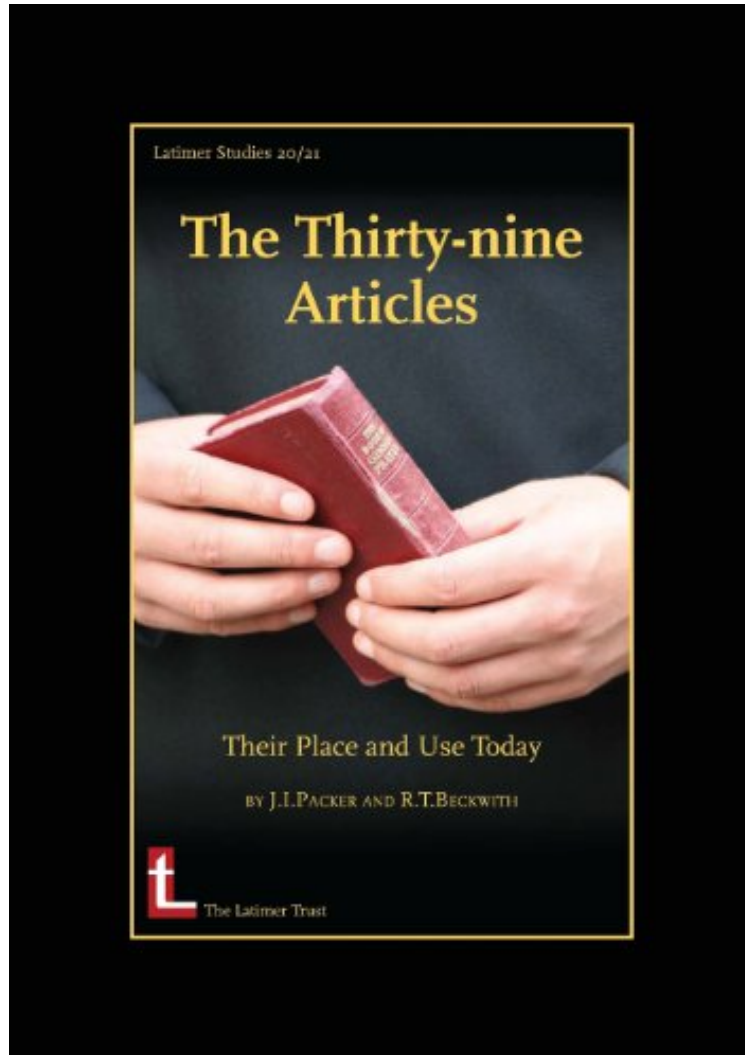


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The Thirty-Nine Articles: Their Place and Use Today

James I. Packer, Roger T. Beckwith
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James I. Packer, Roger T. Beckwith : The Thirty-Nine Articles: Their Place and Use Today before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *The Thirty-Nine Articles: Their Place and Use Today*:

23 of 24 people found the following review helpful. An Important and Relatively Unique Work for Anglicans By Fr. Charles Erlandson While many commentaries on the 39 Articles were written in the past, particularly during the 19th and early 20th centuries, not nearly as many works have been written which discuss the place and use of the Articles. Packer and Beckwith's "The Thirty-nine Articles: Their Place and Use Today" is therefore an important and practically unique work, and one that should be of great use to Anglicans. Many of the earlier commentaries on the Articles are still excellent reference works, but without an understanding of the importance and place of the Articles in the 21st

century the point of any commentary is a moot one. This treatise on the place of the Articles by two traditional Anglicans who are also scholars is a very welcome one. While Packer and Beckwith are Evangelical Anglicans, they are also, in a sense, "old school" Evangelicals who still value the role of the Prayer Book. In other words, they have a firm grasp of historic Anglican identity. At a time when Anglicans, including orthodox Anglicans, are confused about their identity, a discussion of the place of the Articles in Anglicanism, such as this one, is essential. This is especially true in North America, where the newly formed orthodox province, the ACNA, has the Articles as one of their theological norms. For all Anglicans who want to learn more about their identity and especially those who understand that the Thirty-nine Articles are an important part of Anglican identity, this work is an invaluable one. I highly recommend it. Packer and Beckwith discuss the Articles under the following topics:

1. Introduction
2. The Silence of the Articles
 - A. The Articles have No Voice in Anglican Theology (this is their assessment of the way things are - not the way they should be)
 - B. The Articles have No Voice in Anglican Liturgy
 - C. The Articles have No Voice in Anglican Community
3. The History of the Articles
 - A. The Establishing of the Articles as a Doctrinal Standard
 - B. The Developing of Different Traditions of Interpretation
 - C. The Devaluing of Clerical Subscription
4. A Place for the Articles
 - A. What authority may the Articles claim?
 - B. What functions can the Articles fulfill?
 - C. What responses do the Articles require?
5. A Use for the Articles
 - A. Assimilation
 - B. Application
 - C. Augmentation

Appendix: Supplementing the Articles

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. historian buff
By Geoff Nickerson
theology history is so fascinating. It give me a much better understanding of 'how it was', and blends well with what I am studying at the moment, Have to admit, an avid history buff. The thirty-nine articles gives me that historical insight. Recommend this book at all historians

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A good read
By Customer
Very interesting scholarship from a 19th century British point-of-view.

What defines the Church of England? Are the Thirty-nine Articles of any relevance today? Anglicanism, according to Jim Packer, possesses "the truest, wisest and potentially richest heritage in all Christendom" with the Thirty-nine Articles at its heart. They catch the substance and spirit of biblical Christianity superbly well, and also provide an excellent model of how to confess the faith in a divided Christendom. In this Latimer Study, Packer aims to show how the sixteenth century Articles should be viewed in the twenty-first century, and how they can enrich the faith of Anglicans in general and of Anglican evangelicals in particular. He demonstrates why the Articles must once again be given a voice within the church, not merely as an historical curiosity but an authoritative doctrinal statement. A thought-provoking appendix by Roger Beckwith offers seventeen Supplementary Articles, addressing theological issues which have come into prominence since the original Articles were composed. This booklet, first published more than twenty years ago, remains much in demand and as timely as ever. It has proved one of the most popular and enduring Latimer Studies, and is now issued in a second edition. Jim Packer is Board of Governors' Professor of Theology at Regent College, Vancouver. Amongst his many best-selling books are 'Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God' (1961), 'Knowing God' (1973), 'Keep in Step with the Spirit' (1984), and 'Among God's Giants' (1991). Roger Beckwith was librarian and warden of Latimer House, Oxford, for more than thirty years. His recent books include 'Elders in Every City' (2003) and 'Calendar, Chronology and Worship' (2005).