Contents

Introduction 1
   John B. Cobb Jr.

1 Rethinking Christian Faith in the Context of Religious Diversity 9
   John B. Cobb Jr.
   The Story 9
   Introduction 10
   Transforming Christian Teaching 11
   Our Pluralistic Context 26
   Practical Implications 36
   For Further Reading 40
   Questions for Discussion 40

2 Jews and Christians through the Ages: A Troubled Relationship 41
   Eva Fleischner
   Introduction 42
   Terminology 45
   The Parting of the Ways 48
   The Medieval Period 54
   The Reformation 58
   From Reformation to Shoah 62
   The Shoah 65
   From the Teaching of Contempt to the Teaching of Respect 67
   Jewish-Christian Relations Today 74
   Conclusion 81
   For Further Reading 84
   Questions for Discussion 85
3 Islam and Christians

Ward M. McAfee

Introduction 88
A Clash of Civilizations? 89
Early Islamic History 92
Islamic Expansion 100
The Rise of Sufism 101
Theological Similarities and Differences 103
Social-Ethical Similarities and Differences 107
Our Actual Relationship 113
The Judeo-Islamic-Christian Tradition 118
Theological Conclusions 121
For Further Reading 128
Questions for Discussion 129

4 Buddha for Christians

Dickson Kazuo Yagi

Introduction 131
Basic Teaching 134
Early Buddhism 135
Theism or Atheism? 142
Yin Yang: Redemptive Defeat 147
No Self and the Christian Faith 148
Disappointing Developments 151
Encouraging Developments 157
Stories 164
For Further Reading 166
Questions for Discussion 167

5 Indigenous American Religious Advice for Our Troubled Age

Ward M. McAfee

Introduction 169
Vine Deloria Jr. 172
Native American Christian Theology 175