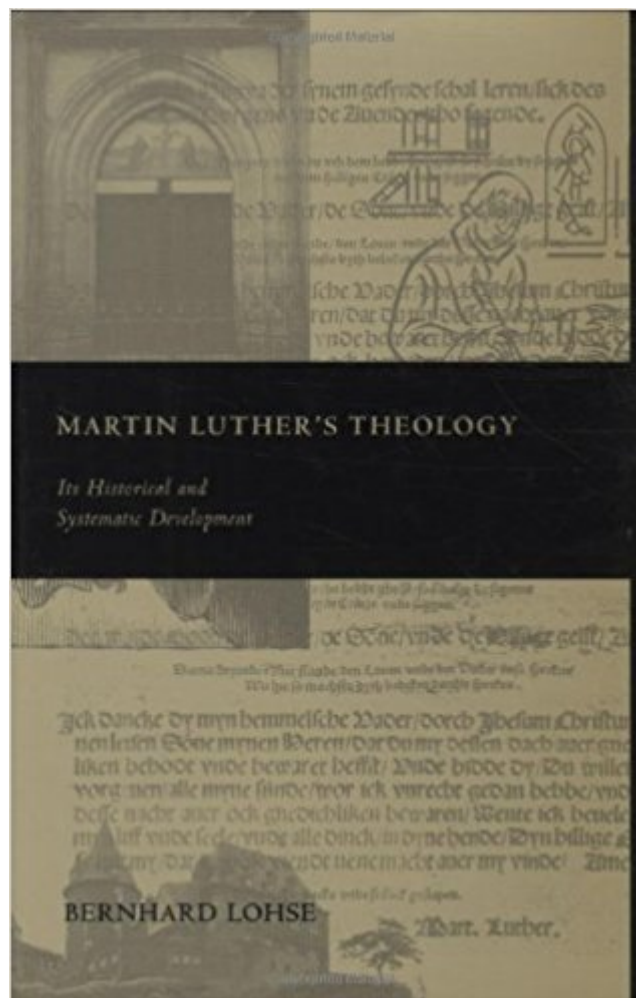




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Martin Luther's Theology: Its Historical And Systematic Development



Synopsis

This definitive analysis of the theology of Martin Luther surveys its development during the crises of Luther's life, then offers a systematic survey by topics. Containing a wealth of quotations from less-known writings by Luther and written in a way that will interest both scholar and novice, Lohse's magisterial volume is the first to evaluate Luther's theology in both ways. Lohse's historical analysis takes up Luther's early exegetical works and then his debates with traditions important to him in the context of the various controversies leading up to his dispute with the Antinomians. The systematic treatment shows how the meaning of ancient Christian doctrines took their place within the central teaching of justification by faith.

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Customer Reviews

"Lohse was without doubt the leading Luther scholar. He was better able to deal with both the historical and the systematic better than anyone I know." -- ---Mark U. Edwards Jr. -St. Olaf College

Text: English (translation) Original Language: German

Lohse has done the church an invaluable service by providing this overview of Luther's theology. In the first part of the book, the author sets the stage for the remainder of the study with some preliminary chapters dealing with issues such as the historical and theological situation in the early sixteenth century and Martin Luther's early life. The second part of the book is the most helpful in

that it traces the development of Luther's thought historically in the context of his many debates, disputations and conflicts. From his marginal notes in Augustine to his debates with the antinomians, Lohse provides a good understanding of how Luther's thought took its final form. The third part of the book attempts to approach Luther's theology from a more systematic perspective, dealing with it topically. It is divided into chapters on sola scriptura, reason and faith, sin, justification, the church, etc. Lohse provides some crucial insights into Luther's views on each of these doctrines in this section. The book concludes with a brief appendix on Luther's attitude toward the Jews - an important addition at the close of the twentieth century. This book should be the standard reference on the theology of Luther for years to come.

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