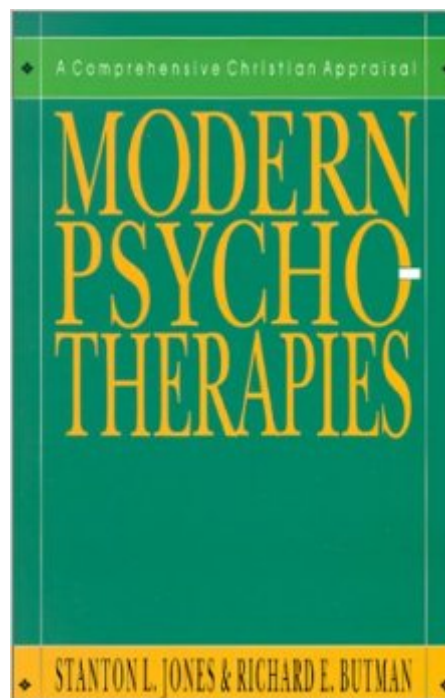


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# Modern Psychotherapies: A Comprehensive Christian Appraisal (Christian Association For Psychological Studies Partnership)



## Synopsis

First Christians feared and avoided the modern practice of psychotherapy. Then many uncritically embraced it. This book represents an emerging third stage in the complicated relationship between faith and psychology. That stage is the critical, theologically informed appropriation of psychotherapy. Stanton Jones and Richard Butman, respected Christian scholars and experienced clinical psychologists, survey the thirteen most significant psychotherapies now in use. They fair-mindedly introduce each therapy and evaluate its compatibility with orthodox Christianity. Opening and closing chapters discuss foundational concerns on the intergration of psychology and theology, and present the author's justification of "responsible eclecticism." Among the first of its kind, this comprehensive volume will be of invaluable assistance to teachers, students of psychology, and Christian psychologists and counselors.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As a new student of psychology and counseling, it can be overwhelming and confusing wading into the various ideologies and methods. What makes each one distinct? What does it contribute to the field? How does it interact with the Christian faith? Stanton Jones and Richard Butman have provided an excellent guide to the major psychotherapies with an assessment of each from a Christian point of view. They explore Psychodynamic theories along with three others: Cognitive-Behavioral; Humanistic and Experiential; Systemic. The book ends with two chapters

focused on moving toward a distinctly Christian psychology. I, personally, found the beginning chapters and concluding chapters to be the strongest and of the greatest benefit. They ably handle issues related to integration and a Christian theory of persons. It is essential for Christian counselors of all convictions to have a well-developed theory of persons. Without a comprehensive understanding of persons in all their complexity and the corresponding complexity of the effects of sin on a person, any therapy will be superficial, at best. Their treatment of the major psychotherapies is fair and helpful. They explain the major issues quite well and without prejudice. Additionally, while it's clear that they have some misgivings about bible-only counseling, they do not spend their time taking shots at the movement. It would have taken away from this helpful work had they done that. Thankfully, they avoided this pitfall. In its second edition, Jones and Butman have provided an essential tool for all pastors and lay-people interested in the subject and ministry of counseling. This is a helpful resource to which I will be turning often for insight and further study.

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