

## ENDORSEMENTS



### **Questions of Context**

*Reading a Century of German Mission Theology*

Available July 21, 2020 | \$40, 248 pages, paperback | 978-0-8308-5108-9

Wrestling with questions of context is essential for how we understand mission, theology, and the embodiment of the Christian faith. Showcasing many German missiological works available in English for the first time, this longitudinal study tackles the history and dynamics of contextualization and sheds new light on the state of missiology today.

## Honoring Difference Within the Christian Community

"Flett and Wrogemann offer a guided tour through insightful analysis and primary documents (translated to English) that demonstrate and analyze the changing thought patterns and approaches taken by German missiology during a century that ranged from the triumphal World Missionary Conference (1910) through the horrors of two world wars (including the rise of the Third Reich) and the demise of colonialism and colonialist missiological thought and practice. The century concluded with the initial development of intercultural theology as the best approach to engage the increasingly polycentric and pluriform nature of church and mission. In its contemporary manifestation, intercultural theology is posited as the best path forward for both the theory and praxis of mission today. In sum, *Questions of Context* offers an accessible, concise, and enlightening tour of mission thinking and practice through the eyes of German missiology over the course of the twentieth century."

—**A. Scott Moreau**, professor of intercultural studies and dean, Wheaton College Graduate School

"This interrogation of 'culture' in German missiology is long overdue in the English-speaking world, which has appropriated the concept of peoples being wedded to cultures without regard for its complicity with Nazism. Constructively, this careful historical and documentary approach explains the important development in continental Europe of missiology as intercultural theology. A must-read for the sake of world Christianity."

—**Kirsteen Kim**, professor of theology and world Christianity, associate dean for the Center for Missiological Research at Fuller Theological Seminary

"Flett and Wrogemann provide for the first time to English readers not only access to landmark essays but also an insightful analysis of developments in German missiology from the twentieth century to the present. These discussions have followed a somewhat different path than in Anglo-American missiology. Thus, even to those who disagree with the authors' conclusions, this volume opens up new horizons for framing the issues."

—**Craig Ott**, professor of mission and intercultural studies, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

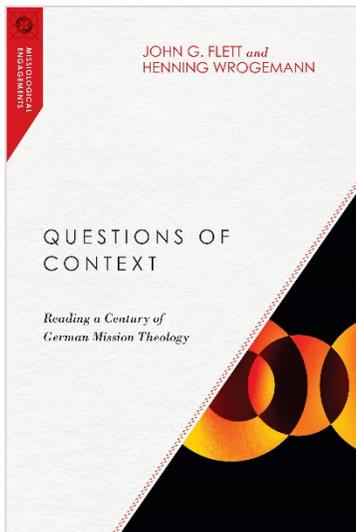
"All through the twentieth century, German missiologists made important contributions to missiological reflections on culture and contextualization. Studying these contributions is crucial for anyone who seeks to understand contemporary missiological debates. In this very accessible yet thorough volume, Flett and Wrogemann present the foundational texts of German missiology, demonstrating beyond doubt that these texts cannot be ignored. Its structure renders it very suitable



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for use in academic teaching, while professional missiologists and students of world Christianity will benefit from the lucid introductions and analytical sections. Warmly recommended!"

—**Stefan Paas**, J. H. Bavinck Professor of Missiology and Intercultural Theology at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands, professor of missiology at Theologische Universiteit Kampen, the Netherlands

"With this work Flett and Wrogemann have built a solid bridge between English-language and German-language missiology. They right away make mission theologians, who thought and wrote missiology in German, walk this bridge; they send them off in pairs or small groups; they create vivid discussions on mission. On the other side of the bridge they hand them over to the reader, each time with a brief yet sharp analysis, and then off they are, these men and two women on their way to further engage with the reader. This book challenges the reader to rethink histories and mission histories of the last century—with its two world wars and intensified intercultural encounters—through mission theology. This book is an invitation to design courses on missiology written in other languages than English! It is a book of excellent missiological engagement and exchange."

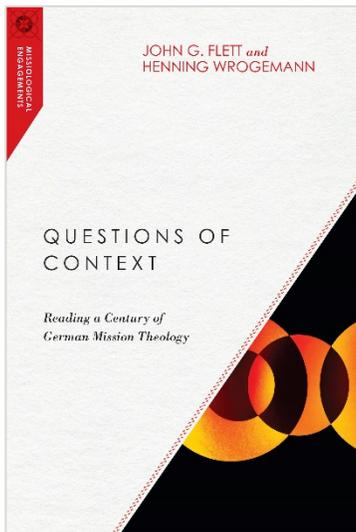
—**Dorottya Nagy**, professor of missiology, Protestantse Theologische Universiteit, Amsterdam

"The discipline of missiology has been one of the major drivers of the growing awareness of the need for intercultural theological exchange. At the same time, missiology has in other respects become more monochrome because of the dominance of the English language. Flett and Wrogemann have done us a great favor by making a selection of insightful German missiological contributions available in English and placing them in context with their careful introductions and conclusions. In the mirror of this missiological tradition we discover that understandings of mission and contextualization are themselves also shaped by their particular contexts. Their contextual limitations or even distortions remain hidden unless we engage in intercultural conversations about contextualization itself."

—**Benno van den Toren**, professor of intercultural theology at the Protestant Theological University, Groningen, the Netherlands



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## DETAILS



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## Missiological Engagements

Missiological Engagements: Church, Theology and Culture in Global Contexts charts interdisciplinary and innovative trajectories in the history, theology and practice of Christian mission at the beginning of the third millennium.

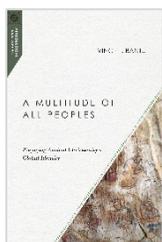
Books in the series, both monographs and edited collections, will feature contributions by leading thinkers representing evangelical, Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Orthodox traditions, who work within or across the range of biblical, historical, theological, and social scientific disciplines. Authors and editors will include the full spectrum of younger and emerging researchers to established and renowned scholars from the Euro-American West and the majority world, whose missiological scholarship will bridge church, academy, and society.

Among its guiding questions are the following: What are the major opportunities and challenges for Christian mission in the twenty-first century? How does the missionary impulse of the gospel reframe theology and hermeneutics within a global and intercultural context? What kind of missiological thinking ought to be retrieved and reappropriated for a dynamic global Christianity? What innovations in the theology and practice of mission are needed for a renewed and revitalized Christian witness in a postmodern, postcolonial, postsecular, and post-Christian world?

Missiological Engagements reflects cutting-edge trends, research and innovations in the field that will be of relevance to theorists and practitioners in churches, academic domains, mission organizations, and NGOs, among other arenas.

Are you a scholar working in the field of missiology and mission theology who anticipates charting new trajectories and setting forth constructive contributions to the study and practice of Christian mission? Visit [ivpress.com/mes-submissions](http://ivpress.com/mes-submissions) to submit a proposal to the series editors.

In addition to this new release, *Questions of Context*, recent Missiological Engagement titles include:



**A Multitude of All Peoples: Engaging Ancient Christianity's Global Identity** by Vince L. Bantu  
March 10, 2020, 256 pages, 978-0-8308-5107-2

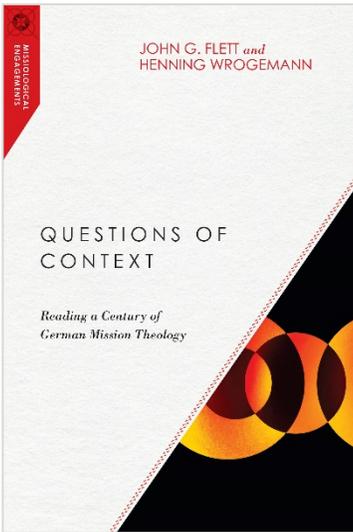
Christianity is not becoming a global religion—it has always been one. Vince Bantu surveys the geographic range of the early church's history, investigating the historical roots of the Western cultural captivity of the church and the concurrent development of diverse expressions of Christianity across Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.



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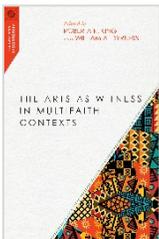
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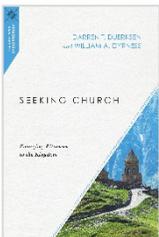
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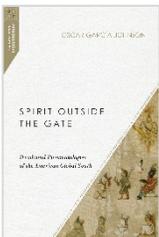
**The Arts as Witness in Multifaith Contexts** edited by Roberta R. King and William A. Dyrness  
November 5, 2019, 256 pages, 978-0-8308-5106-5

In search of holistic Christian witness, we must cultivate new approaches for integrating the arts into mission praxis. Written by missiologists, art critics, ethnodoxologists, and theologians from around the world, these essays present historical and contemporary case studies while calling Christians to understand the power of art for expressing cultural and religious identity, opening spaces for transformative encounters, and resisting injustice.



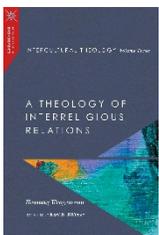
**Seeking Church: Emerging Witnesses to the Kingdom** by Darren T. Duerksen and William A. Dyrness  
October 1, 2019, 224 pages, 978-0-8308-5105-8

Stanley Hauerwas is often associated with the postliberal theological movement, yet he also claims to stand within Karl Barth's theological tradition. Which is true? Theologian David Hunsicker offers a reevaluation of Hauerwas's theology, arguing that he is both a postliberal and a Barthian theologian, helping us understand both the formation and the ongoing significance of one of America's great theologians.



**Spirit Outside the Gate: Decolonial Pneumatologies of the American Global South** by Oscar García-Johnson  
July 23, 2019, 328 pages, 978-0-8308-5240-6

Oscar García-Johnson explores a new grammar for the study of theology and mission in global Christianity, especially in Latin America. Moving to recover important elements in ancestral traditions of the Americas, he discerns pneumatological continuity between the pre-Columbian and post-Columbian communities. With an interdisciplinary, narrative approach, this work offers a constructive theology of mission for the church in global contexts.



**Intercultural Theology, Volume Three: A Theology of Interreligious Relations** by Henning Wrogemann  
February 19, 2019, 528 pages, 978-0-8308-5099-0

Christianity is not only a global but also an intercultural phenomenon. In this third volume of his three-volume Intercultural Theology, Henning Wrogemann proposes that we need to go beyond currently trending theologies of mission to formulate both a theory of interreligious relations and a related but methodologically independent theology of interreligious relations.



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