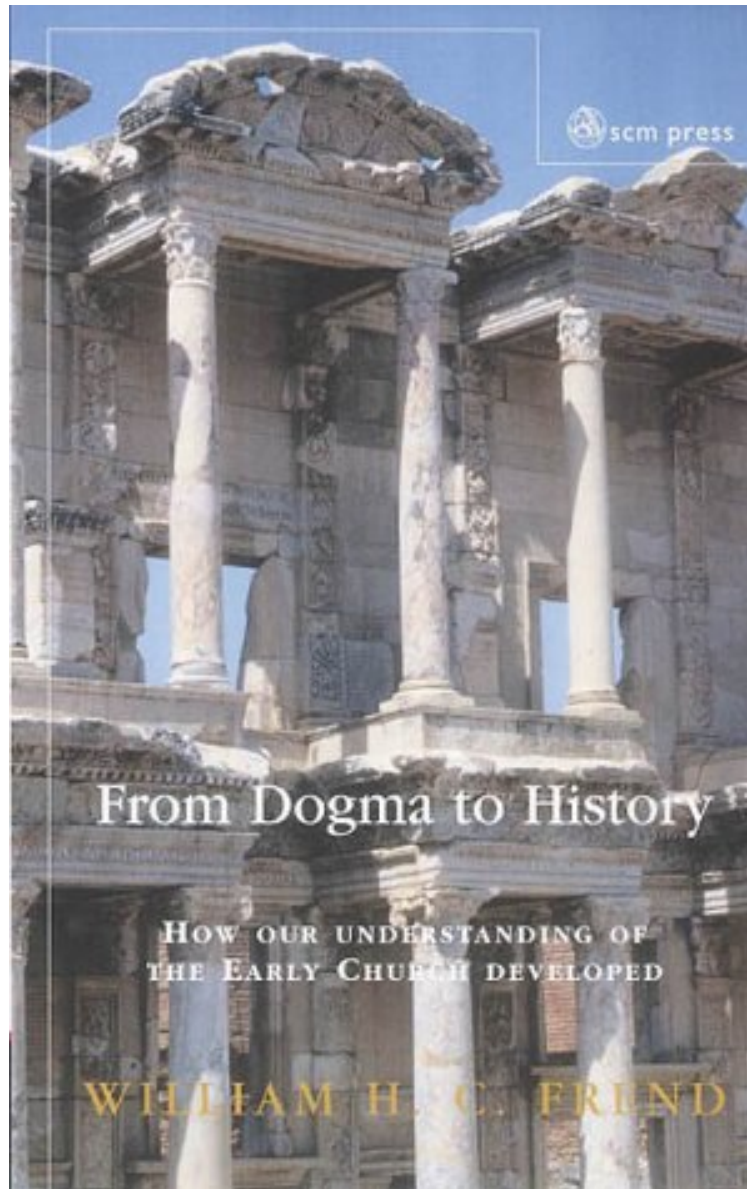


(Mobile ebook) From Dogma to History (How Our Understanding of the Early Church Developed)

From Dogma to History (How Our Understanding of the Early Church Developed)

W.H.C Frend

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W.H.C Frend : From Dogma to History (How Our Understanding of the Early Church Developed) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised From Dogma to History (How Our Understanding of the Early Church Developed):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A gentle tour By Horatio5 Frennd casts his eye back over his life and gives his view on some of the most important figures who have contributed to the reconciliation of archaeological and historical study to areas traditionally viewed as particular to the work of theologians. Frennd sees himself very much in the spirit of this tradition, although he modestly confers praise on its most distinguished exponents, often putting his own contributions to one side. Frennd's semi-autobiographical moments are most interesting: we learn of his experience in Germany where he operated for the British foreign office in the aftermath of the war: before it, he went to learn under the direct auspices of Hans Lietzmann himself. Frennd contextualises his interest in the most important matters of ancient religious history as a young man against the backdrop of the contemporary desperation he lived through - which, as we know, was not without its religious significance. Frennd is a kind writer and a kind man, but he can produce a turn of phrase to excite and his accounts of his archaeological adventures in Algeria are most readable because of this. Anyone interested in learning of the personality and character and personal history of one of the great religious historians of the twentieth century should read this book. Even if Frennd is not always right in his other books, his studies are always important and here we have a window into the passion for his subject which throughout his life propelled him to write his intricate studies.

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Not about Christian history By T. Gorski As the previous reviewer notes, this book is about the people (six of them) whom the author feels contributed most to our understanding of the early Christian church. It is *not* about the early Christian church. So read this book if you want to find out how, for example, Hans Lietzmann belonged to the Wednesday Society local discussion group which included members of the anti-Nazi underground during WWII and of Lietzmann's concerns about what the Nazis (National Socialists) were doing to academia at that time. But this book is **NOT ABOUT THE EARLY CHURCH** as the cover blurb suggests. Which is perfectly OK but this fact limits the number of interested readers. I found it and bought it from where it was prominently displayed at a bookstore with other works that *were* about the early church and theology so I felt a bit misled even though I did plow through it and learn some interesting things, just not what I expected.

A renowned theologian examines the work of the six scholars who shaped his career. A companion book to Frennd's *"The Early Church"*, it shows the evolution of his thought throughout his career. Including precis of the thoughts of: Adolf von Harnack, Hans Lietzmann, Stephane Gsell, Sir William Ramsay, Mgr Louis Duchesne and Norman Baynes, it will appeal to academics and interested lay persons.

About the Author W H C Frennd was formerly Professor of Ecclesiastical History in the University of Glasgow.