



---

*A Quarterly Journal for Church Leadership*  
Volume 8 • Number 3 • SUMMER 1999

---

## ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

*John Armstrong*

- Ames, Robert. *One in the Truth?* Eastbourne, Sussex (England): Kingsway, 1986. A plea for unity, without compromise, by a solid evangelical voice. Sadly, not in print.
- Avis, Paul D. *The Church in the Theology of the Reformers.* Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1981. A very important work which corrects many errors regarding the continental Reformers' actual views of the church and its catholicity.
- \*Basden, Paul, and David Dockery, eds. *The People of God: Essays on the Believers' Church.* Nashville: Broadman, 1991. Some very helpful and serious essays by Baptists who take seriously the contemporary challenge of the church's unity. Highly recommended.
- Bannerman, James. *The Church of Christ*, 2 vols. London: Banner of Truth, 1960. An older standard work but with some value to the subject of unity.
- Beasley-Murray, G. R. *Baptism in the New Testament.* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1962. This is far and away the most serious Baptist defense available. All who wrestle with church unity will wrestle with the subject of baptism. Read Beasley-Murray, whether or not you agree with him.
- \*Berkouwer, G. C. *The Church.* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1976. Berkouwer is an extremely important, modern systematician who has given us a lucid and helpful work.

- Bloesch, Donald G. *The Invaded Church*. Waco, Texas: Word, 1975. An out-of-print volume which locates the real division in the church today as between secular humanism and the transcendent truth claims of the gospel.
- Bloesch, Donald G. *Wellsprings of Renewal*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1974. A survey of how counter-cultural youth and others searched for community in the 1970s and how the renewal of the church was affected accordingly. Again, out-of-print.
- \*Braaten, Carl E., and Robert W. Jenson, eds. *The Catholicity of the Reformation*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996. An engaging and suggestive book of essays that argues "catholicity" was the true intent of the Protestant Reformers. These noble men did not set out to create a new type of Christianity but rather to renew the "one holy catholic and apostolic church." A must read for serious leaders.
- Bridge, Donald, and David Phipers. *The Water That Divides: A Survey of the Doctrine of Baptism*. Inverness, Scotland: Christian Focus Publishers, 1998. An extremely useful survey written by a paedobaptist and baptist, both of whom are serious about church unity. Should be read by all who wrestle with the issues of baptism and church unity.
- \*Bromiley, G. W. *The Unity and Disunity of the Church*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1958. Bromiley, one of the giants of historical theology in this century, provides a captivating little book of 104 pages which takes "disunity" as an evil to be corrected. Sadly, out-of-print.
- Bromiley, G. W. *Sacramental Teaching and Practice in the Reformation Churches*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1957. Another out-of-print title which is very important to the subject of church unity. Will correct, in 111 pages,

- much that is misunderstood and/or of no concern to many today.
- \*Carson, Donald A., ed. *The Church in the Bible and the World*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1987. A publication of essays by the World Evangelical Fellowship's theology commission. A serious work that is highly recommended.
- \*Clowney, Edmund P. *The Church*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1995. This is a first-rate evangelical treatment that should be used by pastors and serious lay leaders alike. Highly recommended and very important.
- Clowney, Edmund P. *The Doctrine of the Church*. Philadelphia: Presbyterian and Reformed, 1976. His older and shorter work on the subject. Use the newer work above.
- Davies, Horton. *Bread of Life and Cup of Joy: Newer Ecumenical Perspectives on the Eucharist*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993. Horton Davies, author of the five-volume *Worship and Theology in England*, is one of the century's best historians of worship and church unity.
- Eastwood, Cyril. *The Royal Priesthood of the Faithful*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1963. An investigation of an important theme, for church unity, from biblical times to the Reformation. Out-of-print and important for serious readers.
- Eastwood, Cyril. *The Priesthood of All Believers*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1962. Also out-of-print, but important. This volume deals with the subject from the Reformation until the present time. I paid good money for these two Eastwood volumes and highly regard them.
- Ferguson, Everett. *Backgrounds of Early Christianity* (Second Edition). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993. Widely used as a text, this important book, first published in 1987,

provides an analytical and systematic introduction to the Roman, Greek and Jewish backgrounds of the church.

- Ferguson, Everett. *Early Christians Speak*. Austin, Texas: Sweet Publishing Company, 1971. A scholarly, well-researched but very readable study of the development of early Christian faith and practice as evidenced in the writings of both Christians and non-Christians in the first three centuries. Valuable.
- Ferguson, Everett. *The Church of Christ: A Biblical Ecclesiology for Today*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996. Develops the affirmation that Christ is not complete without His people, grounding ecclesiology properly in Christology and soteriology.
- \*Frame, John. *Evangelical Reunion: Denominations and the Body of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1991. An esteemed professor of apologetics and systematic theology shows that Christ did not build denominations but a church. This unity is spiritual, but it is also organizational. A controversial book, for some in more conservative circles, but immensely important to stir the church to serious thought about John 17.
- Giles, Kevin. *What On Earth Is the Church?* Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1995. Giles, an Anglican minister, is also a consultant to World Vision, Australia. Here he brings together widely respected current thoughts on the subject.
- Griffiths, Michael. *God's Forgetful Pilgrims: Recalling the Church to Its Reason for Being*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1975. I wore out this little book using it over and over. Another out-of-print volume worth finding.
- Jackman, David. *Understanding the Church: Getting Your Congregation to Work*. Inverness, Scotland: Christian Focus Publications, 1996. The Director of Proclama-

- tion Trust (London), a ministry committed to recovery true preaching, Jackman provides a careful and useful practical work on ministry.
- Jordan, James, ed. *The Reconstruction of the Church*. Tyler, Texas: Geneva Ministries, 1985. A work that strongly condemns the "baptistification" of the American church, which will trouble modern Baptists. They should weigh the arguments and take to heart much of what is sound.
- Jordan, James. *The Sociology of the Church*. Tyler, Texas: Geneva Ministries, 1986. Do not let the title put you off. There is helpful material here for the serious reader.
- Kuiper, R. B. *The Glorious Body of Christ*. London: Banner of Truth, 1967. A conservative Reformed work that is not as strong on unity as others.
- \*Leith, John H. *The Church: A Believing Fellowship*. Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1965. Leith is one of the most stimulating Reformed writers of our time. Get his material on the church and read it carefully.
- Leithart, Peter J. *The Kingdom and the Power*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1993. Believers need new strategies in the face of "culture wars," so argues the author. What is the kingdom of God? What is its relationship to the church, especially in the face of modern challenges?
- Machen, J. Gresham. *Christianity and Liberalism*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1923. The "classic" argument that liberalism is really no longer biblical Christianity. Powerful argumentation but flawed in some ways.
- M'Crie, Thomas. *The Unity of the Church*. Dallas: Presbyterian Heritage Publications, 1989; originally Edinburgh: W. Blackwood, 1821. A standard older Presbyterian classic that sees unity almost exclusively in terms of

complete doctrinal and governmental agreement.

\*Miller, C. John. *Outgrowing the Ingrown Church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1986. A very useful little book that demonstrates the late author's passion for keeping doctrine and life carefully wedded in the actual life of the congregation. Recommended.

Minnear, Paul S. *Images of the Church in the New Testament*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1965. A valuable older work that I studied in college with much profit.

Murray, John. "The Biblical Basis for Ecclesiastical Union." In *Collected Writings of John Murray*, Volume One. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1976, pp. 269-72. A useful short article.

Murray, John. "Corporate Responsibility." In *Collected Writings of John Murray*, Volume One. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1976, pp. 273-79. Again, a useful short article.

Murray, John. "Government in the Church of Christ." In *Collected Writings of John Murray*, Volume One. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1976, pp. 260-68. A helpful presbyterial argument.

Pickering, Ernest. *Biblical Separation: The Struggle for a Pure Church*. Schaumburg, Illinois: Regular Baptist Press, 1979. A bit of a modern "classic" among fundamentalists who are committed to separationism. This is perhaps the best modern attempt to defend "separation," both biblically and historically. It fails, in my view, on a number of serious points.

Radner, Ephraim, and R. R. Reno, eds. *Inhabiting Unity: Theological Perspectives on the Proposed Lutheran-Episcopal Concordat*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995. A flawed and biblically weak defense of modern ecumenism.

Radner, Ephraim. *The End of the Church: A Pneumatology of Christian Division in the West*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans,

1998. The author, an Anglican, organizes his arguments around five areas of "difference" between Protestants and Roman Catholics. This is a serious academic survey of the socio-historical meaning of division in the church from the Reformation to the present.

Reed, Kevin. *Biblical Church Government*. Dallas: Presbyterian Heritage, 1983. Another rigid Presbyterian defense that will not serve the wider goal of serious discussion regarding visible unity in the church.

Richardson, Cyril Charles. *The Church Through the Centuries*. New York: Scribners, 1938. A classic work that provides an excellent overview.

Root, Michael, and Risto Saarinen, eds. *Baptism and Unity of the Church*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998. A symposium that seeks to wrestle seriously with the barriers caused by differing views of baptism in the church.

Smith, David L. *All God's People: A Theology of the Church*. Wheaton, Illinois: BridgePoint Books, 1996. A historical, biblical and systematic overview of the subject of the church that has much to commend itself for the study of church unity.

White, R. E. O. *The Biblical Doctrine of Initiation: A Theology of Baptism and Evangelism*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1960. A well-written Baptist contribution that should be read by scholars and careful students.

Wright, D., and Sinclair Ferguson, eds. *New Dictionary of Theology*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1988. The appropriate entries on the church are both useful and thoughtful.

\*Highly recommended