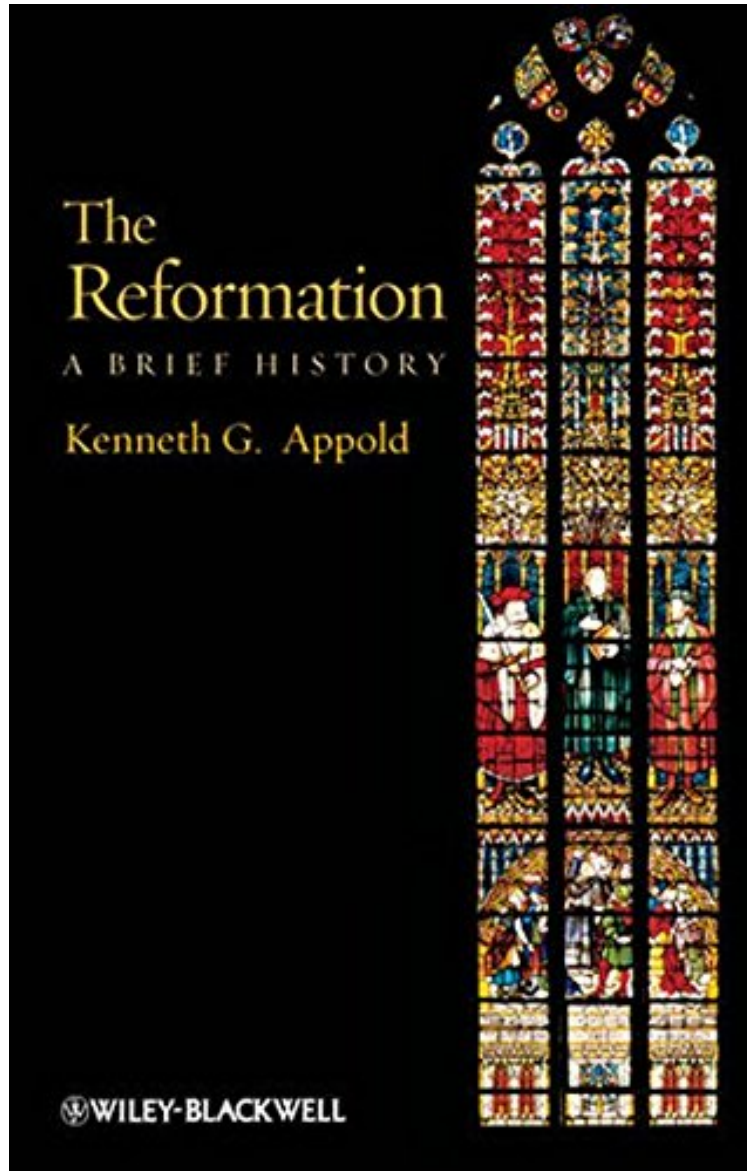


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The Reformation: A Brief History

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Kenneth G. Appold : The Reformation: A Brief History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Reformation: A Brief History:

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major point of conflict and change in Western Europe, the Reformation is a particularly difficult series of events to survey, and it can be exhausting for a new student to learn about it without being unwittingly subjected to biases and prejudices they are unable to detect. In this sense, "The Reformation: A Brief History" is the survey the study of the Reformation has sorely needed. That Appold is able to present an approachable, balanced history of the Reformation in under two-hundred pages is worth five-stars alone. This book is written to be accessible for someone who has no previous education in Christian history or theology; equally impressive is that this accessibility does not come at the expense of the book's ability to offer a narrative which is of interest to committed scholars of Reformation history. This work excels in that it is able to draw the student into current perspectives on the Reformation while preserving a balanced approach with respect to the arguments between those perspectives. I would easily recommend this book to the casual reader of history interested in learning about the Reformation as I would expect an opinion of its contents to merit scholarly discussion. It would serve as an excellent starting point for the novice or a fresh perspective for those already well-versed in the subject matter.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
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Perfect condition! The content is also a great overview for a beginner in Reformation!

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Review from a Student and Reader
By David Smith
A wonderful introduction to Reformation history by an excellent professor. The book is short and to the point. It is dense, but not unnecessarily so. I recommend it to anyone who wants a survey of reformation that takes seriously both the sociological and theological underpinnings of the Protestant reformation. It does not contain a chapter on the reformation in England, that is to be the subject of another volume.

The Reformation: A Brief History is a succinct and engaging introduction to the origins and history of the Protestant Reformation. A rich overview of the Reformation, skillfully blending social, political, religious and theological dimensions A clearly and engagingly written narrative which draws on the latest and best scholarship Includes the history of the Reformation in Scandinavia and Eastern Europe, areas that are rarely covered in any detail The Reformation is placed in the context of the entire history of Christianity to draw out its origins, impetus, and legacy

"Appold has presented us with an introduction to Reformation history that is brief, clear, up-to-date, and blessedly free of exaggerations. [] Those who take up Reformation history today should begin here. (Tom A Brady jr., University of California, Berkley, 1 January 2013) Anyone interested in a brief history of Reformation theology would do well to read this book first to review the historical context of the debates surrounding [it] I was sorry when it came to an end. Fascinated by the brief historical account it offered, I was left wanting more. I highly recommend it. (Theology Today, 19 September 2012) This engaging book provides a fairly thorough synthesis of much of the historical writing on this period. (Theology, 1 July 2012) A history of the reformation, even a brief history in two hundred pages? In fact, because too much detail is impossible the author turns this to advantage and is able to stand back slightly and give an overview A highlight is Appolds description of the indulgence controversy the clearest and most concise I have ever read Does exactly what it says on the tin has become rather a cliché, but a brief history of the reformation is exactly what Appold provides. (Evangelical Quarterly, 2 April 2012) "Historian Appold (Princeton Theological Seminary) offers a clearly written overview of Christianity in the Reformation era that frames 16th-century events as outgrowths of a centuries-old reforming impulse, rather than a sudden religious convulsion. . . The book is unique in providing an extended discussion of the spread of Lutheranism to Scandinavia, filling in a notable gap in many accounts of the Reformation, but this comes at the expense of reforms in the British Isles. . . Summing Up: Recommended. Undergraduate collections." (Choice, 1 November 2011) Anyone interested in a brief history of Reformation theology would do well to read this book first to review the historical context of the debates surrounding [it] I was sorry when it came to an end. Fascinated by the brief historical account it offered, I was left wanting more. I highly recommend it. Theology Today "In clear and lively prose, Appold weaves the threads of a complex theological, economic, cultural, political and institutional story into a coherent narrative. Luther is clearly a central figure in the telling of his tale, but he is firmly located within the deep context of the medieval heritage, and other voices of the sixteenth century perhaps most notably, the Anabaptists get an ample and fair hearing as well. This deft, nuanced survey will serve general readers and classroom teachers alike as a reliable introduction to the Reformation era. I recommend it highly." John D. Roth, Goshen College "A masterful synthesis of the latest scholarship, this well-written, clearly told account of the Reformation in central and northern continental Europe is both traditional and innovative. Those interested in a scholarly, up-to-date, and fresh study that privileges the perspectives of the Protestant reformers need look no further." Nelson H. Minnich, The Catholic University of America "Appold has presented us with an introduction to Reformation history that is brief, clear, up-to-date, and blessedly free of exaggerations. [] Those who take up Reformation history today should begin here. Tom A Brady jr., University of California, Berkley