

Some (more or less) Theological Reading on Mission in Global Perspective

Would you like to find out more about mission in global perspective? Below is a list of reading material. You might want to start with some of the books marked "A" or "B" (the easiest to read) and highlighted in blue ... then moving on to the weightier books in categories C through E (the weightiest). But let the Spirit guide your reading

- D BEVANS & SCHROEDER **Constants in Context:** Theology of Mission for Today Orbis 2004, ISBN 1570755175 *by progressive RC missiologists – aims at a comprehensive theological overview and proposal*
- D BOSCH David **Transforming Mission** Orbis 1991, ISBN 0883447193 *for 20 years this has been the magisterial textbook for mission studies, not yet surpassed, though getting dated*
- A BOWEN Roger **...So I Send You: a Study Guide to Mission** SPCK 2007 (2nd ed.), ISBN 0281059608 *an excellent shorter introduction, by an Anglican with African experience, with an eye to theology students in Africa and Asia*
- E FLETT John **The Witness of God:** The Trinity, Karl Barth, Missio Dei and the Nature of Christian Community Eerdmans 2010 *a very important recent monograph, but only for the theologically experienced reader – tough going*
- C GALLAGHER & HERTIG (eds.) **Landmark Essays in Mission and World Christianity** Orbis 2009 *pretty much as the title says*
- B KIM Kirsteen **Joining in with the Spirit: Connecting World Church and Local Mission** Epworth 2009 *a key recent textbook - 'a mission theology of the Holy Spirit' – perhaps the best place to start?*
- C NEWBIGIN Lesslie **The Open Secret:** Sketches for a Missionary Theology SPCK 1978 *by one of the key missional statesmen and thinkers of the 20th century*
- D SENIOR & STUHLMUELLER **The Biblical Foundations for Mission** SCM Press 1983, ISBN 0334001277 *by moderate RC US biblical scholars - takes seriously the fruits of critical study of Scripture*
- C SMITH David **Mission after Christendom** DLT 2003 *one of the best of many books looking at mission and post-modernity, with a good chapter on globalisation*
- A SPENCER Stephen **Studyguide to Christian Mission** SCM 2007, ISBN 0334041085 *a fairly recent introduction deriving models for mission from different epochs of Christian history*
- B TAYLOR John V. **The Go-Between God: the Holy Spirit and the Christian Mission** SCM 1972, ISBN 334005655 *a classic – beautifully written, and deeply wise – by the former Bishop of Winchester*
- B THANGARAJ M. Thomas **The Common Task: a Theology of Christian Mission** Abingdon 1999, ISBN: 0687001447 *this is written from a pluralistic liberal perspective that will probably annoy and challenge more conservative Christians*
- C WALLS Andrew **The Missionary Movement in Christian History** T&T Clark 1996
The Cross-Cultural Process in Christian History T&T Clark 2002
two fascinating and wise books of essays by a leading scholar reflecting on

missional themes

- B WALLS & ROSS (eds.) **Mission in the 21st Century: Exploring the Five Marks of Global Mission** DLT 2008 *good spread of contributors from across the world*
- B WARREN Max **I Believe in the Great Commission** Hodder 1976
another by one of the greats of mission thinking of the last century – not his best book, but the nearest to a summary overview
- D WRIGHT Christopher **The Mission of God** IVP 2006, ISBN 1844741524
a thorough biblical theology of mission from an evangelical viewpoint (probably annoying and challenging to more liberal Christians!)
- B WRIGHT Tom **Surprised by Hope** SPCK 2007
a book 'about' something else – heaven and the afterlife - but in its later chapters shows finely how this is bound up with mission

List compiled by the Revd Dr Tim Naish