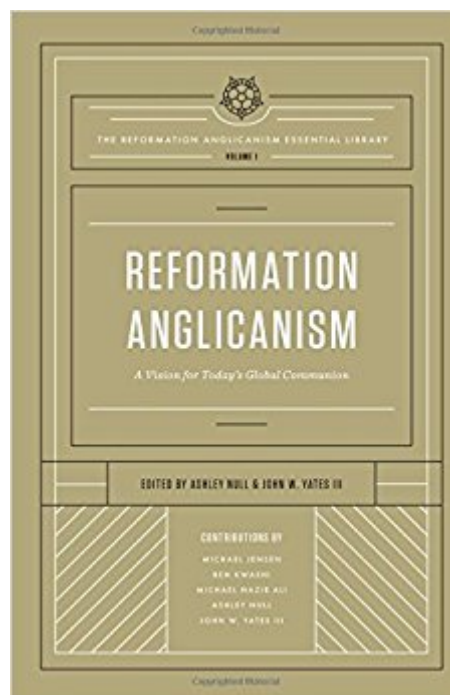




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Reformation Anglicanism (The Reformation Anglicanism Essential Library, Volume 1): A Vision For Today's Global Communion



Synopsis

A Clear Vision for What It Means to Be Anglican Today Conceived under the conviction that the future of the global Anglican Communion hinges on a clear, well-defined, and theologically rich vision, the Reformation Anglicanism Essential Library was created to serve as a go-to resource aimed at helping clergy and educated laity grasp the coherence of the Reformation Anglican tradition. With contributions from Michael Jensen, Ben Kwashi, Michael Nazir-Ali, Ashley Null, and John W. Yates III, the first volume in the Reformation Anglicanism Essential Library examines the rich heritage of the Anglican Communion, introducing its foundational doctrines rooted in the *solas* of the Reformation and drawing out the implications of this tradition for life and ministry in the twenty-first century.

Book Information

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: Crossway (February 28, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1433552132

ISBN-13: 978-1433552137

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #422,502 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #95 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Denominations & Sects > Protestantism > Anglican](#) #87405 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality](#)

Customer Reviews

“In light of the current crises of the Anglican Communion, this study of the origins of Reformation Anglicanism is particularly timely. The authors remind us why the Church of England adopted the confessional formularies that have characterized it since the sixteenth century and examine the relevance of these to the modern situation at home and abroad. Everyone with an interest in Anglicanism will benefit from looking afresh at its core principles, and the authors of this volume have done their best to demonstrate how those principles are still meaningful and relevant today.”
—Gerald Bray, Research Professor of Divinity, History, and Doctrine, Beeson Divinity School; author, *God Is Love* and *God Has Spoken*
“This book sketches some of the Church of England’s complex history from early beginnings to the shape of the present

worldwide denomination, now about eighty million strong. More importantly, it calls contemporary Anglicans, often awash in doctrinal and moral confusion, to return to the primary sources and evangelical and Reformed doctrines of the English Reformation, if that Reformation is to fulfill its promise.

• D. A. Carson, research professor of New Testament, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; cofounder, The Gospel Coalition

“This wonderful book reminds me of what the former archbishop of Canterbury Michael Ramsey said: ‘To belittle the witness of the Reformers is to miss something of the meaning of the church of God.’ I am so grateful to the authors for producing this book, which will help us to know what it means to be a church of God.

• Mounseer Hanna Anis, Anglican Primate of Jerusalem and the Middle East; Chairman, The Anglican Global South

“This is a work that will serve contemporary Anglicanism permanently in helping readers understand for the first time or much better that Reformation Anglicanism is simply biblical Christianity. In a time when many churches are doctrinally confused or morally compromised, readers will be encouraged to hold fast to the gospel and to fight against false teaching. I commend this book most highly and look forward to subsequent volumes in the library.

• Nicholas D. Okoh, Anglican Primate of All Nigeria; Chairman, The Global Anglican Future Conference

“All the opportunities are in the future, but all the lessons are in the past. That’s why every Christian leader, not just Anglicans, should read this fascinating book.

• Rick Warren, number one New York Times best-selling author, *The Purpose Driven Life*; Pastor, Saddleback Church

Does being Anglican mean anything we want it to mean depending on our sympathies and personal preferences? Or is its generosity limited and defined by historic formularies and a Prayer Book tradition that enshrines the heart and soul of The Church of England and its franchises around the world? Do Anglicans have anything special to offer the Protestant world? The contributors of these essays are convinced that Anglicanism shaped by the Reformation is the best way forward. They believe that there is such a thing as an Anglican way. They are lonely voices in a church swept up by various movements. They are diverse voices encompassing the breadth and corners of the worldwide Anglican Communion. But, uniting these serious theologians is a clarion call to remember the rock from which we were hewn, and the height from which we have fallen. Americans, like me, who have been settled and shaped by the 1979 Prayer Book and the theological novelties it expresses, will especially find this a challenging read. I wish every Anglican

and Episcopalian would at least read and inwardly digest the last chapter: *Reformation Anglicanism: A Manifesto*. —

Reformation Anglicanism is a solid, clear explanation of the historical and biblical roots of the Anglican Tradition. Framed on the "Five Solas" of the Protestant Reformation, the book provides a thoughtful and careful examination of the Protestant foundation of the Anglican Church. Ashley Null rightly introduces Thomas Cranmer as a compatriot and equal to the historic "magisterial reformers" (Luther, Calvin, and Zwingli), and John Yates III proves himself a bright and rising star in the field of Anglican theology. The international contributions from Jensen, Kwashi, and Nazir-Ali add the necessary international perspective to Tradition that spans cultures and nations. Not only for the Anglophile, *Reformation Anglicanism* provides a thoughtful and provocative presentation of classic evangelical Christianity and as such is a helpful read for any thoughtful person considering Christianity or wanting to grow in the Christian Faith. -- Marc Robertson

I love this book for many reasons and on many levels. First, it was clear and cogent. The authors are dealing with well-trodden history, but they never let it go stale. Nor do they crowd the page with too many facts and dates. They do underscore the tenuous and dangerous times these reformers lived it. They show the price that some of them paid; and the price that some of these reformers made others pay. Secondly, they don't whitewash Cranmer's vacillations. He is a flawed hero, the broken leader of the Anglican movement. Sometimes strong, then weak, and weakly strong. Thirdly, the quotes from the many luminaries were spectacular. I really had the sense that there was a religious and spiritual revival taking place in the lives of these men and women. Their love of Christ shines through the tumult. Both Yates and Null (both of whom are good friends) drop diamonds along the way too. Yates' explication of the bible was enough to make me proud to be an Anglican. And Null, while being a scholar of the first order, is also a romantic. Consider this gem he casually leaves on the page: "Telling people what they should do does not empower them to do it. That was Cranmer's fundamental Reformation insight." That is both insight into Cranmer and insight into most everything else about human nature...and why we need a Savior. Wow...that will preach! A great book for clergy and laity and all who care about Anglican Christianity at home and around the globe.

I totally enjoyed this little book; but then again, I'm an Anglican so I would appreciate the subject. With the 500th anniversary of the Reformation at hand, "Reformation Anglicanism" reminds us of the

import of the English reformation to HIS church catholic. Ashley Null's essay on grace in the setting of Thomas Cranmer's "comfortable words" was especially well done. I highly recommend the book for its historical and theological perspectives.

Not sure why this collection of essays was written since the information in the volume is widely available in other works. But, it would provide a good introduction to a strong tradition within Anglicanism.

Amazing! It helped me understand the process from being the Church of England to being a Worldwide Anglican Communion, and to see how evangelical, protestant and reformed is the true anglicanism. This book is a precious jewel that proves the proper understanding of Anglicanism as protestant, and the need for it within the Anglican Communion, and in our world today.

I love this volume of Reformational Anglicanism! The content itself is superb. Ashley Null, Michael Jenson and the others did a fantastic job highlighting the history of the English Reformation. In my opinion, it's only by recovering that era in theology that we will truly stand as a Communion once again. I do slightly disagree on some aspects. I do feel that we need to have an Anglican church large enough to fit most of the groups under the umbrella of the Anglican Communion, including those of us who are kind of in the middle of several theological strains. I consider myself a Lutheran Anglican, so most of it resonated with me very well. I would be careful alienating some of our more high church brothers. I understand why we need to stay away from the liberal theologies, because they are toxic, but we need to keep it expanded as much as orthodoxy will allow. I give five stars for content, but took one away because of the absurd price of the Kindle version. \$20 is way too high, and I feel the publisher is taking advantage over some of us who love the book enough to fork over that money.

Most excellent and a great serve to contemporary Anglicanism.

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