among others

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