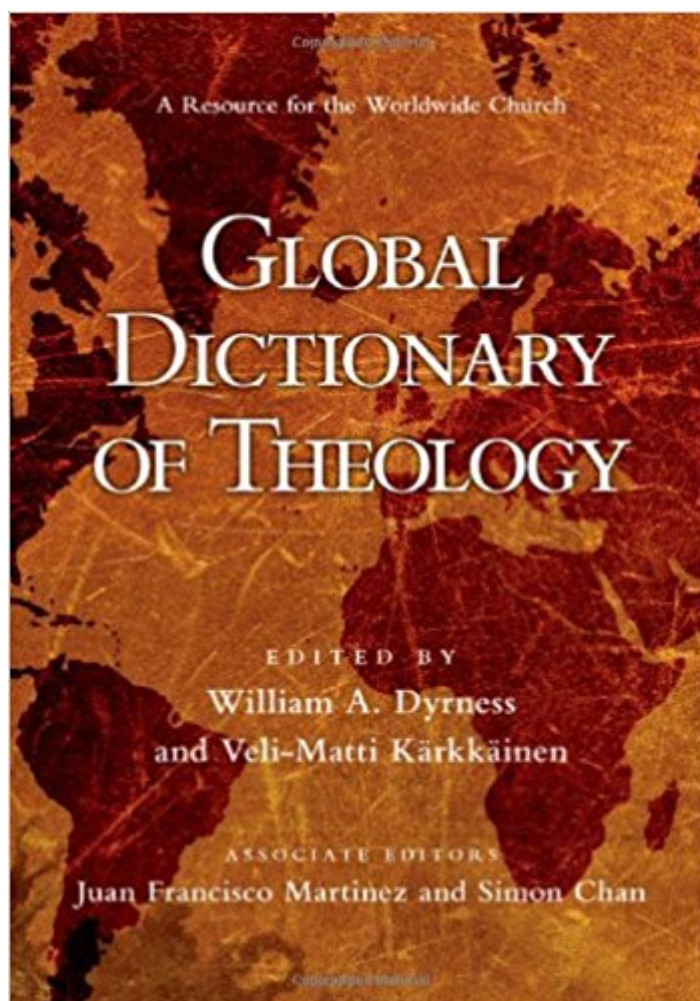


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# Global Dictionary Of Theology: A Resource For The Worldwide Church



## Synopsis

Theological dictionaries are foundational to any theological library. But until now there has been no Global Dictionary of Theology, a theological dictionary that presumes the contribution of the Western tradition but moves beyond it to embrace and explore a full range of global expressions of theology. The Global Dictionary of Theology is inspired by the shift of the center of Christianity from the West to the Global South. But it also reflects the increase in two-way traffic between these two sectors as well as the global awareness that has permeated popular culture to an unprecedented degree. The editorial perspective of the Global Dictionary of Theology is an ecumenical evangelicalism that is receptive to discovering new facets of truth through listening and conversation on a global scale. Thus a distinctive feature of the Global Dictionary of Theology is its conversational approach. Contributors have been called on to write in the spirit of engaging in a larger theological conversation in which alternative views are expected and invited. William A. Dyrness, Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, Juan F. Martinez and Simon Chan edit approximately 250 articles written by over 100 contributors representing the global spectrum of theological perspectives. Pastors, theological teachers, theological students and lay Christian leaders will all find the Global Dictionary of Theology to be a resource that unfolds new dimensions and reveals new panoramas of theological perspective and inquiry. Here is a new launching point for doing theology in today's global context.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A unique and fresh contribution to the field of Christian studies. . . Provides a breadth of coverage not found elsewhere." (John Jaeger, *Journal of Religious and Theological Information*, November 2010)"This work brings theology into the twenty-first century, challenging and complementing afresh, while also affirming the historic beliefs of the Christian church. . . invaluable for those seeking to be informed as they enter distant cultures to teach, preach, and learn from fellow believers. Among the theological dictionaries this writer has reviewed, several claiming to be international, this is superior to all." (J. Scott Horrell, *Bibliotheca Sacra*, October-December 2010)"A major resource and a creative one at that which should find a place in any theological library." (Myk Habets, *Pacific Journal of Baptist Research*, October 2009)"This dictionary highlights the ways in which religion and theology are matters of international dialogue, how 'Christianity is going south,' how the traditional Western perspective restricts our view and knowledge of things, and how new challenges and perspectives arise in the world today. The dictionary does not merely claim to be global - it proves that it really is." (Stuart Hannabuss, *Reference Reviews*, 2009)"A welcome first step in recognizing and engaging with these important non-Western perspectives. Recommended." (A. Limpitlaw, *Choice*, June 2009)"The impressive book is a testimony to the vitality of evangelical theology and its claim for leadership within the ecumenical spectrum of theology." (*International Review of Biblical Studies*, 2008-2009)"Accessible and well-organised reference work will be a welcome addition to anyone's library. Significantly, entries by the editors William Dyrness and Veli-Matti Karkkainen are especially judicious, and it is their voice that sets the overall tone. This is a model dictionary in terms of cross-referencing, indexing and the provision of generally balanced bibliographies." (Dr. Saxbee, Bishop of Lincoln, *Church Times*, February 27, 2009)"It is a book that will serve well in research libraries, seminaries, and the libraries of ministers who find themselves traveling much. It will also be useful to the one who desires to learn of the past and present differences in Christendom." (*Pastoral Musings* ([pastoralmusings.wordpress.com](http://pastoralmusings.wordpress.com)), December 15, 2008)"At long last we have at our disposal a dictionary on global theology that is truly global both in method and content. With contributions by 190 theologians around the world on subjects that are of global interest, the dictionary is an eloquent testimony to the fact that theology is no longer a Euro-American affair but has become a vibrant enterprise of world Christianity. Here you can hear, perhaps for the first time, all the theological voices that have resounded throughout the ecumene. With this dictionary, a new era in theological conversation has begun. The editors and InterVarsity Press are to be heartily congratulated for producing this splendid theological resource. Comprehensive in scope and lucidly written, with helpful bibliographies, the dictionary will be a must-have for every theologian and library for decades to come." (Peter C. Phan, *The Ignacio*

Ellacuria Professor of Catholic Social Thought, Georgetown University)"This dictionary represents an excellent survey of the current state of Christian theology, and moreover supplies a sound basis for thinking about coming changes in the shape of the Christian world." (Philip Jenkins, Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of Humanities, Pennsylvania State University)"In a setting characterized by our increasing awareness of cultural diversity, few issues are more pressing for the practice of contemporary theology than embracing the contextual nature of all theologies, including our own. This is a landmark volume that serves to simultaneously decenter the assumptions and conclusions of modern, Eurocentric theological traditions from their place of cultural hegemony while inviting them into a new and vibrant conversation as a participant with other voices at the ethnic and global roundtable. This emerging dialogue has the potential to liberate the standard accounts of Western theology from their cultural captivity and to open up new and hopeful vistas of theological inquiry in the service of the local and global church. All those interested in the future of theology and the church will find this work to be an indispensable resource." (John R. Franke, Lester and Kay Clemens Professor of Missional Theology, Biblical Seminary)"This landmark volume charts the rich interaction taking place between the local and the global in twenty-first-century theology. It is fresh, creative and fascinating. Unlike most dictionaries, it should be read cover to cover, and more than once." (Dana L. Robert, Truman Collins Professor of World Christianity and History of Christian Mission, Boston University School of Theology)"The editors of the Global Dictionary of Theology have provided readers with a bridge to the theological perspectives that Christianity is offering early in the twenty-first century. The bridge to the past has not been destroyed but has yielded to the vibrancy and theological insight of the Global South. Christians, regardless of their context, now have a theological dictionary that acknowledges new and exciting theological pathways." (Byron D. Klaus, president and professor of intercultural leadership, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary)

William A. Dyrness (DTheol, University of Strasbourg; Doctorandus, Free University) is professor of theology and culture at Fuller Theological Seminary. He is the author of many books, including *Modern Art and the Life of a Culture* (with Jonathan Anderson), *Senses of the Soul: Art and the Visual in Christian Worship*, *Reformed Theology and Visual Culture*, *Changing the Mind of Missions* (with James Engel), *Theology Without Borders* (with Oscar Garcia-Johnson), and was a general editor of the *Global Dictionary of Theology*. Veli-Matti K    inen is professor of systematic theology at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California. He has published numerous articles in international journals of theology. His books include *Pneumatology* (Baker), *Christology* (Baker), *Toward a Pneumatological Theology* (UPA), *An Introduction to Ecclesiology* (InterVarsity

Press), Trinity and Religious Pluralism (Ashgate), The Doctrine of God (Baker) and One with God (Liturgical Press). Juan Francisco Martínez (M.Div., Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary; Th.M. and Ph.D., Fuller Theological Seminary) is associate dean of the Center for the Study of Hispanic Church and Community and associate professor of Hispanic studies and pastoral leadership at Fuller Theological Seminary. His most recent book is *Walk with the People: Latino Ministry in the United States*. Simon Chan (Ph.D., Cambridge) is Earnest Lau Professor of Systematic Theology at Trinity Theological College in Singapore. He is the author of *Man and Sin*, *Pentecostal Theology* and *the Christian Spiritual Tradition*, *Spiritual Theology: A Systematic Study of the Christian Life* and *Liturgical Theology: The Church as Worshiping Community*. He is also the associate editor of the *Global Dictionary of Theology* and the *Dictionary of Mission Theology*.

I had to purchase this book for a class in seminary, but it is one I refer back to again and again. It provides a concise, balanced and biblically-informed perspective on most major theological topics. Two things stand out for me: 1) It brings a much-needed global perspective to each article, and 2) there is an evenness to the quality and readability of each article, something I find lacking in other similar works. Highly recommended.

This is a resource worth having when considering ecclesiology and other doctrines on a global scale.

I absolutely love this work. I love how it takes into consideration the majority world perspective on each doctrine, instead of only the traditional Western European perspective. Also, the conservative/moderate perspective is refreshing coming from a theological book of such depth. I would highly recommend this book.

Here is a contribution to the church worldwide--theology as it proceeds from theologians from all over the world systematizing the Bible's teaching incarnationally in each culture. It helps North Americans to see some subjects that are missing in our traditional Western theology texts such as African theology, Australian theology, Japanese theology. It also help us to rethink some of our approaches to varied theological categories. There is a wealth of information here for anyone ministering cross-culturally and theologizing cross-culturally. Obviously, the articles are influenced by each author and his cultural bias. Nevertheless, it is good to be forced to see things from another cultural point of view. I was surprised to not find an article on "church planting" and although the

article on "Ecclesiology" was helpful it would been even more valuable to have mentioned the question of the starting of new churches under this category. Here is a welcome volume to doing theology cross-culturally and well worth its price.

Had to buy this book for a class. Very informative, some articles were tough to read, but overall good.

Great resource for seminarians, preachers, ministers, learners, pastors, and really anyone. Provides information on practically every theological subject that is out there.

Came as described. Satisfied!

Good book

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