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Comic Jackie Mason, who perfected amused outrage, dies at 93

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Luke alone among the Gospel authors uses kyrios (Lord) programmatically and expansively to narrate the identity of Jesus. This study is the first comprehensive analysis of Luke’s unique and complex use of kyrios in the whole of his Gospel. Detailed attention to Luke’s narrative artistry and his use of Mark demonstrates that Luke has a nuanced and sophisticated christology centered on Jesus’ identity as Lord.

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- James, 1 & 2 Peter, and Jude by Paul A. Cedar
- 1, 2 & 3 John, and Revelation by Earl F. Palmer

“Following the Master” presents a comprehensive biblical theology of discipleship. Michael Wilkins compares other forms of master-disciple relationships in existence in the ancient Judaism and Greco-Roman world, traces Jesus’ steps as he called and developed disciples, and then tracks the early church from its earliest days throughout the Mediterranean world as it followed Jesus’ command to make disciples.

Two parables that have become firmly lodged in popular consciousness and affection are the parable of the Good Samaritan and the parable of the Prodigal Son. These simple but subversive tales have had a significant impact historically on shaping the spiritual, aesthetic, moral, and legal traditions of Western civilization, and their capacity to inform debate on a wide range of moral and social issues remains as potent today as ever. Noting that both stories deal with episodes of serious interpersonal offending, and both recount restorative responses on the part of the leading characters, Compassionate Justice draws on the insights of restorative justice theory, legal philosophy, and social psychology to offer a fresh reading of these two great parables. It also provides a compelling analysis of how the priorities commended by the parables are pertinent to the criminal justice system today. The parables teach that the conscientious cultivation of compassion is essential to achieving
true justice. Restorative justice strategies, this book argues, provide a promising and practical means of attaining to this goal of reconciling justice with compassion.

The relationship between the church and Israel has been the source of passionate debate among Christians throughout much of church history. In recent years the traditional pro-Israel stance of evangelicals has come under fire by those who support the Palestinian cause, calling for a new perspective and more nuanced approach by Christians who believe that the land of Israel belongs to the Jewish people by virtue of God's covenants and promises. Israel, the Church, and the Middle East challenges the supersessionist drift of the modern church, showing that God retains a plan and purpose for the Jewish people while also addressing a number of the divisive issues raised by authors critical both of Israel and of those who affirm Israel's right to the land. The book explores the hermeneutics and wider effects of the conflict, such as the growing antipathy within the church toward the evangelization of the Jewish people. It provides readers with an objective and interdisciplinary treatment, which is irenic and respectful in tone. The book is directed toward pastors, global Christian leaders, theological students, and well-read lay Christians who are actively seeking guidance and resources regarding the Middle East conflict. The contributors represent a broad evangelical spectrum.

The thesis of this book is that virtue ethics is key to understanding Trinitarian progressive sanctification. The thesis is supported by four reasons why virtue ethics is key to understanding Trinitarian progressive sanctification: (1) the Trinity, virtue ethics, and sanctification are historically and conceptually interconnected in the tradition and Scripture, (2) virtue ethics based on metaphysical realism is the most biblically consistent ethical framework for Trinitarian progressive sanctification, (3) Jesus' active roles as a teacher and example of virtue play an important part in Trinitarian sanctification, and (4) Jesus' priestly heavenly intercession aimed at manifesting virtue in believers is crucial to understanding how the Trinity progressively sanctifies believers. The active roles of Jesus in sanctification, ordered by the Triune premise, indicate that the Trinity sanctifies such that: (1) the value having its source from the Father, is revealed through the teaching of the Son to motivate believers, who are empowered to be motivated by the Spirit, (2) the character that is from the Father is revealed through the Son's example that is to be imitated by the believer through habituation and reciprocity, by the Spirit's leading, and (3) believers are led by the Spirit's intercession into prayer (Rom 8:14-16, 26-27), to be helped through the Son's priestly intercession, in order to receive an answer from the Father, with the aim of manifesting the virtues of endurance and hope in the lives of believers.

In The Love of Neighbour in Ancient Judaism, Kengo Akiyama traces the surprisingly complex development of the mainstay of early Jewish and Christian ethics “Love your neighbour” in the Second Temple period. This is the first full and systematic attempt to set Hellenistic Jewish and early Christian historiography within the framework of Greco-Roman traditions. The thesis of the monograph is that a distinct historiographical tradition, apologetic historiography, developed as a result of a dialectic relationship with Greek ethnography. Professor Sterling situates the Hellenistic Jewish historians, Josephus, and Luke-Acts within this tradition.

Canaan to Corinth is a careful, up-to-date study that takes one through the interpretive and theological steps to sort out the advice Paul gives about how to be faithful to God, exercise the freedom Scripture does give to Christians, and yet appreciate the real danger idolatry brings to one's walk with God. Michael Li-Tak Shen takes us through the passages, views, and debates a step at a time, as well as treating the relevant historical background. It is a solid guide to the issues of the text as well as a gateway to proper application. There is much to learn here.