

Evangelism Resource List

By Patrick Williams

The purpose of this list is to provide you, God's beloved servant, with a list of resources that you can use to help spread the Good News about Jesus Christ and to learn more about your own ancient & Orthodox Faith.

An annotation is provided beside each book of who it would benefit most. You can read these books yourself and also offer these books to the people you are trying to reach-out to. It is recommended that you only give them one book at a time and not overwhelm them with information.

This list is intended for predominantly English speaking countries (hopefully, we can expand this list one day with other languages). Please respect the language and culture of the country you are trying to reach and provide resources in their language, from their culture, and from their world-view, if possible. *Remember, we are proclaiming a Kingdom, not a culture, and we are trying to communicate in ways they can understand and relate to.*

- ***“The Way: What Every Protestant Should Know About the Orthodox Church”*** by Clark Carlton. Publisher: Regina Orthodox Press (Easter Orthodox) www.reginaorthodoxpress.com . This is an *excellent* book to give to a Protestant friend to help explain the Orthodox faith from a world-view they would understand. This book is written by a former Baptist and is a great tool to help overcome obstacles a Protestant may have. Highly recommended both for your reading and to give away. Here is a link to some of his podcasts: www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/carlton (see, particularly, his 5 May podcast entitled: American Orthodoxy Part II: African-Americans & Orthodoxy)
- ***“Thirsting for God in a Land of Shallow Wells”*** by Matthew Gallatin. Publisher: Conciliar Press (EO). www.conciliarpress.com . Another excellent book that chronicles a Protestant's journey to the Orthodox Faith. This book is very good since it is written as a personal journey from the heart and, yet, clearly explains the validity of the Orthodox faith in terms a Protestant can understand. Highly recommended for your reading and to give away. You can hear some of his Podcasts here: www.ancientfaith.com (click on “Podcasts”). His web-page is: www.matthewgallatin.com
- ***“Facing East: A Pilgrim’s Journey into the Mysteries of Orthodoxy”*** by Frederica Mathewes-Green. Publisher: HarperSanFrancisco (no religious affiliation). Frederica Mathewes-Green is a female writer who is a convert to the Eastern Orthodox Church along with her husband (who is a priest). She writes in a very personal and down-to-earth style. This would be an excellent resources to give to women concerning one woman’s journey into the Orthodox Faith. Her web-page is: www.frederica.com
- ***“The Mountain of Silence: A Search for Orthodox Spirituality”*** by Kyriacos C. Markides. Publisher: Double Day (no religious affiliation). Very good book about an Ethnic Cyprian who, in his adulthood, looks into the spirituality of the Orthodox tradition (which he seemed to somewhat abandon in America). The value of this book is that it relates the Orthodox Faith to someone from the point of view of a seeker. *Please not that the author does hold personal views that are contrary to the Orthodox faith since he is writing as a religious*

seeker – but that is the value of this book - it is written in basic language that a seeker could relate to. Please find reviews here:

www.amazon.com/Mountain-Silence-Search-Orthodox-Spirituality/dp/0385500920/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249750391&sr=1-1

- ***“Light form the Christian East: An Introduction to the Orthodox Tradition”*** by James R. Payton Jr. Publisher: InterVarsity Press (Protestant). This book is written by a Protestant professor who is NOT Orthodox. The value lies in his graceful exposition of the Orthodox Faith from a Western perspective. This would be a good book for a Protestant who does not even believe that the Orthodox are true Christians – this is a good introductory text by a Protestant professor which shows the antiquity of our great and ancient Faith. Please find some book reviews here: www.amazon.com/Light-Christian-East-Introduction-Tradition/dp/0830825940/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249749373&sr=1-1
- ***“Eastern Orthodox Christianity: A Western Perspective”*** by Daniel Clenendin. Publisher: Baker Academic (Protestant). This book is also written by a Protestant who interacted with the Orthodox Church while teaching at Moscow University. Very excellent introduction to the Orthodox Church in language that a Westerner could understand and relate to. Recommended to give away as an evangelistic tool and to read yourself. Please find some book reviews here: www.amazon.com/Eastern-Orthodox-Christianity-Western-Perspective/dp/0801026520/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249749835&sr=1-1
- ***“The Illumined heart; The Ancient Christian Path of Transformation”*** by Fredierica Mathewes-Green. Publisher: Paraclete Press, www.paracletepress.com. A short book that helps explain the basics of the Orthodox ascetic disciplines. Very good resource for men or women (although women will probably relate better to her writing style).
- ***“What is the Orthodox Church?: A brief overview of Orthodoxy”*** by Fr. Marc Dunaway Publisher: Conciliar Press (EO). Small booklet that explains the Orthodox Church. A quick read that will help explain the antiquity of the Orthodox Church.
- ***“How Africa Shaped The Christian Mind: Rediscovering the African Seedbed of Western Christianity”*** by Thomas C. Oden Publisher: InterVarsity Press (Protestant). This is for you, the Coptic Orthodox Christian. Thomas Oden (a Protestant) was the General Editor for the large **Ancient Christian Commentary** series which brought together various comments from the Church Fathers for each book of the Bible. What is fascinating about this book is how Thomas Oden learned just how much the Ancient **North African** believers contributed to the Christian faith. This is not to give us a false sense of pride – God forbid it – but to help us see how God used the ancient African believers for the protection and preservation of the Christian Faith - may God open the granaries of Egypt again (see Genesis 41:56-57) to feed the World the spiritual Bread of Life. Read this interview: <http://thechristianmanifesto.wordpress.com/2008/02/26/an-interview-with-dr-thomas-c-oden-author-of-how-africa-shaped-the-christian-mind/> . Here is another webpage: www.earlyafricanchristianity.com
- ***“Coming Home: Why Protestant Clergy are Becoming Orthodox”*** Edited by Peter Qillquist. Publisher: Conciliar Press (EO). 18 stories that relate to Protestant clergy’s journey to the Orthodox Faith. Good to read to understand the Protestant world-view better and the reasons many Protestants have come to the Orthodox Faith. This is a good resource

to give to Protestant clergy that you might know although lay people would also benefit from it. Please see reviews here: http://www.amazon.com/Coming-Home-P-E-Gillquist/dp/0962271322/ref=sr_1_5?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249753964&sr=1-5

- **“Introducing The Orthodox Church: Its Faith and Life”** by Anthony M. Coniaris. Publisher: Light and Life Publishing Company www.light-n-life.com (EO). Although it can be a somewhat of a dull and boring read at times, it is, nevertheless, an **excellent** book at covering our Orthodox beliefs but **with some EO distinctions**. It would be a good resource, however, for a sincere inquirer into the Orthodox Faith who likes to read and does not mind a somewhat academic presentation of our dogmas. Some reviews can be read here: http://www.amazon.com/Introducing-Orthodox-Church-Faith-Life/dp/0937032255/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249752687&sr=1-1
- **“A Faith Fulfilled: Why are Christians across Great Britain Embracing Orthodoxy?”** – Title in USA; **“The True Light”** – Title in Great Britain by Michael Harper. Published by: Conciliar Press (USA, EO); Hodder & Stoughton (Great Britain, no religious affiliation). **This book has not been read yet so not recommendation can be given** but it is the journey of a former Anglican Priest to the Orthodox Church. This book may be a good resource to use in any English speaking country but particularly in the UK. Some reviews can be read here: http://www.amazon.com/Fulfilled-Christians-Britain-Embracing-Orthodoxy/dp/1888212128/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249781185&sr=1-1
- **“Becoming Orthodox: A Journey to the Ancient Christian Faith”** by Fr. Peter Gillquist. Publisher: Conciliar Press (EO). One man’s journey from the Protestant faith to the Orthodox Church (actually, about 2,000 people were led to the Orthodox Church). This is a good book but was a little bit of a slow and boring read at times – In my opinion, other books are better written and more enjoyable to read. Reviews can be read here: http://www.amazon.com/Becoming-Orthodox-Journey-Ancient-Christian/dp/0962271330/ref=sr_1_6?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249752053&sr=1-6

**This web page has many resources to help you in your evangelism and missionary work
Gift For You:

[***The Orthodox Divine Liturgy, An Invitation To A Heavenly Journey, By Victor Beshir***](#)

This book is a gift for attending the conference.

Please visit the following web page to download the book:

<http://evangelismcopticorthodox.org/booksbookletsbrochures.html>

**This web page has many resources to help you in your evangelism and missionary work

We solicit your inputs! If you know of a book that can help people come to the Orthodox Faith in other languages, please send them to us so we can include them in future resource lists. We strongly believe and endorse that the true and ancient faith be spread in the language, culture, and beauty of the native culture as much as is possible just as the ancient Apostles did for the Greeks, the Egyptians, the Romans, etc...without compromising the Holy tradition or the ancient Faith.