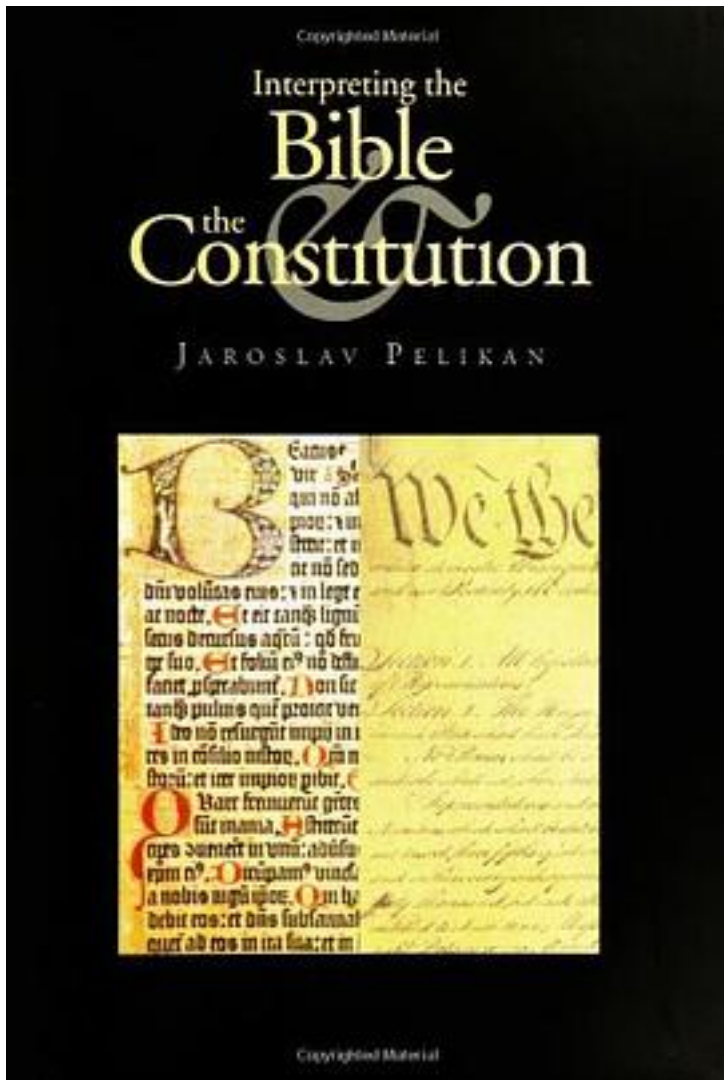


Interpreting the Bible and the Constitution (John W. Kluge Center Books)



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著者:Professor Jaroslav Pelikan

出版者:Yale University Press

出版时间:2004-04-10

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9780300102673

Both the Bible and the Constitution have the status of "Great Code," but each of these important texts is controversial as well as enigmatic. They are asked to speak to situations that their authors could not have anticipated on their own. In this book, one of our greatest religious historians brings his vast knowledge of the history of biblical interpretation to bear on the question of constitutional interpretation. Jaroslav Pelikan compares the methods by which the official interpreters of the Bible and the Constitution-the Christian Church and the Supreme Court, respectively-have approached the necessity of interpreting, and reinterpreting, their important texts. In spite of obvious differences, both texts require close, word-by-word exegesis, an awareness of opinions that have gone before, and a willingness to ask new questions of old codes, Pelikan observes. He probes for answers to the question of what makes something authentically "constitutional" or "biblical," and he demonstrates how an understanding of either biblical interpretation or constitutional interpretation can illuminate the other in important ways.

作者介绍:

Pelikan, an internationally acclaimed scholar of the Christian tradition, has written a small but magisterial study of the two great codes that engage the attention and allegiance of American religionists: the Bible and the Constitution. Both codes, Pelikan states, are normative and apodictic. Both have also produced doctrine and heresy and are capable of being interpreted, even amended, by juridically structured agencies. Pelikan writes brilliantly and insightfully about the development of doctrine-both political and religious-and about how such development needs to be characterized by the vigorous and tenacious reverence for the defining authority of the original charters of Bible and Constitution. An outstanding contribution to the ongoing civic conversation in the United States, this work is recommended for all academic libraries as well as for public libraries with a strong religion or politics circulation.-David I. Fulton, Coll. of St. Elizabeth, Morristown, NJ Copyright 2004 Reed Business Information.

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