

USELESS Beauty

Ecclesiastes through the Lens of Contemporary Film

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Useless Beauty Ecclesiastes Through The Lens Of Contemporary Film

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Useless Beauty Ecclesiastes Through The Lens Of Contemporary Film:

Useless Beauty Robert K. Johnston, 2011-12-16 A wise old adage of faith states Read the newspaper in one hand and the Bible in the other The slogan is an invitation to notice the complex engagement of faith and culture In *Useless Beauty* Johnston takes up the interface of faith and culture with specificity and immediacy His discussion permits an instructive dialogue whereby we read Ecclesiastes differently and we read contemporary film with fresh eyes of faith Neither the text nor the films can be easily dismissed as absurd Both are thickened and we are driven deeper in our self discernment by the process Johnston's alertness and urbaneness constitute a model for faith that is not simplistic and a model for culture that is not thin or transparent Walter Brueggemann Columbia Theological Seminary Johnston reads Ecclesiastes with a rich postmodern hermeneutic not the more common simplistic linear moralistic or formulaic approach that threatens to drown Bible readers in the shallows His reading has great value for people seeking new ways to find meaning in Scripture Personally it helped me weave my life experience with my viewing of film and my reading of the Bible and it left me feeling alive and energized Brian McLaren pastor crcc.org and author anewkindofchristian.com Johnston weaves the wisdom of Ecclesiastes into contemporary narrative films and vice versa merging theology and film into a smart and insightful dialogue to enhance understanding of both William D Romanowski Calvin College author of *Eyes Wide Open* Some of the most helpful contemporary interpretation of Scripture comes from those who look at the text with eyes other than those of the biblical scholar Johnston's interpretation of Ecclesiastes through the lens of film is an excellent example The text comes to life in the interaction he creates with the narratives of major contemporary movies They in turn are better understood by the careful theological interpretation Johnston gives them through the lens of Ecclesiastes The possibilities for preaching and teaching are obvious Patrick O Miller Princeton Theological Seminary This book is a well informed and sensitive example of how in our uncertain and contradictory times to engage film and Scripture without denying the integrity of either It is highly recommended Rikk E Watts Regent College

The Gift of Story Emily Griesinger, Mark A. Eaton, 2006 Despite postmodernism's skepticism about narrative the dialogue with contemporary fiction drama music and film demonstrates that the Christian story can engender and sustain hope

Useless Beauty Robert K. Johnston, 2011-12-16 Reveals how both contemporary movies and the Book of Ecclesiastes portray life's beauty despite its pain and futility

Fascinatingly Disturbing Alexander Darius Ornella, Stefanie Knauss, 2010-04-07 Michael Haneke is one of Europe's most successful and controversial film directors Awarded the Palme d'Or and numerous other international awards Haneke has contributed to and shaped contemporary auteur cinema and is becoming more and more popular among academics and cinephiles His mission is as noble as it is provocative he wants to rape the audience into independence to wake them up from the lethargy caused by the entertainment industry The filmic language he employs in this mission is both highly characteristic and efficient and yet his methods are open to criticism for their violence toward and manipulation of the audience The aim of this

book is to analyze critically Haneke's aesthetics his message as well as his ethical motivation from an interdisciplinary and intercultural perspective Contributors to the book come from a variety of academic disciplines and cultural backgrounds European and North American

Hebrew Bible / Old Testament. III: From Modernism to Post-Modernism Magne Sæbø, Jean Louis Ska, Peter Machinist, 2014-12-10 The long and complex history of reception and interpretation of the Hebrew Bible Old Testament through the ages described in the HBOT Project focuses in this concluding volume III Part 2 on the multifarious research and the different methods used in the last century Even this volume is written by Christian and Jewish scholars and takes its wider cultural and philosophical context into consideration The perspective is worldwide and ecumenical Its references to modern biblical scholarship on which it is based are extensive and updated The indexes names topics references to biblical sources and a broad body of literature beyond are the key to the wealth of information provided Contributors are J Barton H L Bosman A F Campbell SJ D M Carr D J A Clines W Dietrich St E Fassberg D F Ilesdal A C Hagedorn K M Heim J H genhaven B Janowski D A Knight C K rting A Laato P Machinist M A O'Brien M Oeming D Olson E Otto M S b J Schaper S Sekine J L Ska SJ M A Sweeney and J de Waard

Ecclesiastes (Redesign) Philip Graham Ryken, 2014-11-05 The book of Ecclesiastes is above all else unflinchingly honest Whether wrestling with the tedium of work the injustices of life the ravages of age or the inevitability of death this enigmatic Old Testament book takes a hard look at the way the world really is And yet as Phil Ryken points out in this instructive commentary Ecclesiastes wisely teaches people to trust God in the midst of such struggles Written with pastors and Bible teachers in mind this commentary will equip readers to better understand explain and apply the message of Ecclesiastes highlighting the book's enduring relevance as a testament to the ultimate duty of all people fearing God and keeping his commandments The Psalms is one of the most widely loved books of the Bible A source of instruction for our prayers inspiration for our songs and consolation for our tears these biblical poems resound with the whole spectrum of human emotion and teach us to hope in God each and every day In the first volume of a three part commentary on the Psalms pastor James Johnston walks readers through chapters 1-44 offering exegetical and pastoral insights along the way In an age that prizes authenticity this resource will help anyone interested in studying teaching or preaching the Bible to truly engage with God in a life changing and heart shaping way Part of the Preaching the Word series

Faith and Film Edward N. McNulty, 2007-01-01 Growing numbers of church leaders are discovering that many films are able to impact viewers with gospel truths almost as well as a good sermon Ed McNulty a former pastor and longtime reviewer of films offers this guide to help church leaders enter into dialogue with contemporary films McNulty carefully crafts a theology of movies and then provides practical suggestions for creating and leading movie discussions with groups In addition he provides people from all across the theological spectrum with a framework to understand whether the overall message of a film outweighs concerns over profanity violence or sex in the film He concludes by introducing twenty seven films and including provocative questions about each that will prepare leaders to assemble and

facilitate a group Popular films explored include The Color Purple Crash Hotel Rwanda The Matrix Million Dollar Baby O Brother Where Art Thou and The Shawshank Redemption **Deep Focus (Engaging Culture)** Robert K. Johnston, Craig Detweiler, Kutter Callaway, 2019-03-19 Three media experts guide the Christian moviegoer into a theological conversation with movies in this up to date readable introduction to Christian theology and film Building on the success of Robert Johnston's Reel Spirituality the leading textbook in the field for the past 17 years Deep Focus helps film lovers not only watch movies critically and theologically but also see beneath the surface of their moving images The book discusses a wide variety of classic and contemporary films and is illustrated with film stills from favorite movies *Ecclesiastes* John Goldingay, 2021-11-01 Ecclesiastes is the most surprising book in the Scriptures It challenges its readers to reconsider what they think life is about and how far it is possible to understand God's involvement in the world This commentary seeks to help people enter the world of Ecclesiastes and see how it can increase their understanding of God and of themselves **Seeing Is Believing** Richard Vance Goodwin, 2022-07-19 In this study in IVP Academic's STA series theologian Richard Goodwin considers how the images that constitute film might be a conduit of God's revelation By considering works by Stanley Kubrick Martin Scorsese Terrence Malick and more Goodwin argues that by inviting emotional responses film images can be a medium of divine revelation

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Useless Beauty Ecclesiastes Through The Lens Of Contemporary Film Introduction

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