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Active Reception and the Problem of Sin: Milbank's Reading of Gregory of Nyssa
Sin and salvation; Milbank contra Gregory on the Christian Life;
Conclusion: Turning to Gregory of Nyssa; 4: The Body's Reason; Why Do I Speak of the Soul?; The Apathetic Soul: Mirror of the Divine; Created in the image of God; Gregory and Macrina on the Soul; On the nature of the soul: The body's reason; "Broken cisterns that can hold no water": The problem of the passions; The upward call of God; The "Manly Virgin": Gregory's Portrayal of the Apathetic Soul; Macrina as example; Macrina's apathetic soul
Conclusion: The Mirror of Desire
5: The Nature of Doctrine Revisited; Doctrine and the Christian Life: Gregory's Catechetical Oration; The foundation of doctrine: Knowing God; The doctrine of salvation and the purification of the soul; The knowledge of God: Gregory on language and imagination; Doctrine, Desire and the Formation of Christians: Gregory's Commentary on the Song of Songs; "Stretching out to what lies before": Doctrine and perception; "We mold within ourselves a honeycomb": Doctrine and virtue; "This law written in the heart": Doctrine, memory, and desire; Conclusion
6: Doctrine, Discipleship, and Christian Identity
On the Road: Excursus on Acts 14:22; Rethinking Christian Identity: An Old Idea in a New Place; Formation; Sin; Doctrine; The saints; Receiving the identity of Jesus, or, holiness is in the struggle; Bibliography; Premodern Sources; Augustine; Aquinas; Gregory of Nyssa; Index

Sommario/riassunto

Recent decades have seen major shifts in our understanding of Christian identity. This timely book explores contemporary theological theory in asking what makes a Christian in the twenty-first century. Engages with developments in contemporary theological thought, assessing the work of leading figures Rowan Williams, John Milbank, and Kathryn Tanner Challenges accepted ideas of Christian identity by revealing largely unexplored perspectives on how sin affects its formation Contributes to vexed debates about Christian identity at a time when Christianity is expandi
