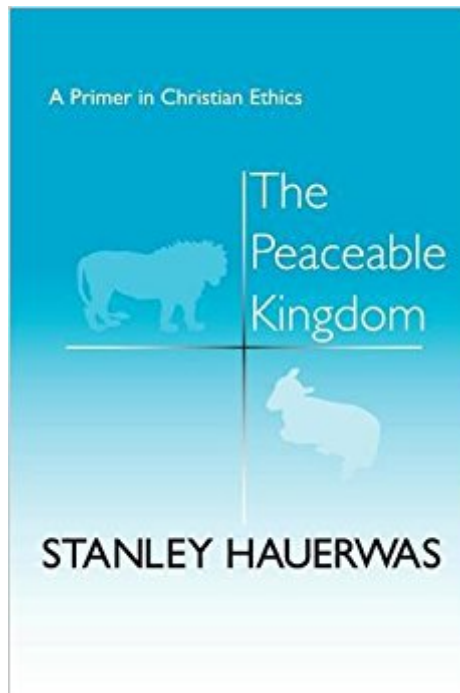




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# **The Peaceable Kingdom: A Primer In Christian Ethics**



## Synopsis

Stanley Hauerwas presents an overall introduction to the themes and method that have distinguished his vision of Christian ethics. Emphasizing the significance of Jesus's life and teaching in shaping moral life, *The Peaceable Kingdom* stresses the narrative character of moral rationality and the necessity of a historic community and tradition for morality. Hauerwas systematically develops the importance of character and virtue as elements of decision making and spirituality and stresses nonviolence as critical for shaping our understanding of Christian ethics.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Hauerwas has written a deeply challenging book that anyone seriously concerned with the authenticity of Christian ethics must read. (Christian Century) "A concise and provocative discussion of the nature of ethics. . . . Hauerwas speaks of the importance of testing our skills against the excellences of others. Reading his book provides just such a test." (Journal of Religion) "The most systematic presentation yet of Hauerwas's decidedly practical agenda. It is an excellent place to begin reading." (Religious Studies Review) "In this brief book Stanley Hauerwas, one of the most prolific writers in Christian ethics of his generation, sets forth his clearest, most readable, and most cogent statement to date of his own perspective on how ethics should be done in a Christian context." (Interpretation: A Journal of Bible & Theology)

Stanley Hauerwas is Gilbert T. Rowe Professor of Theological Ethics at the Divinity School of Duke

University. He is the author of many books, including *A Community of Character: Toward a Constructive Christian Social Ethic* (University of Notre Dame Press, 1981), which was selected by *Christianity Today* as one of the 100 most important books on religion of the twentieth century. ~ ~

Stanley Hauerwas is without a doubt one of the most influential theologians if not the most influential of the contemporary theological milieu. *The Peaceable Kingdom*, is an excellent starting point for those wanting to dive into Hauerwas. This is one of his earlier works and written at an accessible level. Much of what he says is restated in his immensely popular work co-authored with William Willimon in *Resident Aliens*, which is a must read as well. Hauerwas's engagement with such a variety of disciplines provides a profound work on what it means to be a Christian. His most noticeable influences being Karl Barth, John Howard Yoder, Alasdair MacIntyre, and Ludwig Wittgenstein among others (see xix). Whether or not you agree with Hauerwas you have to engage him. His writing is exceptionally readable and spiritually challenging. If you're not a Christian his work won't make sense, that's part of the point. If you are a Christian after reading this book you will pray.

Jesus was a pacifist. This is an embarrassment to most Christians but is a beginning place for Christian theology in the thinking of Stanley Hauerwas. This Christian classic should jump off the shelf with relevance in a world that desperately needs local faith communities of peace and small groups of disciples that are magnets of hope in a culture of violence. -- George Thompson

This book gave me the nudge I needed to develop processes to exercise the power of conscious storytelling. I purchased this book in 2013 for a course I was taking and while I utilized the entire book as a major resource for my assignments, I became enthralled with the idea of God's cover story. This led to research into the idea of cover stories we as humans commonly apply in shaping our experiences. As I made my inquiries, I found ways to help individuals examine their stories to see how they were unwittingly impacting their neurobiology and devised a means by which to consciously rewire their brains. This feature of the cover story was so exciting and so expansive. One of my greatest finds.

it is well written and enables the reader to broaden the debate on ethics. Whilst I do not agree with all that Hauerwas says he does at least allow the reader the opportunity to think and question their own ethical stance.

Hauerwas is an expert in Christian Ethics and this book is one of the most influential books in that field. This is an accessible read that provides a great introduction to peaceableness and pacifism.

Good book and very precise information. It made me think

Enjoyed the book. I went into with a hunch that I would already agree with most of it, but it did present some new and compelling ideas. I specifically enjoyed his critique of our culture's tendency to view independence, autonomy, and individual freedom as the ultimate goal of human life. Also in classic Hauerwas style, he was always sure to emphasize the importance of narrative for ethics. It was a good "warm-up"/introduction in the field of Christian ethics. I would also warn those conservative war supporting evangelicals out there to go into with an open mind as Hauerwas places non-violence as being central to Christian ethics.

Masterpiece

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