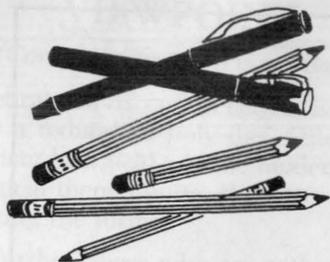


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Who Matters, and Why? Review of *Can Two Walk together Unless They Be Agreed? American Religious Schisms in the 1970s*, by Bryan V. Hillis

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## BOOKS

### Who Matters, and Why?

**CAN TWO WALK TOGETHER UNLESS THEY BE AGREED?** American Religious Schisms in the 1970s. By Bryan V. Hillis. Carlson. Pp. 200. \$50.

**THE ANGLICAN LEFT: Radical Social Reformers in the Church of England and the Protestant Episcopal Church, 1846-1954.** By Bernard Kent Markwell. Carlson. Pp. 325. \$60.

These two books concerning Anglican and Episcopal religious history are from the 21 volumes of the *Chicago Studies in the History of American Religion*, a series of publications on a variety of topics by religious historians of the "Chicago School." Both volumes are edited doctoral dissertations from the University of Chicago. The series is edited by Jerald C. Brauer and Martin Marty.

*Can Two Walk Together* considers the schisms in the 1970s of the Southern Presbyterian Church, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and the Episcopal Church. *The Anglican Left* considers contributions of a variety of English and American social reformers, including Frederick Denison Maurice, the Tractarians and ritualist slum priests, the reformers of the Social Gospel era, James O.S. Huntington, William Dwight Porter Bliss and Vida Scudder.

Hillis challenges the scholarly assumption that the schisms of the 1970s can be understood solely in terms of sociological factors at work in the life of the denomination. He notes that the religious issues involved in each of the denominations were central to the dispute leading to the schism. He concludes, "Most important is the fact that the precipitating factor was an event that left the schismatic party with no option other than to pursue its vision of what it meant to be true to the pristine standards outside the denomination. Not only would remaining inside the denomination make it much too difficult to pursue the vision, but remaining in fellowship with the majority could compromise the vision."

Markwell includes many quotations from the reformers' work that provide a vivid picture of their mission. For example, the reader will encounter Stewart Headlam's statement on Christian social reform: "It becomes

impossible for a priest, who knows what the Lord's Supper means, not to take a part to the best of his power in every work of political or social emancipation; impossible for an earnest communicant not to be an earnest politician."

Although the genre and price of these books will limit their audience, these volumes will be useful and interesting resources for readers who seek a deeper understanding of these themes from religious history.

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### Way to Reconciliation

**A REVIEW OF ANGLICAN ORDERS.** By George H. Tavard. Liturgical. Pp. 167. \$12.95 paper.

Here is a book that points the way to reconciliation. The book examines the history of the papal reaction to the orders of the Church of England, and then suggests ways for the church today, because of new understanding, to recognize Anglican orders.

Tavard's special contribution is to discuss these critical events in the light of the theological and ecclesial understandings of the time. For example, he makes clear Anglican orders were disqualified initially because of the violation of the discipline of a celibate priesthood and the rejection of the papal right to grant, and thereby to empower, a legitimate ministry to a bishop in England. His discussions of *Apostolicae curea* point out that because this decision is about "a point of discipline," it does not raise the question of infallibility.

Tavard also describes the new context which has been created by the dialogues with the Lutheran and Anglican churches and notes clarifications in Roman Catholic thinking. For example, he says Vatican II, in preferring the phrase "ordination of a bishop" to "consecration," signifies an understanding of the episcopate which is aligned with the Orthodox view, and incidently, the Anglican ordinal.

The book is a model of how theological decisions, past and present, can and should be treated with respect and care. Tavard's clarity and integrity in presenting the problem contributes to the solution.

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