

# Contents

FOREWORD	5
ABBREVIATIONS	11
PREFACE	13

## PART I

### ELEMENTS OF THE HISTORY OF THE DOCTRINE OF JUSTIFICATION

1. Luther's contribution to the doctrine on justification	19
<i>The centrality of justification in Luther's doctrine</i>	19
<i>Luther's understanding of justification</i>	23
1. God who justifies man in Jesus Christ	23
2. 'Faith alone justifies'	27
3. Justification, sanctification and the value of 'works'	31
2. Interpretations of Luther on justification	41
<i>Introduction</i>	41
<i>The antinomian spiritualism of the 'Schwärmer'</i>	43
1. Faith and works	44
2. The Church and the preached word	45
<i>Extrinsic justification, Melanchthon and the 'Confessio Augustana' (1530)</i>	46
1. Melanchthon and Luther	46
2. Melanchthon and the <i>Confessio Augustana</i> (1530)	49
3. The Diet of Regensburg (1541)	53
<i>Inchoate justification, Osiander, the Gnesio-Lutherans and the 'Formula Concordiae' (1577)</i>	54
<i>The Enlightenment critique of orthodox justification doctrine</i>	57
1. Justification and Pietism	58
2. Justification, Deism and the Enlightenment critique	59
3. Justification, Kant, Schleiermacher and Ritschl	64
3. Justification at the Council of Trent (1547)	70
<i>History of the decree on justification</i>	71
1. Schools of thought at Trent	72
2. Council discussions	74
3. Final stages: the nature of faith; the causes of justification	75



<i>Content of the decree on justification</i>	76
1. Chapters 1–3: God's plan of salvation	77
2. Chapters 4–9: first justification	77
3. Chapters 10–13: 'second justification', growth and preservation in grace	86
4. Chapters 14–15: loss and recovery of justification	90
5. Chapter 16: justification, good works and merit	91
<i>Interpretation of Trent's decree on justification</i>	92
4. Justification in recent ecumenical documents	95
<i>Early documents related to justification</i>	97
<i>Documents on justification outside Lutheran-Reformed/Catholic dialogue</i>	98
1. Lutheran/Reformed dialogue	98
2. Lutheran/Anglican dialogue	101
3. Lutheran/Methodist dialogue	102
4. Lutheran/Baptist dialogue	104
5. Lutheran/Orthodox dialogue	105
6. Evangelical/Old Catholic dialogue	106
7. Methodist/Roman Catholic dialogue	106
8. Anglican/Roman Catholic dialogue	109
9. Minor Lutheran-Reformed/Catholic documents on justification	117
<i>Major Lutheran-Reformed/Catholic documents on justification</i>	118
1. 'Justification by faith' (USA, 1984)	118
2. 'Justification of the sinner' (Germany, 1986)	130
3. 'Church and justification' (1993)	139

## PART TWO

### NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THE DOCTRINE OF JUSTIFICATION

5. New perspectives on justification	149
<i>Recent reinterpretations of the Lutheran doctrine of justification</i>	155
1. Justification by faith and human authenticity in R. Bultmann	155
2. Justification and doubt in P. Tillich	158
3. Justification as a theological hermeneutical principle in G. Ebeling	161
4. Man's 'search for a gracious God'	168
<i>Paul and Luther on 'justification by faith alone'</i>	169
<i>The meaning of the righteousness of God ('Iustitia Dei')</i>	185
<i>The doctrine of justification and contemporary Lutheranism</i>	194
1. A contribution to the justification debate: Karl Barth on the meaning of justification	195



2. Helsinki 1963: towards a Lutheran understanding of justification	197
3. The centrality of justification as a critical or hermeneutical principle	199
<i>Evaluation of the rôle of justification as a hermeneutical principle</i>	201
6. The doctrine of justification	209
<i>The human subject 'coram Deo': human powerlessness and 'cooperation'</i>	210
1. Tensions pending between Catholics and Lutherans	210
2. Resolving the tensions: human freedom <i>coram creaturis</i> and <i>coram Deo</i>	210
3. Tensions remaining: how passive is human receptivity to grace?	211
<i>The human subject 'coram Deo': concupiscence and sin</i>	
1. Different understandings of human sinfulness	214
2. A converging understanding of sin and sinfulness	215
3. The theological statute of 'concupiscence'	216
<i>The reality of justification: forgiveness of sin and sanctification</i>	218
1. Tensions pending between Lutherans and Catholics	218
2. Re-evaluation: the continuity between justification and sanctification	219
3. Re-evaluation: created and uncreated grace; Romans 5:5	221
4. Tensions remaining: grace vs. faith	226
5. Tensions remaining: ontological vs. actualistic understanding of grace	227
<i>Law, works and gospel in Christian life</i>	228
1. The correct relationship between God and man: law and gospel	228
2. Different understandings of 'law' and 'gospel'	230
3. The rôle of 'works' in Christian life: tensions between Catholic and Lutheran positions	231
<i>Assurance of saving grace</i>	233
1. Tensions pending	234
2. Re-evaluation of positions	234
3. Tensions remaining; the Christian's 'experience of the Spirit'	236
Concluding reflection	239
Formal and material consensus	240
Justification and ecclesiology	242
Justification and Christology	244
Justification and creation	246
BIBLIOGRAPHY	251
INDEX	279