About the Cover

The image on the cover of this edition is commonly referred to as the “Flammion Woodcut,” though many believe it is actually more of an engraving than a woodcut. The artist is unknown, but the work is referred to Flammarion as it first appeared in Camille Flammarion’s *L’atmosphère: Météorologie Populaire* (*The Atmosphere: Popular Meteorology*). Camille placed a caption beneath the work reading, “Un missionaire du moyen âge raconte qu’il avait trouvé le point où le ciel et la Terre se touchent…” (“A missionary of the Middle Ages tells that he had found the point where heaven and earth touch”).¹ This work and Flammarion’s caption are the perfect representation for this edition’s theme: Christianity in the 21st Century. Like the man Flammarion describes, and like the man depicted, the modern Christian experience requires us to reach into the unknown. As in the case of science or philosophy, theology and eschatology attempt to answer our biggest questions, using only the earthly knowledge and experience we have. As we venture further into the 21st century, and thus further into the unknown, new beliefs, ideologies, and answers will appear, but these many questions will remain. Our job is to navigate this time with open minds and open hearts, and embrace the unknown.