



Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms

By Donald K. McKim

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This unique volume briefly identifies nearly six thousand theological terms. Its concise definitions capture a broad range of theological disciplines: biblical studies; church history; ethics; feminist theology; liberation theology; ministry; philosophy; Protestant, Reformed, and Roman Catholic theologies; and more. No other single volume provides such easy access to so many theological definitions. Both the novice and the theologically experienced reader will find the *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms* to be of immense value.

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Editorial Review

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Nearly 6,000 terms from disciplines such as the Bible, church history, ethics, ministry, spirituality, theology, and worship are defined here by McKim, a professor at Memphis Theological Seminary. He describes his work as not deep but broad in its coverage. Definitions are usually just two or three sentences long. He provides etymologies for many words, usually from Hebrew, Greek, or Latin. Many entries make reference to the Bible, noting book, chapter, and verse. Pronunciation would have been helpful for some words (e.g., *exegetis*, *hermeneutics*). Although published by the Presbyterian Church, this dictionary can be used by members of other Protestant denominations and Roman Catholics. McKim notes when a word is used only in a specific tradition or if faiths differ in their use of a term. For example, in *sacrament*, he notes that the Roman Catholic Church recognizes seven sacraments and Protestants, two. Definitions are accessible to lay Christians.

There are many specialized dictionaries of theological terms, such as the *Dictionary of Feminist Theologies* [RBB Ag 96] and the *Westminster Dictionary of Christian Ethics* (1986), but this new work will be especially useful in academic and public libraries that need a general dictionary with broad coverage. *Sandy Whiteley*

Review

Westminster Dictionary Of Theological Terms is a comprehensive volume which includes nearly 6,000 theological terms. Its brief and concise definitions capture a broad range of theological and related disciplines: biblical studies, church history, ethics, feminist theology, liberation theology, ministry, philosophy, social sciences, spirituality, worship, Protestant, Reformed, and Roman Catholic theologies, and more. No other single volume provides such easy access to so many theological definitions. Both the novice student and the theologically literate reader will find the Westminster Dictionary Of Theological Terms to be of immense benefit in their studies, sermons, and writings. -- *Midwest Book Review*

About the Author

Donald K. McKim is Executive Editor for Westminster John Knox Press. McKim has served as Academic Dean and Professor of Theology at Memphis Theological Seminary and as Professor of Theology at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary in Iowa. He is the author or editor of over twenty-five books.

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