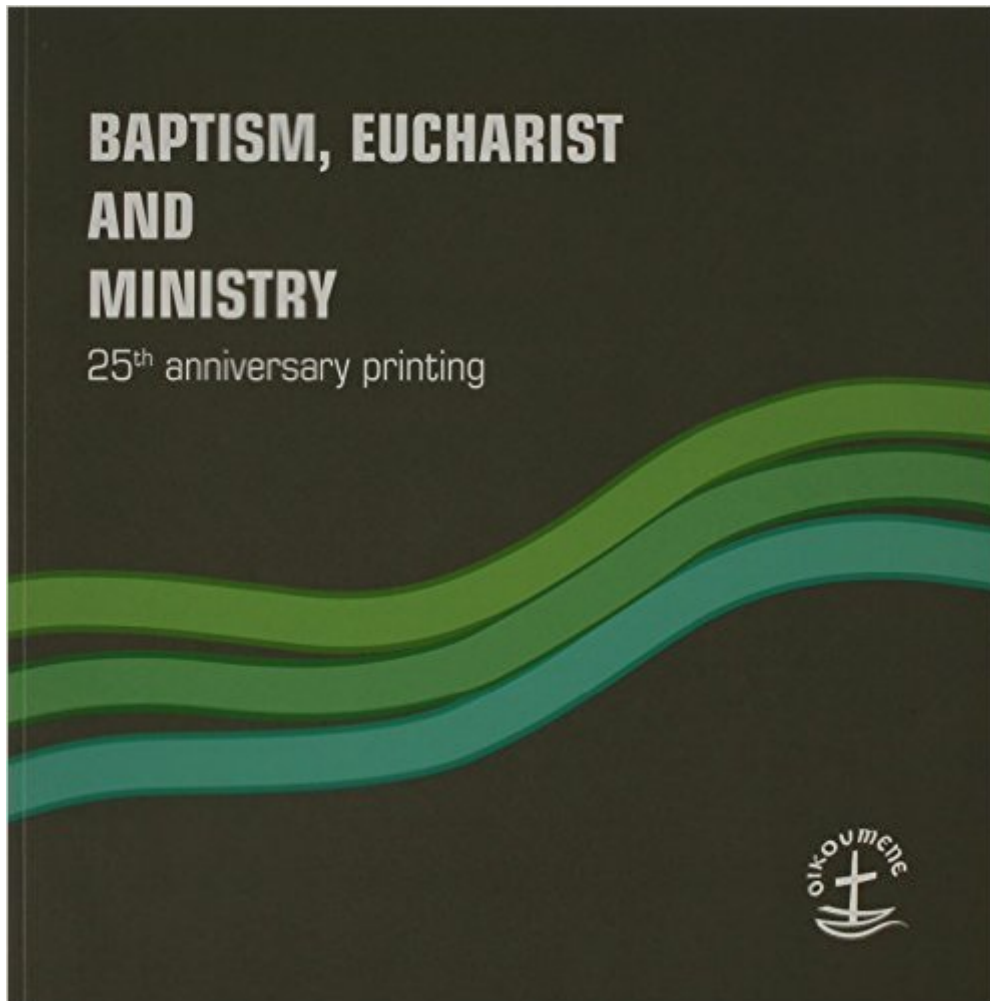


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Baptism, Eucharist And Ministry: Paper #111 (Faith And Order)



Synopsis

The result of a fifty-year process of study, this text represents the theological convergence that has been achieved, through decades of dialogue, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This is not page-turning reading; nor is it innovative and exciting theology. It is a significant source document for those who wish to understand the agreements that have both reflected and shaped convergences in Christian doctrine and practice over the last several decades. Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry (BEM) is the product of study and conversation by the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches, including twenty years reviewing various drafts and culminating in the approval of the document in its present form at a meeting in Lima in 1982. The document is in three sections, each in numbered paragraphs, with some sparse additional commentary. In the years since its release, it had influenced not only the ecumenical conversation among churches but liturgical reform and doctrinal development within churches. If there is any modern document that can claim to have an influence approaching that of the Apostolic Fathers of the early church, this is it!

I purchased this book to research baptism for a seminary class. It was a great help for my paper. I was pleased to have a resource that covered the topics of the book.

This book made a lot of things clear for me that previously I had had questions about. It is written in a way that the lay person can understand it.

The book arrived as advertised, in perfect condition.

I already owned it and wanted to give to a Bible Study student who was interested in my personal book.

This document completely ignores the "New Perspective on Paul" which has shown that "justification" does not (as Augustine innovated) mean to be "made right with God", but to be vindicated or shown to be in rightstanding with God. Paul in Romans 4 takes the counting of Abraham's faith for righteousness as justification, but in Genesis this was over two decades after he began walking in faith with God, he had already long been a man of faith. The verses cited in this joint declaration to "prove" the old Augustinian understanding (which of course has come through in various versions in both Catholic and Reformed doctrines) say nothing of the kind. The attempt, moreover, to rewrite history and show that the whole Luther and Council of Trent thing was really a misunderstanding and true Catholic and Lutheran doctrines are in harmony is touching, but not very convincing historically. If you really want to know what "justification" is about in the Bible then read N.T. Wright on it: 2009 Justification: God's Plan and Paul's Vision .

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