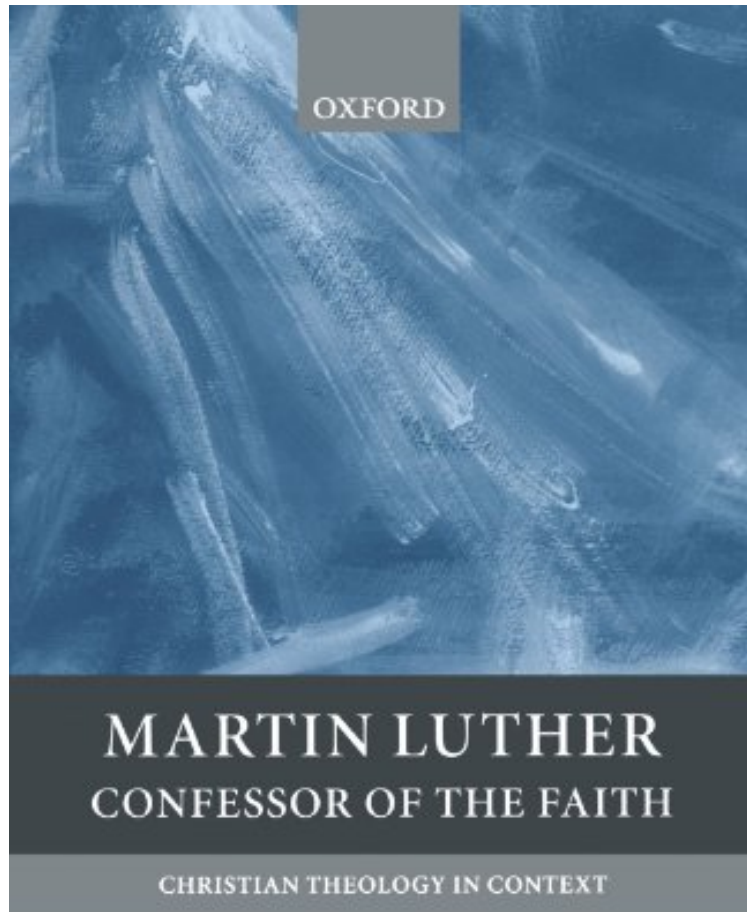


(Download) Martin Luther: Confessor of the Faith (Christian Theology in Context)

## Martin Luther: Confessor of the Faith (Christian Theology in Context)

*Robert Kolb*

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**Robert Kolb : Martin Luther: Confessor of the Faith (Christian Theology in Context)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Martin Luther: Confessor of the Faith (Christian Theology in Context):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Summary of Luther's life and thought By Hayden Folks This

book did a good job at showing the development of Luther's thought in his historical context. It also provided a nice summary of Luther's theology with plenty of reference to his own work often allowing the reformer to "speak for himself." The book overall has a positive view of Luther but doesn't ignore some of the reformer more controversial stances; instead it simply urges the reader to understand Luther's context. 4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Great but pricey resource  
By D. Reedy  
This is a great resource into understanding Luther's motivations, inspirations and influence upon his time and sets a needed foundation for understanding the protestant Christian movement and the Lutheran church. The only negative is that the Kindle edition is very pricey for an electronic resource.

Martin Luther's thought continues to challenge people throughout the world in the twenty-first century. His paradigmatic shift in defining God and what it means to be human left behind a foundation for viewing human creatures that was anchored in Aristotle's anthropology. Luther defined the Revealed God in terms of his mercy and love for human beings, based not on their merit and performance but rather on his unconditioned grace. He placed 'fearing, loving, and trusting God above all else' at the heart of his definition of being human. This volume places the development and exposition of these key presuppositions in Luther's thinking within the historical context of late medieval theology and piety as well as the unfolding dynamics of political and social change at the dawn of the modern era. Special attention is given the development of a 'Wittenberg way' of practicing theology under Luther's leadership. It left behind a dependence on allegorical methods of biblical interpretation for a 'literal-prophetic' approach to Scripture. More importantly, it placed the distinction between the 'gospel' as God's unmerited gift of identity as his children and the 'law', the expression of God's expectations for the performance of his children in good works, at the heart of all interpretation of the Bible. This presuppositional framework for practicing theology reflects Luther's personal experience and his deep commitment to pastoral care of common Christians as well as his reading of the biblical text. It is supported by his distinction of two kinds of human righteousness (passive in God's sight, active in relationship to others), his distinction of two realms or dimensions of human life, and his theology of the cross. The volume unfolds Luther's maturing thought on the basis of this method.

"This will be one of those texts that shape Luther studies in English-speaking countries for the next generation."--  
Mark D. Tranvik, Augsburg College  
"Koln offers a guidebook to Luther's theology, remarkable for its compression but generally well digested, which offers a helpful first alternative to other, more compendious surveys of Luther's thought."--  
Christopher Boyd Brown  
"Kolb's study is quite good...Clearly written and well documented, Martin Luther: Confessor of the Faith is a fine contribution."--  
Church History  
About the Author  
Robert Kolb (Ph.D., University of Wisconsin, 1973) served as director of the Center for Reformation Research, Saint Louis USA (1972-1977) and subsequently taught at Concordia College, Saint Paul (1977-1993) and Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis (1993-present). He served as Associate Editor and Co-editor of *The Sixteenth Century Journal* (1973-1997). Since 1993 he is a member of the Continuation Committee of the International Congress on Luther Research. He is the author of fifteen books and nearly one hundred articles, for the most part on Reformation history.