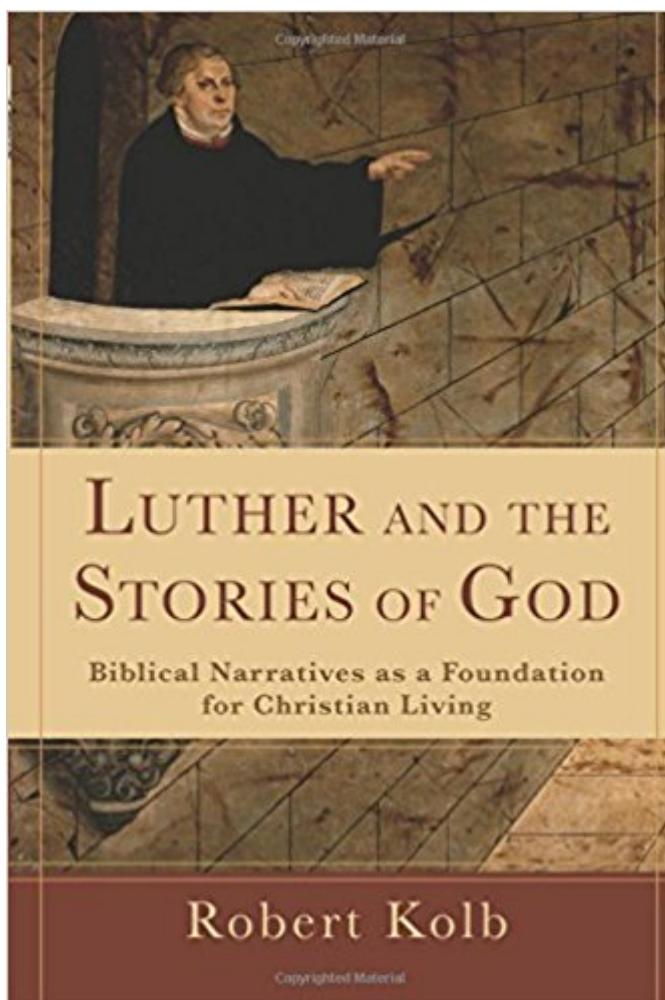


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# Luther And The Stories Of God: Biblical Narratives As A Foundation For Christian Living



## Synopsis

A leading Lutheran scholar highlights Luther's use of biblical narrative in his preaching and teaching on Christian living.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"We think of Martin Luther as a great reformer, preacher, theologian, and writer of oceanic breadth and depth. But he was also a compelling master of the spiritual life. In this engaging study, Robert Kolb shows how Luther's spirituality is rooted in the metanarrative of God's words and deeds conveyed through the sacred Scriptures. A major contribution both to Luther studies and to spiritual theology."--Timothy George, Beeson Divinity School; general editor, *Reformation Commentary on Scripture*

"Martin Luther was a great church leader and storyteller. Robert Kolb is a great Luther scholar and churchman. Here we have the dream combination, as Kolb offers an interpretation of Luther's theology that brings the Reformer's thought into dialogue with contemporary theology and church life. A must read for all who, like me, have learned so much from both men over the years."--Carl R. Trueman, Westminster Theological Seminary

"A thoughtful and engaging survey of how Luther used biblical narrative to understand Christian life and to admonish, encourage, uplift, and direct his listeners and readers. Kolb broadens and deepens our knowledge of Luther as theologian, exegete, and pastor."--Mary Jane Haemig, Luther Seminary

"Robert Kolb has once again written a superb study of Martin Luther that opens new avenues for understanding the thought of the Reformer. The book is sensitive to current analyses of narrative theology and profoundly immersed

in the thought-world of Luther, adding significant insight to the discussion of themes in Luther's theology such as Law and Gospel and the two kinds of righteousness."--Richard A. Muller, Calvin Theological Seminary"Provides an expert and engaging account of how the Wittenberg reformer sought to cultivate a rich sense of Christian identity in his contemporaries through narrative, in both his teaching and preaching of the Word of God. Valuable for historians, theologians, and literary scholars alike."--Ronald K. Rittgers, Valparaiso University"In this fine book Robert Kolb outlines an approach to the moral life that is neglected in Luther studies: that Luther employed biblical storytelling as a way to form the moral imagination and thereby strengthen and enrich the Christian life."--Robert D. Benne, Center for Religion and Society, Roanoke College

Robert Kolb (PhD, University of Wisconsin) is Mission Professor of Systematic Theology emeritus at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. He is the author of numerous books including *The Genius of Luther's Theology* and is coeditor of *The Book of Concord* (2000 translation).

An excellant book for all pastors to read. A great reminder of the importance of the Biblical stories and how they do apply to the circumstances and events of today's world. They also give a profound insight into the images of the God who created us and has remained faithful throughout history.

great

Dry, couldn't get into it. Too much for most people other than the elite scholars.

The insights into Luther's understanding of faith in God are clear and direct. Dr. Kolb's explanation of Luther's perspective on Genesis 3, "God created by speaking, and he re-creates by speaking. What he re-creates when he forgives sin is a justified person. Then as God's child, this justified believer fulfills God's expectations in demonstrating his love and carrying out his will in the world." (p.71) This is a powerful thought-provoking example of the subtle inspirational messages found throughout the book. The active voice of faith in defining how we should live our life in a world dominated by a self-centered way of thinking enables the reader to become spiritually literate by discovering what is hidden in our conscience, psyche, and heart! Dr. Kolb clearly understands Luther's message as one that has meaning and application for 21st century people looking for an understanding of trust, love, and God's gifts. The timing of his book jsut a few years before the world remembers the 500 anniversary of the Protestant Reformation is significant.

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