

The Theology of John Duns Scotus

By

Antonie Vos



BRILL

LEIDEN | BOSTON

Contents

Preface IX

Abbreviations XI

Notes on References XII

1 Duns Scotus' Life and Works – Ideas of Theology 1

1.1 Introduction 1

1.2 Historical Background 2

1.3 Oxford 5

1.4 Paris I 15

1.5 Oxford and Cambridge 19

1.6 Paris II and Cologne 24

1.7 Duns Scotus' Biblical Theology 31

1.8 Theology as Scientific Activity 37

1.9 Perspectives 46

2 God Triune 48

2.1 Introduction 48

2.2 Historical Background 50

2.3 The Life of the Trinity: *processio* and *productio* 56

2.4 *Potentia absoluta/ordinata* 67

2.5 The Generation of the Son 68

2.6 The Spiration of the Holy Spirit 78

2.7 The Constitution of Divine Persons 82

2.8 Epilogue 92

3 Jesus Christ 98

3.1 Introduction 98

3.2 Some Background Information 100

3.3 The Crucial Christ 105

3.4 The Two Natures of Jesus Christ 115

3.5 Reconciliation 125

3.6 Adoptionism? 133

3.7 Outlook 144

4 Creation 147

4.1 Introduction 147

4.2 God the Creator 149

4.3	Trinitarian Creativity	159
4.4	Creation as Relation	163
4.5	Material Things	167
4.6	The Eternity of the World	174
4.7	Time, Place and Space	182
4.8	Creation, Philosophy and Science	193
5	Ethics	198
5.1	Introduction	198
5.2	Duns Scotus' Ethical Writings	201
5.3	<i>Actus</i> and <i>praxis</i>	203
5.4	Kinds of Laws	206
5.5	The Sabbath Commandment	211
5.6	The Virtue of Being Human	214
5.7	Lying	221
5.8	Perjury	223
5.9	Bigamy	226
5.10	Harris on Scotus' Ethics	228
5.11	Concluding Remarks	232
6	Justification	236
6.1	Introduction	236
6.2	Idiom and Tradition	238
6.3	The Context of the Doctrine of Justification	243
6.4	Love and the Holy Spirit	245
6.5	<i>Acceptatio divina</i>	249
6.6	Grace and Sin	253
6.7	Martin Luther on Justification	259
6.8	Hans Küng and Karl Barth	267
6.9	Outlook	273
7	Predestination	275
7.1	Introduction	275
7.2	Terminology: 'Predestination' and 'Election'	278
7.3	The Contingency of Predestination	279
7.4	God's Permission	287
7.5	The Finality of Election	301
7.6	The Structure of Election	303
7.7	The Number of the Elect and the Fall	311
7.8	The Structure of Rejection	315

7.9 Final Considerations	327
8 Sacraments	335
8.1 Introduction	335
8.2 Sacrament	336
8.3 Baptism	347
8.4 Confirmation	354
8.5 The Eucharist	357
8.6 Penance and Confession	378
8.7 The Extreme Unction	381
8.8 Sacred Orders	382
8.9 Marriage	385
8.10 Systematic Coherence	388
9 Theology in a New Key: Extrapolations and Perspectives	392
9.1 Introduction	392
9.2 The Doctrine of God Triune	394
9.3 God Incarnate: Light from Light, God from God	397
9.4 Creation and Anthropology	406
9.5 Ethics: Ethics of Existence and Love	408
9.6 Grace, Justification and Predestination	414
9.7 Perspectives	415
Bibliography	419
Index	446