
A Plain Account of Christian Perfection

John Wesley's Message for Today

Perceptible inspiration, a term used by John Wesley to describe the complicated relationship between Holy Spirit, religious knowledge, and the nature of spiritual being, is not unlike the term 'Methodist' which was also coined by critics of Methodism during the eighteenth century in Britain. John Wesley's adversaries, especially the pseudonymous John Smith with whom Wesley exchanged letters for a period of three years, frequently challenged the plausibility of direct spiritual sensation, which Wesley defended. What does Wesley mean by perceptible inspiration? What does the teaching reveal about the nature and existence of God in Wesley's thinking? What does it suggest about the spiritual nature of humankind? In John Wesley's Pneumatology, it is argued that 'perceptible inspiration' more than a sidebar of Methodist thought, offers a useful model for considering the various features of Wesley's views on the work of the Spirit in relation to human existence, participatory religious knowledge, and moral theology.

Christianity According to the Wesleys

What would it take for you to make a radical change in the way you earn, save, and spend your money? On a deeper level, what would be required for us to experience a fundamental shift in the relationship between our faith and our finances? - From the Introduction Faith and finances—these two areas of our lives sometimes seem poles apart. And yet, shouldn't our finances be shaped by our faith? Guided by the Bible and the timeless wisdom of John Wesley, popular author James A. Harnish challenges Christians to face the issue of money head-on, with God's help. Ideal for individual or group use, this book's contents include: When Crisis Forces Change Gain All You Can: A New FairnessOpportunity Save All You Can: The New FrugalityGive All You Can: A New Generosity

The Theology of John Wesley

Six lessons on Christian living based on the lives of John and Charles Wesley, and on a variety of passages from Scripture.

Scriptural Christianity

Scholar and teacher Paul Wesley Chilcote provides a full and clear introduction to the dynamic faith of John and Charles Wesley. The vital theology of John is skillfully gleaned from his voluminous writings. The corresponding faith of Charles is culled from his enduring hymns. For students and general readers this book illuminates the vital balance the Wesleys found in Christian teaching that overcomes the often mutually exclusive options presented in other theological traditions. Chilcote shows that such a synthetic faith is not boring or irrelevant but transforming and life-giving, bringing together faith and works, Word and Spirit, the personal and the social, the head and the heart, mission and service.

A Heart Strangely Warmed

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A Man Of One Book?

The preaching ministries of John Wesley and George Whitefield propelled them to the forefront of the eighteenth-century evangelical revival. Both self-professed "men of one book," one of the most visible ways in which they expressed their high regard for Scripture was...
through their desire to be “preachers of one book.” This book seeks to compare various aspects of the full-orbed “preach and print” ministries conducted by Wesley and Whitefield. Committed to the principle that the “whole world was their parish,” Wesley and Whitefield manifested their singular desire to be men of one book through preaching ministries that were by no means identical, yet equally committed to the spread of the gospel throughout the transatlantic world.

**John Wesley’s Sermons**

The leaders of the Methodist revival that swept 18th-century England, John and Charles Wesley reveal a spirituality that synthesized into a unique blend elements from the Church Fathers, Catholic mystics and Protestant Reformers. The major works of the Wesleys appear in this volume, including John Wesley’s Plain Account of Christian Perfection and Charles Wesley’s Hymns.

**Wesley and the Quadrilateral**

Taking its title from one of John Wesley’s most important sermons, The Scripture Way of Salvation explores the soteriological content of Wesley’s entire literary corpus (sermons, letters, theological treatises, journals, and the notes on the Old and New Testaments). Fundamentally a doctrinal study, it is historically sensitive to the subtle shifts and nuances of Wesley’s continuing reflections about the processes of salvation and the nature of Christian life. Collins provides a clear discussion of Wesley’s emerging views about the development and maturation of Christian life, and in so doing highlights the essential structure that undergirds and provides the framework for Wesley’s way of thinking about the processes of salvation.

**John Wesley’s Pneumatology**

This complete set of Thomas C. Oden’s masterful study is a text-by-text guide to John Wesley’s teachings. It introduces Wesley’s thought on the basic tenets of Christian teaching: God, providence, and man (volume 1), Christ and salvation (volume 2), the practice of pastoral care (volume 3), and issues of ethics and society (volume 4).

**How Africa Shaped the Christian Mind**

**John Wesley’s Theology Today**

John Wesley and George Whitefield were in many ways larger-than-life figures during their own lifetimes and continue to be so today. Yet our ability to appreciate their abiding influence on contemporary Evangelical theology and practice is lacking if we consider them in isolation from one another. Our understanding of Wesley and the legacy of his public ministry is impoverished apart from considering Whitefield (and vice versa). This collection of essays explores the complex dynamics at work in the Wesley-Whitefield relationship, spanning a variety of theological, historical, and pastoral facets of their full-orbed public ministries. They serve as an invitation to grow in our awareness of their undoubted affinities and significant differences, all while resisting the potential allure of either uncritically ecumenical “Wesley and” or uncharitably partisan “Whitefield versus” narratives.

**Unleashing the Work of God**

Oden shows that Wesley displayed a remarkable degree of internal consistency in his teachings over sixty years of preaching. The book helps readers to grasp Wesley’s essential teachings in an accessible form so that the person desiring to go directly to Wesley’s own writings will know exactly where to turn.

**Wesley and Whitefield? Wesley versus Whitefield?**

A rich articulation of John Wesley’s theology that is appreciative of the old and mindful of the new, faithful to the past and attentive to the present. This work carefully displays John Wesley’s eighteenth century theology in its own distinct historical and social location, but then transitions to the twenty-first century through the introduction of contemporary issues. So conceived, the book is both historical and constructive demonstrating that the theology of Wesley represents a vibrant tradition. Cognizant of Wesley’s own preferred vocabulary, Collins introduces Wesley’s theological method beginning with a discussion of the doctrine of God. “In this insightful exposition the leitmotif of holy love arises out of Wesley’s reflection on the nature of the divine being as well as other major doctrines.” (Douglas Meeks)

**After Arminius**

Are we Methodists ready for the work of God to be unleashed? Are we ready for Methodism to be the catalyst of yet another New Pentecost? God has decisively acted in Christ, and Christ says, “Do this.” Therefore, there is only one real answer, since “not ready” is not a valid response. For United Methodism to be revived, there can be no more such excuses. Christ showed us his presence and power through Constant Word and Sacrament praxis during the time of the Acts 2 church. Christ then again showed us his same divine presence and power through Constant Word and Sacrament praxis during the Methodist-Evangelical Revival. We have now been given two millennia to view this work of God. We Methodists were born of this work of God. How much more being made ready to unleash it do we require?

**The Scripture Way of Salvation**

Sixty Wesley sermons organized in a way that leads to Christian discipleship and formation.

**John Wesley’s Scriptural Christianity**

The Reading and Preaching of the Scriptures in the Worship of the Christian Church is a multivolume study by Hughes Oliphant Old that canvasses the history of preaching from the words of Moses at Mount Sinai through modern times. In Volume 1, The Biblical Period, Old begins his survey by discussing the roots of the Christian ministry of the Word in the worship of Israel. He then examines the preaching of Christ and the Apostles. Finally, Old looks at the development and practice of Christian preaching in the second and third centuries, concluding with the ministry of Origen.

**The Sermons of John Wesley**

“These lectures cannot claim to be more than a first, sketchy introduction to the theology of Wesley (without, in the main, discriminating between John and Charles). To those who know him they say nothing new; the others, of course, and the Methodists among them in particular, one would wish to convince at least that they ought to know him. For this purpose it seemed advisable to let Wesley speak freely for himself, even where he speaks against modern Methodism; but to keep in mind, and point out where necessary, that the last word about Christianity must be, here as always, not ‘according to the Wesleys’, but ‘according to the Scriptures’. The semi-homiletic style is chiefly due to the unregenerate nature of a preacher not really converted to academic garb, and can only partly be ascribed to the setting of the
beautiful Garrett Chapel where the lectures were delivered, and to the generosity of those who had them recorded for me.” —From the Author's Note

John and Charles Wesley

Runyon sets Wesley's own discussion of the "way of salvation" in the larger context of Christian doctrine, beginning with the Creation (and the Fall) and moving through the drama of salvation towards its eschatological fulfillment in the “new creation” of all things.

Historical Dictionary of Methodism

Introduction to Wesley and Methodism. Useful as textbook and for personal reflection and study. Questions for discussion and suggestions for further reading included.

John Wesley’s Ecclesiology

""Arminianism" was the subject of important theological controversies in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and it remains an important position within Protestant thought. What became known as "Arminian" theology was held by people across a swath of geographical and ecclesial positions; it developed in European, British, and American contexts, and it engaged with a wide range of intellectual challenges. While standing together in their common rejection of several key planks of Reformed theology, proponents of Arminianism took various positions on other matters. Some were broadly committed to catholic and creedal theology; others were more open to theological revision. Some were concerned primarily with practical concerns; others were engaged in system-building as they sought to articulate and defend an over-arching vision of God and the world. The story of this development is both complex and important for a proper understanding of the history of Protestant theology. However, this historical development of Arminian theology is not well known. In this book, Thomas H. McCall and Keith D. Stanglin offer a historical introduction to Arminian theology as it developed in modern thought, providing an account that is based upon important primary sources and recent secondary research that will be helpful to scholars of ecclesial history and modern thought as well as comprehensive and relevant for students--

John Wesley’s Teachings—Complete Set

Details the traditions and sources that shaped John Wesley’s ecclesiology and discusses how his ecclesiology developed throughout his life and ministry.

The Theology of John Wesley

The relationship between John Wesley and George Whitefield has often been viewed as suffering from irreconcilable theological differences. Catholic Spirit: Wesley, Whitefield, and the Quest for Evangelical Unity in Eighteenth-Century British Methodism focuses on the key themes upon which both men agreed. It stresses the commonalties between the two leaders of British Methodism and illustrates the great lengths both went to in order to further the revival of the Christian religion in England and North America.

The Reading and Preaching of the Scriptures in the Worship of the Christian Church, Volume 5

The story of the eighteenth century preacher David Brainerd has been told in dozens of popular biographies, articles, and short essays. Almost without exception, these works are celebratory, even hagiographic in nature. They have helped to create a kind of Protestant saint, a model for generations of missionaries. This book will be the first scholarly biography of Brainerd, drawing on everything from town records and published sermons to hand-written fragments to tell the story not only of Brainerd’s life, but of his legend.

Explanatory notes upon the New Testament

Worship and Christian Identity argues that sacramental and liturgical practices are the central means by which a church shapes the faith, character, and consciousness of its members. Consequently, for any church to set aside such practices as outdated or irrelevant is to set aside the means by which the church nurtures and sustains its theological identity. From this perspective, Anderson explores the following questions: What is the relationship between worship and belief? What is the relationship between corporate worship and the formation of Christian persons and communities? What is the relationship between worship and our knowledge of ourselves, our world, and God? How might our attention to the reform and renewal of worship and sacramental practice provide a framework for theological, evangelical, and sacramental renewal? Questions of sacramental practice, inclusive or transformative language, and the renewal of congregational hynmody have been largely displaced by marketing questions and conflicts between “traditional” and “contemporary” worship. The hour of worship is subdivided now into increasingly specialized?target audiences?of singles, seekers, boomers, and ?X-ers? with worship carefully packaged as ?traditional? or ?contemporary.? What at various points has been understood as a “means of grace” is now seen primarily as a “means of numerical growth.? Missing in the conflict between ?traditional? and ?contemporary? worship is significant discussion of what is at stake for the identity of Christian persons and communities in the shape and practice of worship. Perhaps more surprising, discussion of the theological shape and practice of worship also has been absent in discussions concerning theological standards. These absences suggest that for many in the church today, worship is a means for expressing a community's belief but has little to do with the shape and character of that belief. The assumption that worship is only or primarily a pragmatic means for expressing a community’s belief stands in sharp contrast to the Christian tradition. This assumption also contrasts with the insights provided by recent work in ritual studies, psychology, and faith development. Worship and Christian Identity is an important book for faculty and students in seminary and graduate programs in liturgical studies and religious education, particularly those interested in the relationships between liturgical studies and practical theology, ritual studies and liturgical theology, as well as the role of worship in Christian formation. Chapters are Making Claims About Worship,? ?Worship as Ritual Knowledge,? ?Worship as Ritual Practice,? ?Trinitarian Grammar and the Christian Self,? ?Trinitarian Grammar and Liturgical Practice,? and ?A Vision of Christian Life.? 

Recapturing the Wesleys' Vision

This is the blueprint for living out the first-century supernatural life! Sid Roth, host of Its Supernatural! Lost for centuries, this ancient text is the believers key to unlocking the supernatural lifestyle of first-century believers. In the book of Acts, we glimpse the world-changing community marked by passion, authenticity, and supernatural power that was the early Church. How did the early church cultivate these kinds of powerful believers? Where does the modern church fall short? And what if you could access the early Churchs discipleship manual? Picture it: While browsing the stacks of a dimly lit library in the cavernous corridors of an Middle Eastern monestary, a young Greek Orthodox cleric stumbles upon a fragile parchment manuscript, containing ancient wisdom. The clerics name was Philotheos Bryennios, the year was 1873, the place was Istanbul, Turkey, and the incredible document he found was called the Didache, or the Teaching. The Didache is a transformative step-by-step training program for new believers, and offers a window into the faith and practice of the earliest Gentile disciples, when Christianity was still within the fold of Messianic Judaism. Written for a culture where individuals had no knowledge of Jesus or the gospel, the Didaches timeless instruction is especially applicable for our current, postchristian era. Ancient Blueprints for the Supernatural contains the full text of the Didache along with extensive, revelatory commentary and application from Drs. Dennis and Jen Clark. You will: Discover how to live as a holy vessel in a godless society. Enter a new way of life that reveals Jesus of Nazareth to the world.
Access the miraculous lifestyle that Jesus made possible through the Cross. Experience the presence and power of God through ancient practices such as persistent prayer, communion, baptism, and more. Gain wisdom for discerning false teaching and doctrine that obscures the fullness of God's life and power. Uncover the Biblical definition of The One New Man, and what it means for you. Learn to live in watchful preparation for the Messiah's return. Unleash the timeless wisdom of the Didache into your life, and begin walking in the world-changing footsteps of the early church.

Forty-Four Sermons

Thomas C. Oden surveys the decisive role of African Christians and theologians in shaping the doctrines and practices of the church of the first five centuries, and makes an impassioned plea for the rediscovery of that heritage. Christians throughout the world will benefit from this reclaiming of an important heritage.

John Wesley's Fifty-two Standard Sermons

Issues of vital importance and interest to contemporary Christians are covered in this complete picture of Wesleyan theology. Colin Williams examines the main beliefs of John Wesley -- authority and experience, salvation, original sin, repentance and justification, atonement, the work of the Holy Spirit, doctrine of the church, Christian perfection, and eschatology -- in a search for insights which Methodism should share with other Christians concerning issues that divide the churches.

The Lives of David Brainerd

John Wesley claimed to be a man of one book, and early Wesley scholarship accepted uncritically that the Bible was his supreme authority. In the late twentieth century, American Wesley scholars discussed what has been termed the Wesley Quadrilateral (the authority of the Bible, tradition, reason, and experience), and this to some extent helps explain the method by which Wesley read and interpreted the Bible. However, modern biblical reader-response criticism has drawn attention to the central role of the reader in his/her interpretation of scriptural texts. Donald Bullen argues that Wesley came to the Bible as a reader with the presuppositions of an eighteenth-century High Church, Arminian Anglican, in which tradition he had grown up. He then found his beliefs confirmed in the scriptural text. Claiming to base all his beliefs on the Bible, he found himself in controversy with others who made similar claims but came to different conclusions. The implications of this are explored in depth.

Salvation Means Creation Healed

Wesley's TractsThis volume gathers together eight representative tracts from Wesley's pen and press.(1) The Principles of a Methodist-1742 The doctrinal controversy with the Calvinists over predestination unleashed by Wesley's 1739 Bristol sermon "Free Grace" brought him under fire. Clergy and laity took aim at Wesley in the pulpits and in the press. Not until 1742, however, did Wesley take the threats seriously. In Principles of a Methodist Wesley tried to clarify his teaching on salvation and Christian perfection.(2) Character of a Methodist-1742 In the early 1730s Wesley read and admired the sketch of a "Perfect Christian" drawn by Clement of Alexandria about A.D. 200. Ten years later Wesley decided to draw such a character himself, only this time using the words of scripture. He had a dual purpose in mind: not simply to expound Christian perfection under an alias, but also to define and defend Methodism as simply good old-fashioned scriptural Christianity.(3) Predestination Calmly Considered-1752 At mid-career (1752) Wesley penned and published a summary of his rejection of the predestinarian position. It gathers up the threads of his earlier polemics and establishes the main lines along which the controversy would proceed spasmodically until his death. Both Calvinist and Arminian parties professed a common belief in the doctrines of the sovereignty of God and justification by faith alone. However, they disagreed on the proper role persons could play in the whole affair of salvation. Calvinists saw God's sovereignty threatened by Arminian talk of "free will" and any notion of cooperating response, even if empowered by God's grace. Wesley saw God's character defamed by reprobation and insisted that the gospel balanced God's sovereign grace with human moral responsibility. Pretending to be dialogue, Predestination Calmly Considered reflects these two rigid positions in no so calm collision. (4) Plain Account of Genuine Christianity-1753 John Wesley was fond of writing little sketches of the perfect Christian, although he never claimed this character for himself nor ascribed it to other living persons. His Plain Account of Genuine Christianity is designed to offer both a model of holy living to converts and an apology for Methodism's mission to outsiders. Who could quarrel with a religious system or. Electricity-Made Plain and Useful-1760 John Wesley kept abreast of the literature on electricity, reading the reports of such scientists as Benjamin Franklin and Joseph Priestley. Though his claims for therapeutic use of electricity were exaggerated, Wesley's practice illustrates his commitment to scientific medicine that would be in harmony with knowledge of the natural world.(6) In 1762 John Wesley reissued Part I of The Doctrine of Original Sin, according to Scripture, Reason and Experience as a seventy-five-page essay and published it separately with a new title: The Dignity of Human Nature. In both treatise and essay Wesley takes the Protestant hard line, asserting the utter impotence of one's natural moral powers.(7) Short History of Methodism-1765In this1765 sketch Wesley gives only a brief account of Methodist origins. The remainder of the small pamphlet document successive technological squabbles and schisms within the movement.(8) Thoughts Upon Slavery-1774 In matters of human rights, slavery bothered Wesley the most. Methodism began with a vigorous antiblack sympathy and heritage than to him. He read about slavery at Oxford, experienced the horrors of slavery firsthand in South Carolina in the 1730s. Forty years later he was moved to write a fifty-one-page tract entitled Thoughts upon Slavery. In it he repudiated those who argued the necessity of continuing slavery.

Worship and Christian Identity

A collection of five essays discussing the origin, meaning, and relevance of the United Methodist Church's "Wesleyan Quadrilateral" which is scripture, tradition, reason, and experience. The authors agree that American Methodist theology should give scripture primary importance over the other areas, without negating them, in order to move past the current debate and into the twenty-first century.

The Life of John Wesley

John and Charles Wesley generated a heritage that reaches well beyond the worldwide Methodist movement which they founded. The rise, development and effect of early Methodism was an Anglican phenomenon, and deserves attention and recognition as such. This collection of their essential writings shows how the Wesleys interpreted and balanced the emphases of the 18th century Church of England with passion and vision, harnessing resources from across the breadth of Anglican thought and practice (and beyond) to forge a distinctive, dynamic and influential church which remains relevant to religious experience. This volume places the Wesleys firmly in their own world and examines the ways in which their theology and practice was a fusion of diverse elements from the whole Christian tradition, giving impetus to the only enterprise that really concerned them: Christian mission. The Wesley's generous, reasonable and compelling vision is one of Anglicanism's finest contributions to the Church Catholic, one whose wisdom and influence endures across the world.

Simple Rules for Money

John Wesley (1703-1791) was an Anglican clergyman and Christian theologian who became an early leader in the Methodist movement. A Plain Account of Christian Perfection represents John Wesley's historic teaching on Christian perfection and holiness. Although it is one of his key works, it is rarely reissued and is not available as a single volume in hardcover—until now. Hendrickson Christian Classics Every Christian library needs the classics—the timeless books that have spoken powerfully to generations of believers. Hendrickson Christian
Classics allows readers to build an essential classics library in affordable modern editions. Each volume is freshly typeset for reading comfort, while thoughtful new introductions place each in historical and spiritual context. Attractive, classically bound covers look great together on the shelf. Best of all, value pricing makes this series easy to own. Planned to span the spectrum of Christian wisdom through the ages, Hendrickson Christian Classics set a new standard for quality and value.

The New Creation

The Rev. John Wesley (1703-1791), the founder of the Methodist Church, was an enthusiastic preacher for the Lord, a prolific writer, and a prestigious Oxford scholar. For over two centuries, his treasured sermons have provided keen insight, deep analysis, and provocative applications of the great truths of the faith for minister and layperson alike. Utilizing both primary and secondary works, John Wesley’s 52 Standard Sermons: An Annotated Summary presents a concise yet useful report on each of his messages. Additionally, other pertinent historical and theological information on Wesley’s life, culture, intrinsic/extrinsic influences, his understanding of Christianity, and his powerful exhortations of spiritual (re)formation and public philanthropy are presented—all with the goals of helping readers understand Wesley's call for Christian Perfection, developing proficient evangelism, and pursuing personal sanctification and piety. For pastors, for theologians, and for everyday Christians, this book is a handy resource for understanding Wesley, his doctrine, and, moreover, it provides insight into the great biblical truths that Wesley considered relevant for following Christ's great commandments of loving God and one's neighbor.

The Wesleys

The Bible promises the renewal of all creation—a new heaven and earth—based on the incarnation, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For centuries this promise has been sidelined or misunderstood because of the church’s failure to grasp the full meaning of biblical teachings on creation and new creation. The Bible tells the story of the broken and restored relationship between God, people, and land, not just God and people. This is the full gospel, and it has the power to heal the church’s long theological divorce between earth and heaven. Jesus’ resurrection in the power of the Holy Spirit is the key, and the church as Christ’s body is the primary means by which God is reconciling all things through Jesus Christ. Jesus’ ultimate healing of all creation is the great hope and promise of the gospel, and he calls the church to be his healing community now through evangelism, discipleship, and prophetic mission.

Men of One Book

An Ancient Blueprint for the Supernatural

This third edition of Historical Dictionary of Methodism presents the history of Methodism through a detailed chronology, an introductory essay, an extensive bibliography, and over 500 cross-referenced dictionary entries on important institutions and events, doctrines and activities, and especially persons who have contributed to the church and also broader society in the three centuries since it was founded. This book is an ideal access point for students, researchers, or anyone interested in the history of the Methodist Church.