

Christian T. Collins Winn. *Jesus, Jubilee, and the Politics of God's Reign*. Prophetic Christianity. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2023. 272 pages. \$29.99.

Christian T. Collins Winn's *Jesus, Jubilee, and the Politics of God's Reign* offers an insightful and thought-provoking examination of the confluence of theology, social justice, and political involvement. The book investigates the biblical understanding of Jubilee, proposing it as a foundational lens for interpreting Jesus' ministry and its modern implications for Christian life and the work of justice.

The enticement of Sara Wilhelm Garbers's foreword captures the reader's attention: "By connecting the Torah and Leviticus 25 with the psalms, prophets, and apocalyptic texts, Collins Winn shows how Jesus indeed is the kingdom, and the kingdom is here in our midst through the work of the Spirit (x)." Garber continues, "Collins Winn offers hope and a renewed vision that another way of being is possible. We long for this good news in a world where George Floyd was killed and the horrors of war, violence, and strife seem to reign. Here we cry out: 'God, where are you? Where is your justice? Where is your kingdom and is it coming, or will it ever come?'" (x).

At its core, the book is driven by the idea that the Jubilee—a year of societal and economic restoration as outlined in Leviticus—manifests a radical vision of divine justice. Collins Winn asserts that Jesus' words and deeds embody this vision, consistently opposing systems of oppression, inequality, and marginalization. By applying this ancient principle to today's societal and political challenges, the author crafts a compelling and timely argument for how Christians can actively work toward transformative change in their communities and the world.

One of the book's standout qualities is its meticulous engagement with scripture. Collins Winn takes a close look at key biblical texts, with particular focus on passages from the Gospels, to illustrate how the Jubilee ethic shaped the mission and ministry of Jesus. His reading of Luke 4:16–21, where Jesus aligns himself with the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecies, is especially noteworthy. It clearly shows how Jesus presented himself as the initiator of liberation and renewal.

Collins Winn masterfully bridges theological reflection with practical application. He invites readers to consider how the principles of Jubilee—such as wealth redistribution, debt cancellation, and care for the vulnerable—might shape personal behaviors and community life today. Rather than dealing in abstract theories, he offers tangible examples of how these values could be effectively implemented in present-day contexts.

The tone of the book strikes a balance between academic rigor and accessibility. While it is evident that Collins Winn draws from a deep reservoir of scholarly expertise in theology and biblical studies, his writing style remains engaging and unambiguous, catering to pastors, preachers, theology and homiletic students, and general readers alike. This monograph would be beneficial to those studying liberative theologies as well. The strength of his arguments is bolstered by thorough research, yet he avoids inundating his audience with unnecessary technical language.

A potential critique of the work lies in its expansive vision, which at times leads to certain areas seeming underexplored. For instance, while the theological underpinnings of his arguments are well-developed, readers seeking pragmatic policy recommendations or direct strategies for political or social engagement may want more specificity. Yet this appears

intentional, as Collins Winn focuses more on igniting a fresh vision of God's reign than delivering prescriptive solutions.

Overall, the highly recommended *Jesus, Jubilee, and the Politics of God's Reign* is a profound and timely contribution to discussions about faith and social justice. This author, who is at once a theologian–preacher–activist, cogently summarizes the six chapters of his book by stating, “This is the reign of God that people of good will, and those who want to follow Jesus, are invited to seek in the power of the Spirit and to bring to bear on a world that is in deep need of healing, wholeness, justice, peace, and joy” (208). Christian T. Collins Winn challenges readers to imagine what it would mean to take Jesus' proclamation of Jubilee seriously in their own contexts. For anyone interested in the intersection of theology and activism, this book is an essential read. It is both an invitation to reflect deeply on the radical nature of Jesus' message and a call to embody that message in acts of justice and mercy.

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