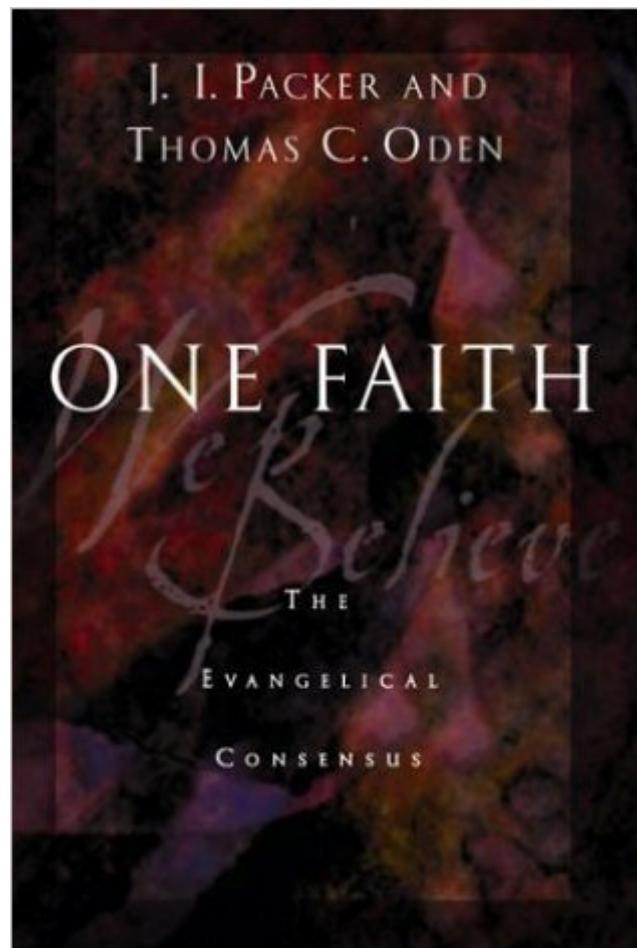


The book was found

One Faith: The Evangelical Consensus



Synopsis

Jesus Christ promised a unity for his church. Are there now clear evidences of that within evangelicalism? Or are evangelicals fragmenting into ever smaller divisions? Renowned theologians J. I. Packer and Thomas C. Oden make the case that there is a significant theological consensus holding the evangelical church together. With copious citations from statements produced since 1950 that are widely representative of international evangelical faith, Packer and Oden let these witnesses speak for themselves. Packer and Oden survey several key documents of evangelicalism, particularly the Lausanne Covenant (1974), the Manila Manifesto (1989), The Gospel of Jesus Christ: An Evangelical Celebration (1999) and The Amsterdam Declaration (2000). Charting sixteen different theological themes, they also include references to numerous documents produced by evangelical theological seminaries and societies, mission agencies, parachurch organizations and assorted special convocations. More than informational, One Faith arises out of the hope that it may not only edify the evangelical church but also provide a potential foundation for a new ecumenism that gives glory to the God of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the good news of his gospel.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The quarrels among evangelicals have led some evangelicals and most non-evangelicals to believe that a theological consensus is lacking within this group. The two authors, representing "two distinguishable [but] related wings of modern evangelical history" (p. 15) show that there is a core set of shared beliefs. Since both Packer and Oden are scholars, they carefully explain what they

mean by "consensus" and "evangelical," and they delineate their methodology, their anticipated, audience and what they hope to accomplish. The book is structured around 16 chapters, each addressing a theological topic. For each topic, they offer numerous portions of various evangelical statements of faith that address that particular topic. Thus, one can see for oneself the broad agreement between these different groups. In their conclusion, they make several points concerning evangelicalism that do truly seem to flow from the statements of faith presented. One should not conclude that because the book is about evangelical consensus, that it will also address differences among evangelicals. While accepting the nature of theological diversity, it focuses on its chosen topic and does not depart from that topic. It is a simple and elegant book. It is thoughtful. It is irenic in tone. It is easy to read. It meets a significant need. It does exactly what it purports to do. It clearly adds to the body of literature. Thus, it is highly recommended.

Excellent!

I was looking for thoughtful dialogue on the areas of theology that evangelicals agree on. Instead the book provides excerpts from a variety of different evangelical documents. It is not a bad resource to have but for me it failed to provide the consensus mentioned in the book's title.

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