

Vogel has provided a helpful discussion of an important subject. His interaction with (pre-1999) scholarship is extensive, while the update suffers the fate of most dissertation publications (especially those that see the light of the printed page after a significant time has passed), i.e., lack of continuing interaction with a scholarship that moves on. As already noted, Vogel's presupposition is important, and I would have wished for more discussion of the crucial link between practice and theology, or cultic action and the thinking behind that action. This link has been (and continues to be) a key element of the academic conversation in our field and deserves more attention for future research. While not perfect, for now *The Cultic Motif in the Book of Daniel* is the place to go if one is interested in the theology of the book of Daniel.

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Von Stiegel, Herta, and Gina Smith. *The Mountain Within: Leadership Lessons and Inspiration for Your Climb to the Top*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2011. xviii + 229 pp. Hardcover, \$25.00.

The author of *The Mountain Within*, Herta von Stiegel, is the founder and CEO of Ariya Capital Group Limited, a fund-management firm focusing on sustainable investments in Africa. Previously, she has held senior positions at Citibank, JP Morgan, and, until 2005, she was managing director at AIG Financial Products. A U.S. tax lawyer by training, von Stiegel practiced law prior to becoming a banker, specializing in international taxation. She holds a Juris Doctor degree from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Michigan, a Master's of Law degree in Taxation from New York University Law School, and a Bachelor of Arts from Andrews University.

Von Stiegel's monograph is based on an expedition to climb Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa, led by her in July of 2008. A group of twenty-eight multinational climbers, including seven disabled athletes, set out on the tour. Against incredible odds, almost 60 percent of the group made it to the summit. This expedition has been carefully film-recorded and has become an award-winning documentary. Von Stiegel wrote the book because readers "need leaders who can relate spiritually and humanely to their fellow human beings. . . . They must be leaders who know not to stay too long at the top, because the rarefied atmosphere in the upper echelons causes us to lose perspective, to become intoxicated with power, status, and wealth and to lose touch with what matters" (xi). The book is a call to create a framework for leadership based on integrity, transparency, and the power of teamwork (xi).

The Mountain Within examines the lessons gained from two attempts to climb Mount Kilimanjaro. The first one ended disappointingly just 4,200 meters from the Barranco Wall. However, failure gave her the necessary motivation to begin afresh, but this time much better prepared. She draws

leadership lessons applicable to business, community, church, and state politics such as (1) resilience, which can be learned through hard work and discipline; (2) career vs. calling, confirming that “executives who say they have a calling also report less job stress, longer tenure, more career satisfaction, and higher salaries overall” (22); (3) learning to break a complex project into smaller steps that are more manageable, which requires preparation and forethought (38); (4) planning for contingencies and preparing backup plans; (5) learning from failures, with the understanding that “each failure breeds more learning” (59); (6) team selection, which is focused on choosing the best-qualified team whose corporate skills are complementary, who exhibit a winning attitude that unites, and who have integrity and strong work ethics (87); (7) “equal gender representation can help to unlock the innovative potential of teams” (88); (8) not settling for the merely good, but for the excellent (101); (9) recognition that high quality does not necessarily mean high expenses; (10) knowing how and when to walk away from a deal (124-125); (11) knowing how to handle criticism, since the amount of criticism a leader receives will increase as he or she becomes more visible (135); (12) facing one’s ego; (13) overcoming obstacles such as habits of short-term thinking (184).

How, then does a leader lead a winning team? Von Stiegel gives several suggestions: (1) value the contribution of each team member (199); (2) communicate your intentions; (3) give the team members space to replenish their emotional, spiritual, and physical reservoirs (201); and (4) celebrate successes (202). Von Stiegel saves probably the most important lesson for the end, stating: “Don’t stay at the top too long” (217). She cautions that the “world is full of people who stay too long in positions of power; at best, they tarnish their legacy, and at worst, they can cause untold damage to themselves, their organizations, or their countries” (215). Her leadership lessons are reinforced by conversations she had with notable leaders such as Al Gore, former vice president of the U.S. and Nobel Peace Prize winner; Kay Unger, American fashion designer; and Sam Chisholm, Australia’s leading media executive.

The Mountain Within is written in a smooth, logical, and easy-to-follow manner. Every lesson is cemented by real-life applications from either the expedition or the author’s abundant life and business experience. Herta von Stiegel has succeeded in her goal to combine invaluable leadership lessons in the matrix of an expedition. I highly recommend this book to any reader who is a leader or who aspires to the ranks of leadership.

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