

real person as opposed to a symbol. In the end, this book likely raises as many questions as it answers, but in this reviewer's opinion, good books tend to do that.

Keith Harper
Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary
doi:10.1017/S0009640720001754

Science, Religion, and the Protestant Tradition: Retracing the Origins of Conflict. By James C. Ungureanu. Science and Culture in the Nineteenth Century. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2019. ix + 358 pp. \$50.00 hardcover.

In a time of alternative facts, rampant conspiracy theories, climate change denial, and an apparent upsurge in flat-earthers, it is a breath of fresh air to read James Ungureanu's erudite analysis of why so many people came to believe, and still do, that religion and science are implacable enemies. In six eminently readable chapters and an excellent summary conclusion, Ungureanu introduces the reader to John William Draper (1832–1882) and Andrew Dickson White (1832–1918), authors of two books singled out as the chief instigators of the “conflict theory” of religion and science—Draper's *History of the Conflict Between Religion and Science* (1874) and White's *A History of the Warfare of Science and Theology in Christendom* (1896). By reading these works as primary rather than secondary sources, Ungureanu demonstrates that neither Draper nor White posited an irrevocable rift between science and religion. They were both deeply religious men who believed that liberal forms of Protestantism would preserve and strengthen Christianity by reconciling science and religion. Readers, however, misunderstood their nuanced positions and accepted the “conflict theory” at face value.

While providing an Ariadne's thread through the complex landscape of nineteenth-century religious controversies, Ungureanu demonstrates that the “conflict theory” did not originate with Draper and White but emerged centuries earlier in the writings of Protestants intent on undermining Catholicism by emphasizing the irrationality of Catholic doctrine and the falsity of the historical narrative supporting the church. Over time the weapons devised by Protestants to attack Catholicism were utilized by liberal Protestants against their conservative coreligionists. The conflict was therefore not between religion and science per se but between two theological traditions: a liberal one emerging in the seventeenth century among English Latitudinarians, and more orthodox forms of Protestantism.

In a separate chapter, Ungureanu describes the “communication revolution” that provided Draper and White access to a growing market for their work as a result of cheaper paper, new forms of publication, the increasing ease of transporting printed matter, and a rise in literacy. Their publisher, Edward Livingston Youmans, was a key figure in popularizing their work, even though he rejected their assumption that liberal Protestantism would bring an end to the conflict. Instead, Youmans rejected Christianity altogether in favor of the “new religion” of scientific naturalism.

Ungureanu's book will appeal to anyone interested in the complex relationship between science and religion in the nineteenth century and the profound effects the

“conflict theory” has had on scholarship to this day. The idea that religion and science were incompatible became a stock theme in the writing of historians up to the 1950s, and it influenced scholars in the newly emerging fields of Sociology and Anthropology, many of whom contrasted the modern, rational, disenchanted West with the irrational and still enchanted East. The “conflict theory” also had a profound effect on the founders of the History of Science, distorting this disciplinary field well into the twentieth century when scholars like Koyré and Gillispie began emphasizing the multiple connections between science and religion.

Ungureanu’s book makes an important contribution to understanding the role the Protestant Reformation played in paving the way for modernity and setting the stage for secularism. But this is not the whole story. By concentrating on the conflict between liberal and conservative Protestants, Ungureanu leaves out the important role that esoteric forms of religion and philosophy played in undermining the legitimacy of Christianity. From its inception, Christianity was a bricolage of conflicting philosophical strands deriving from classical and near- and far-eastern sources—Aristotelianism, Platonism, Neoplatonism, Stoicism, Pythagoreanism, Skepticism, Arianism, Hermeticism, and Manicheism, to name a few. From the early church fathers onward, these sources called into doubt key Christian doctrines such as the eternity of hell, the divinity of Jesus, the Trinity, Original Sin, the Fall, the Atonement, and the need for a separate caste of priests or an institutional church.

Esoteric sources did more, however, than undermine Christianity. They provided the West with alternative religious and magical beliefs, and this was especially true in the nineteenth century. For all the doubts occasioned by advances in biblical scholarship and science, religion has not disappeared, as many scholars predicted. Instead, it has proliferated in what is best described as a market place of competing spiritualities. Paulo Rossi, Frances Yates, Charles Webster, Betty Jo Dobbs, and Richard Westfall are among those who have shown that the very scientists held responsible for disenchanting the world—Bruno, Bacon, Descartes, and Newton—were themselves magicians, alchemists, and mystics. Egil Asprem has emphasized the enchanted world of quantum mechanics and Christopher White the way twentieth-century science and mathematics created space for alternative worlds and realities. Even more ironic is the fact that academics like Weber who were committed to the idea of disenchantment were themselves enmeshed in occultism and gained much of their knowledge about the non-West from esoteric sources. Sociology and Anthropology are largely responsible for the revival of paganism, shamanism, magic, and New Age beliefs and practices. What all this underscores is that secularism is not synonymous with disenchantment or desacralization. Secularization is a fact of modern life as the state and private organizations took over functions previously performed by religious institutions, but disenchantment is not. This is a point made by Jason Å. Josephson-Storm in *The Myth of Disenchantment: Magic, Modernity, and the Birth of the Human Sciences* (University of Chicago Press, 2017), in which he explores and explodes the grand narrative of western exceptionalism based on the idea that unlike the East, the West is rational and scientific.

Ungureanu has criticized Josephson-Storm for not sufficiently stressing the role that liberal Protestants played in the religion-science debates, which is why his own book is so important and valuable. But strength lies in numbers, and when taken together, these

two books provide clear evidence that the old dichotomy between religion and science is way past its expiration date.

Allison P. Coudert
University of California, Davis
doi:10.1017/S0009640720001766

***Your Sister in the Gospel: The Life of Jane Manning James, a Nineteenth-Century Black Mormon.* By Quincy D. Newell. New York: Oxford University Press, 2019. ix + 203 pp. \$24.95 cloth.**

Quincy D. Newell puts a human face to the priesthood and temple ban of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in her seminal study of Jane Manning James, a black Latter-day Saint. In 1852, prophet-president Brigham Young instituted a ban that excluded persons of African ancestry from full participation in the Mormon Church. Newell's book is an excellent case study demonstrating how the ban affected James and her family and how this remarkable woman maintained her commitment to Mormonism despite being excluded from some of the faith's most important priesthood and temple rituals.

Jane Manning James was born into a free black family in Wilton, Connecticut in 1813. In 1842, James left the Presbyterian faith and converted to Mormonism after encountering two Mormon missionaries. Energized by her new religion, she helped convert several of her family members, including her mother, three brothers, two sisters, and other relatives, prompting them to move to Nauvoo, Illinois, the epicenter of the Mormon Church by the early 1840s. Shortly thereafter, she became acquainted with Mormonism's charismatic founding prophet Joseph Smith, developing a close relationship with him and his family in Nauvoo. Subsequently, she worked in his home as a servant, where she laundered his clothes, cooked meals for the Smith family, and became an eyewitness to building what Smith called the "Kingdom of God." Under Smith's careful leadership, black men were ordained to the lay Mormon priesthood, but that changed after Smith's untimely death in 1844. Smith's successor, the bombastic and energetic Brigham Young, led Latter-day Saints westward, along with James and her family, where he made drastic changes to Mormon racial policies and practices. He sermonized that black people were cursed. In 1852, nearly a decade after Manning's conversion, Young instituted a ban on priesthood rituals and practices, confining James and her kin to the margins of the church.

In telling this story, Newell skillfully narrates Jane's persistent attempts to achieve full inclusion in the church. In 1903, for example, she asked then-church president Joseph F. Smith, the nephew of Joseph Smith, if she could be endowed and "sealed" and subsequently adopted into the family of Joseph Smith in a special temple ritual, which would bind her to Smith and his family in a way that comported with Mormon teachings about family, kinship, and eternal salvation. Her request was rejected, although she was granted access to limited temple rituals such as performing the "ritual of proxy baptism" for her deceased relatives (97). The ever-persistent James petitioned Joseph F. Smith again for permission to participate in full Mormon temple