

Binding Testimony- Holy Scripture and Tradition: on behalf of the Ecumenical Study Group of Protestant and Catholic Theologians in Germany

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Binding Testimony Holy Scripture and Tradition

edited by

Theodor Schneider and Wolfhart Pannenberg

on behalf of the Ecumenical Study Group of Protestant and Catholic Theologians in Germany

Translated by Martha M. Matesich

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About the book

Recently, voices were raised in the worldwide Christian ecumenical movement that it was high time the Protestant-Catholic fundamental topic “Holy Scripture and Tradition” was approached and

ecumenically reviewed. In Germany, this has already been achieved by the “Ökumenischer Arbeitskreis evangelischer und katholischer Theologen” (Ecumenical Study Group of Protestant and Catholic Theologians ; founded in 1946). The results of this study group were published in the 1990s under the title “Verbindliches Zeugnis” by Theodor Schneider and Wolfhart Pannenberg. This edition provides the essence of the three volume work for the first time in English. The treatment of this age-long dispute in Protestant and Catholic theology, but first of all its fundamental settlement can thus be recognised and discussed in the international ecumenical dialogue.

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Brief mention should be made of a few points to assist the English readers of the texts published here.

The German word "evangelisch" has, for the most part, been translated as "Protestant". For example, the source of the present volume is the German-speaking "Ecumenical Study Group of Protestant and Catholic Theologians." On the Protestant side this group includes theologians of both the Lutheran and Reformed traditions, but not theologians from other Protestant denominations. In the texts "Protestant" also refers to the German-speaking Reformation tradition of the 16th century and is used as a general description for the positions of the Reformers over against the Roman Catholic tradition. In this sense the text often speaks of "two sides" or "two churches." The term "Protestant" is thus restricted in its use here, and this should be borne in mind.

If the information was available, the bibliographical data for the English translations of German books appear in the footnotes. If it was not possible to obtain the English edition and to provide the page numbers in the English book, the footnote gives the information for the German edition.

The authors of the texts quote different German translations of the Bible. Unless otherwise noted this English edition uses the *New Revised Standard Version* throughout, sometimes abbreviated NRSV.

For Church documents the first reference is to Denzinger-Hünemann, abbreviated DH, which was used in the German texts: H. Denzinger, *Kompendium der Glaubensbekenntnisse und kirchlichen Lehrentscheidungen*, improved, enl., transl. into German and ed. by P. Hünemann in collaboration with H. Hoping, 39th edition, 2001, Freiburg in Breisgau, Basel, Rome, Vienna □ 9 | 101991. The second reference, placed in brackets, is to Neuner-Dupuis, abbreviated ND, if the documents or at least parts of them can also be found there: J. Neuner and J. Dupuis, *The Christian Faith in the Doctrinal Documents of the Catholic Church*, ed. by J. Dupuis, 7th rev. and enl. edition, New York 2001.

The texts of the Second Vatican Council were taken from Walter M. Abbott, gen. ed. and Joseph Gallagher, transl. ed., *The Documents of Vatican II*, New York 1966; the texts of classical Protestant documents were quoted from *The Book of Concord: The Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*, transl. and ed. by Theodore G. Tappert, Philadelphia 1959. *

Recently, voices were raised in the worldwide Christian ecumenical movement that it was high time the Protestant-Catholic fundamental topic "Holy Scripture and Tradition" was approached and ecumenically reviewed. In Germany, this has already been achieved by the "Ökumenischer Arbeitskreis evangelischer und katholischer Theologen" (Ecumenical Study Group of Protestant and Catholic Theologians; founded in 1946). The results of this study group were published in the 1990s under the title "Verbindliches Zeugnis" by Theodor Schneider and Wolfhart Pannenberg. This edition provides the essence of the three volume work for the first time in English. The treatment of this age-long dispute in Protestant and Catholic theology, but first of all its fundamental settlement can thus be recognised and discussed in the international ecumenical dialogue.

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Reflections - Hence â€œaccess to Sacred Scripture ought to be open wide to the
Christian faithful. of the Bible as a Protestant book, and to regard its study as a
Protestant activity... eds., Binding Testimony: Holy Scripture and Tradition (on behalf
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Ecumenical Research Page 4 Â« Â» One-Day - The present study arises is the title of
an important book which the well-known French-American. Catholic theologian
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Faith vi. It is the book of books “ the testimony of the living God in all his wonder and majesty.. Furthermore, in ecumenical dialogue, Catholic theologians, standing fast by. found the Mass, the sacraments, and the necessity of Sacred Tradition there. Schirrmacher:Debating Catholic leaders with a Bible in your - confessionalist model was more rooted in Scripture and tradition but was addressing the book: a missionary ecclesiology is a central feature in this whole study of mission in... The German theologian and Lutheran church leader Hans Lilje,... Newbiggin challenges the Protestant-Anglican/Catholic deadlock with

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