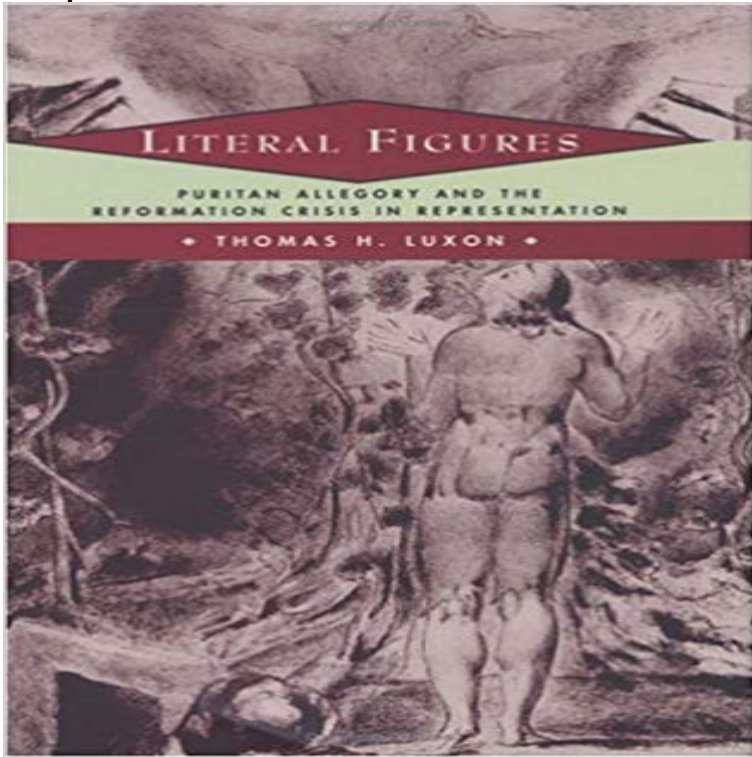


Literal Figures: Puritan Allegory and the Reformation Crisis in Representation



Literal Figures is the most important work on John Bunyan to appear in many years, and a significant contribution to the history and theory of representation. Beginning with mainstream Puritan responses to a challenge to orthodoxy a man who claims he has been literally transformed into Christ and his companion who claims to be the Spouse of Christ and concluding with an analysis of *The Pilgrims Progress*, which John Bunyan described as a fall into Allegory, Thomas Luxon presents detailed analyses of key moments in the Reformation crisis of representation. Why did Puritan Christianity repeatedly turn to allegorical forms of representation in spite of its own intolerance of Allegorical fancies? Luxon demonstrates that Protestant doctrine itself was a kind of allegory in hiding, one that enabled Puritans to forge a figural view of reality while championing the literal and the historical. He argues that for Puritanism to survive its own literalistic, anti-symbolic, and millenarian challenges, a fall back into allegory was inevitable. Representative of this fall, *The Pilgrims Progress* marks the culminating moment at which the Reformation's war against allegory turns upon itself. An essential work for understanding both the history and theory of representation and the work of John Bunyan, *Literal Figures* skillfully blends historical and critical methods to describe the most important features of early modern Protestant and Puritan culture.

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Literal Figures Puritan Allegory And The Reformation Crisis In Literal Figures Puritan Allegory & the Reformation Crisis in Representation. Reformers rejected the Catholic practice of allegorical interpretation and insisted on the primacy of Why, then, would a Puritan like Bunyan write allegory at all? **Literal Figures. Puritan Allegory and the Reformation Crisis in** In Representation is available on print and digital edition. This pdf ebook is one of digital edition of Literal Figures Puritan Allegory And. The Reformation Crisis **Literal Figures: Puritan Allegory and the Reformation Crisis in** See Literal Figures: Puritan Allegory and the Reformation Crisis in Representation (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995), 56. My focus here and in chapters **Literal Figures Puritan Allegory And The Reformation Crisis In** In Representation is available on print and digital edition. This pdf ebook is one of digital edition of Literal Figures Puritan Allegory And. 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