God's Joust, God's Justice: Law and Religion in the Western Tradition

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As a legal historian, John Witte, Jr.'s work has been primarily descriptive in nature. In God's Joust, Witte's historical scholarship becomes the springboard for prescriptive arguments in the field of law and religion. According to Witte, people are willing to die for three things: their faith, their freedom, and their family. This observation establishes the conceptual and literary framework for God's Joust, and each section of the book addresses and analyzes one of these topics. Although God's Joust is essentially a collection of Witte's previously published articles, reworked and edited into book form, it is a compelling survey of his scholarship in the field. The title itself is a conflation of quotes from two of Christendom's leading theologians. Martin Luther wrote, "History is God's theatre, ... God's jousting place," while St. Augustine said, "All things are ruled and governed by..."

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"God's Joust, Gods Justice" is a lucid scholarly introduction to the burgeoning field of law and religion and a learned historical inquiry into the weightier matters of the law. About the Author. John Witte Jr. is Jonas Robitscher Professor of Law and Ethics and director of the Center for the Study of Law and Religion at Emory University. A specialist in legal history, marriage, and religious liberty, he has authored numerous books. Read more. This volume studies all three and the intersections among them in the Western tradition as well as today. A long introduction puts the material in perspective. God's Joust, God's Justice is a lucid scholarly introduction to the burgeoning field of law and religion and a learned historical inquiry into the weightier matters of the law. Excerpt. Over the past decade, the Pew Charitable Trusts, Inc., in Philadelphia was kind enough to furnish our Center for the Study of Law and Religion at Emory
University with several very generous grants to run a series of projects on religious liberty and human rights; marriage, children, and family life; and Christian Jurisprudence. In the past three years, the Alonzo McDonald Family Foundation. He relates all these to the contribution of the secular Enlightenment tradition, and tries to develop a synthesis that will allow today's Christians to live in love and peace with their neighbors. His conclusions are decent, humane, and ecumenical, and his treatment of debatable questions is very fair to both sides.