



The Pastoral Epistles with Philemon & Jude (Brazos Theological Commentary on the Bible)

Risto Saarinen

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The Brazos Theological Commentary on the Bible enlists leading theologians to read and interpret scripture credally for the twenty-first century, just as the church fathers, the Reformers, and other orthodox Christians did for their times and places. *The Pastoral Epistles with Philemon & Jude* is the seventh volume in the series. This commentary, like each in the series, is designed to serve the church--through aid in preaching, teaching, study groups, and so forth--and demonstrate the continuing intellectual and practical viability of theological interpretation of the Bible.

"Risto Saarinen's commentary on the Pastoral Epistles, Philemon, and Jude does an excellent job of mediating the insights of recent large-scale works in a readable exposition that concentrates on theology, bringing in from time to time the contributions of such expositors as Chrysostom and Calvin. Helpful appendices and excursuses break new ground in situating the letters within the context of ancient teachings on moderation, mental disorders, and generosity, and the author's background in Scandinavian Lutheranism affords a fresh perspective. Saarinen is not uncritical of what he sees as the Pastor's misogyny and argues that following literally his tendency to accommodate church practice to contemporary social standards may achieve today the opposite effect from what was intended. His hermeneutical approach in terms of theological subjects and elucidatory predicates offers a fresh entry into the teaching of Jude. This is a stimulating study that helpfully and sympathetically challenges some traditionalist approaches without being the last word on the subject."--**I. Howard Marshall**, University of Aberdeen

Praise for *Acts*, by Jaroslav Pelikan

"[Jaroslav Pelikan] ranges widely in the zone between what the text meant and what it means: taking his cue from Irenaeus, Origen, Augustine and Chrysostom, he is focused on what the text has been understood to mean. The editors could not have found a more qualified person to probe the thick pages of the history of interpretation and Christian doctrine. One might expect a wooden catalog of ancient comments . . . but Pelikan serves up richer fare. Drawing on a stunning array of theological writings, he looks beyond the text of Acts to themes and ultimately dogmas hovering over the text."--**James Howell**, *Christian Century*

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