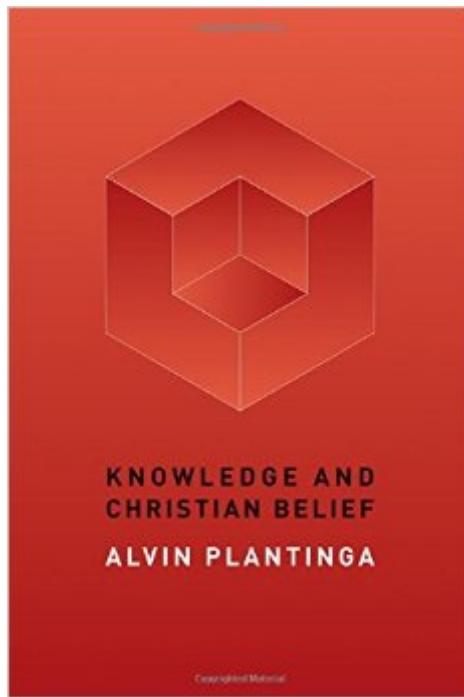


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Knowledge And Christian Belief



Synopsis

In his widely praised *Warranted Christian Belief* (Oxford, 2000) Alvin Plantinga discussed in great depth the question of the rationality, or sensibility, of Christian belief. In this book Plantinga presents the same ideas in a briefer, much more accessible fashion. Recognized worldwide as a leading Christian philosopher, Plantinga probes what exactly is meant by the claim that religious -- and specifically Christian -- belief is irrational and cannot sensibly be held. He argues that the criticisms of such well-known atheists as Richard Dawkins, Daniel Dennett, Sam Harris, and Christopher Hitchens are completely wrong. Finally, Plantinga addresses several potential à œdefeatersâ • to Christian belief -- pluralism, science, evil and suffering -- and shows how they fail to successfully defeat rational Christian belief.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Alvin Plantinga is widely viewed as one of the most consequential philosophers of our day. Karl Barth is widely viewed as one the most consequential theologians of the twentieth-century. The Enlightenment had a far-reaching impact on how reason, truth, and tradition are understood. Talk of postmodernism upending altogether the Enlightenment Projectâ ™s influence now seems a bit naive. How to answer the Enlightenmentâ ™s approach to understanding truth is no small matter. One author believes there is much help to be found in a Barth/Plantinga combo. The following interview with Alvin Plantinga revolves around two books: Plantingaâ ™s own, *Knowledge and Christian Belief* and Kevin Dillerâ ™s *Theologyâ ™s Epistemological Dilemma*. David George Moore conducted the interview. Moore: You have written much longer books on the same topic. Who is

Knowledge and Christian Belief written for, and why did you write it?Plantinga: Warranted Christian Belief is pretty long (more than 500 pages) and in spots fairly difficult. Knowledge and Christian Belief is a shorter, easier version of the same material, and is designed for people who don't have the time or inclination to plow through the longer book. Still, Warranted Christian Belief is the fuller and more complete version, and goes into many related issues that are left out of Knowledge and Christian Belief.Moore: When you read Kevin Diller's book on various parallels between you and Barth, what were your initial impressions?Plantinga: I was really surprised! I hadn't (to my shame) actually read a whole lot of Barth, and thought of Barth and myself as proceeding in very different ways and working at very different projects.

Alvin Carl Plantinga (born 1932) is a Professor of Philosophy Emeritus at the University of Notre Dame, who formerly taught philosophy at Calvin College. He has written many books such as God and Other Minds: A Study of the Rational Justification of Belief in God, God, Freedom, and Evil, Where the Conflict Really Lies: Science, Religion, and Naturalism, Warranted Christian Belief, Warrant: The Current Debate, Warrant and Proper Function, etc. A collection of his writings is found in The Analytic Theist: An Alvin Plantinga Reader.He wrote in the Preface to this 2015 book, "My book 'Warranted Christian Belief' came out more than a dozen years ago.

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