The Source Of Life

THE SOURCE OF LIFE
THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE THEOLOGY OF LIFE

JÜRGEN MOLTMANN

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Synopsis

Beginning with his experiences as a prisoner of war, Moltmann anchors his reflections in a theology of life - and the Spirit as elemental renewer of life - which links biblical manifestations to contemporary ones, hope to holiness, creation to community, and politics to prayer. In the Spirit we embrace the presence of God, but we also embrace community with people and all living things.

Book Information

Paperback: 158 pages
Publisher: Fortress Press; 1st Fortress Press ed edition (July 1, 1997)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0800630998
Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.4 x 8.7 inches
Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars Â· See all reviews (12 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #68,841 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Theology > Pneumatology #1420 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Theology

Customer Reviews

Moltmann writes in an eloquent manner about the theology of life and the Holy Spirit. He begins the book by sharing a personal episode from his life as a prisoner of war where he studied and learned the knowledge of the saving truth in Christ. This is a stimulating look at Moltmann’s roots in theology and life with Jesus. His writing is refreshing because as well as writing theologically Moltmann writes from a personal experience with God that seems to flow from an intimacy true seekers of Christ would like to emulate. Moltmann offers some autobiographical insights about his time as a prisoner of war during WWII. The internment became for him a time to ponder deep and spiritual things. As he received ministry from the Christian community around the camp in Scotland, he began to grow in his faith. He writes of the relationship of the Holy Spirit within the Trinity with the Father and the Son and the sending of the Holy Spirit to Christians. As he expands on the Holy Spirit’s role and life in the church, he writes about the Christian life in community with each other and with God.

Moltmann defines the Holy Spirit as the only source of life: "God’s Spirit is experienced as the power of the new life in us, and as the space of the new life round about us." He also writes about God in creation. This section leads into what might be called a treatise on environmentalism. This is the
only area of the book that was bothersome because he uses a quote from the Gospel of Thomas and one from the Wisdom of Solomon to support what can only be described as panentheism. This belief conflicts with Christianity which is why it required non-canonical source material. However, this is set in the larger context of Moltmann's orthodox writings.

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