



Volume 61 | Issue 1

Article 67


5-1-2018

George's "Jesus beyond borders: Towards a "Glocal" Christology" (book review)

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Recommended Citation

Patterson, Rory (2018) "George's "Jesus beyond borders: Towards a "Glocal" Christology" (book review)," *The Christian Librarian*: Vol. 61: Iss. 1, Article 67.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.55221/2572-7478.1964>

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Book Reviews



George, S. (2016). *Jesus beyond borders: Towards a “Glocal” Christology*. New Delhi: Christian World Imprints. 339 pp. \$20.00. ISBN 9789351481614

George is a professor at Serampore University, in West Bengal, India, and he earned his Bachelor of Divinity, Master of Theology, and Doctor of Theology degrees from various institutions of higher education in India. This work is a collection of ten of George’s previously published scholarly articles (2008 to 2016) around the theme of Christology. Since most of these articles were published in Asia, this work in an opportunity to acquire content that is new for many North American audiences.

The first chapter is original content, and it provides the focus of this scholarly work and defines its key terms. George intentionally vacillates this work between Western and Eastern views on Christology. George characterizes Western Christology as focused on studying who Christ is, a more global view. He describes non-Western, and specifically Indian, Christology as acting like Christ in a local context. George more than satisfactorily meets his stated goal, providing chapters on how Indian theologians have made Christ accessible to Hindu and other Indian cultures mixed with chapters on traditional western Christology from Thomas Aquinas and others.

George meets his scholarly intent by using a wide range of Western, Indian, and other theological publications. He has many footnotes, both explanatory and citing, and includes a thirty-five-page bibliography at the end of the work of all the sources cited in it. This effort is appreciated as many collections of previously published essays just have the notes for each chapter.

The only significant weakness of the work is a lack of editing at the book level. For example, one quotation and its explanation that was repeated verbatim in two of the chapters. That is the only significant complaint from this reviewer in this otherwise insightful mixture of Western and Indian Christology, historiography, and research.

George’s work is recommended for the insight he provides on how Western and non-Western Christianity view Christ, especially within the cultures of India. This work is scholarly and well-researched, yet still accessible to upper-level undergraduates with a basic understanding of Christology.

Reviewer

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