

readings for those who want to dive deeper, and internet resources for those who want to see related videos. With these features, the book has everything you need for a semester long course on science and religion.

M. not only demystifies the warfare myth, he invites the reader to experience the intellectual and spiritual satisfaction that come from developing a more cordial relationship between religion and science.

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Christ's Descent into Hell: John Paul II, Joseph Ratzinger, and Hans Urs von Balthasar on the Theology of Holy Saturday. By Lyra Pitstick. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2016. Pp. xiv + 135; \$20.

The author's earlier book, *Light in Darkness: Hans Urs von Balthasar and the Catholic Doctrine of Christ's Descent into Hell* (2007), based on her doctoral dissertation (2005), took up how Balthasar's theology of the descent into hell diverged from Catholic dogma of the descent. This work puts his theology in company with three other contemporary theologians of the dissent: Pope John Paul II; Joseph Ratzinger; and then-Auxiliary Bishop of Vienna Christoph Schönborn. She presents Ratzinger's theology in chapter 2 on the time before and in chapter 3 on the time after his election as Pope Benedict XVI. Although the scope of the work is circumscribed by the topic, her reading and interpretation of the descent's significance in each theologian's work is clear and engaging; each chapter ends with a table highlighting nuances of theological differences.

Important topics consider what the friendship of the two popes with Balthasar meant for the reception of his original theological ideas on the descent. She also takes up the degree to which the theology of the descent in papal teachings meets or does not meet the criteria for infallibility. The book questions Ratzinger's interpretation of the descent, marking it as "only apparent . . . not real, as it was in Balthasar's theology" (8).

The work throughout would have been strengthened by the author's explanation of distinctions made frequently between the descent as "real event," "dogmatic reality," and "what really happened," on one side, and as a "mere metaphor," "image," "verbal formulation," and "appearance" on the other.

The short work includes four helpful appendices: on "Pope Benedictus Deus' Definition" (Avignon Pope Benedict XII, 1336–1342); on the "Roman Catechism on Christ's Descent" (after the Council of Trent); on the current "Catechism of the Catholic Church on Christ's Descent;" and Pope John Paul II's "Catechesis on Christ's Descent."

Beautiful and apt is the book's cover, which bears a fourteenth-century, Old French depiction of Christ's descent from the time of Pope Benedict XII, whose theology of the descent in a period of contention is taken up by the author.

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