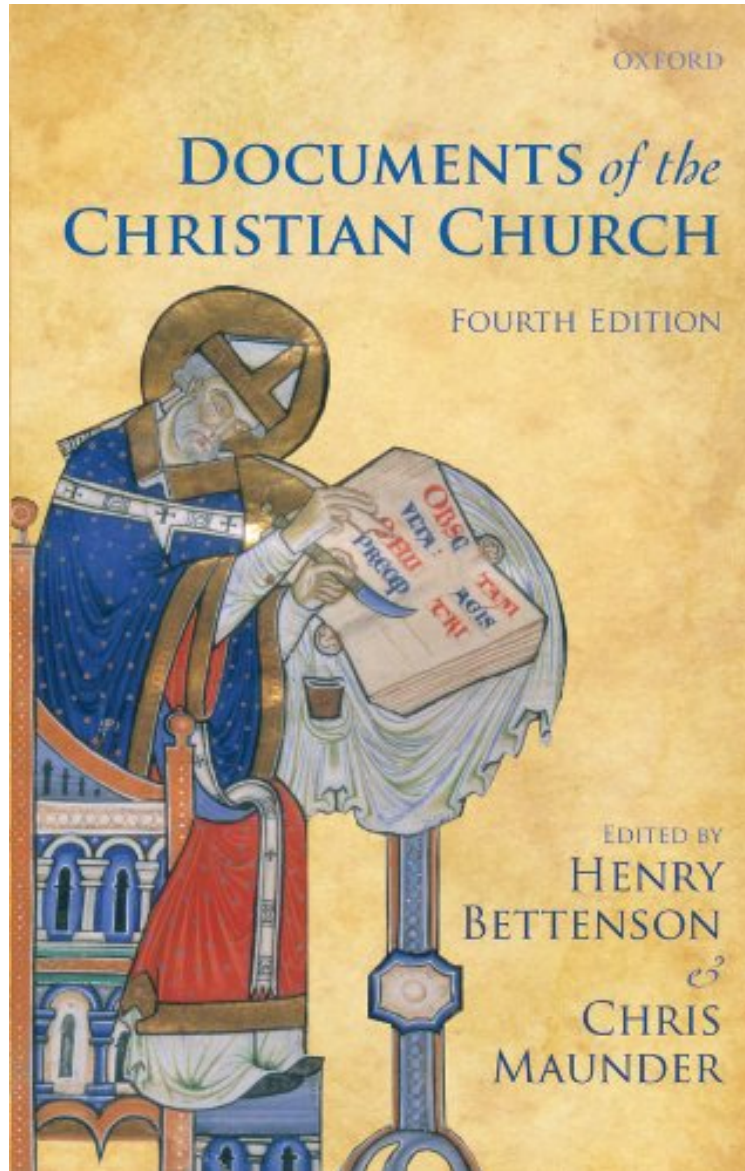


(Ebook free) Documents of the Christian Church

## Documents of the Christian Church

Von OUP Oxford

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**Von OUP Oxford : Documents of the Christian Church** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Documents of the Christian Church:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Original wordsVon FrKurt MessickThis is one of those standard books that ministers, historians, theologians, seminarians and graduate students in any number of disciplines related to the above should have as part of their libraries. The book's

task is an ambitious one - to bring together in one volume the key documents of the church through two thousand years of history. This book is not a simple collection of documents, but rather arranges them thematically and chronologically. Bettenson in the early editions put together the documents with an overarching essay in each section which helps set the context, the controversies, the personalities and the impact of the primary documents. Bettenson was prepared early for the charge of selectivity, as every enterprise of this sort must needs be selective. 'It is unlikely that any two persons could be found who should agree on what should be included in such a book and what omitted; nor would agreement more easily be found on the arrangement to be imposed on the material once selected.' The first section deals with the early church up to the Fourth Ecumenical Council, setting definitions and key terms from which much of later Christianity either derives or rebels. During this period, there were also persecutions of the church and differing levels of tolerance and acceptance of Christians in parts of the empire. The one downside of this section is that it doesn't include pieces from traditions that vary from what became normative Christianity. It does include in some good detail the workings of church and state from the different philosophical and practical writings of the times. The second major section is on Creeds; chronologically, this begins back in the period covered by the first section, but thematically presents itself well as a whole unit. The third section includes a few early references to gospel texts. Beginning with the fourth section and proceeding through to the tenth section, documents are arranged dealing with doctrinal issues arising from the early documents - Christology, Ecclesiology, the Nature of Humanity, the Nature of Sin - all of the major themes found in systematic theology are here present. Bettenson ends this part with a collection of Christian inscriptions. The second major part traces Christian documentary history from the Chalcedon council to the present in essentially chronological order - the East/West split, the Holy Roman Empire, Monastic developments, the Conciliar Movement, Scholasticism, and the many elements of the Reformation (most of which get their own section, but there is a decided advantage to the English history). Some documents are decidedly obscure (the Bonn Agreement between Old Catholic and Anglican churches in 1931, and the Jansenist 'Five Propositions' being a few examples), whereas others are well-known (Luther's Ninety-Five Theses). The final sections of the later editions have expanded to include documentary examples of peace and justice forms of theological development - Feminist theology and women's ordination, Black theology, Liberation theology. It also includes various pieces on interfaith dialogue and relationship efforts of the past generation. These later sections are primarily the work of Chris Maunder, co-editor of the publication in its later editions. This is an important collection to have handy. Quite often, histories, commentaries and theological works will reference these documents, but not print them in their entirety (or sometimes not even in part) on the assumption that such documents can be readily found elsewhere - an assumption that is true enough, but it is helpful for the student to actually have the book! That this book has been through many editions speaks to its ongoing value and importance.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Two Small Questions About a Big Book Von Georgianna Henry In the previous editions Bettenson included (on page 322f in the second edition) the Responsio of the Church of England to Pope Leo XII's Apostolicae Curae of 1896. The third edition tossed out the Responsio and replaced it with the original epistle. Why? Why was there not room for both? Also, a great deal of attention is given to 20th Century documents, but nowhere do I see "The Fundamentals," which is, after all, the basis of Fundamentalism. Why not? I do know that The Fundamentals have been published, and I know that Fundamentalism is an important trend in modern religion, so I really did expect to see this list in the Third Edition.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A necessary item for your theological library Von Andrea Hakari This is a must-have for anyone interested in church history, doctrine, or theology. Important documents from the early days of Christianity up until modern times are included, and new ones are added when new editions are printed. Excellent!

**Kurzbeschreibung** This selection of writings from the most important moments in the history of Christianity has become established as a classic reference work, providing insights into 2000 years of Christian theological and political debate. While retaining the original material selected by Henry Bettenson, Chris Maunder has added a substantial section of more recent writings. These illustrate the Second Vatican Council; the theologies of liberation; Church and State from 'Thatcher's Britain' to Communist Eastern Europe; Black, feminist, and ecological theology; ecumenism; and inter-faith dialogue. The emphasis on moral debate in the contemporary churches is reflected in selections discussing questions about homosexuality, divorce, AIDS, and in-vitro fertilization, amongst other issues. This further expanded fourth edition brings the anthology up-to-date with a new section looking at issues facing the twenty-first century churches. This includes extracts exploring the churches' responses to questions of social justice, international politics, trade and debt, environmental change, and technological development. New material also covers the global growth of Christianity, the progress of Christian unity, and mission in multi-faith and postmodern societies.

**Pressestimmen** This is a new and improved version of a popular and accessible old classic ... which brings together some of the most significant documents and texts in church history. ... the updated Bettenson and Maunder remains a very useful repository of a broad range of standard texts from across the centuries. \* Lee Gatiss, Churchman

\* Great overview of both history of Christianity and contemporary issues. \* Annika Hvithamar, University of Copenhagen \* Some documents have over generations been recognised as key to understanding Christian history; those will be found in this collection, as they have been since long ago Henry Bettenson first conceived of the project. Now they are helpfully enriched with sources which might have astonished Bettenson, but which testify to the extraordinary variety of the communities which call themselves Christian. \* Diarmaid MacCulloch

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