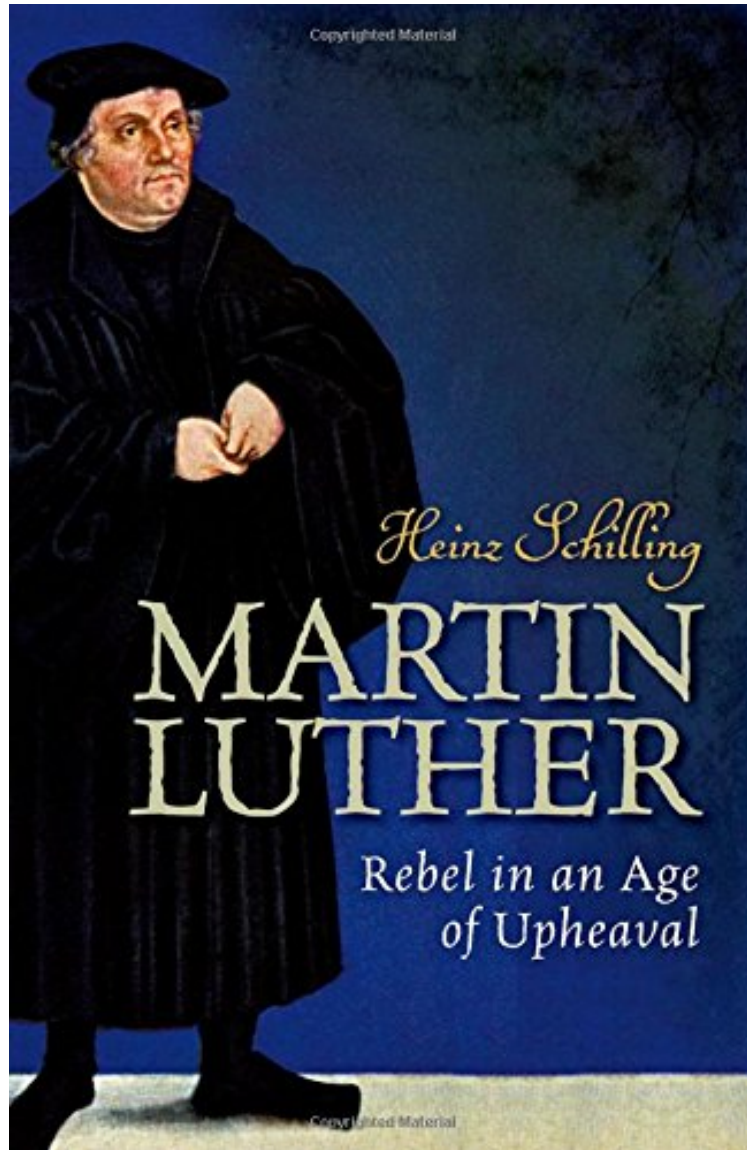


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## Martin Luther: Rebel in an Age of Upheaval

*Heinz Schilling*

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**Heinz Schilling : Martin Luther: Rebel in an Age of Upheaval** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Martin Luther: Rebel in an Age of Upheaval:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Critical Commentary, not another narrative (a student's review).By Dr CHUANG Wei PingHeinz Schillings 2013 critical analysis (translated 2017 Rona Johnston) is not a narrative. There is thankfully no retelling of the Luther story.There is a good 2017 narrative by Andrew Pettegree Brand Luther which I find memorable for its defence of Tetzel, while Schilling glosses over the indulgence controversy. Like

Lyndal Ropers 2017 MARTIN LUTHER Renegade and Prophet, Schillings references are mostly to binary alphabets like LW, WB, WT, WW, i.e. original sources. Heinz Schilling assumes that the reader has read all the Luther lore, and he then disabuses the reader of some embellished clichs. The retrospective anecdote of being thrown off a horse near Stotternheim may be balanced against Schillings observation that As was usual, Luders return journey was undertaken largely or completely on foot. (57) Heinz Schilling has instructed translator Rona Johnston to dumb down this version for English readers (Translator's Introduction). But not many will need German references or a 24 page bibliography of German publications: if you can read German, buy the 1983 original edition. Schilling carefully examines the context and significance of each event. It is unconventional to start a book on Martin Luther by drawing in Goethes enthusiasm for ages ruled by faith; Max Weber; slavery, Dominican monks Antonio de Montesinos and Bartolome de Las Casas; reformation by archbishops Hernando de Talavera, Pascual de Ampudia and Francisco Jiminez de Cisneros. Conquistadors, traders, Ottoman Turks; Charles VIII the French King crossing the Alps, Immanuel Wallenstins Atlantic World Economy; Tacitus; Erik H. Erikson and there is a nod to Luthers probable baptismal parish priest Bartholomaus Rinnebecher (9), appropriately opposing Luthers insistence that he was born in the year 1484 (10). Schillings commentary then follows roughly chronological landmarks. Extracted short narratives set the stage for unexpected observations. Here I stand, I cannot act otherwise, God help me were as appropriate for Charles V as for Luther (188), Charles V was also prepared to live and to die according to his faith. Luther and Muntzer were both bloodthirsty. The notorious stab, smite, slay anticipated Muntzers words that the peasants were fighting for their own cause and not for the divine cause (261), thus the two rival modes of church renewal (265) mirrored each other, both blaming the peasants self interests. Occasionally, Schilling is informative. Luder changed to Luther by incorporating the Greek Elueutheros the free one, the liberator, in Luthers early signatures in his letters to John Lang and Melanchthon (139). Schilling explains the out of joint timing of Luthers marriage with the weirdest reason anybody gave to get married. As agents of the devil, the peasant armies had taken up arms against the rediscovered Gospel, and therefore Luther had to get married to "vex and spite the devil (271) Luther initially fancied Eva von Schonfeld. Katherina considered in succession Hieronymus Baumgartner, Caspar Glatz, and Nicholaus von Amsdorff (270). The wedding was a quiet clinically cool affair, with few in attendance: Bugenhagen, Lucus (sic) Cranach and wife, Justus Jonas and jurist Johannes Apel. James Reston Jr informs us in his epilogue of Luthers Fortress [2015] that the organisers of the 2017 festivities will have this marriage re-enactment as a new item. From Schillings account, the organisers will have to embellish the re-enactment liberally. The central part of the volume deals with the development of the Church. It is difficult to review Schillings volume: Schillings is a critical review of published material, and comparing them with the original sources, with his own take. A finely tuned sense of humour will find it a refreshing read. The volume continues into Confessionalism. Schilling was Thomas A Brady Jr's go to man on Confessional Europe in Volume 2 of Handbook of European History, 1400-1600, (1995). In the final part of the volume, Schilling observes that Charles restraint at Luthers grave was politically astute. The Emperors principal concern was to ensure that his victory brought lasting peace to Germany. Schilling wryly suggests that From Luther to Hitler might make a suitable chapter heading for an academic text (471). There is a constellation of characters in Schillings book, but Schilling helpfully tells you who they are with every mention, even familiar characters like Konrad Peutinger, Augsburg envoy (181), and in case you started reading on page 191, Dr Peutinger is still titled envoy of Augsburg. The constant pairing of names/items with their descriptions et passim is an endearing style of Schillings writing. This pairing of description to its term is endearing as no memory is perfect. The following is a quiz to check how good your memory is: Levin von Emden: syndic in Magdeburg (496) Michael Coelius: Mansfield castle preacher (494) Sebastian Munster: cosmographer in Basel (483) Tola: rightfully hanged highwayman, i.e. Jesus, (477) Elizabeth von Rochlitz: sister of Philip of Hesse (427) Hans von Metzch: bailiff and town captain (304) Winand von Diedenhofen: prior at Erfurt (66) Johann von der Ecken: official of Electoral Trier (181) [frequently confused with Eck] Richard von Greiffenklau: archbishop of Trier (190) Maximilian von Zevenbergen: Austrian Habsburg chancellor (191) Johannes Aurifaber: Luthers last secretary (289) Gerhard Westerborg: radical spiritualist (343) Villach: winter retreat of Charles V in 1552 (521) I received this pre-ordered book after I sat for my university paper on Church History. Bummer. This was a blessing as this book is clearly not for undergraduates who just want to achieve a pass grade. An excellent read is not necessarily a help in answering basic exam questions. Schillings work is totally non-partisan. Diarmaid MacCullochs comment, about Eamon Duffy being a Catholic historian and not a historian who happens to be Catholic, comes to mind. I spent some time looking up whether Heinz Schilling was Protestant or Catholic. I met with no success. Schilling does not take sides, and he can be read comfortably by both sides. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Darryl R Stroup Very good 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A must read! By Torgeir E. Fjrtoft Analytic and entertaining narrative about both this seminal individual and his tumultuous time

No other German has shaped the history of early-modern Europe more than Martin Luther. In this comprehensive and balanced biography we see Luther as a rebel, but not as a lone hero; as a soldier in a mighty struggle for the universal reform of Christianity and its role in the world. The foundation of Protestantism changed the religious landscape of

Europe, and subsequently the world, but the author chooses to show Luther not simply as a reformer, but as an individual. In his study of the Wittenberg monk, Heinz Schilling - one of Germany's leading social and political historians - gives the reader a rounded view of a difficult, contradictory character, who changed the world by virtue of his immense will.

"Although there existed a lot of literature on Martin Luther, there has been a gap as far as his universalism is concerned. Martin Luther fills that gap. It is a meticulously researched book that provides deep analysis of the role of Martin Luther in the rise of Protestantism. It is an insightful and highly scholarly book but it is very readable at the same time. It should be on university curriculums for history. It is a must-read for everyone interested in the history of Europe and religion. Heinz Schilling's scholarship is unmatched in its insight, scholarly value, and authority."--The Washington Book About the Author  
Heinz Schilling was Professor of Early Modern History at the Humboldt University, Berlin until his retirement in 2010. His main areas of research are in early modern European history, including studies in religion, politics, migration studies, foreign policy, and social and cultural history.