

Preaching and Theology (PREACHING AND ITS PARTNERS)

By Dr. James Kay

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James Kay offers a detailed historical and theological analysis of the theologies of preaching that have dominated Protestant thought. Spanning several theological movements-from the Reformation to Post-Liberalism-Preaching and Theology explores different theological points of view about preaching and covers theologies from Martin Luther to Martin Luther King Jr. and Hans Frei. Kay contends that thinking critically and theologically is necessary for preaching to proceed with honesty, integrity, and faithfulness to the Christian message. Yet for many people, including many preachers, pastors, and professors, theology is itself a negative word. Kay weaves together preaching and theology as he reasons that a "frame of reference" is needed for a proper understanding of preaching as a Christian practice as well as for the vitality of academic or systematic theology.

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Preaching and Theology (PREACHING AND ITS PARTNERS) By Dr. James Kay Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1874521 in Books
- Brand: Kay, James F.
- Published on: 2007-01-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.50" h x .41" w x 5.50" l, .49 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 180 pages

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Review
"Here is a book for those who are not satisfied to be taught merely the techniques of various homiletical models, but who want to probe their philosophical foundations and theological implications. One can only celebrate Kay's insistence that unless God speaks through the proclaimed Word, no technique, however useful, will suffice. And in a world as broken and sad as our own, his particular emphasis of preaching as conveying the divine promise of something new and better will come as good news indeed." -- Marguerite Shuster

"Jim Kay ably condenses the history of hermeneutics and homiletics into an accessible read for preachers who want to make sense out of the complexities involved. He helps us see the weak links in the theory and practice of preaching, and finally makes a strong case for preaching as promissory narrative...All too often preachers stop reading theology or homiletics after graduation from seminary; they become locked into the theories that were an courant while they were in school. In this helpful study by Jim Kay, we are able to compare and contrast the wisdom of past with the thinking and practices evolving into this new century." -- Dean McDonald

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--MARGUERITE SHUSTER, FULLER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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About the Author
James F. Kay is Princeton Theological Seminary's Joe R. Engle Professor of Homiletics and Liturgics and director of the Joe R. Engle Institute of Preaching. He is also editor of Theology Today. An ordained Presbyterian minister, Kay teaches history, theology, and practice of preaching and worship.

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