Minding The Good Ground: A Theology For Church Renewal

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A Theology for Church Renewal

JASON E. VICKERS

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Declining memberships. Pastoral scandals. A fear of secularism and the New Atheism. Christians are worried about the church's future. Despite such despair, Jason Vickers believes the church also sits upon the cusp of renewal. Some emerging voices promise to lead the church out of decay but focus only upon its structure, while others encourage the Spirit's work to the exclusion of all else. Minding the Good Ground organizes the multitude of voices and proposes a new way forward—rooting these renewal movements in a robust historical theology. Moving beyond quick-fix solutions, this new theological vision grounds renewal in the good and life-giving work of the Holy Spirit.

It seems to me that the author has done an incredible amount of thought and research into what he has written. Not only strategic in thinking but a theme heard again this morning as the Pope preached in Assisi. We need to return to the roots of Christendom, We need to return to the principles of what makes us Christian. It is not the dogmatic language of the past but the working of the Holy Spirit despite our human intentions.

I think Professor Vickers wrote a well founded argument with regard to the spiritual problem in many mainline churches today. However, like so many writers who are trying to find a way to re-ignite the church, he is short on details. What would be helpful is more sharing of ideas that might stop the outflow of church participants and talk about how to generate interest within the congregation on
how to "sell" his ideas to church members. In many ways, these sort of books are preaching to the choir. But I encourage anyone who really cares to speak out. The more we all talk about the problem of the declining church, the more likely solutions will be generated.

This book is easy to read and deals with the purpose for why the church exists, and how we can get back to where we started. Really enjoyable read.

A must read for those who would follow Christ by the Spirit and who would know what the Church is about going forward in the 21st century!

This book speaks to a wonderful cross section of Christians in a way many books with less information are able to do.

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