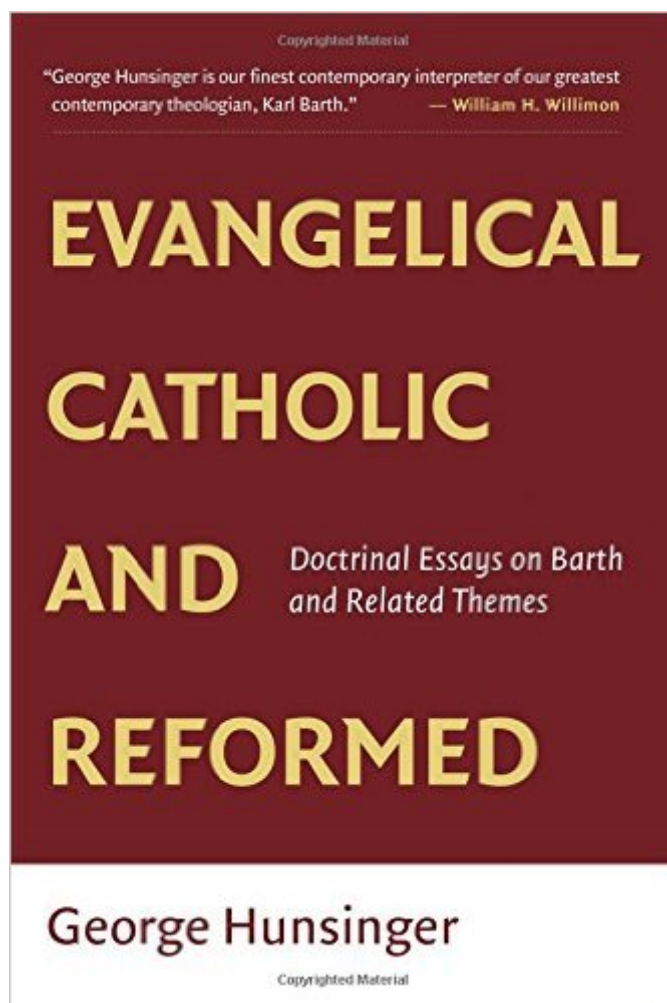


The book was found

Evangelical, Catholic, And Reformed: Essays On Barth And Other Themes



Synopsis

In this book prominent Barth scholar George Hunsinger presents fifteen essays on Karl Barth's understanding of Christian doctrine across a wide spectrum of topics, concluding with suggestions as to how Barth's theology might fruitfully be retrieved for the future. Hunsinger discusses Barth's view on such subjects as the Trinity, creation, natural theology, Christology, justification, and time and eternity. As he delves into Barth's theological substance, Hunsinger highlights ways in which Barth's work was evangelical, Catholic, and Reformed, illuminating the ecumenical aspects of his thought. No other volume explains Barth's views on this range of topics with such scope, depth, and clarity.

Book Information

Paperback: 296 pages

Publisher: Eerdmans (April 9, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 080286550X

ISBN-13: 978-0802865502

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.8 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #253,271 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #38 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Theology > Ecumenism](#) #5843 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Theology](#)

Customer Reviews

George Hunsinger has made a name for himself as an able interpreter of the theology of Karl Barth, and so he continues in his latest, *Evangelical, Catholic and Reformed: Doctrinal Essays on Barth and Related Themes*. The essays included range from trinitarian dogma to Biblical interpretation, Barth's engagements with Schleiermacher and Brunner to Luther and Calvin, justification and sanctification to resurrection and election. Most of the major loci of dogmatics are addressed throughout the course of the book. If there is a unifying purpose throughout, it is summed up in the title, namely, that Barth is best read as a theologian who was simultaneously evangelical, catholic, and Reformed. He was evangelical "more nearly in the European than the American sense. That is, it was more nearly confessionalist than conversionist, being oriented essentially toward the Protestant Reformation, to which he attempted to provide a new interpretation" (xiii). Moreover, he

was catholic in his adherence to Nicaea and Chalcedon, as seen especially in his treatment of the doctrine of the Trinity and the substance of his Christological thinking. This provides the ecumenical base of Barth's thought, which is rightly accentuated in Hunsinger's own reading. Lastly, Barth understood himself as a theologian in the Reformed tradition, running from Calvin, through Schleiermacher, and up to his contemporaries. The particularly reformed aspect of his dogmatics is of course his doctrine of election, though, it is more its centrality rather than the actual form of it that lands him within the Reformed tradition. I think very few could take Hunsinger to task for not successfully having demonstrated these three marks as being applicable to Barth. Now, of course, many may wonder whether it was every really in doubt that these markers fit Barth's theology. Indeed, it seems that his identity as a reformed thinker has become unquestioned in recent years, and the evangelical substance of his thinking is widely recognized. It is only his catholicity that has been challenged. So in this regard, Hunsinger's volume may be an important contribution to Barth studies. He points to the ecumenical substance that appears in Barth's central dogmatic affirmations, and calls on interpreters to read Barth in light of these. This is most obvious in his treatment of the trinity where he maintains that Barth does not historicize the being of God, and that God's being in act cannot be reduced to God's being in his act. This revisionary reading of Barth has grown popular in recent years, and in my view, Hunsinger demonstrates that as an interpretation of Barth, it misses the mark. Barth does nothing to jeopardize the perfection and sufficiency of God's being apart from creation. Thus, for Hunsinger, the post-Barthian theologian who has been most in line with Barth's own thinking on the trinity is T.F. Torrance, over Moltmann, Pannenberg, or Jungel (who all in some way claim affinity with Barth in their historicizing moves). Beyond just being a textual interpretation of Barth, this volume serves the church's own doctrinal thinking in some important ways. Perhaps most importantly on the doctrine of the trinity, as expressed above. Though, his typology of Christologies as being low, middle or high, rather than "from above" or "from below" seems a needed contribution as well. Perhaps my favorite essay though was "Uncreated Light: From Irenaeus and Torrance, to Aquinas and Barth." This again features Hunsinger's ecumenical concerns, and argues suggestively that, In short, on this reading the differences between Aquinas and Barth [on knowledge of God] can be regarded as more nearly a matter of emphasis than of substance. Both, in effect, made the necessary affirmations, not only that "God is light," but also that "God is unlike any light that we know." Nevertheless, differences in method led inevitably to different inflections. Where negation was essential for the one, eminence was decisive for the other. Theology after Aquinas and Barth might do well no to remove this tension but to operate dialectically between the two. (79) It would certainly be a major achievement to effect some

kind of rapprochement between Barthians and Thomist, for they well represent the heart of Roman and Protestant division. "It is almost always better to read Karl Barth than to read about him" (302). Indeed, this no less remains the case here, but so far as reading about Barth goes, this is pretty stellar work. The great merit of Hunsinger's volume is that it serves as a kind of orientation toward the reading of Barth himself. It is not a replacement of Church Dogmatics (how could it be?), but rather, it a kind of guide by which to work through it; it is a coming up for breath in-between strokes. As long as interest in Barth continues to proliferate, we will do well to have interpreters as skilled and sensitive as Hunsinger. Highly recommended! NOTE: This book was provided free of charge in exchange for an honest review.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Evangelical, Catholic, and Reformed: Essays on Barth and Other Themes Feminist and Womanist Essays in Reformed Dogmatics (Columbia Series in Reformed Theology) Engaging with Barth: Contemporary Evangelical Critiques The Great Themes of Scripture: Old Testament (Great Themes of Scripture Series) Waking Up Catholic: A Guide to Catholic Beliefs for Converts, Reverts, and Anyone Becoming Catholic Karl Barth's Church Dogmatics: An Introduction and Reader Mary: A Catholic-Evangelical Debate The Trinitarian Faith: The Evangelical Theology of the Ancient Catholic Church (T&T Clark Cornerstones) Consider the Lobster and Other Essays (Selected Essays) The Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and Other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church According to the Use of the Reformed Episcopal Church in North America Together with the Psalter or Psalms of David Searching for the Real Jesus: The Dead Sea Scrolls and Other Religious Themes Bioethics, Law, and Human Life Issues: A Catholic Perspective on Marriage, Family, Contraception, Abortion, Reproductive Technology, and Death and Dying (Catholic Social Thought) In the Beginning...': A Catholic Understanding of the Story of Creation and the Fall (Ressourcement: Retrieval and Renewal in Catholic Thought (RRRCT)) Catholic and Christian: An Explanation of Commonly Misunderstood Catholic Beliefs Color The Psalms: Catholic Coloring Devotional: A Unique White & Black Background Paper Catholic Bible Adult Coloring Book For Women Men Children & ... Faith, Relaxation & Stress Relief) (Volume 1) 1 & 2 Samuel: Ignatius Catholic Study Bible (The Ignatius Catholic Study Bible) The Catholic Youth Bible: New Revised Standard Version: Catholic Edition Catholic High School Entrance Exams w/CD-ROM 2nd Ed. (Catholic High School Entrance Test Prep) The Catholic Youth Bible, Third Edition: New Revised Standard Version: Catholic Edition Handbook for Today's Catholic Family: Revised Edition (Catholic Handbook)

[Dmca](#)