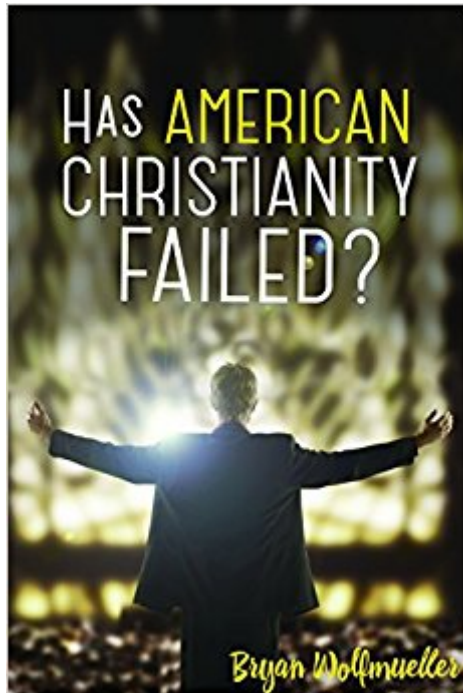




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Has American Christianity Failed?



Synopsis

American Christianity teaches the centrality of the individual my will, my experiences, my decision, my heart, my work, and my dedication. Yet we couldn't be more unaware that Christ and His saving and comforting work are being lost. Our minds and hearts are captivated in some way by those who often preach the Christian instead of Christ. Wolfmueller sounds the alarm against the false teaching and dangerous practices of Christianity in America. He offers a beautiful alternative: the sweet savor of the Gospel, which brings us to the real comfort, joy, peace, freedom, and sure hope of Christ. And it's for you.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

An essential addition to the library of anyone wondering why American spirituality seems so broken and looking for God's plan to fix it. --onathan Fisk, Creative Director and Pastor, Worldview EverlastingHas American Christianity Failed? will challenge, edify, and encourage faithful disciples of Jesus Christ in the context of our self-addicted and chaotic culture. --John T. Pless, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions,In this sparkling handbook of Lutheran theology, the author draws on his own experience of popular American Christianity. Yet his focus is not on his own story but on the common impact of God s Word as law and gospel on its hearers. Against the backdrop of its spiritually shallow and superficially Biblical claims, he portrays the full counsel of God evangelically and sacramentally, with wit and verve, clarity and depth, passion and imagination. And all that pastorally as comfort to people with a bad conscience! By the way that he teaches God

s Word, he arrests our attention, surprises us mentally with many new insights, energizes us spiritually, and gladdens our hearts. Its teaching drives away the cloying stench of decadent piety and replaces it with the joyful aroma of Christ and His fragrant, life-giving message. --Dr. John Kleinig

Are you among the Christians who have tried and failed, tried again and failed again? In the book *Has American Christianity Failed?* pastor Bryan Wolfmuehler reflects on some of the common teachings of American Christianity, and gives counsel and comfort from the Bible, which never changes with the ups and downs that we might feel and experience. Subjects like repentance, the freedom of the will, the clarity, sufficiency and efficiency of the scripture, baptism, communion and other central elements of Lutheran theology are discussed. This book takes away the focus on our efforts, decisions and resolutions, and points to what Jesus has done for us.

A few years ago, American church historian Mark Noll commented on how Lutherans occupied a rather awkward space in the religious landscape of our nation. Now a convert to confessional Lutheranism, Pastor Bryan Wolfmuehler accounts for this blessed awkwardness. Lutheran theology is a theology of the cross; it puts to death the spiritual aspirations which have addicted many Americans. Instead Lutheran theology faithful to the Scriptures and the well-honed insights of Martin Luther offers something more than a vain and unfulfilled dream of autonomy. This theology offers the forgiveness of sins in the reconciling work of Christ. This theology centers not in the choice of the errant and erratic human will but of God's sure and certain promise bestowed in preaching, Baptism, absolution, and the Lord's Supper. This is a book for those weary of superficial piety and burnt out by the glitter of emotionalism. Justification by faith alone is anything put irrelevant in our works-oriented religious context. Wolfmuehler is a genuine evangelist, promoting THE promise which alone delivers reconciliation with God.

I love this book. It is written in a very accessible way and explains what's going on in today's American church. If you love the gospel and wish to share it, you need to know your audience. You need to read this.

Excellent book! Give a copy to your exhausted evangelical friends who are tired of the treadmill of American Christianity.

Finally a book that describes what happens to Christian churches that fail to keep Christ and his atoning sacrifice on the cross as the focus of their worship. Christianity is not about what individual Christians have "overcome" or how they have "straightened out their lives", but it is about what Christ has already accomplished on their behalf - the forgiveness of sins and the sure hope of eternal life. It is not WWJD (what would Jesus do) but WDJS (what did Jesus say) that is of ultimate importance for our lives.

This is one of the best books you will read on why the contemporary Evangelical culture has failed us, and it gives a healthy dose of Reformational Christianity as the cure. This is very easy to read for the average layman. I recommend this and Christless Christianity, by Michael Horton as good summations on the problems of the American Evangelical culture.

Full disclosure; I am a practicing WELS Lutheran, I believe Jesus Christ is our one true Lord and Savior and that the Bible is the inerrant word of God. While I am not a Pastor I have experienced many of the same difficulties the author described with practicing his faith. If you are a Christian actively practicing your faith you will find this book is a Bible based examination of what your faith should be completely focused on (Christ) and the discernment necessary for practicing that faith. This book is very much like sitting down with your own Pastor and having a detailed yet completely accessible discussion about the most important subject in one's life, salvation through Jesus Christ. I found it enlightening, thought provoking and a most helpful aid for the practice of my faith.

WOW! One of the most important and life changing books I have ever read. Thorough, in-depth analysis. Fun, easy to read style and the books graphic design is exceptional. A very well written book. Sending copies to friends and family.

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