



### Political Theology as Critical Theory

By Steve Ostovich

**Pub Date:** 07 July 2026

**Binding:** Paperback

**Price:** £20.99 / \$24.95

**ISBN:** 9781839997976

**BISAC CATEGORY:** PHILOSOPHY / Political

POLITICAL SCIENCE / Religion, Politics & State,

SOCIAL SCIENCE / Cultural & Ethnic Studies /

General

**BISAC CODE:** PH1019000

**BIC CODE:**

**Extent:** 100 pages

**RIGHTS**

**Size:** 153 x 229 mm /

**Exclusive:** WORLD

6 x 9 inches

**Reimagines political theory through a critical political theology that challenges liberal individualism and proposes a historically grounded, action-oriented vision of political reason and subjectivity informed by eschatological time.**

This work describes a new path for thinking critically about history and culture. It frames a critical theory using categories and concepts derived from political theology for insights into the human political condition and to raise ongoing questions regarding meaningful action. It is a response to the failure of modern liberal individualism to provide a coherent political theory capable of shaping a good life together. These problems arise already in Thomas Hobbes's Leviathan. Hobbes used biblical myth to characterize the power of the sovereign as "mortal god," but his biblical criticism and scientific reasoning led to a split between the public and private uses of reason that undermined his social contract theory and still clouds our political thinking. The new political theology of Johann Baptist Metz offers an alternative way to think politically that remains rooted in history while developing an understanding of historical time and action in conversation with biblical prophetic and apocalyptic traditions. Metz's own engagement with Critical Theory provides the impetus for developing a political theology that in the present work moves beyond God and reliance on metaphysical grounding for political judgment and towards political reason acting in history and political subjectivity.

#### Key selling points

Offers a chance to think again about what politics is for

Charts a new path for thinking about thinking beyond the antinomies of modern reason

Describes a new political theology or, better, a new way of doing political theology

Uses the Bible as a resource for insights about politics and living that are more than religious

#### About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

**Steve Ostovich** is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the College of St. Scholastica and resides in Minnesota, USA.

**Ordering in North America, Latin America and Caribbean**  
Ingram Publishers Services (US)  
1 Ingram Blvd. Mail stop  
#512 Lavergne, TN 37086, United States  
Tel: +1 866 400 5351  
ips@ingramcontent.com

**Ordering in the UK/Rest of the World**  
Ingram Publishers Services (UK)  
1 Deltic Avenue, Rooksley  
Milton Keynes, MK13 8LD  
United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 (0) 1752 202300 | Fax: 01752 202330  
IPSUK.Orders@ingramcontent.com

**Ordering in Australia**  
NewSouth Books  
C/O Alliance Distribution Services (ADS)  
9 Pioneer Avenue  
Tuggerah 2259 NSW, Australia  
Tel: +61 (02) 4390 1300 | Fax: +1800-66-44-77  
adscs@alliancedist.com.au