

Sacraments and Worship: The Sources of Christian Theology, Maxwell E. Johnson, Presbyterian Publishing Corp, 2012, 2012, 9780664231576, 422 pages

Johnson traces the history and theology of individual sacraments along with their liturgical context in the church's worship. He includes materials previously developed in James F. White's classic collection, *Documents of Christian Worship: Descriptive and Interpretive Sources* (Westminster John Knox Press, 1992), and supplements these to provide a wide range of indispensable materials. He also contributes helpful background notes to give the reader the full breadth and depth of the church's thought on these important topics. This book will be of great value to those studying the The Early Christian Sacrament Covenant. Does the Book of Mormon sacrament prayer fit the ceremony of the first generations of Mediterranean Christians? The answer is an impressive yes. Though first-century worship is thinly documented, the New Testament and the first post-apostolic sources give us clues to the nature of the ceremony. For example, through Paul's efforts to correct the Corinthian Saints, we can actually part the curtain on a first-century sacrament meeting. Discovering that the Corinthians' selfish feasting had merged with the partaking of the sacred symbols, Paul reminded them He forthrightly takes up the most controversial of issues ranging from matters of church authority, the sacraments and worship to the church's place in the plan of salvation, the church and the kingdom of heaven, and church reunion. Evangelical in spirit, ecumenical in breadth and biblical in depth, Bloesch's work presents a theology of the church that calls for reformation and renewal according to the Word and Spirit of God. He wrote numerous books, including *Faith and Its Counterparts*, *Evangelical Theology in Transition*, *Theological Notebook: Volume 3*, *Essentials of Evangelical Theology*, *The Future of Evangelical Christianity*, *The Struggle of Prayer*, *Spirituality Old & New*, *Freedom for Obedience* and the seven-volume *Christian Foundations* series.