

CHRISTIANITY AND THE LAWS OF CONSCIENCE

This book explores Christian theological, legal, constitutional, historical, and philosophical meanings of *conscience*. It surveys the term in the New Testament text and excavates its meaning for Christian understandings of natural law, the early church Fathers, St. Thomas Aquinas, and the Magisterial Reformers. It explores how conscience has interacted with evangelical political aspirations, rights to sexual expression, and objections to fighting in war. It surveys how the term has been deployed in state and federal constitutional law and how it might be distinguished from related concepts such as religious freedom or religious exercise. It also presents how contemporary Roman Catholic theology and evangelical and Reformed theology understand the term.

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Christianity and the Laws of Conscience

AN INTRODUCTION

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> For Susan and for Catherine, Julian, and Robert Paul



Contents

List o	of Contributors	page xiii
Ackn	owledgments	XV
	oduction n M. Alvaré and Jeffrey B. Hammond	1
	TI THEMES IN UNDERSTANDINGS OF CONSCIENCE HRISTIANITY	
1	Conscience in the New Testament Wendell Willis	23
2	Conscience and Natural Law in Scripture David VanDrunen	39
3	Conscience in Early Christian Thought John Anthony McGuckin	57
4	Sensus Fidei, the Magisterium, and the Formation of Conscience E. Christian Brugger	71
	T II CONSCIENCE ACCORDING TO MAJOR FIGURES TRADITIONS	
5	Conscience in the Early Church Fathers Alexis Torrance	93
6	St. Thomas Aquinas on Conscience Cajetan Cuddy OP	112



x Contents

7	Reforming the Conscience: Magisterial Reformers on the Theory and Practice of Conscience John L. Thompson	132
8	Toward a Theology of a Redeemed Conscience Jeffrey B. Hammond	152
9	Pierre Bayle: An Enlightened Alternative to John Locke Edward Andrew	170
10	Freedom of Conscience and Its Right to Constitutional Protection: The Contribution of Roger Williams David Little	187
11	Jonathan Edwards on Conscience Michael McClymond	208
12	Obeying God Rather Than Men: Uneasy Evangelicals, Conscience, and Politics Micah Watson	227
13	Mormonism and Conscience Rosalynde Welch and Nathan B. Oman	2 45
14	Culture and Conscience in the Thought of Joseph Ratzinger, Pope Benedict XVI Peter J. Casarella	265
PAR	T III APPLIED TOPICS IN LAW AND CONSCIENCE	
15	Liberty of Conscience, Free Exercise of Religion, and the US Constitution Nathan S. Chapman	287
16	Religious Conscience Protections in American State Constitutions Michael J. DeBoer	305
17	Forced Conformity or Accommodation? Reconciling Conscience and Difference in a Pluralistic Democracy Mark Rienzi	336



	Contents	xi
18	Christian Conscience and Sexual Expression Rights Helen M. Alvaré	354
19	Conscience and the Roman Catholic "Just War" Tradition Joseph E. Capizzi	375
20	Institutional Conscience, Corporate Persons, and Hobby Lobby Christopher Tollefsen	395
21	Religion, Conscience, and the Law: Reasons, Bases, and Limits for Exemptions R. Kent Greenawalt	414
Inde	x	435



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xiv

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xvi

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