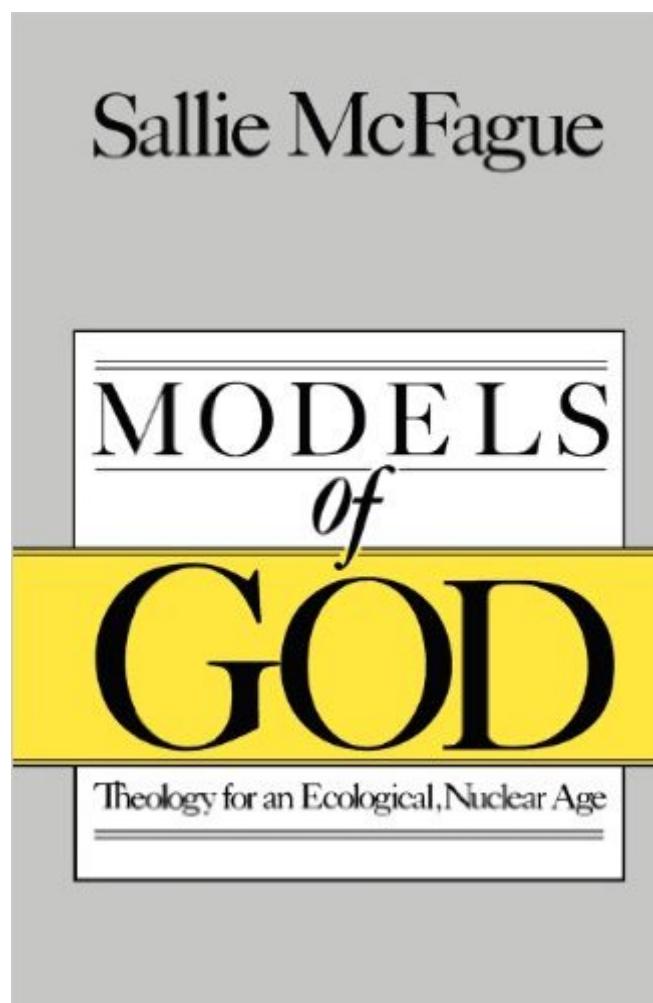


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## Models Of God



## **Synopsis**

In this award-winning text, theologian Sallie McFague challenges Christians' usual speech about God as a kind of monarch. She probes instead three other possible metaphors for God as mother, lover, and friend.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 244 pages

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## **Customer Reviews**

McFague is a likeable and thoughtful scholar. I've had the good fortune of studying with her and found her to be kind, gentle, and full of wit and understanding. McFague's books may be divided into two sections. The first includes Speaking in Parables and Metaphorical Theology, books primarily concerned with understanding and interpreting Christian metaphors at a time in which traditional Christianity appeared to be losing purchase on the world. Of these two, Metaphorical Theology is the more important one (explores the paradigmatic shape of theology and the role of its images -- incorporates holistic insights from philosophy of science and studies of metaphor). Models of God represents the beginning of a new stage in McFague's work. It is more than just the crystallization of her feminist and ecological convictions and the further development of models suggested in MT. Really, it is a development from a call to understand the world to a call to change the world. As such, the gloves are off and McFague refuses to mince words --- I call it 'antithetical speech' --- she means to have it out with all of the things that has brought the world to the brink of nuclear and ecological disaster (nuclear threat especially, written at the time of Chernobyl and Ronald Reagan). At the heart of the problem, McFague argues, is a hierarchical, patriarchal, monarchial, dualistic view of the world (bad). McFague proposes a new theology which is tentative, prophetic,

iconoclastic, and egalitarian (good). As an evangelical Christian (here it comes!), however, I find Models of God to be prematurely dismissive of biblical and historical theology. McFague paints with a broad brush when talking about why we are where we are.

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