

Annotated bibliography
For the Ecumenical Workshop
Marked with § are highly recommended

Gnosticism and Early 'Primitive' Christianity

- Brakke, David. *The Gnostics: Myth, Ritual, and Diversity in Early Christianity*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2010. [outstanding new scholarship on Gnosticism]
- Ehrman, Bart D. *Lost Christianities: The Battles for Scripture and the Faiths We Never Knew*, Oxford University Press, 2003. [introduction to influential and valuable texts that were excluded from the biblical canon; some of them include theologies closer to Christian Science than orthodoxy]
- King, Karen L. *The Gospel of Mary of Magdala: Jesus and the First Woman Apostle*, Polebridge Press, 2003. [essential explanation of relevance of so-called gnostic writings and their struggle in the orthodox Christian context; important for understanding struggle for women's voices as Christian leaders]
- § Lewis, Nicola Denzey. *Introduction to "Gnosticism." Ancient Voices, Christian Worlds*. Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press, 2013. [highly recommended for beginning and intermediate Gnostic studies; first actual textbook on Gnosticism that covers all the most important issues]
- § Taussig, Hal, ed. *A New New Testament: A Bible for the 21st Century Combining Traditional and Newly Discovered Texts*, Boston, NY: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2013. [In addition to the canonized bible, this text includes texts that were well-known and circulated among Christians at the same the canonized texts circulated; several have been historically classified as 'gnostic,' but seen in this context, they are part of the original Christian world.]
- www.gnosis.org. [includes all the modern translations of Nag Hammadi documents plus many other ancient writings; also searchable]

American history of religion

- Albanese, Catherine L. *America: Religions & Religion*, fourth edition, Thomson Wadsworth, 2007. [good overview of American religions, with chart on metaphysics showing Quimby at the center, and MBE as an offshoot; author is highly acclaimed authority on the subject]
- Bender, Courtney. *The New Metaphysicals: Spirituality and the American Religious Imagination*. Chicago, London: University of Chicago Press, 2010. [current views on spirituality, metaphysics, and how Christian Science is seen by others in the metaphysical context today]
- Fuller, Robert C. *Spiritual but not Religious: Understanding Unchurched America*, Oxford University Press, 2001. [description of the American religious lifestyle without church structure; good section on meaning and popularity of New Age]

Stein, Stephen J. *Communities of Dissent: A History of Alternative Religions in America*, Oxford University Press, 2003. [fair description of Christian Science in the context of American religious controversy]

§ Taves, Ann. *Fits, Trances, and Visions: Experiencing Religion and Explaining Experience from Wesley to James*. Princeton University Press, 1999. [insightful explanation of Christian Science in the context of American religions of the last two centuries]

Also note: Curtis, *Faith in the Great Physician* under category, 'Healing Context'

Healing traditions

§ Budde, Mitzi J. and Don Thorsen. *Unity in Mission: Theological Reflections on the Pilgrimage of Mission*, NY: Paulist Press, 2013. [includes chapter on Christian Science healing in the context of Christian unity]

Curtis, Heather D. *Faith in the Great Physician: Suffering and Divine Healing in American Culture, 1860-1900*, The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007. [important study on the 'divine healing movement' of the latter half of the 19th century in New England; prayer-healings quite similar in description to those of MBE's followers; its orthodox theology put it in direct conflict with MBE's work]

Julian of Norwich. *Revelations of Divine Love*, trans. Elizabeth Spearing, Penguin Books, 1998. [writings of 14th century Christian woman healed of near-death through deep spiritual communion with Christ; her writings include concepts of God as Mother, and power of divine Love]

Mullin, Robert Bruce. *Miracles & the Modern Religious Imagination*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1996. [thorough explanation of concepts of Christian healing in America and England from 1880-1930, focusing on the major theological debates of the time]

Wainwright, Elaine E. *Women Healing/Healing Women: The Genderization of Healing in Early Christianity*, London: Equinox Publishing, Ltd., 2006. [the search for the role of women in healing during NT times; mostly silent in terms of public, dramatic healing works, but this author finds evidence of women being healed and naturally nursing]

§ World Council of Churches [WCC], 1979-1989 Study: *Healing and Wholeness*
https://www.oikoumene.org/en/folder/documents-pdf/2008-11-07Health_Healing_and_Spirituality.pdf [helpful reference for understanding mainline concepts of Christian healing]

Christian Science as cult or 'new religious movement'

§ Armstrong, John. "A Humble Conversation with a Christian Science Practitioner about Jesus, Act3 Network blog, February 7, 2014, <http://johnharmstrong.com/?p=6065>, [Following a heart-felt conversation and blog from Shirley, John, an Evangelical professor from Wheaton College, writes of his new willingness to dialogue with Christian Science.]

Beverley, James A. *Nelson's Illustrated Guide to Religions: A Comprehensive Introductino to the*

Religions of the World. Nashville, Dallas, Mexico City, Beijing, Rio De Janeiro: Thomas Nelson, 2009. [12-page section on Christian Science includes mostly critics' views on Christian Science – why they are afraid of it]

-
- “Rethinking Christian Science: What’s good about the religious group founded by Mary Baker Eddy?,” www.FaithToday.ca/ReligionWatch, <http://digital.faithtoday.ca/faithtoday/20140506?pg=5#pg75> [Jim’s response to Shirley’s personal visits with him. Still seems very strong opposition to Christian Science, but he himself moved mountains to be able to write a headline with “What’s good about CS”.]
- Hill, Jenna Miscavige, *Beyond Belief: My Secret Life Inside Scientology and My Harrowing Escape*. HarperCollins Publishers, 2013. [autobiographical story of niece of current Scientology leader and her escape from the church – very easy reading, but explains some of the hidden issues]
- Melton, J. Gordon. *Encyclopedic Handbook of Cults in America*, New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1992. [informative descriptions of ‘cult’; Christian Science is first in the list of ‘established cults;’]
- Martin, Walter. *The Kingdom of the Cults: The Definitive Work on the Subject*, Bethany House Publishers, 2003. [originally written in 1935, this text is the classic polemic against mainstream Christianity and minorities; frequently updated; highly influential in American religious thought; extremely negative views on MBE]
- Rhodes, Ron and Norman Geisler. *When Cultists Ask: A Popular Handbook on Cultic Misinterpretations*, Baker Books, 1997. [biblical references showing what is ‘wrong’ with all biblical interpretations other than fundamentalist views]

Ecumenical Movement and related topics

- Campbell, Ted. A. *Christian Confessions: A Historical Introduction*, Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1996. [excellent compilation of most important aspects of global Christian traditions; explains roots of various Christian denominational development and how they’re all related]
- Campbell, Ted. A. *Christian Mysteries*, Eugene, OR: Wipf&Stock Publishers, 2005, extended format. [very brief book with succinct and clear descriptions of various denominational views on most important Christian doctrinal topics and issues]
- Chryssides, George and Margaret Z. Wilkins. *Christians in the 21st Century*, Sheffield, UK: Equinox, 2011. [understanding global Christianity in 21st century as a whole, in contrast to other world religions; includes overview of its beliefs, relationship to the Bible, the church, its own history and fragmentation; its response to contemporary challenges]
- § Kinnamon, Michael. *Can a Renewal Movement Be Renewed?: Questions for the Future of Ecumenism*, April 30, 2014. [At this time, the book has not been released, but the ecumenical team has read the manuscript. Highly recommended by all of us for understanding most interesting and important ecumenical issues]
- § Lohre, Kathryn, ed. *for such a time as this: Young Adults on the Future of the Church*, Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 2014. [Very insightful ideas from young adult Christians who

envision Christianity in their future – what to let go of, what to hold onto, and in an ecumenical way of doing it]

Matlins, Stuart M. and Arthur J. Magida. *How to Be a Perfect Stranger, Vol 2: A Guide to Etiquette in Other People's Religious Ceremonies*, 2014. [most practical and clear explanations for how to conduct oneself in another's religious community]

Paulson, Shirley. "Scientology or Christian Science?" *The Christian Science Journal*, Vol. 130, No. 02, February 2012, 54. [comparison between Christian Science and Scientology]

Christian Science self-explanation

_____. *Christian Science: A Sourcebook of Contemporary Materials*. Christian Science Publishing Society, 1990. [excellent resource for understanding ways to communicate Christian Science and its practice]

Gottschalk, Stephen. *Rolling Away the Stone: Mary Baker Eddy's Challenge to Materialism*, Indiana University Press, 2006. [excellent description of Christian Science explanation for non-Christian Scientists; addresses key issues uppermost in public thought about Christian Science in early 21st century]

Larminie, H.A., CSD. "The Apostles' Creed," *The Christian Science Journal*, Nov 1889.

§ Paulson, Shirley. *Self-Understanding of Christian Science*. Available online at christianscience.com/self-understanding. See *Christian Science Journal*, May, 2013, p 48. [brief 8-page description of Christian Science self-understanding in the 21st century, especially written for the purpose of sharing with Christians]