



Bibliographies for Theology

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Martin Luther & the Reformation in Germany

1. Luther: Texts & Translations
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1. LUTHER: BIOGRAPHY & THEOLOGY

Few ages have produced personalities as fascinating as those of the Reformation. Perhaps the best way to begin a study of the period is by reading biographies. And Luther, the man who sparked it all, is certainly the one to begin with. There are many, varied interpretations of Luther. This is a sampling of some of the best:

Martin Brecht, *Martin Luther: His Road to Reformation, 1483-1521*; *Martin Luther: Shaping and Defining the Reformation, 1521-1532*; and *Martin Luther: the Preservation of the Church, 1532-1546* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1990-1994). This massive 3-volume biography is the current standard. An excellent synthesis of a vast world of scholarship. Brecht brings both balance and precision and tells the story well.

Bernhard Lohse, *Martin Luther's Theology: Its History and Systematic Development*, trans. Roy A. Harrisville (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1999). Luther was an unusually prolific writer—over 70 volumes—and his theological work is as wide-ranging and as impassioned as that of Augustine. Lohse offers a valuable survey of Luther's often paradoxical theology. A good place to start.

Paul Althaus, *The Theology of Martin Luther*, trans. Robert C. Schultz (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1966).

David V.N. Bagchi, *Luther's Earliest Opponents: Catholic Controversialists, 1518-1525* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1991).

Roland Bainton, *Here I Stand: A Biography of Martin Luther*, Hendrickson Classic Biographies (1950: reprint: Hendrickson, 2009). A classic.

Hans-Martin Barth, *The Theology of Martin Luther: A Critical Assessment* (Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2012).

- Oswald Bayer, *Martin Luther's Theology: A Contemporary Interpretation* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008).
- Heinrich Bornkamm, *Luther in Mid-Career, 1521-1530* (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1983).
- Christopher Boyd Brown, *Singing the Gospel: Lutheran Hymns and the Success of the Reformation*, Harvard Historical Studies (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2005).
- Gerhard Ebeling, *Luther: An Introduction to His Thought*, trans. R.A. Wilson (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1972).
- Mark U. Edwards, Jr., *Luther and the False Brethren* (Palo Alto, CA: Stanford University Press, 1975). A valuable account of Luther's debate with fellow evangelicals, those one-time allies whom Luther thought had gone over to the devil: Karlstadt, Muntzer, Zwingli, Oecolampadius, and Schwenckfeld.
- Mark U. Edwards, Jr., *Luther's Last Battles: Politics and Polemics, 1531-1546* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1983).
- Eric W. Gritsch, *A History of Lutheranism*, 2nd ed. (Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2010).
- Johannes Heckel, *Lex Charitatis: A Juristic Disquisition on Law in the Theology of Martin Luther* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010).
- James M. Kittelson, *Luther the Reformer: The Story of the Man and His Career* (reprint: Minneapolis: Fortress, 1993).
- Robert Kolb, *Martin Luther: Confessor of the Faith*, Theology in Context (New York: Oxford University, 2009).
- William H. Lazareth, *Christians in Society: Luther, the Bible, and Social Ethics* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2001).
- Walther von Loewenich, *Luther's Theology of the Cross* (Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1976).
- Walther von Loewenich, *Martin Luther: the Man and His Work* (Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1986).
- Bernhard Lohse, *Martin Luther: An Introduction to His Life and Thought*, trans. Robert C. Schultz (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1986).
- Tuomo Mannermaa, *Christ Present in Faith: Luther's View of Justification* (Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2005).
- Martin E. Marty, *Martin Luther*, Penguin Lives (New York: Viking, 2004).
- Alister E. McGrath, *Luther's Theology of the Cross: Martin Luther's Theological Breakthrough* (reprint: Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1990).
- Alister E. McGrath, *Iustitia Dei: A History of the Christian Doctrine of Justification*, 2 volumes (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1986).
- Donald McKim, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to Martin Luther* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003).

- Heiko A. Oberman, *Luther: Man between God and the Devil*, trans. Eileen Walliser-Schwarzbart (1989; reprint: New Haven: Yale University Press, 2006).
- E. Gordon Rupp, *Luther's Progress to the Diet of Worms* (New York: Harper & Row, 1964).
- E. Gordon Rupp, *The Righteousness of God: Luther Studies* (London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1953)
- Bryan Spinks, *Luther's Liturgical Criteria and His Reform of the Canon of the Mass*, Grover Liturgical Study 30 (Bramcote Notts: Grove Books, 1982).
- David C. Steinmetz, *Luther in Context*, 2nd ed. (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2002).
- David C. Steinmetz, *Luther and Staupitz: An Essay in the Intellectual Origins of the Protestant Reformation* (Durham: Duke University Press, 1980).
- David C. Steinmetz, *Misericordia Dei: The Theology of Johannes von Staupitz in its Late Medieval Setting*, (Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1968).
- Samuel Torvend, *Luther and the Hungry Poor: Gathered Fragments* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2008).
- David M. Whitford, *Luther: A Guide for the Perplexed*, series: Guides for the Perplexed (New York: T&T Clark, 2011) paperback, \$25.
- Derek Wilson, *Luther: Out of the Storm* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2010).

2. LUTHER: TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

Texts

The critical edition of the writings of Luther are found in the *D. Martin Luthers Werke: Kritische Gesamtausgabe*, ed. J.K.F. Knaake, et al. (Weimar, 1883)—usually referred to as the “Weimar edition” and abbreviated *WA*.

Translations

A superb English translation of Luther's writings is *Luther's Works*, 55 volumes, ed. Jaroslav Pelikan (St. Louis: Concordia / Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1955-1975)—usually referred to as “the American edition” and abbreviated *LW*. This translation includes valuable notes. See also:

Timothy Lull, editor, *Martin Luther's Basic Theological Writings*, 2nd ed. (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2005) (with CD-ROM). Luther was a skilled popularist and had a gift for satire and for the well-turned phrase. He is easy and enjoyable to read. This is the most complete anthology of Luther's works to date, and the translations are first-rate, drawn from the “American edition.” Included: the *95 Theses*, *The Babylonian Captivity of the Church*, *The Freedom of the Christian*, *Invocavit Sermons*, *Confession Concerning the Lord's Supper*.

- Robert Kolb and Timothy J. Wengert, ed., *The Book of Concord: The Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*, 2nd ed. (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2000).
- Martin Luther, *Three Treatises*, 2nd ed. (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1990). A helpful edition of the “Reformation Treatises” (*The Address to the Christian Nobility*, *The Babylonian Captivity of the Church*, and *The Freedom of the Christian*).
- E. Gordon Rupp, ed. *Luther and Erasmus on Free Will*, Library of Christian Classics (reprint: Nashville: Westminster John Knox, 1995).
- Eric Lund, *Documents from the History of Lutheranism, 1517-1750* (Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2002).

3. PHILIP MELANCHTHON: TEXTS & STUDIES

Texts

- Sachiko Kusukawa, ed., *Philip Melanchthon: Orations on Philosophy and Education*, series: Cambridge Texts in the History of Philosophy, trans. Christine Salazar (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999).

Studies

- Karin Maag, ed., *Melanchthon in Europe: His Work and Influence Beyond Wittenberg*, series: Texts and Studies in Reformation and Post-Reformation Thought (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 1999).
- Gregory Graybill, *Evangelical Free Will: Phillip Melanchthon's Doctrinal Journey on the Origins of Faith*, Oxford Theological Monographs (New York: Oxford University Press, 2010).
- H. Ashley Hall, *Phillip Melanchthon and the Cappadocians: A Reception of Greek Patristic Sources in the Sixteenth Century* (Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2013) hardcover, \$116. NEW.
- Clyde Leonard Manschreck, *Melanchthon, the Quiet Reformer* (Westport, CN: Greenwood Press, 1975).
- John Schofield, *Philip Melanchthon and the English Reformation* (Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2006).
- Timothy Wengert, *Human Freedom, Christian Righteousness: Philip Melanchthon's Exegetical Dispute with Erasmus of Rotterdam*, Oxford Studies in Historical Theology (New York: Oxford University Press, 1998).
- Timothy Wengert, *Law and Gospel: Philip Melanchthon's Debate with John Agricola of Eisleben over Poenitentia*, Texts and Studies in Reformation and Post-Reformation Thought 3 (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1997).
- Timothy Wengert, *Philip Melanchthon, Speaker of the Reformation*, Variorum Collected Studies 963 (Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2010).
- Timothy Wengert, *Defending Faith: Lutheran Responses to Andreas Osiander's Doctrine of Justification, 1551-1559* (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2012).