

Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

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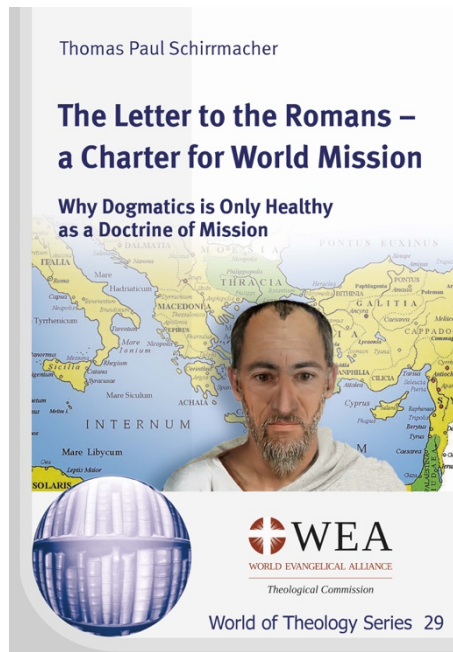
English version of ‘The Letter to the Romans – a Charter for World Mission’ published

Why dogmatics is only healthy as a doctrine of mission

(Bonn, 12.05.2025) Since 1988, Prof. Dr. Thomas Schirmacher has argued—first in essays, then in his commentary on the letter to the Romans—that the letter to the Romans primarily serves to justify world mission from the Holy Scriptures, i.e. the Old Testament, and that Paul's theology is inextricably linked to his missionary practice.

“The introduction and conclusion of the letter to the Romans,” says Schirmacher, “do not simply describe the occasion for the letter, but already set out the central theme. Dogmatics and mission are thus only the two flip sides of the same coin.” According to Schirmacher, the Western church has strongly emphasized the dogmatic character of the letter to the Romans, but at the same time has all too often lost its missionary character.

The German version of the book was published in 2024. Now, the English version ‘The Letter to the Romans – a Charter for World Mission’ is available. Therein, not only Schirmacher's contributions on the subject since 1993 are compiled, but it also includes a comprehensive history of the thesis that the letter to the Romans is a call to world mission (“mission thesis”), which compiles all the representatives known to the author since 1863.



A joint platform for the following Bonn organizations on the basis of the Evangelical Alliance:

Bonn Abrahamic Center for Global Justice, Peace and Sustainability

Business Coalition of the World Evangelical Alliance (Bonn, Hamburg) business.worlddea.org

Evangelical Missiology, Journal of missiotope – Evangelical Forum for Missions, Cultures and Religions (German Evangelical Alliance) missiotope.org

Evangelical Review of Theology (New York, Bonn) theology.worlddea.org/evangelical-review-of-theology

Giving Hands – International Charity (Bonn) gebende-haende.de

Institut für Islamfragen der Deutschen, Schweizer und Österreichischen Allianz (IfI) islaminstitut.de

International Institute for Islamic Studies (IIIS) (Bonn) islam institute.net

International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF) (Bonn, Vancouver, San José – Costa Rica) iirf.global

International Journal for Religious Freedom (IJRF) (Bonn/Toronto) ijrf.org

International Secretariat of the International Society for Human Rights (ISHR) ishr.org

Islam and Christianity journal.islaminstitut.net

Martin Bucer Seminary (Bonn, Zürich, Tirana, São Paulo, Helsinki, Istanbul, Delhi) bucer.org

SOS World (Brussels) sosworld.be/page-daccueil

Theological Commission of the European Evangelical Alliance europeanea.org

Verlag für Kultur und Wissenschaft (VKW) (Culture and Science Publ.) vkwonline.com

WEA book series: Global Issues Series / World of Theology Series theology.worlddea.org/global-issues
theology.worlddea.org/world-of-theology

WEA Sustainability Center wea-sc.org

Yearbook on Religious Freedom of the Commission for Religious Freedom of the German and the Austrian Evangelical Alliance iirf.global/jahrbuch

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Bibliographical information

- Thomas Paul Schirmmacher (ed.). *The Letter to the Romans – a Charter for World Mission: Why Dogmatics is Only Healthy as a Doctrine of Mission*. World of Theology Series 29. Verlag für Kultur und Wissenschaft: Bonn, 2025. 110 pp. Pb. 16 Euro. ISBN 978-3-86269-288-0.

Downloads and Links:

- **Foto:** Greek papyrus $\P^{118}$, 3rd century, University of Cologne One of the earliest surviving copies of the Epistle to the Romans Contents: Romans 15:26–27, 32–33; 16:1, 4–7, 11–12 Photographed in an exhibition at the Bible Museum of the University of Münster © Thomas Schirmmacher
- Author's page for the book with book download:
<https://thomasschirmmacher.net/?p=22459>
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- Order option: <https://vkwonline.com/The-Letter-to-the-Romans-as-a-Charter-for-World-Mission>

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