

C. Behan McCullagh

*Justifying
Historical
Descriptions*

Justifying Historical Descriptions

Gary Habermas



Justifying Historical Descriptions:

Justifying Historical Descriptions C. Behan McCullagh, 1984-10-25 In common with history all the social sciences crucially rely on descriptions of the past for their evidence But when if ever is it reasonable to regard such descriptions as true This book attempts to establish the conditions that warrant belief in historical descriptions It does so in a non technical way analysing numerous illustrations of the different kinds of argument about the past employed by historians and others The author concludes that no historical description can be finally proved and that we are only ever justified in believing them for certain practical purposes This central question has not been addressed in such a thorough and systematic manner before It draws on recent philosophy of history and will interest philosophers But the wealth of material and accessibility of the presentation will also make it very valuable for historians and other social scientists concerned with the logic of their disciplines

Reasonable Faith William Lane Craig, 2008 This updated edition by one of the world's leading apologists presents a systematic positive case for Christianity that reflects the latest work in the contemporary hard sciences and humanities Brilliant and accessible

History and Future David J. Staley, 2010-01-01 The book reexamines this long held belief and argues that the historical method is an excellent way to think about and represent the future At the same time the book asserts that futurists should not view the future as a scientist might aiming for predictions and certainties but rather should view the future in the same way that an historian views the past

The Truth of History C. Behan McCullagh, 2002-11-01 Modern relativism and postmodern thought in culture and language challenge the truth of history This book considers how all historians confined by the concepts and forms of argument of their own cultures can still discover truths about the past The Truth of History presents a study of various historical explanations and interpretations and evaluates their success as accounts of the past C Behan McCullagh contests that the variety of historical interpretations and subjectivity does not exclude the possibility of their truth Through an examination of the constraints of history the author argues that although historical descriptions do not mirror the past they can correlate with it in a regular and definable way Far from debating in the abstract and philosophical only the author beds his argument in numerous illuminating concrete historical examples The Truth of History explores a new position between the two extremes of believing that history perfectly represents the past and that history can tell us nothing true of the past

Jesus' Resurrection: Fact or Figment? Paul Copan, Ronald K. Tacelli, 2000-10-24 Edited by Paul Copan and Ronald Tacelli this is a lively and provocative debate between Christian philosopher William Lane Craig and New Testament scholar and atheist Gerd L demann on the historical truth of the resurrection

Defending the Resurrection Ed James Patrick Holding, 2010-08 Did Jesus rise from the dead The question is one on which the truth of the Christian faith turns 1 Cor 15 If Jesus did not rise you may as well close down your church In this volume prominent Internet apologist James Patrick Holding and a team of Christian authors provide a series of essays defending the Resurrection as a historical event taking on criticisms from every angle from that which is scholarly to

that which is plain lunacy With this book you ll be prepared to meet many of today s greatest challenges to the core event of the Christian faith Both the interested reader and especially the student of this subject should find many worthwhile discussions that are easily worth the price of the book from the Foreword by Dr Gary Habermas *Historical Judgement* Jonathan Gorman,2014-11-27 The historical profession is not noted for examining its own methodologies Indeed most historians are averse to historical theory In *Historical Judgement* Jonathan Gorman s response to this state of affairs is to argue that if we want to characterize a discipline we need to look to persons who successfully occupy the role of being practitioners of that discipline So to model historiography we must do so from the views of historians Gorman begins by showing what it is to model a discipline by using recent philosophy of law and philosophy of science There are different models at work whose rivalry and resolution are to be historically understood With this approach in place he is able to develop the history of historiography and explore the character of historiography as presented by historians He reveals that historians conform to various norms that historians now and in the past have agreed and disagreed about the same set of interrelated matters truth telling moral judgement and the synthesis of facts and it is this internal understanding that we need to recover if we are to arrive at a correct characterization of the discipline of historiography Demonstrating how the practice of historiography requires choices and therefore the exercise of judgement Gorman is able to show that in their making of judgements historians enjoy the immense benefit of hindsight He shows how in reflecting on their own discipline historians have typically failed to attend adequately to the history of historiography neglecting to situate previous historians within their historical contexts or to pay adequate attention to the fact that present historians too are within a context that will change In addition Gorman s approach which emphasizes the power and necessity of choice and which rests on the pragmatic holistic empiricism of Quine shows postmodernism not to be the threat that some historians feel it to be indeed it is shown to be a radical form of empiricism Gorman shows how the historical enterprise may be established in our factual and moral understanding in the light of our choices and commitments to a shared world *Historical Judgement* is an original and important contribution to the philosophy of history By bringing together the ideas of historians and philosophers Gorman presents a much more practitioner focused examination of the discipline of history one that will hopefully encourage historians to think more about the nature of what they do *Historical Discourse* Caroline Coffin,2009-01-01 *Historical Discourse* analyses the importance of the language of time cause and evaluation in both texts which students at secondary school are required to read and their own writing for assessment In contrast to studies which have denied that history has a specialised language Caroline Coffin demonstrates through a detailed study of historical texts that writing about the past requires different genres lexical and grammatical structures In this analysis language emerges as a powerful tool for making meaning in historical writing Presupposing no prior knowledge of systemic functional linguistics this insightful book will be of interest to researchers in applied linguistics and discourse analysis as well as history educators **Debates in History**

Teaching Ian Davies,2010-12-15 Debates in History Teaching encourages teachers to engage with and reflect on key issues concepts and debates in their subject It supports you in reaching your own informed judgements enabling you to discuss and argue your point of view with deeper theoretical knowledge and understanding Experts in the field consider the subject and its definition perennial and new debates in the subject the knowledge required to teach in the classroom the philosophy of education and the subject and the case for the subject in the curriculum **Frank Ankersmit's Lost Historical Cause**

Peter Icke,2012-11-12 The contemporary Dutch historical theorist philosopher Frank Ankersmit an erstwhile advocate and promulgator of what has become known as the linguistic turn in historical theory is very well known within the discipline His early position with regard to the historical text is frequently discussed and evaluated today and his writings on the subject are often cited However this former narrativist position so robustly and effectively defended by Ankersmit in the past has been progressively marginalized by Ankersmit himself as his current and radically different theoretical position most fully expressed in his recent publication Sublime Historical Experience now for him takes precedence Yet despite this radical shift in Ankersmit s position this conspicuous conversion of an eminent prime mover in the field of mainstream language centred historical theory there has been no comprehensive and sustained investigative critique of his various works taken in the whole Consequently there has until now been no close reading and analytical dissection of that whole such that Ankersmit s overall trajectory of philosophical thought might be adequately discerned and perhaps even explained In short there is a vacant space here and the function of this book is precisely to fill that space **Key Issues in Historical Theory** Herman

Paul,2015-03-02 Key Issues in Historical Theory is a fresh clear and well grounded introduction to this vibrant field of inquiry incorporating many examples from novels paintings music and political debates The book expertly engages the reader in discussions of what history is how people relate to the past and how they are formed by the past Over 11 thematically based chapters Herman Paul discusses subjects such as history memory and trauma historical experience and narrative moral and political dimensions of history historical reasoning and explanation truth plausibility and objectivity Key Issues in Historical Theory convincingly shows that historical theory is not limited to reflection on professional historical studies but offers valuable tools for understanding autobiographical writing cultural heritage and political controversies about the past With textboxes providing additional focus on a range of key topics this is an attractive accessible and up to date guide to the field of historical theory Historical Imagination David J. Staley,2020-12-27 Historical Imagination examines the threshold

between what historians consider to be proper imagination free history and the malpractice of excessive imagination asking where the boundary between the two sits and the limits of permitted imagination for the historian We use imagination to refer to a mental skill that encompasses two different tasks the reconstruction of previously experienced parts of the world and the creation of new objects and experiences with no direct connection to the actual world In history imagination means using the mind s eye to picture both the actual and inactual at the same time All historical works employ at least some

creative imagination but an excess is considered too much Under what circumstances are historians permitted to cross this boundary into creative imagination and how far can they go Supporting theory with relatable examples Staley shows how historical works are a complex combination of mimetic and creative imagination and offers a heuristic for assessing this ratio in any work of history Setting out complex theoretical concepts in an accessible and understandable manner and encouraging the reader to consider both the nature and limits of historical imagination this is an ideal volume for students and scholars of the philosophy of history The Routledge Companion to Historical Studies Alun Munslow, 2002-01-04 With twenty nine new entries and updated existing ones this new edition provides a much needed critical introduction to the key issues historians and philosophers and their ideas and theories which have prompted the rethinking of history **On the Resurrection, Volume 1** Gary Habermas, 2024-01-15 The first volume of Gary Habermas's magnum opus *On the Resurrection* Evidences represents the culmination of fifty years of research on the probability of Jesus's resurrection Using his minimal facts argument Habermas demonstrates why we ought to trust the biblical and historical testimony of Scripture regarding the resurrection This book is a must read for pastors students and scholars interested in the historical evidence for the resurrection of Jesus Christ **The Logic of History** C. Behan McCullagh, 2004 The Logic of History defends the practice of history as more reliable than has recently been acknowledged arguing that historians make their accounts as fair as they can and avoid misleading their readers *Handbook for the Study of the Historical Jesus (4 Vols)* Tom Holmén, Stanley E. Porter, 2010-12 V 1 How to study the historical Jesus v 2 The study of Jesus v 3 The historical Jesus v 4 Individual studies **Logic of Historical Explanation** Clayton Roberts, 2010-11-01 Human Nature and Historical Knowledge Leon Pompa, 1990 This is a challenging book about the presuppositions of historical knowledge **Paul and the Resurrection** Joshua Pagán, 2020-03-10 For the contemporary believer Paul's role in the historical setting of the Resurrection is far more than a matter of theological curiosity The Christian justification for rational belief in the Resurrection is in large part anchored in Paul's justification for rational belief in the authenticity of his own experience In Paul we find the earliest and best attested documentary evidence for a historical investigation of the miraculous event Moreover his epistles are an indispensable source of independent corroboration of the gospel narratives Opponents of Christianity have formulated a variety of hypotheses to account for Paul's experience on the Damascus Road Some propose that Paul was deceptive others argue that he was deluded and still others contend he came to believe a legendary development Yet according to the Christian hypothesis Paul's claim to have encountered the risen Jesus is dependable and his testimony can be shown to withstand the scrutiny of critics In this innovative interdisciplinary study Pagán combines the analytic tools of history and philosophy to explore and evaluate competing explanations of Paul's belief in the Resurrection of Jesus *A Prophet Mighty in Deed and Word* Jeff S. Kennedy, 2024-08-06 Did Jesus the revolutionary figure who changed the world struggle to read a scroll A growing number of scholars think so Luke's account of Jesus reading in the synagogue Luke

4 16 30 is routinely challenged today in academia The claim is that Luke either fabricated the account outright or relied upon a mistaken social memory of Jesus reading in the synagogue Accordingly Jesus has been recast as an illiterate peasant or semi literate artisan unable to read and teach the way Luke portrays In A Prophet Mighty in Deed and Word Jeff Kennedy offers a fresh perspective He contends that Luke s reading Jesus wasn t an attempt to appeal to the cultured sensibilities of his Greek audience who preferred literate philosophers over illiterate carpenters Instead it reflects Jesus self understanding as Israel s prophet sage anointed to read and proclaim the year of Yahweh s favor Jesus announces a shocking and provocative message for unbelieving Israel and he does so with a singular authority This incident sparks escalating tensions between Jesus and his countrymen resulting in Christ s glorification through suffering And Luke tells us that suffering began in Jesus hometown of Nazareth

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