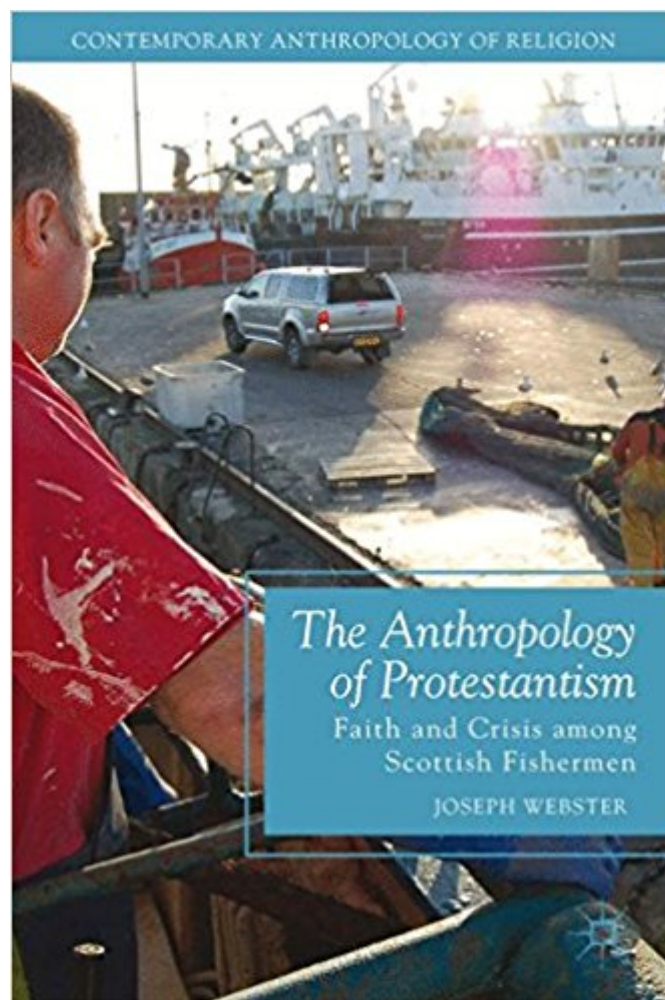




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The Anthropology Of Protestantism: Faith And Crisis Among Scottish Fishermen (Contemporary Anthropology Of Religion)



Synopsis

Through his ethnographic study of the fishermen and their religious beliefs, Webster speaks to larger debates about religious radicalism, materiality, economy, language, and the symbolic. These debates also call into question assumptions about the decline of religion in modern industrial societies.

Book Information

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"A provocative study that draws on the traditional strengths of [anthropology]: village community, reflexive ethnography, ritual and everyday life . . . In addition to scholars of Christianity, anthropologists of Europe, and those interested in the globalization of religion generally, this book could make a good pairing with other works on religious life taking different theoretical turns and engaging distinct ethnographic settings . . . Webster's work makes an excellent contribution to the Contemporary Anthropology of Religion series and portends more good things to come from this young scholar." - Anthropology News 'An innovative attempt to understand the relationship between language and materiality in terms of the Protestant doctrine of consubstantiation . . . The Anthropology of Protestantism enriches the engagement between anthropology and theology, and is a valuable contribution to the anthropology of Christianity and the study of language and materiality. It deserves to earn a wide readership.' - The Anthropology of Christianity Bibliographic Blog "Webster's timely and fascinating book takes us inside the world of an austere traditional

community of Protestant Brethren who must confront the radical economic and ecological crisis of the contemporary fishing industry, but with their gaze always fixed on the End of Days. The Anthropology of Protestantism takes us beyond the established study of Pentecostal and charismatic churches, and offers compelling ethnographic and theoretical insights into contemporary Protestantism." - Fenella Cannell, PhD, Social Anthropology, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK "This is quite simply the most compelling, rounded account of the lives of fundamentalist Christians that we have in the anthropological literature. All that is important to the Christians of this Scottish fishing village is here the prayers, the sermons, the sense of human degradation and potential salvation, the immanence of the divine, the imminence of the end times, and the drive to proselytize everywhere, even in the midst of hard and dangerous work at sea. And of course the importance of divine word is here too, in a profound account of the 'sincere' bible reading and speaking that ties these lives together. Concluding with a stunning reconceptualization of modern enchantment as consubstantiation, this elegantly written and powerfully argued book should be read by anyone who wants to know how such demanding forms of Christianity are lived in the contemporary world." - Joel Robbins, Department of Anthropology, University of California, San Diego, USA

Joseph Webster is Isaac Newton- Graham Robertson Research Fellow in Social Anthropology and Sociology at Downing College, University of Cambridge, UK.

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