

bibliography provides ample opportunity for further reading. I do wish, however, that J. had provided a more robust conclusion weaving together a number of the themes so well treated in this valuable work. But that is a very minor quibble in the light of this instructive and enjoyable book.

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Understandings of the Church. Edited by Everett Ferguson. *Ad Fontes* Early Christian Sources. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2016. Pp. xi + 179. \$24.

A recent addition to the series, *Ad Fontes* Early Christian Sources, this volume includes selections from twenty-six patristic texts, from *1 Clement* to passages of Augustine. All focus very clearly on an aspect of early Christians' understandings of church. The selections are accessible in readable English translations and given context in brief, easy-to-understand introductions.

Most of the texts included in this volume are translated by Everett Ferguson himself, who has collected the passages a beginning student of early Christianity would find most helpful. Together they provide the excellent representations of how thinkers in the first few centuries of Christianity approached the question, "What is the Church?" The approaches, of course, are very diverse and come from a variety of social contexts and genres—exegetical, homiletic, exhortatory, polemical.

The series attempts to let early Christian sources speak for themselves rather than to provide a substantive synthesis or interpretation of the texts. In the case of this volume, we do not find a summative essay on patristic ecclesiology. Nonetheless, F. does have a principle of selection, which he discusses in his introduction to the book as a whole. Following the work of Paul Minear on images of the church in the New Testament and of F. Ledegang on ecclesial images in Origen, F. suggests that patristic texts, as a whole, can be organized in terms of a series of six categories. Each of them highlights the deeply communal understanding of Christian faith and life. They include the Body of Christ, the Bride of Christ, Mother, Building/Temple, People of God/Nation, Boat/Ark.

The volume fits well within the larger mission of the *Ad Fontes* series to make available key texts from early Christian sources. Its accessibility, price, clarity and scope of translation would make it an excellent addition to relevant seminary or undergraduate courses.

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Ignatius of Loyola: A Legend and Reality. By Pierre Emonet, SJ. Trans. Jerry Ryan. Ed. Thomas M. McCoog, SJ. Philadelphia, PA: Saint Joseph University, 2017. Pp. ix + 151. \$40.