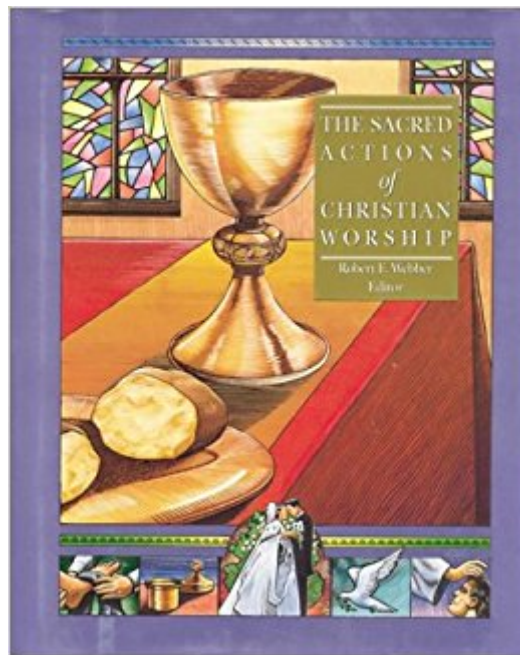




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The Sacred Actions Of Christian Worship (Complete Library Of Christian Worship)



Synopsis

In this comprehensive volume, an ecumenical group of evangelical scholars, denominational leaders, and ministers provide insight into the traditions and practices of the sacred actions of worship in the ancient, Medieval, Eastern Orthodox, Reformation, and modern churches. Other sections highlight the historical origins and development of ritual in worship. Numerous historical and contemporary liturgical and special worship services are provided throughout the volume. The combination of historical and theological surveys with sample outlines for liturgies and worship services is unique, as is the range of coverage: from baptism and the Lord's Supper to child dedication, foot washing, and renewal of baptismal pledges as practiced by a wide variety of Christian groups. The Sacred Actions of Christian Worship is a rich storehouse of information and guidance for those who plan and participate in Christian worship. Dennis D. Martin, Assistant Professor of Theology, Loyola University

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Robert E. Webber, Th.D., has been on the forefront of the worship renewal movement for more than two decades as a speaker, author, and teacher. He has held the post of professor of theology at Wheaton College since 1968 and is currently involved in the development of the Institute of Worship Studies, a school for pastors and other church leaders. He is the author of *Blended Worship*, *Worship is a Verb*, and is the editor of *The Complete Library of Christian Worship*.

Webber did a very good job compiling an encyclopedic history of the practices of worship. It provides perspectives from various denominations, but falls short in offering theology of liturgy.

As noted with previous volumes, this series takes an encyclopaedic approach, and with various authors handling the various entries, there is inevitably some differences in style and quality of the articles. I have, though, found this to be a good approach for this series. Also given that the aim of each volume is in no way independent to the other volumes, there is quite noticeable overlap when reading the full set as I am endeavouring to do. However such overlap is good, and ensures that the set works as a valuable reference for worship. This volume looks more closely at the sacraments / ordinances (including covering the different approaches that are involved with these two terms) of the Church. Each "sacred action" is covered quite thoroughly with examination of the early Church, Medieval Period, Reformation, Eastern Orthodox and Modern Approaches, and including denominational differences where applicable. For the actions various liturgies, activities, service orders are included - and are often followed by commentaries explaining what is going on. Actions covered include the "big two": Baptism and Communion; as well as Child Dedication, Marriage, Funeral Service, Ordination, Reconciliation, Anointing the Sick, Foot Washing and the Solemn Assembly. In fact I knew nothing of this last action :) This is a good book if you want to not only learn why your Church does Baptism, Communion, etc the way it does; but also a fine ecumenical resource to help understand why some of your Christian brothers and sisters do things differently.

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