

und ihre Folgen sowie die Berliner Erklärung von 1909 und ihre Folgen – schließen das umfangreiche Buch ab.

Obwohl das gesamte Werk ein stark deskriptiver Charakter kennzeichnet, beschränkt sich Holthaus nicht nur auf die Beschreibung der vielschichtigen Bewegung. Die charakteristischen Themen der Heiligungsbewegung wie „Rechtfertigung und Heiligung“, „Geistestaufe“, „höheres geistliches Leben“, „Siegesleben“, „Ruh in Christus“, „Erfüllung mit dem Heiligen Geist“, „Freude und Kraft der Erlösung“, „vollständige Hingabe“, „ein Leben frei von Sünde“ u. v. m. werden immerhin gestreift und in knappen Skizzen dargestellt. An manchen Stellen werden auch in Ansätzen theologische Bewertungen gegeben, was man sich freilich angesichts der relevanten theologischen Thematik häufiger gewünscht hätte.

Diese fleißig recherchierte kirchengeschichtliche Arbeit ist eine Fundgrube wichtiger und relevanter Themen evangelikaler Frömmigkeit und regt zu einer bis jetzt noch ausstehenden intensiven Auseinandersetzung mit der Theologie der Heiligungsbewegung an.

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Mission in the Former Soviet Union

Walter W. Sawatsky, P. F. Penner (eds.)

Schwarzenfeld: Neufeld, 2005. 296 pp. 16.90 , pb., ISBN 3-937896-17-1

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG

Im vorliegenden Aufsatzband wurden Vorträge veröffentlicht, die auf der Konferenz „Mission in der Former Soviet Union“ am Internationalen Baptistischen Seminar in Prag gehalten wurden, die im Februar 2003 stattfand. Die Vorträge beschäftigen sich primär mit der Analyse des historischen Hintergrunds und der Praxis der evangelikalen Mission, die nach der Öffnung der Sowjetunion durch Michail Gorbatschow begann. Ein besonderes Interesse stellen die Aufsätze von W. W. Sawatsky dar, die sich mit der Frage der missionarischen Dialogs in der GUS beschäftigen.

SUMMARY

This collection of articles represents papers read at the conference on “Mission in the Former Soviet Union” held in February 2003 at the International Baptist Seminary in Prague. The articles analyse the historical background and the praxis of Evangelical mission, as it began soon after the opening-up of the Soviet Union through Michail Gorbachov. Of special interest might be the articles by W. W. Sawatsky dealing with the question of missionary dialogue in the CIS.

RÉSUMÉ

Cet ouvrage reprend des exposés présentés à la conférence qui s'est tenue à la Faculté de Théologie Baptiste Internationale de Prague en février 2003, et qui avait pour thème : « la mission dans l'ancienne Union Soviétique ». Ces articles

analysent la pratique missionnaire évangélique qui a commencé peu après l'ouverture de l'Union Soviétique sous Michail Gorbatchov, et son arrière-plan historique. L'article de Sawatsky sur la question du dialogue missionnaire dans la Fédération de Russie est particulièrement intéressant.

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The collection of articles edited by Walter W. Sawatsky and P. F. Penner represent papers read at the conference on “Mission in the Former Soviet Union” held on February 2003 at the International Baptist Seminary in Prague, especially concentrating on the contribution by the American Mennonite Historian W. W. Sawatsky (Elkhart, Indiana). His five articles cover half of the content of the collection. Sawatsky has published his first volume on the Soviet Evangelicals as early as 1980 and is one of the world's leading experts on the history of the Eastern European Protestantism. Other contributors are P. F. Penner (Prague), M. S. Karetnikova (Russia), J. Dyck (Germany), M. R. Elliott, (Wheaton) and V. Artemov (Russia).

The articles offer a broad historical background of the Post-Perestroika Mission activities, starting with the beginning of Christianity in the Kievan Rus and putting Evangelical missionary activities into a broad frame of Christian Mission in Russia (Sawatsky) and the historic developments of the 19th century (M. S. Karetnikova), tracing the centrality of mission and evangelism in the theology of the Slavic Evangelicals to their historic roots (Sawatsky), the role of Scripture interpretation and distribution in the context shaping the missional identity of the Evangelicals in the region (Penner), and the special contribution to the missionary revival in the 1980th coming out of Church Restoration Pattern laid by the Revival among German Evangelicals in the Soviet Union after World War II (Dyck).

Another set of articles covers the actual mission activities in the FSU, critically evaluating both the practice of native Christian denominations (Penner, Sawatsky, Artemov) as well as the Western missionary participation (Sawatsky, Penner, Elliott). In his last article Sawatsky attempts to lay patterns for God's prospective mission in the CIS.

All analytical articles published in this very readable volume seem to agree in a point: mission in the FSU can only be understood properly by taking the broader context of the whole church development in Russia and the Soviet Union serious. This is not new, but in the light of repeated inability of the Western church to do contextually sensitive mission – a timely statement. Sawatsky's article on the “Centrality of Mission and Evangelism in the Slavic Evangelical Story” with his analysis of the success and failure of the Co-Mission Project done against the historic background of the Church in Russia, is especially to mention. It should become a must read for Western missionaries interested in missions in and to the CIS.

Another notion of the volume is worth to be men-

tioned. Sawatsky and Penner argue that missionary dialogue inside the CIS and among all churches involved in missions (Sawatsky) as well as with the foreign missionary forces (Penner) is imperative, if at all the missionary transformation of the region is expected to succeed. I could not agree more! Both authors present their appeal for missionary dialogue to the Evangelical reader, which limits the use of the articles in conversation with other denominations in the region. It would have been very helpful to add such voices to the volume, which might not have been the main aim of the conference in Prague. Nevertheless, the articles invite to engage in such a dialogue, a passion Sawatsky has been promoting for years. This book might help his vision to become reality one day. The road he suggests in his concluding article indicates this kind of missionary theology for the future of missions in the CIS – a dialogical, contextually sensitive and transformational mission, embodied in the concept of *missio Dei*.

On the other side the overview of missionary practice given is rather limited to just a few examples, such as education (Penner) and camping (Artemov). The book is called "Mission in the Former Soviet Union" indicating an exhausting introduction to the topic. This is obviously not the case. It would have been excellent, to add to the volume a general overview of what different churches did and are doing in missions today. Such an overview would probably help an uninformed reader to understand better the need of the good analysis offered by the authors. Similarly problematic might appear the reduction of the numerous difficulties Western missionaries face entering the CIS to the visa issue (Elliott), as important as such an issue may be.

The mentioned shortcomings do not diminish, however, the general value of the volume for understanding God's mission in the Former Soviet Union. All in all the volume represent a good analytical tool, which will obviously help to understand the genesis and the course of what has been called Post-Perestrojka missions in the CIS. Everybody interested in this part of God's story with His people should read the book.

Johannes Reimer, Bergneustadt, Germany

The Story of Israel: A Biblical Theology

C. Marvin Pate, J. Scott Duvall, J. Daniel Hays, E. Randolph Richards, W. Dennis Tucker Jr. and Preben Vang

Downers Grove, Ill.: Intervarsity Press, 2004, 320 pp., £14.99, pb, ISBN 1-84474-055-2

SUMMARY

This book is an attempt to demonstrate that the story of Israel is a prominent theme in the Old and New Testaments. Various portions of the Protestant cannon (e.g. the Pentateuch, the Historical Books, the Synoptics, etc.) are

examined in order to show that this concept of the story of Israel is a pervasive theme. The contention of these six authors is that the story of Israel is a consistent motif that encompasses all other proposals for the biblical theological theme of the Bible. Written from an Evangelical perspective, this book is highly readable and suitable for students, pastors and biblically informed laymen.

RÉSUMÉ

Ce livre vise à montrer que l'histoire d'Israël est un thème prééminent dans l'Ancien Testament et le Nouveau Testament. Examinant diverses parties du canon protestant (le Pentateuque, les Livres historiques, les Synoptiques, etc.), les six auteurs font apparaître que ce thème est partout présent. Ils considèrent que l'histoire d'Israël est un motif cohérent qui permet de rendre compte de tout ce qu'on a pu proposer comme le thème biblico-théologique de la Bible. Cet ouvrage très accessible, qui s'inscrit dans une perspective évangélique, mérite d'être recommandé aux étudiants, pasteurs et membres d'Églises ayant de la connaissance biblique.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG

Dieses Buch ist der Versuch zu zeigen, dass die Story Israels ein wichtiges Thema im Alten und im Neuen Testament ist. Verschiedene Teile des protestantischen Kanons (z. B. der Pentateuch, die historischen Bücher, die Synoptiker etc.) werden untersucht, um zu zeigen, dass das Konzept der Story Israels überall vorhanden ist. Die Behauptung der sechs Autoren lautet, dass die Story Israels ein konsistentes Motiv ist, das alle anderen Vorschläge, das biblisch-theologische Thema der Bibel zu sein, umgreift. Dieses aus einer evangelikalischen Perspektive geschriebene Buch ist gut lesbar und für Studenten, Pastoren und biblisch informierte Laien geeignet.

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These six authors 'have joined together to work out a coherent approach: viewing the "theology" of the Bible as involving the story of Israel' (p. 12). In order to demonstrate this, each author (five of which teach at Ouachita Baptist University) contributes two to three essays on various portions of the Bible in order to show that the 'story of Israel' is a pervasive theme. The introduction to the book gives a clear survey of the biblical theological movement in the last two hundred years and locates this present work in that discussion. The next four chapters are devoted to the Hebrew Scriptures (the Pentateuch, the Historical Books, the Psalms and the Wisdom Literature, and the Prophets). The next chapter examines Second Temple Judaism, and the remaining six look at the New Testament (the Synoptics, John, Acts, Paul, the General Epistles and Hebrews, and Revelation). A brief conclusion is added which summarizes the contents of the book.

The book is written in a clear style and is intended to be a textbook for a Seminary or college class. At the end of each chapter, the authors included various bibliographical references to relevant articles in the *New Dic-*