

DOUGLAS JOHN HALL

Thinking

THE FAITH

*Christian Theology in a
North American Context*

Thinking The Faith Christian Theology In A North American Context

Douglas John Hall



Thinking The Faith Christian Theology In A North American Context:

Thinking the Faith Douglas John Hall, 1991-01-01 As the Christian movement nears the end of its second millennium it faces a crisis that could not have been anticipated at the close of the first thousand years or indeed by most of our own great grandparents Since the most conspicuous dimensions of the waning of Christendom have to do with material decline the decline in church membership and active attendance of Sunday services the decline in financial and physical prosperity the decline of influence in high places such analyses as there are usually belabor the obvious something drastic is happening to the churches Throughout most of its long history Christianity has not required of its adherents that they should think the faith The historical accident of its political and cultural establishment 15 centuries ago ensured that a thinking faith would be purely optional for members of the church But thought less faith which has always been a contradiction in terms is today a stage on the road to the extinction not only of Christianity itself but of whatever the architects of our civilization meant by Humanity Only a thinking faith can survive Only a thinking faith can help the world survive From the Preface

Professing the Faith Douglas John Hall, 1996-11-22 What does it mean to profess the faith as North American Christians at the end of the second millennium What is Christian theology as consciously crafted in light of the distinctive history culture and experience of North America Hall marshalls doctrinal resources for a critical creative response that stresses God's necessary involvement in an unfinished dynamic suffering world

Confessing the Faith Douglas John Hall, This bold work culminates Hall's three volume contextual theology the first to take the measure of Christian belief and doctrine explicitly in light of North American cultural and historical experience Hall is deeply critical of North American culture but also of sidelined Christian churches that struggle to gain dominance within it We must stop thinking of the reduction of Christendom as a tragedy he says The disestablishment that the churches reluctantly enjoy can enable them to develop genuine community uncompromised theology and honest engagement with the larger culture To a failed culture and a struggling church Hall shows the radical implications of a theology of the cross for the shape and practice of church preaching ministry ethics and eschatology Hall's frank and prophetic volume is the trilogy's most practical and the most sustained probe to date of Christian life in a post Christian context

Thinking the Faith Craig L. Nessan, 1992

Toward an American Theology William James Beasley, 2006

Christian Theology After Christendom Patricia G. Kirkpatrick, Pamela R. McCarroll, 2020-11-24 Christian Theology after Christendom Engaging the Thought of Douglas John Hall brings together contemporary thinkers to engage and build upon Douglas John Hall's work and to take up his challenge to reclaim a contextual and decolonizing theology of the cross as a means to speak to the realities of life and faith today With a focus on contemporary issues this edited collection critically analyzes and deconstructs the centuries old colonial triumphalism of Christian theology and the church in the West This book seeks to frame present day crises in ways that honor a deeply rooted theologia crucis that does not colonize the other It explores constructive decolonizing possibilities for Christian theology at

the end of Christendom A Grammar of Christian Faith Joe R. Jones, 2002-06-03 A Grammar of Christian Faith is a two volume set that aims to confront the widespread disarray in the language and practices of Christian faith today As a grammar it explains how Christian faith provides special ways of speaking and acting that make sense of human life by giving it meaning practicality and hope It advances the thesis that learning how to speak Christian language in worship and life is crucial to learning how to be a Christian Rather than supposing that Christian language and theology need continual updating in order to be relevant to the world Jones urges the church to recover anew how Christian concepts and understanding are intended to form Christian life in all its rich depths Construing theology as confessional theology in the context of the church Jones understands the church as that liberative and redemptive community called into being by the Gospel of Jesus Christ to witness in word and deed the triune God for the benefit of the world The full range of doctrinal themes that are deemed essential to the witness of the church are explored including clear explanations of why they are essential and how they are to be understood In pursuit of a truthful and beneficial witness of the church the work centers on a trinitarian understanding of God in which God freely and lovingly interacts with the world as Creator Reconciler and Redeemer The work throughout affirms the belief that the gracious triune God is the Ultimate Companion who will redeem all creation **What Christianity Is Not** Douglas John Hall, 2013-02-12 What really is Christianity If all the religious packaging in which it is wrapped were removed what would remain These were Bonhoeffer's questions and they must be ours today even more urgently For in many quarters Christianity is being so narrowly identified with some of its parts cultural associations and past ambitions that like all militant religion it represents a threat to the planetary future We may no longer speak clearly of the essence of Christianity as von Harnack and other nineteenth century thinkers did but perhaps we may still have a sufficiently shared sense of the kerygmatic core of this faith to be able in the face of these misrepresentations of it to say what Christianity is not **The Steward** Douglas John Hall, 2004-07-21 The biblical image of the steward is highly provocative and even revolutionary In recent years environmentalists and peace marchers have been discovering the radical potential of the stewardship motif while the church sadly has muffled this symbol's power in ecclesiastical wrappings So writes Douglas John Hall in the first edition of *The Steward* 1982 This provocative book has been so much in demand all over the world that Hall has completely rewritten revised and expanded his work adding new material and deleting dated references Yet Hall has kept his original book's basic format the same in this new and improved edition In short Hall aims to recapture the most basic meaning of the biblical metaphor of the steward and to apply that meaning to our social context one in which human beings are confused and ambivalent about their place and vocation in a threatened world Working from numerous angles biblical historical sociological theological and ecclesiastical Hall explores the rich meaning and implications of stewardship Scripture portrays the steward as a caretaker and servant Hall compares scriptural teaching on stewardship concentrated in Jesus parables with the role of stewardship in the church's history maintaining that ever

since the fourth century the church's understanding and practice of stewardship have been distorted by its alliance with institutional power. Hall also puts forth apocalyptic warnings about the fate of the earth unless we heed the call to be stewards of the creation, work for world peace and justice, and nurture life in its many forms. The church around the world, says Hall, urgently needs to live as steward; it is a matter of death and life.

In Quest of a Vital Protestant Center

George Demetrion, 2014-10-06. *In Quest of a Vital Protestant Center* probes the relationship between Scripture and culture in twentieth-century US theology and biblical studies. It points to the necessity of turning to what Karl Barth has referred to as the strange new world within the Bible for any revitalization of mainline Protestantism in the tradition of the Protestant Reformers in critical dialogue with serious evangelical theology. The study includes a historical overview underlying what Demetrion refers to as the fundamentalist-modernist great divide which continues to resonate powerfully in contemporary US Protestant thought and culture. Demetrion offers an in-depth exploration of four representative twentieth-century Protestant theologians and biblical scholars spanning from the conservative evangelical theology of J. I. Packer to the postliberal dialectical theology of Walter Brueggemann. The book includes a chapter on the neo-orthodox legacy as a mediating resource in bringing evangelical and postliberal theology into dialogue with the core issues of theology, biblical hermeneutics, and religious culture. Demetrion concludes with a critically empathetic review of the postliberal dialectical theology of Douglas J. Hall and the evangelical narrative theology of Richard Lints. In linking evangelical postliberal and neo-orthodox theology to a common search for a vital Protestant center, this book will facilitate fruitful dialogue among divergent schools of Protestant thought and culture.

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