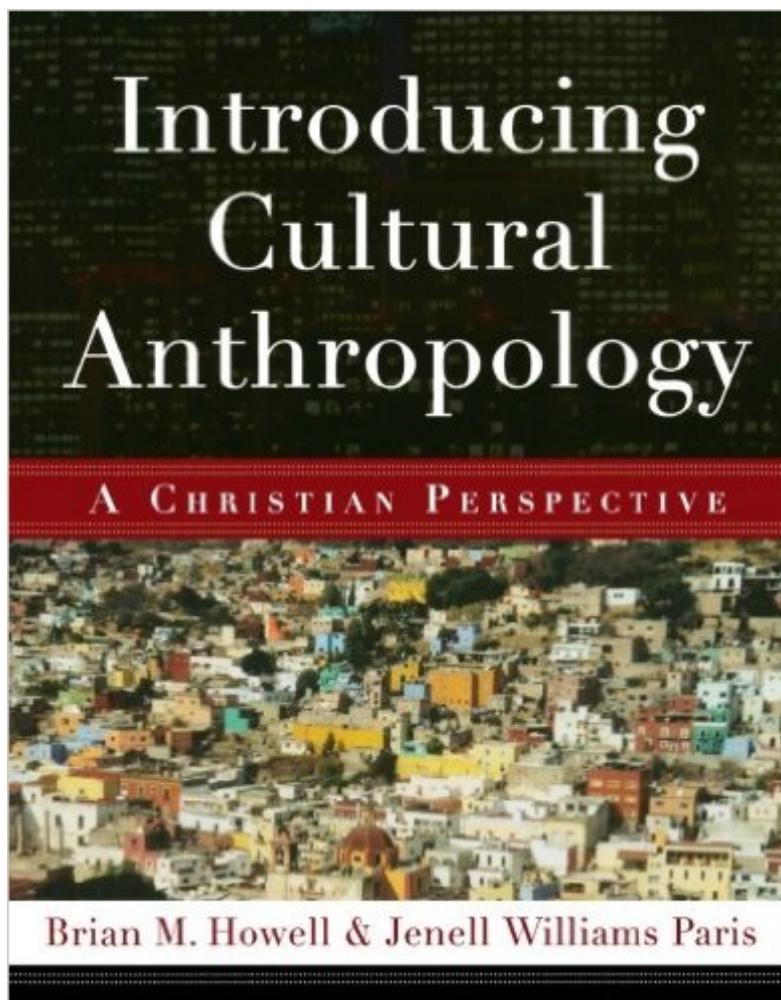


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Introducing Cultural Anthropology: A Christian Perspective



Synopsis

What is the role of culture in human experience? This introductory cultural anthropology textbook helps readers explore and understand this crucial issue from a Christian perspective. The book covers standard cultural anthropology topics with special attention given to issues of concern to Christians, such as cultural relativism, evolution, and missions. This concise yet solid introduction represents the authors' years of experience in the classroom and offers a fresh, contemporary approach. Each chapter includes objectives, text boxes, terms, and discussion questions. In addition, plentiful maps, photos, and sidebars are sprinkled throughout the text. Resources for professors using this text are available through Baker Academic's Textbook eSources. These resources include active learning exercises, discussion questions, crossword puzzles, PowerPoint outlines, case study videos, an annotated list of suggested ethnographic films, relevant internet resources, and a test bank.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Okay, normally I despise introductory textbooks. They're stale, painfully dull, don't prepare students to actually think like an anthropologist, and make people memorize a bunch of quaint people groups and concepts that were last hot in the 1950s. However, this is more readable than most (aside from the small font... I know, I sound curmudgeonly!). This one's definitely worth reading as a Christian interested in anthropology, whether or not it's for a specific class. So -- short story -- I like it and recommend it. In the sections below, I'll give you an overview of the contents and offer a few

thoughts on the book as a whole. Overview: I found the intro and first chapters on the discipline of anthropology to be broad and dull, as usual, but really enjoyed the second chapter ("the concept of culture"), which helps students see a number of ways in which anthropologists think about culture. This was a great overview even for me as a graduate student in anthropology. "Language" was okay, and "social structure" had good application to American anthropology. "Gender and sexuality" may present a challenge for some of the more conservative, but is well-handled overall. Chapter 6, "Production and exchange," was fairly well done, although I'm always frustrated with how intro textbooks spend so much time overviewing the concepts of foraging, horticulture, pastoralism, and agriculture, which I've never found of any use in life or in the field.

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