New Testament Abstracts 63/1 • 2019

included after the treatment of each question. Gilhooly is assistant professor of philosophy and theology at Cedarville University in Ohio.

ALAN W. GOMES, 40 Questions about Heaven and Hell (Grand Rapids: Kregel Academic, 2018, paper \$25.99) 378 pp. Indexed. ISBN: 978-0-8254-4276-6.

This book surveys the OT and NT in order to present a comprehensive picture of the afterlife in the form of forty questions posed and answered. The questions are organized as follows: an overview of the afterlife (nine questions), the intermediate state between death and the resurrection of the body (five), the final judgment (six), and the eternal state (the eternal state for believers—nine; the eternal state for unbelievers—eleven). The questions include the following: Why is it important to think about the afterlife? Why do people die? What fate awaits those who die, immediately upon death? Does God give people an opportunity for conversion after they die? What is the final judgment? What will the resurrection body be like? What will we know in the eternal state? What will we do in the eternal state? Will it be possible for us to sin in the eternal state? What is hell like? Are the fires of hell literal? How long does hell last? How can we be happy in the eternal state if there are people suffering in hell, including some of our loved ones? Reflection questions are included after the treatment of each question. Gomes is professor of theology at Talbot School of Theology in La Mirada, CA.

Tom Holmén, *Theodicy and the Cross of Christ: A New Testament Inquiry*, Library of New Testament Studies 567 (London—New York: T&T Clark, 2019, £85/\$114) viii and 184 pp., table. Bibliography. Indexed. LCN: 2018019117. ISBN: 978-0-567-67186-8.

Observing that the death of Jesus is commonly regarded as the one radically novel perspective from which the problem of suffering is viewed in the NT, this study aims to examine the death of Jesus as a source of NT theodicy thinking. After a sixteen-page introduction that sketches the history of the role of the cross in modern theodicy discussion and provides an outline of the varying NT interpretations of the death of Jesus, the study discusses theodicy in context—providence and covenant; historical considerations—the death of Jesus as a theodicy problem; theological considerations—Paul and others on understanding suffering; and practical considerations—coping with suffering. It concludes by suggesting that the NT theodicy of the cross, which is sometimes discernible only through combining a number of discrete elements, struggles with the injustice God has become guilty of when vindicating a godforsaken man, and that this experience of an irreconcilable conflict within God's actions is made no less problematic by approaching the conflict from the point of view of victory. Holmén is adjunct professor in NT exegetics at Åbo Akademi University and Helsinki University, Finland.

ALAIN MARCHADOUR, "La terra che io ti indicherò": Teologia e storia della terra promessa, trans. R. Pusceddu, Temi biblici 10 (Bologna: Dehoniane, 2017, paper €18) 133 pp. Indexed. ISBN: 978-88-10-22508-0.

The Italian version of Marchadour's 2012 volume *La terre que je te ferai voir* published by Éditions du Cerf [see *NTA* 57, p. 436]. Drawing on his many years in the Holy Land, Marchadour traces the theme of the land, chiefly in the OT. After an eight-page introduction, he considers the following topics: the land as the matrix of exile; from chaos to the promised land (Genesis); the land for the covenant; the prophets—from punishment to consolation; the Psalms and the land; and the land of Israel and the kingdom. He concludes with a list of various facets attributed to the land in the Bible: without form, promised, lost, recovered, dreamed of, theological, explored, inhabited, occupied, shared, holy, exemplary, and so on.

David L. Mathewson, *Where Is the Promise of His Coming? The Delay of the Parousia in the New Testament* (Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2018, paper \$18) vii and 121 pp. Bibliography. Indexed. ISBN: 978-1-5326-1649-5.

Mathewson, associate professor of NT at Denver Seminary in Littleton, CO, aims to inspire confidence in the hope of the sure and soon return of Jesus Christ at his second coming. In his twelve-page introduction, he outlines four responses to the delay of the parousia often heard in popular and academic circles: the "failed prophecy" view (A. Schweitzer), the "fulfilled in 70

170 NEW BOOKS NTA 63 (1, '19)

The notice of the highlighted book appeared in *NTA* 63/1 in May 2019 (© Boston College). A corresponding record will appear in *NTA Online* (see www.ebscohost.com). The editors appreciate the cooperation of the publisher in making the review copy available.

Books for review may be sent through the US postal service to: *New Testament Abstracts*, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, 140 Commonwealth Avenue, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467-3800, USA. For items sent via a delivery service (e.g., FedEx, UPS), please use the

following address: 9 Lake Street, Brighton, MA 02135-3841. E-mail: NTAbstracts@bc.edu.