

Crossshattered Christ Meditations On The Seven Last Words

Cross-Shattered Christ

In Cross-Shattered Christ, theologian Stanley Hauerwas offers a moving reflection on Jesus's final words from the cross. This small and powerful volume is theologically poignant and steeped in humility. Hauerwas's pithy discussion opens our ears to the language of Scripture while opening our hearts to a truer vision of God. Touching in original and surprising ways on subjects such as praying the Psalms and our need to be remembered by Jesus, Hauerwas emphasizes Christ's humanity as well as the sheer \"differentness\" of God. Ideal for personal devotion during Lent and throughout the year, Cross-Shattered Christ offers a transformative reading of Jesus's words that goes directly to the heart of the gospel.

Seven Last Words

The Seven Words from the Cross are the focus of Christian meditation through the ages. Set to music by Haydn, they epitomise the depth of Jesus's human experience and thus speak most profoundly to the human condition. Each meditation is illustrated with a picture of Christ on the Cross. Many are old masters; some more modern. The object is to lead the reader deeply into prayer and contemplation. But there is nothing fusty about Radcliffe's text. Whatever he writes is a breath of fresh air and these meditations are modern and contemporary in their reference. There are also many autobiographical touches which make these meditations more personal. This is perfect Lent reading by a spiritual master and one of the few Christian prophets in our time.

The Seven Last Words from the Cross

Heralded by congregations and peers alike as one of today's most compelling and powerful Christian voices, Rutledge is also a bestselling author whose

previous collections of sermons have touched readers deeply. This new volume contains short, readable reflections on the seven last words from the cross.

Last Words

Jesus's words in Scripture capture who he was and what he was about. His last words on the cross, over two thousand years ago, offer gospel hope for our spiritual journeys today. In this powerful, moving book, author Robert J. Nash explores a fresh perspective on a familiar event, guiding readers into the forgiveness, hope, comfort, and compassion of Christ's words in his final moments on earth. While pivoting history, Jesus graciously offers encouragement for Christians today and hope for seekers looking for significance in his death. In this glimpse into the heart of Jesus, Nash helps men and women find historical truths about Jesus's love for the church in his death and resurrection. Last Words includes a reflection section for small groups and a devotional prayer at the end of each chapter to help readers relate to God. For easy reference, men and women can find a Scripture index in the back of the book. Come and ponder the wisdom of Christ and see for yourself a new view of the cross.

Seven Last Words

The cross is regarded as Jesus Christ's great work of salvation. But is it also a work of creation? Excitingly plumbing Scripture and Christian tradition, Andrew McGowan shows that it is. "Each of Jesus's seven words from the cross can be understood as a creative act, as a new divine work," he writes. From the cross, Jesus works forgiveness, bestows Paradise, enacts human relationship, identifies completely with humanity, fulfills Scripture, and reenacts Sabbath. From early days, Christians--for good reason--linked the original seven days of creation with creation and re-creation at the apex of salvation. Seven Last Words recovers this linkage in all its power and perennial freshness. But that is not all. In addition to surveying the seven last words Jesus spoke, McGowan insists that at the cross "the eternal Word not only speaks, but listens." And so he turns to the "conversations" spoken not only from but to the cross. Here he opens new vistas on the words of Judas, Dismas (the criminal crucified beside Jesus), Mary, God the Father, Longinus (the centurion), and Nicodemus, and ruminates fascinatingly on the accompanying silence of the angels. Profound and endlessly edifying, Seven Last Words will richly repay reading and rereading.

Beneath the Cross

In \"Beneath the Cross,\" author and bishop Gerardo J. Colacicco offers an original series of meditations on the Seven Last Words spoken by Christ from the cross. Each of the eleven meditations is based on a Gospel account of a person who encountered Jesus during His public ministry and now, by way of the author's rendering, is drawn to Calvary to be with Jesus in His final hours and shares his or her personal reflections ĩbeneath the cross.ĭ These meditations were delivered by Bishop Colacicco at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City on April 10, 2020, as part of the Three Hoursĭ (Tre Ore) liturgical service held annually on Good Friday to commemorate the Passion of Jesus Christ. This particular service, held during the coronavirus pandemic, was unlike any in recent memory. The bishop delivered his reflections to a nearly empty cathedral but the service was livestreamed, drawing tens of thousands of viewers from all over the world. The book includes a section for further prayer and reflection, featuring related prayers and Scriptures.

The Seven Last Words of Christ

Meditations on each of Jesus's seven last words, accompanied by hymns and poetry.

Encounter the Cross

Praying \"The Seven Last Words\" is a deeply rooted devotional practice for Catholics during Lent and Holy Week. Meditating on the dying words of Our Lord during the agony of his crucifixion has enabled believers to both enter into his suffering and to find personal meaning in it, regardless of the time or circumstances in which they live. This book presents thoughtful meditations on each of Christ's sayings from the cross, followed by questions for further reflection and a simple heartfelt prayer. Father Billy, an experienced spiritual director, shows how Jesus' final testament can give you the courage to face your trials, to embrace the inevitability of your own death, and to be filled with the hope and promise of plentiful redemption. He teaches that being fully human, both in life and in death, requires a personal encounter with Jesus that invites him to dwell in your heart. [View sample pages.](#) \"Paperback\"

The Cross, Meditations on the Seven Last Words of Christ

Based on a series of popular sermons preached on Good Friday to overflowing crowds at the famous Saint Agnes Church in New York City, these meditations by Father George Rutler on the Seven last Words of Christ from the Cross are uniquely presented in parallel with the traditional seven wonders of the ancient world. Amidst the tumultuous changes and crises of these modern times, Father Rutler shows how the climatic words of Christ remain the great answer to the questions of the social order. The future of culture hangs on the Man hanging on the Cross.

The Seven Wonders of the World

In this work, eminent theologian Stanley Hauerwas shows how the sermon is the best context for doing good theology. He writes, \"I am convinced that the recovery of the sermon as the context for theological reflection is crucial if Christians are to negotiate the world in which we find ourselves.\" The book includes seventeen sermons preached by Hauerwas, which he considers his best theological work and hopes exemplify the work of theology. The sermons are divided into four sections: seeing, saying, living, and events. Titles range from Believing Is Seeing and Was It Fitting for Jesus to Die on a Cross? to Only Fear Can Drive Out Fear and To Be Made Human. Each sermon includes where and when it was preached and references relevant Scripture passages. EXCERPT I have increasingly come to the recognition that one of the most satisfying contexts for doing the work of theology is in sermons. That should not be surprising because throughout Christian history, at least until recently, the sermon was one of the primary places in which the work of theology was done. For the work of theology is first and foremost to exposit scripture. That modern theology has become less and less scriptural, that modern theology has often tried to appear as a form of philosophy, is but an indication of its alienation from its proper work. I am, therefore, making these sermons available because I think they are not only my best theological work, but because I hope they exemplify the work of theology.

A Cross-Shattered Church

The Seven Last Words of Christ are contemplated in the lives of millions of people around the world. They are a source of insight into the heart and mind of Jesus of Nazareth. Though two thousand years old, the last words of Jesus on the Cross are an inspiration and a challenge for everyday living.

The Seven Last Words of Christ

Hese Meditations on the Seven Last Words of Christ, accompanied by reflection questions and prayer, will deepen Holy Week's meaning for individuals and congregations. Each of Jesus' last words casts light on his saving work and confronts us with our need to receive and act upon the gift offered by his death. Charcoal illustrations by Jan L. Richardson enhance each day's meditation. The meditations were born out of Peter Storey's almost four decades of ministry in South Africa. During that time, the church had to learn a Cross-shaped ministry under the shadow of apartheid. Book jacket.

Listening at Golgotha

The words Christ spoke from the cross can inform Christians of the purpose, the meaning, the sufferings, and the sufficiency of his death. After an introduction that discusses the nature of Christ's death as natural, unnatural, preternatural, and supernatural, Dr. Arthur W. Pink clearly illustrates the lessons that can be drawn from Christ's words-lessons on forgiveness, salvation, affection, anguish, suffering, victory, and contentment. This comprehensive and accessible volume is useful for both sermon preparation and personal study.

The Seven Sayings of the Saviour on the Cross

"Folksy, eclectic, disarmingly humble, and astonishingly wide-ranging, Hauerwas offers us a provocative reading of Bonhoeffer that, not surprisingly, assimilates him closely to John Howard Yoder. At the same time, Hauerwas replies to recent criticisms of his work by Jeffrey Stout. Contending that truth depends on performance far more than on theory, Hauerwas steps forward as a pacifist gadfly for a more truly faithful church and a more recognizably democratic society.\" --George Hunsinger, Princeton Theological Seminary \"This book shows how lively and fecund Hauerwas's thought remains. A dazzling performance, capable of entertaining and instructing professional theologians as much as those who think the world might be a better place without theologians in it.\" --Paul J. Griffiths, University of Illinois at Chicago \"Stan Hauerwas has done it again! He is able skillfully to blend into his book the passion for truth and justice of two of his greatest influences, Dietrich Bonhoeffer and John Howard Yoder. He takes these heroic advocates for peace into his own present-day struggle for the soul of the American nation. Hauerwas, an admirable Christian pacifist himself, dares Christians to be the 'Jesus people' they claim to be and to follow Jesus into the gospel path of nonviolence.\" --Geffrey B. Kelly, author of *Liberating Faith: Bonhoeffer's Message for Today* \"Never totally predictable. Always a fresh perspective. And yet once again in these essays--on narrative, politics, Bonhoeffer, and the church--we hear the engaging, discerning, and brilliant voice we have come to know as Stanley Hauerwas.\" --Mark Thiessen Nation, Eastern Mennonite Seminary \"Contending with and

learning from the witness of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, whose life is often thought to provide a Christian alternative to pacifism, Hauerwas deepens the account of Christian nonviolence he has been articulating for decades. His theology is strengthened and clarified by his encounter with the exemplary figure of Bonhoeffer.\" --Alan Jacobs, Wheaton College \"Without loss of the provocative edge that has made him a vital and distinctive Christian voice, Hauerwas's Performing the Faith allows him to cast a retrospective eye on his work. At the same time, in a brilliant essay under the title of the book, he develops a profoundly important description of faithfulness.\" --Dennis O'Brien, University of Rochester

Performing the Faith

Christ's seven last words from the cross have long been a source of reflection, challenge, and soul-searching. These simple statements contain the full range of human emotions and divine self-revelation: grief, compassion, despair, forgiveness, physical need, the promise of redemption. In many ways they embody the core of the gospel. In this brief book one of today's most noted churchpersons and preachers confronts the reader with the seven last words's claim on her or his life. Written with the clarity, depth, and insight that are Will Willimon's trademark, this book offers afresh the challenge and grace of the message of the Crucified One.

Thank God It's Friday

Numerous writers and composers have been captivated by the suggestiveness of Jesus' Seven Last Words. But Richard John Neuhaus's sustained exploration of these utterances is something altogether different. Through them he plumbs the depths of human experience and sets forth the central narrative of Western civilization-the suffering, death, and resurrection of Christ-in a way that engages the attention of believers, unbelievers, and those who are not sure what they believe. Death on a Friday Afternoon is an invitation to the reader into a spiritual and intellectual exploration of the dark side of human experience with the promise of light and life on the far side of darkness.

Death On A Friday Afternoon

Sermons from one of the country's best-known theologians 17 sermons, from "Saints" and "Letting Go," to "Recognizing Jesus/Seeing Salvation" and "Clothe

Your Ministers in Righteousness” Two bonus presentations on “Leadership” and “An Open Letter to Christians Beginning College” in the appendix

Without Apology

Doing Theology for the Church honors the life of Klyne R. Snodgrass and his four decades of service as professor of New Testament at North Park Theological Seminary as well as to the wider church and academy. Snodgrass's work is multifaceted and encompasses the study of the gospels and the parables, Paul, inner-biblical interpretation, women and ministry, and identity. In conversation with Snodgrass's wide range of interests, the book is organized around these themes. In addition to honoring a significant person, the purpose of a festschrift is to interact with that individual's work, to examine its implications, and to take up the honoree's interests in new and creative ways. This volume accomplishes all of this, with the contributors thoughtfully engaging the significant themes that have constituted the life and work of their colleague, mentor, teacher, and friend.

Doing Theology for the Church

Eminent theologian Stanley Hauerwas shows how the sermon is the best context for doing theology.

A Cross-Shattered Church

The liturgical season of Lent and Good Friday are very important for Christians as they meditate and reflect upon the dying of Jesus. These are traditions that take us back to the very beginnings of the Christian tradition. From early times, pilgrims have made their way to the Holy Land, especially Jerusalem, to walk where Jesus walked and to remember his death on the cross. Not everyone can go to Jerusalem, and we cannot stand at the foot of the cross of Jesus, but the Stations of the Cross and the Seven Last Words may take us to Jerusalem and to Calvary imaginatively.

The Dying of Jesus

In *Ordained Ministry in Free Church Perspective* Jan Martijn Abrahamse offers a methodologically innovative way to understand ordained ministry in terms of covenantal theology by returning to the life and thought of the English Separatist Robert Browne (c. 1550-1633).

Ordained Ministry in Free Church Perspective

"If anything, these prayers are plain. They are so because I discovered I could not pray differently than I speak. In other words, I thought it would be a mistake to try to assume a different identity when I prayed. I figured (Texans 'figure') that God could take it, because God did not need to be protected. I think I learned this over the years by praying the Psalms in church. God does not want us to come to the altar different from how we live the rest of our lives. Therefore I do not try to be pious or use pious language in these prayers. I try to speak plainly, yet I hope with some eloquence, since nothing is more eloquent than simplicity." So writes Stanley Hauerwas in the introduction to this collection of prayers, as inimitable as the widely respected (and argued with) theologian himself. Originally prayed in Hauerwas' divinity school classroom - on a variety of occasions including war, births, Yom Kippur and the death of a beloved cat - they not only display an invigorating faith but demonstrate how late-modern Christians can pray with all the passion, turbulence and life of the ancient psalmists.

Prayers Plainly Spoken

Archibald Lang Fleming presented his thoughts on the Seven Words from the Cross in this work. The sayings of Jesus on the cross are seven phrases biblically attributed to Jesus during his crucifixion. Traditionally, these seven sayings are called words of forgiveness, salvation, relationship, abandonment, distress, triumph, and reunion.

For Us. Meditations on the Seven Words from the Cross

For over forty years Stanley Hauerwas has been writing theology that matters. In this new collection of essays, lectures, and sermons, Hauerwas continues his life's work of exploring the theological web, discovering and recovering the connections necessary for the church to bear faithful witness to Christ in our

complex and changing times. Hauerwas enters into conversation with a diverse array of interlocutors as he brings new insights to bear on matters theological, delves into university matters, demonstrates how lives matter, and continues in his passionate commitment to the matter of preaching. Essays by Robert Dean illumine the connections that have made Hauerwas's theological web-slinging so significant and demonstrate why Hauerwas's sermons have a crucial role to play in the recovery of a gospel-shaped homiletical imagination.

Minding the Web

The philosopher, theologian, and biblical scholar Austin Farrer (1904–1968) highlighted in his various writings the central role that images play in the interpretation of biblical writings, the construction of theological arguments, and the descriptions of the Christian spiritual life. Theologians down through the centuries have sought to revitalize the central biblical images as they addressed the pressing theological, moral, and spiritual questions of their day. A Revitalization of Images offers students the opportunity to participate in this ongoing creative engagement with ten dominant biblical images that continue to shape the church's beliefs and practices, as well as each Christian's own spiritual journey. Sound theology is rooted in Scripture, conversant with past thinkers, and engaged in the present life of the church. This dynamic directly informs Revitalization. In each chapter we begin with a biblical image that has figured prominently in the Christian theological tradition. Next we examine two prominent voices from the Christian tradition who have drawn upon the image when crafting a compelling vision of the Christian life. We then turn our attention to a contemporary thinker who has incorporated or critiqued the image in his or her own theological work. This discussion is set within the current spectrum of theological positions including orthodox, liberal, postliberal, and postmodern perspectives.

A Revitalization of Images

What is the church? What is its mission in the world? Modern Protestantism's inability to provide a clear answer to these seemingly simple questions has resulted in vast confusion amongst pastors about the nature of their calling and has left congregations languishing without a clear reason for existence. Many of the voices and allegiances competing for the churches' attention have rushed in to fill the void, with the result that the church in modernity has frequently found itself captive to the prevailing culture. Yet from within the belly of highly culturally accommodated churches, both the German pastor-theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the American theological ethicist Stanley Hauerwas were able to articulate compelling visions of churches freed from their cultural captivity in order to truly and freely serve God and neighbor. Against the complex and confusing backdrops of Nazi Germany and late twentieth- and early twenty-first-century America respectively, Bonhoeffer and Hauerwas sought to recover the ethical and political character of the Christian faith through

recalling the church back to the christological center of its faith. Together they provide a rich set of complementary, and at times mutually correcting, resources for the contemporary church as it seeks to faithfully bear witness to Christ amidst the ruins of Christendom.

For the Life of the World

Few Christians can recall all Seven of Our Lord's Last Words on the Cross. Yet these Seven Words - brief sentences spoken by Him - give us Our Saviour's sacred parting instructions, messages intended not only for their few immediate hearers on the hill of Calvary, but spoken to all generations by way of Holy Scripture.

The Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross

In Scriptural Interpretation, Sarisky brilliantly drawstogether Patristic Theology and a theological interpretation ofScripture in the modern day, to examine Scripture's centralplace in the life of the Church and ordinary believers. Examines the importance of scriptural interpretation in thelife of Christians and of the church Draws together two lively discussions: a study of the theologyof the Cappadocian fathers, and a discussion of theologicalinterpretation of Scripture in the twentieth and twenty-firstcenturies Covers an impressive historical range, from Basil of Caesarearight up to the work of the major contemporary thinkers, StanleyHauerwas and Rowan Williams Offers a sophisticated understanding of many Patristic thinkers- an area of huge current interest in the field - andchallenges accepted readings of the theology of Basil ofCaesarea

Scriptural Interpretation

Seven Words to Live By consists of meditations on Jesus' seven last words from the cross. These seven sayings Jesus spoke from the cross are eternal. At the same time, they penetrate to the heart of our human concerns.A factor that makes these words extraordinary is that they are the last words from a dying man. People have long been fascinated by such last words. Sometimes these last words have provided touching memories and revealed wonderful truths. That is infinitely and definitely the case with Jesus' words from the cross. These words certainly do provide touching memories and wonderful, meaningful truths. These seven last words deal with the heart of God's good news for our lives. May we listen and learn well, and may we apply their meaning to our lives. These

seven last words of Jesus from the cross are indeed words to live by.

Seven Words to Live by

This is a collection of essays to celebrate Richard Hays' 60th birthday. It is written by colleagues and friends whose scholarly imaginations have been sparked in numerous ways by his insights.

The Word Leaps the Gap

In "Raging with Compassion"

Raging with Compassion

In these reflections, the authors write that the Bible, as the live word of the living God, will not submit to the accounts we prefer to give of it. They note that taking the Bible most seriously means struggling to understand its meaning as well as affirming its truth.

The Work of Theology

The crucial challenge for theology is that when it is read the reader thinks, "This is true." Recognizing claims that are "true" enables readers to identify an honest expression of life's complexities. The trick is to show that theological claims--the words that must be used to speak of God--are necessary if the theologian is to speak honestly of the complexities of life. The worst betrayal of the task of theology comes when the theologian fears that the words he or she must use are not necessary. This new collection of essays, lectures, and sermons by Stanley Hauerwas is focused on the central challenge, risk, and difficulty of this necessity--working with words about God. The task of theology is to help us do things with words. "God" is not a word peculiar to theology, but if "God" is a word to be properly used by Christians, the word must be disciplined by Christian practice. It should, therefore, not be surprising that, like any

word, we must learn how to say \"God.\"

Struggling with Scripture

Enjoy nine (9) of Fulton J. Sheen's most treasured books on the Seven Last Words brought together into this one special collection. During the 1930s and '40s, Fulton Sheen was the featured speaker on The Catholic Hour radio broadcast, and millions of listeners heard his radio addresses each week. His topics ranged from politics and the economy to philosophy and man's eternal pursuit of happiness. Possessing a burning zeal to dispel the myths about Our Lord and His Church, Sheen gave a series of powerful presentations on Christ's Passion and His seven last words from the Cross. As a Scripture scholar, Archbishop Sheen knew full well the power contained in preaching Christ crucified. With St. Paul, he could say, \"For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified\" (1 Cor. 2:2). During his last recorded Good Friday address in 1979, Archbishop Sheen spoke of having given this type of reflection on the subject of Christ's seven last words from the cross \"for the fifty-eighth consecutive time.\" Whether from the young priest in Peoria, Illinois, the university professor in Washington, D.C., or the bishop in New York, Sheen's messages were sure to make an indelible mark on his listeners. Given their importance and the impact they had on society, it seemed appropriate to bring together in this anthology some of Archbishop Sheen's meditations on the Seven Last Words Our Blessed Lord spoke from the Cross on Calvary. The meditations contained in this book are taken from several books and articles written by Sheen between 1933 and 1945. The Seven Last Words. (New York: Century, 1933) The Seven Last Words and the Our Father. (Huntington, Indiana: Our Sunday Visitor 1935) Calvary and the Mass. (New York: P. J. Kenedy and Sons, 1936) The Cross and the Beatitudes. (New York: P. J. Kenedy and Sons, 1937) The Rainbow of Sorrow. (New York: P. J. Kenedy and Sons, 1938) Victory over Vice. (New York: P. J. Kenedy and Sons, 1939) The Seven Virtues. (New York: P. J. Kenedy and Sons, 1940) Seven Words to the Cross. (New York: P. J. Kenedy and Sons, 1944) Seven Words of Jesus and Mary. (New York: P. J. Kenedy and Sons, 1945) These meditations have been selected to provide nine unique reflections for study and meditation on the Seven Last Words. First Meditation - A reflection on the words spoken by Christ from the Cross. Second Meditation - A reflection on a passage from the Lord's Prayer. Third Meditation - A reflection on a part of the Mass. Fourth Meditation - A reflection on one of the Beatitudes. Fifth Meditation - A reflection about sorrow and suffering. Sixth Meditation - A reflection addressing one of the seven deadly sins. Seventh Meditation - A reflection on the virtues. Eighth Meditation - A reflection on dealing with individuals who reject the Church and Christ's teachings. Ninth Meditation - A reflection on the unity of Jesus and Mary. As the reader ponders these reflections, they might have to pause for a moment or two over a sentence that is full of deep meaning that stirs the heart. He might also find that Archbishop Sheen has repeated certain lines throughout these reflections to drive home a point or an important theme, as any good teacher would do. Archbishop Sheen's dynamic personality combined with his brilliant mind, tireless pen, and eloquent voice has made him one of the best-known figures in the world. His radio and television appearances have been phenomenally successful and are still viewed today. His books and magazine articles continue to gratify and attract a boundless circle of readers.

Working with Words

In the past half-century, few theologians have shaped the landscape of American belief and practice as much as Stanley Hauerwas. His work in social ethics, political theology, and ecclesiology has had a tremendous influence on the church and society. But have we understood Hauerwas's theology, his influences, and his place among the theologians correctly? Hauerwas is often associated—and rightly so—with the postliberal theological movement and its emphasis on a narrative interpretation of Scripture. Yet he also claims to stand within the theological tradition of Karl Barth, who strongly affirmed the priority of Jesus Christ in all matters and famously rejected Protestant liberalism. These are two rivers that seem to flow in different directions. In this *New Explorations in Theology* (NET) volume, theologian David Hunsicker offers a reevaluation of Hauerwas's theology, arguing that he is both a postliberal and a Barthian theologian. In so doing, Hunsicker helps us to understand better both the formation and the ongoing significance of one of America's great theologians. Featuring new monographs with cutting-edge research, *New Explorations in Theology* provides a platform for constructive, creative work in the areas of systematic, historical, philosophical, biblical, and practical theology.

The Seven Last Words of Christ Explained

“Spiritually rewarding and uplifting.” — Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York New York Times bestselling author and editor at large of America magazine Father James Martin reveals how we can turn to Christ completely in mind, heart, and soul. Martin offers a portrait of Jesus, using his last words on the cross to reveal how deeply he understood our predicaments and shows us what it means to be fully human. Each meditation is dedicated to one of the seven sayings: “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.” “Today you will be with me in Paradise.” “Woman, this is your son” . . . “This is your mother.” “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” “I thirst.” “It is finished.” “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” With the warmth, wisdom, and grace that infuse his works, Father James Martin explains why Jesus’s crucifixion and death on the cross is an important teaching moment in the Gospels. Jesus’s final statements, words that are deeply cherished by his followers, exemplify the depth of his suffering but also provide a key to his empathy and why we can connect with him so deeply.

The Making of Stanley Hauerwas

English Cardinal Basil Hume was beloved all over the world for his pastoral gifts. Before dying of cancer in 1999, he left these meditations on the Seven Last Words of Christ on the cross. In each one of these reflections, Cardinal Hume unwraps a gift for usone that gives us hope even when we are in the midst of

pain and difficulty. These last words . . . reveal their secrets slowly, if we meditate on them and pray, Cardinal Hume writes in the introduction. Let those words speak to you, and I will tell you what they have said to me. Short meditations that speak powerfully to the heart. An inspiring gift, especially for those who are in difficult circumstances; Can be used through Lent or at any time of the year.

Seven Last Words

If you are passionate about participating in the recovery of preaching for the spiritual formation of God's people, then you will want to jump into this lively collection of biblically rigorous, culturally intuitive, grace-drenched sermons. Robert Dean sets the bar very high, even as he throws the gauntlet down, with these remarkable expressions of all that preaching was supposed to be and can still become. Animated by the conviction that the preached word is the playground of the Living Word, the pages of Leaps of Faith are populated by saints and sinners, pimps and prophets. Unexpectedly and delightfully, Bono works alongside Bonhoeffer, Dr. Phil learns a lesson from the Amish, and a discussion of body odor primes the senses for contemplating the mission of God. Rooted deeply in the lives of actual worshipping communities, these wonder-laden sermons from the prophetic imagination of an emerging pastor-theologian dare the reader to leap into the continuing story of the Triune God and, in doing so, discover that all of life has been taken up in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Hope from the Cross

Leaps of Faith

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