

# By Adrian Thatcher Marriage After Modernity Christian Marriage In Postmodern Times

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and GenderFinality and MarriageJournal of Ritual  
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Marriage?Liberating SexRedeeming GenderGender,  
Tradition and RenewalPeople of PassionGod, Sex, and  
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## Identity

Radical Orthodoxy, whose founding father is John

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Milbank, claims that God has been pushed to the margins in modernity and that a false and misleading neo-theology has taken hold that needs to be revisited and contested. It is this return to the premodern that often leads theologians to have reservations about Radical Orthodoxy when they might otherwise have some sympathy for many of its positions. Radical Orthodoxy, like most traditional theology, claims that the power of God is in all creation and that God sits everywhere for all to partake of. But there appears to be a failure to see that the church and theology do not set in place systems that live out this basic assumption. Liberation theology, while sharing much of the same assumption that God is everywhere and to be shared, at the same time engages in a critique of the structures that claim to facilitate this vision, and finds them wanting. From here, then, liberation theologians attempt to refigure our understanding of shared power in order to broaden the vision, while it may be argued that Radical Orthodoxy simply restates the assumption with little political critique of the issues. Perhaps this point explains why this book is titled *The Poverty of Radical Orthodoxy* rather than *Radical Error!*

### **The Oxford Handbook of Theology, Sexuality, and Gender**

Extending the right to marry to same-sex couples is frontpage news, and hotly contested in both church and society. This critical book is written by a gay man and progressive Christian ethicist who places justice making at the heart of contemporary spirituality. In

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dialogue with both legal scholars and theologians, Ellison examines the strengths and weaknesses of how marriage traditionalists, advocates of same-sex marriage, and LGBT (lesbian/bisexual/gay/transgender) critics of marriage analyze the issues and frame their arguments. The book offers constructive proposals for revitalizing Christian sexual ethics and moving the debate forward, regardless of whether the right to marry is won or lost.

## **Finality and Marriage**

People of Passion deals with what Christians are saying now, and have said in the past, about sex. It provides a basic theological resource for those who want to explore issues to do with sex and sexuality from a Christian point of view but feel they need to acquire a broader, more informal perspective on the historical background and contemporary developments. First, it enables clergy, ministers and priests to deal with pastoral situations related to sexuality. Second, with Christianity and sexuality appearing regularly on the curriculum in universities, colleges, seminaries and schools throughout the world, it provides an indispensable, easy-to-read guidebook mapping out the terrain and sketching the contours of current controversies. Third, it is an authoritative source for professional people outside the churches who need to keep in touch with Christian teaching about sex and sexuality.

## **Journal of Ritual Studies**

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Experts on theology team up with leading practitioners in law, medicine, ministry, therapy and business to bring a theological balance to the new secular health view of marriage. Each chapter pursues one of a number of relevant and engaging problems relating to married life.

## **The Wedding Complex**

Clergy today are faced with a profound shift in American attitudes about marriage that affects the role they play with each couple. Our society at large today has strikingly different attitudes from those of just fifty years ago. Couples today are more likely to have cohabited before marriage, more likely to have children born out of wedlock, more likely to be married outside of the church, and more likely to be previously divorced than were their counterparts of the mid-20th century. This new pastoral resource, grounded in real-life examples, will be an important new pastoral tool for clergy and seminarians in the Episcopal Church and other mainline Protestant churches. It is organized chronologically, beginning with how to engage the couple making a first-time contact with a member of the clergy. It next unpacks the marriage rite itself, within contemporary and traditional viewpoints. Finally, the book addresses the critically important application of long-term support for the couple throughout their married lives.

## **Same-sex Marriage?**

"In Omnigender, winner of a Lambda Literary Award,

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Mollenkott bridges traditional religious doctrine and secular postmodern theory related to gender. Through an examination of the Hebrew and Christian scriptures and church history, and the exploration of other religions and cultures, she honors the experiences of people who do not fit within the traditional binary concept of gender: intersexual, transsexual, or otherwise transgendered individuals. This revised and expanded edition includes a new section on the sexuality of Jesus, updated factual information, and insights from more than 36 recent sources."--BOOK JACKET.

## **Liberating Sex**

A substantial challenge facing the Church today is to help young married couples grow in the attitudes and skills needed to take seriously the indissolubility of their marriage. In a sense, Kelly contends, young couples must begin to realize that they have to create the indissolubility of their own marriage, if it is to exist. Kelly also suggests that the Church should develop an effective theology of pastoral care for those who have been through the trauma of marriage breakdown. While remarriage is not a panacea for everyone wounded in this way, for some it brings real healing and new life. This new edition contains a new introduction and a substantial new Appendix containing a rich collection of articles and book extracts related to divorce and remarriage in the Church. A useful and informative resource for those who minister to the married, divorced and remarried within the faith community.

## **Redeeming Gender**

This book brings together a number of groundbreaking essays that explore the interface of language and gender-consciousness in foundation texts of Judaism and Christianity. Using critical perspectives that derive from a feminist reevaluation of traditional religious discourse, the contributors to this volume address basic questions of meaning and interpretive freedom that are integral to a contemporary reading of Scripture and liturgy. They raise such issues as the relevance of a liturgical tradition in which the Deity is addressed in exclusively masculine terms, and the continued viability of scriptural texts that reflect consistently androcentric values. In each of these essays the authors can be seen to respond to the challenge of the feminist critique of patriarchy in the Western religious tradition, as well as to the perceived need, within contemporary Judaism and Christianity, for new interpretive models for the reading of sacred texts.

## **Gender, Tradition and Renewal**

## **People of Passion**

## **God, Sex, and Gender**

## **Marriage and Family in African Christianity**

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Contemporary culture provides conflicting and confusing messages about the meaning and purpose of human sexuality. This book provides much-needed pastoral guidance in addressing moral issues of sexuality in both the Catholic Church and broader culture today.

### **The Mystery of Christian Marriage**

How do we make sense of who and what we are in this secular, 21st century context of incredible - and often disorienting - change in so many areas of life? That is the central question which this text sets out to answer.

### **The Savage Text**

This revised edition of *The Family Metaphor in Jesus' Teaching* examines the family metaphors for God (Father) and for believers ("children," "brothers") that Jesus chose to use. Jesus not only held up a child as an example of receptivity, but he defended actual children, warning against despising "one of these little ones." Using current discussions of the "equal-regard family" and of the importance of "human fathering," Stephen Finlan explores how the gospel entails a changed model of parenting and of marriage and a new approach to spiritual growth.

### **Christian Marriage and Family**

The one-sex theory (or one-sex model) continues to be a major influence on Christian thinking about sex

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and gender, even if it is largely unacknowledged. Its residue remains an inhibiting and distorting factor in the attempt to transform unjust gendered practices by Gospel graces. It conveniently relativizes the near impregnable cultural notion that there are two sexes, which delegitimizes intersex, transgender, and third sex people. The very pervasiveness of the one-sex theory in history proves that attempts to locate its two-sex replacement in Scripture and Tradition are the consequences of poor hermeneutics. The recovery of traditional meanings of sex and gender provide a powerful and motivating impetus in the moral development of that same tradition, while the cultural specificities of the two-sex theory require a strong degree of prophetic critique. *Reddemptio Gender* is dissected in two parts. Part 1 explains the legacy of both the one-sex and two-sex theories, and fulfils the first 2 aims. Adrian Thatcher uncovers the one-sex theory and its assumptions, and indicates its presence in early Christian thought. It then describes what happened in our social, intellectual and theological history, which leaves us thinking that there are two sexes. In Part 2, Thatcher contributes to an emerging theology of gender in which women and men are fully and equally valued, and in which sexual difference (insofar as it exists at all), is capable of transformation into joyful communion, reflecting the very life of God the Holy Trinity. He exposes the reliance of much Church and theological teaching about sex and gender either on biblical proof texts or upon the language and nomenclature of late modernity, rather than upon considerations of Theology and Christology. Thatcher also indicates how Theology and Christology, in the area of gender,

envisions the redemption of human relationships.

## **Divorce & Second Marriage**

Misuse of the Bible has made hatred holy. In this provocative book, Adrian Thatcher argues that debates on sexuality currently raging through the churches are the latest outbreak in a long line of savage interpretations of the Bible. Fascinating reading for anyone concerned about the future of Christianity. A provocative book claiming that debates on sexuality currently raging through the churches are the latest outbreak in a long line of savage interpretations of the Bible. Argues that the Bible has been abused to convert the "good news" which it brings to the world, into one which has been used to discriminate against many groups, including children, women, Jews, people of color, slaves, heretics, and homosexuals. Asks how Christians have been able to conduct, in public and on a global scale, an argument that has exposed so much prejudice, fear and hatred. Offers an alternative, faithful and peaceable reading of the Bible, drawing on numerous examples throughout. Breaks new ground in debates about sexual ethics and biblical interpretation.

## **New Horizons in Theology**

## **Marriage After Modernity**

What has been lost, what has been gained, in replacing sexual orthodoxy with the 'heresies' of

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postmodern sexualities? In the recent past—even within living memory—sex has usually been a matter of monogamous heterosexual marriage and the procreation of children. Other sexual practices were seen as deviations from the 'patriarchal' norm. Today things are different, and western liberal societies promote and celebrate a growing multiplicity of sexual, familial and procreational practices and relationships. Nine writers assess the directions in which our societies are being led.

## **Making the Most of Weddings**

This timely book, by one of the world's leading theologians in this field, makes a positive theological contribution to present intellectual and practical discussions about families and children. Explores the intellectual and practical debates about the changing nature of family forms, roles and relationships, and how Christian faith and theology can contribute to the thriving of families and children. Considers the causes and consequences of changes to families over recent decades. Utilizes the theological resources that are best equipped to deal with these changes and to shape ethical teaching, ethical practice, moral judgements, and public policies. Develops family-friendly readings of scripture, tradition and doctrine, and moves forward theological treatment of marriage, gender and children.

## **In the Fray**

The first positive, in-depth study of cohabitation

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outside marriage from a mainstream Christian theological perspective.

## **Theology and Families**

For most Christians, marriage is considered a sacrament, created and uniquely blessed by God. Yet, the theology of marriage rarely matches the actual experience. Marriage is too often a violent, loveless institution-and it is increasingly delayed, avoided, or terminated. *Marriage After Modernity* offers new hope for Christian marriage at a time of unprecedented social and theological change. It provides an unreserved commendation of Christian marriage, reaffirming its status as a sacrament and institution of mutual self-giving. At the same time, it breaks new ground. It draws on earlier traditions of betrothal and informal marriage to accept some forms of pre-marital cohabitation and provides a new defense of the link between marriage and procreation by sketching a theology of liberation for children. Chapters shed new light on divorce and legitimate theological grounds for 'the parting of the ways,' contraception, and the question of whether marriage is a heterosexual institution. Particular attention is paid throughout the book to overcoming the androcentric bias of much Christian thought and the distorting effect it has had on marriage. *Marriage After Modernity* argues for a vision of marriage which does not abandon its history, and which draws upon its premodern roots to grapple with our current social, cultural, and intellectual upheavals.

## **The Family Metaphor in Jesus' Teaching, Second Edition**

Homosexuality is not a problem: heterosexism is, and heterosexism is often supported by religious statements and practices against sexual minorities. Heterosexism in Contemporary World Religion seeks to draw out strands in each major religion that are antidotal to such practices and attitudes. Book jacket.

## **Cohabiting Couples and Cold Feet**

## **Philosophia Christi**

"A definite shift in the Catholic Church's understanding of marriage took place at Vatican Council II. Rather than perceiving marriage as a contract whose primary purpose was the procreation of children, the council spoke of marriage as an intimate partnership of life and love. Then, recapturing an earlier tradition, it went on to describe the family as a domestic church." "In this book seven theologians who have lectured and written extensively on marriage probe the rich theology of marriage and family that emerged from Vatican II and explore some of the implications that flow from this theology." "Part One reflects on the sacramentality of marriage and on the family as a church of the home. Part Two examines the pastoral implications this has for marital and family ministry and spirituality."--BOOK JACKET.Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights

## **Christian Perspectives on Sexuality and Gender**

### **Heterosexism in Contemporary World Religion**

DIVA queer literary and cultural studies examination of the wedding ceremony (rather than the resulting marriages) which finds it to be a space of more open possibilities than might normally be supposed./div

### **Christian Attitudes to Marriage**

#### **Celebrating Christian Marriage**

A thorough exposition on the subject of Marriage; looking at the widest range of sources of the Christian attitude, including Near Eastern and Classical as well as Biblical. The ancient world struggled with the problem of marriage relationships, divorce, and support for women etc, in ways which largely determine the shape of Christian ethos. In Christian Attitudes to Marriage, Coleman brings together the separate disciplines of the Old Testament, the New Testament and social history, creating a unique resource for students and academics with an interest in Christianity and sociology, as well as historical Christianity.

## **The Cambridge History of Christianity: Volume 9, World Christianities C.1914-c.2000**

A comprehensive history of Christianity in the century when it truly became a global religion.

### **Guide to Christian Marriage**

Interest in psychology permeates our culture, with psychological solutions advanced for a host of moral dilemmas. How should ethically minded Christians include insights from such disciplines as psychoanalysis, cognitive moral development, and neuroscience in their theological reflection? Don Browning offers a serious proposal for combining these disciplines with the best in ethical reflection from a Christian standpoint. Along the way, he introduces readers to the moral psychology work of Sigmund Freud, Carol Gilligan, Antonio Damasio, and others, opening up a dialogue between their work and the hermeneutics of Hans-Georg Gadamer and Paul Ricoeur. Browning also recognizes the potential limits of the conversation between Christian ethics and the moral psychologies, pointing out where they must diverge.

### **Omnigender**

The interest in marriage and the future of marriage is urgent and increasing. This collection of expert research, analysis and discussion may be the most significant ever assembled on this subject. There are

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contributions from different continents and cultures; from Roman Catholic, Protestant, Anglican and Orthodox traditions; from theologians and many other professionals - including historians, social theorists, sex therapists, lawyers, psychiatrists and demographers - all in conversation with the idea of Christian marriage. There are introductions to each topical section by Adrian Thatcher: Marriage at the Start of the Millennium, Beginning Marriage, Love and Marriage, The Marriage Relationship, Children and Marriage, Single-Sex Marriage, Ending Marriage - Roman Catholic Perspectives, Ending Marriage - Anglican Perspectives.

### **Emory International Law Review**

Peter Jeffery explores in depth the Catholic tradition which has shaped our teaching and our living, following two principal themes--marriage as covenant and family as a domestic church. He shows how the family, with all its relationships, is sacramental.

### **Sex These Days**

### **Equality and the Family**

Is your church making the most of weddings? This guide helps develop your ministry to wedding couples by making positive initial contacts, organising the service, offering advice, and promoting your church as an attractive venue.

## **Human Sexuality in the Catholic Tradition**

In the Fray collects David Gushee's most significant essays over twenty years as a Christian intellectual. Most of the essays were written in situations of ethical conflict on the highly contested ground of Christian public ethics. Topics addressed include torture, climate change, marriage and divorce, the treatment of gays and lesbians in the church, war, genocide, nuclear weapons, race, global poverty, faith and politics, Israel/Palestine, and even whether Christian ethics is a real academic discipline. Quite visible in the collection is Gushee's deep research interest in the Nazi era in Germany and how the churches fared in resisting Nazi intimidations and seductions and, finally, the Holocaust. All essays reflect the desire for a church that has learned the lessons of that period--a church with resistance to racism, militarism, nationalism, and other social-ideological toxins, and with the discernment and courage to resist these in favor of a courageous allegiance to the lordship of Christ at the time of testing. Considerable attention is directed to contesting some of the public ethics found in the author's own US evangelical Christian community. Concluding reflections on Gushee's ethical vision are offered in an illuminating essay by senior Christian ethicist Glen Harold Stassen.

## **A Theology of Sexuality and Marriage**

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The Guide to Christian Marriage is essential reading for couples and their families and friends, who are preparing to get married in church or who want to know more about church weddings. It sets out what marriage today, answering questions such as: What actually happens at the exchange of vows? Can divorcees be remarried in church? What is the history and meaning of the ritual and symbolism? And are people refused Christian marriage if they are already living together, or if they have children out of wedlock? Professor Adrian Thatcher takes readers through the marriage service and addresses many practical queries.

### **Living Together and Christian Ethics**

Christian Perspectives on Sexuality and Gender is a collection of important, challenging and creative articles. Originally published separately in different journals they are offered here for the first time to a wider audience. The writers represent a variety of Christian (and one non-Christian) responses to issues such as: sexuality and the Christian tradition; sexuality and gender; power and relation; marriage; sexuality and spirituality; love; gay and lesbian sexuality; the body; sexuality and love; sexuality and violence; sexuality and singleness and the family. Christian Perspectives on Sexuality and Gender will prove a vital and invaluable resource to scholars, students and all those interested in Christianity's attempts to wrestle with issues of sexuality and gender.

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**Crucible**

The Oxford Handbook of Theology, Sexuality, and Gender presents an unrivalled overview of the theological study of sexuality and gender. These topics are not merely contentious and pervasive: they have escalated in importance within theology. Theologians increasingly agree that even the very doctrine of God cannot be contemplated without a prior grappling with each. Featuring 41 newly-commissioned essays, written by some of the foremost scholars in the discipline, this authoritative collection presents and develops the latest thinking in these areas. Divided into eight thematic sections, the Handbook explores: methodological approaches; contributions from neighbouring disciplines; sexuality and gender in the Bible, and in the Christian tradition; controversies within the churches, and within four of the non-Christian faiths; and key concepts and issues. The final, extended section considers theology in relation to married people and families; gay and lesbian people; bisexual people; intersex and transgender people; disabled people; and to friends. This volume is an essential reference for students and scholars, which will also stimulate further research.

## **The Poverty of Radical Orthodoxy**

Engagingly and clearly written by a highly respected theologian, *God, Sex, and Gender* is the first comprehensive introduction to a theology of both sexuality and gender available in a single volume. Makes a theological contribution to understanding the

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unprecedented changes in sexual and gender relationships of the last fifty years Discusses many topics including: sexual difference; sexual equality; gender and power; the nature of desire; the future of marriage in Christian sexual ethics; homosexuality and same-sex unions; the problems of sexual minorities; contraception in a time of HIV/AIDS; the separation of sexual experience from marriage; and offers new arguments for marriage and for chastity Offers a consistent and engaging introduction at the cutting edge of theological inquiry, which is contemporary, undogmatic, questioning, and relevant to readers' experience, interests, and needs Written lucidly and engagingly by an established and respected academic who has published widely in this area

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