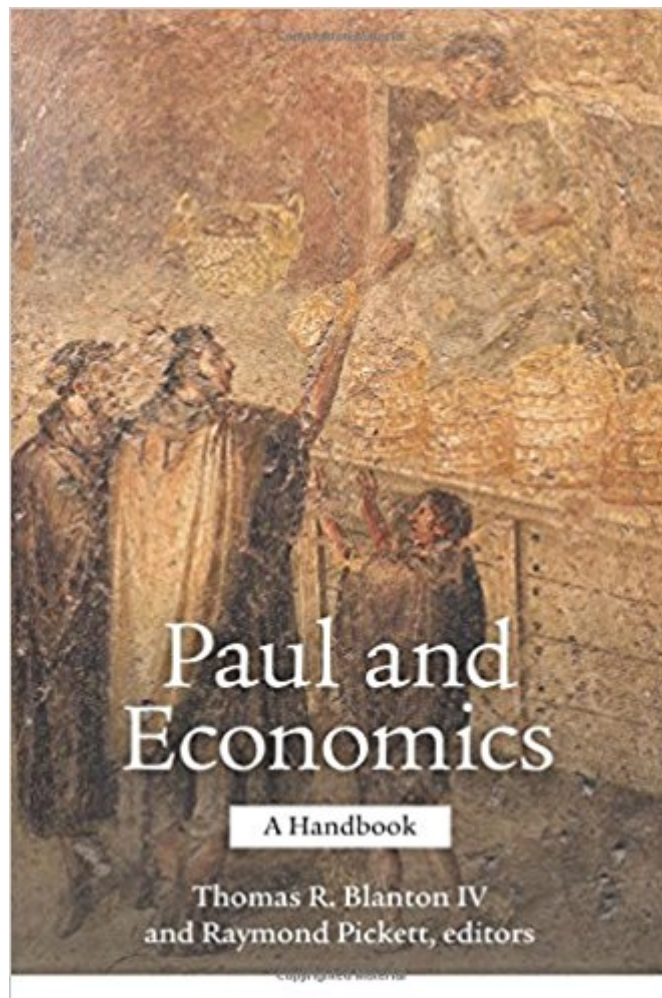


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Synopsis

The social context of Paul's mission and congregations has been the study of intense investigation for decades, but only in recent years have questions of economic realities and the relationship between rich and poor come to the forefront. In *Paul and Economics*, leading scholars address a variety of topics in contemporary discussion, including an overview of the Roman economy; the economic profile of Paul and of his communities, and stratification within them; architectural considerations regarding where they met; food and drink; idol meat and the Lord's Supper; material conditions of urban poverty; patronage; slavery; travel; gender and status; the collection for Jerusalem; and the role of Marxist theory and the question of political economy in Paul scholarship.

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Thomas R. Blanton IV is visiting professor of New Testament at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and has published numerous scholarly studies. Raymond Pickett is professor of New Testament at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. Pickett is the author of *The Cross in Corinth* (1997) and Blanton of *A Spiritual Economy: Gift Exchange in the Letters of Paul of Tarsus* (forthcoming), and has published numerous scholarly studies.

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