



The People's Book: The Reformation and the Bible
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"The Wheaton Theology Conference commemorates the Reformation's 500th anniversary with these collected essays, which explore 'the centrality of the Bible to the emergence and diffusion of the Reformation' . . . The essays brim with intriguing insights. . . . Students of the Reformation will welcome this scholarly, diverse collection."

— *Publishers Weekly*, March 6, 2017

From the *Ninety-Five Theses* to the People's Book

Five hundred years ago, Martin Luther's *Ninety-Five Theses* caught Europe by storm and initiated the Reformation, which fundamentally transformed both the church and society. And as a part of a twenty-five year partnership, InterVarsity Press and the Wheaton Theology Conference are thrilled with the timely release of *The People's Book: The Reformation and the Bible*.

This edited volume focuses on the events surrounding the beginning of the Reformation five hundred years ago — the proliferation of Martin Luther's *Ninety-Five Theses*, the publication of his German Bible, and the complex role this "people's book" had in the Reformation as a central element of both unity and division within Christianity. The essays within are taken from talks given at the 2016 Wheaton Theology Conference of the same name.

"The longstanding partnership of IVP and Wheaton College has consistently produced memorable theology conferences," said David Lauber, co-editor of *The People's Book* and associate professor of theology at Wheaton College. "*The People's Book: The Reformation and the Bible* will benefit the church and the academy."

Plenary papers included in the volume bring attention to the multiplicity of Reformation traditions — Lutheran, Reformed, Anglican, radical, and Catholic — and their engagement with the Bible. Conference keynote sessions, included as chapters, by the likes of Michael Horton, Bruce Gordon, Mark Labberton, Carl Trueman, and others grapple with the unifying and divisive dialogue that the people's book generated during the Reformation as an avenue for considering the unity and division that the body of Christ faces today.

"This valuable collection of essays from an excellent group of scholars does a superb job of covering topics ranging from Latin Bibles to vernacular culture, perspicuity, and reading the Reformers after Newman," said Jon Balsarak, senior lecturer in early modern religion at the University of Bristol. "A great mix of historical and theological material and a pleasure to read."

On the 500th anniversary of this significant event in the life of the church, these essays point not only to the crucial role of the Bible during the Reformation era but also its ongoing importance as "the people's book" today.

The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Powell McNutt, co-editor of *The People's Book* and associate professor of theology and history of Christianity at Wheaton College, said, "For twenty-five years the

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BOOK DETAILS

Since 1992, the Wheaton Theology Conference at Wheaton College has enabled Christian wisdom and reflection to be heard on a range of issues relevant to both current theological scholarship and the contemporary church. InterVarsity Press has cosponsored the theology conference since its inception, and it has regularly published an edited volume based on the conference lectures.

With the Wheaton Theology Conference Series, readers can now benefit by collecting all of the available volumes based on past theology conferences. Each conference and subsequent volume addresses a particular topic such as the theology of N. T. Wright, the role of beauty in the Christian faith, spiritual formation through the Holy Spirit, global theology, the relationship between theology and psychology, the doctrine of justification, racial dynamics in the church, and the role of women in ministry.

Wheaton Theology Conference has enjoyed its partnership with IVP in exploring issues that pertain to theology in the church and in contemporary culture. [With *The People's Book*] we have the opportunity to explore the impact of the Bible during the Reformation as its 500th anniversary approaches through a line-up of renowned scholars."

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