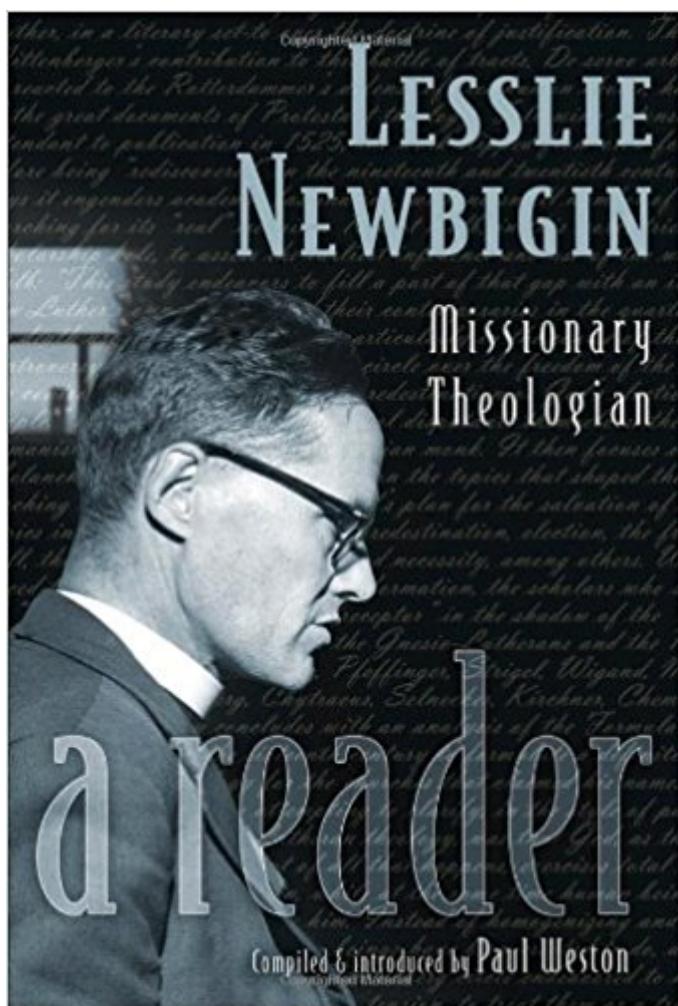


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Lesslie Newbigin: Missionary Theologian: A Reader



Synopsis

Lesslie Newbigin (1909-1998) was an internationally esteemed British missionary, pastor, apologist, theologian, and ecumenical statesman. His long career included serving as a village evangelist in India, pastor in the United Reformed Church (UK), bishop of the Church of South India, general secretary of the International Missionary Council, and associate general secretary of the World Council of Churches. His highly regarded books have included *Foolishness to the Greeks: The Gospel and Western Culture*, *The Gospel in a Pluralist Society*, *The Open Secret*, and *Proper Confidence* (all Eerdmans). This reader concentrates for the most part on his later writings, demonstrating his missionary engagement with Western culture following his return to from India to the UK in 1974. Some of his earlier work is also included so as to show the ongoing significance of certain themes in his thought.

Book Information

Paperback: 277 pages

Publisher: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company; First Edition, First Printing edition (March 27, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0802829821

ISBN-13: 978-0802829825

Product Dimensions: 6.7 x 0.7 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #493,075 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #86 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Theology > Ecumenism #795 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Missions & Missionary Work #942 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Evangelism

Customer Reviews

"Lesslie Newbigin was the opposite of an "armchair" scholar. Gifted with a brilliant mind and totally committed to Jesus Christ, Newbigin had a knack for being where the action was... Paul Weston's biographical sketch admirably introduces him as a person, leader and thinker. This excellent resource makes accessible the thought of one of the foremost Christian leaders of the twentieth century, whose vigorous reflections on the vital issues of ministry and mission speak with continuing freshness and challenge.' Wilbert R. Shenk, Fuller Theological Seminary 'Lesslie Newbigin was one

of the seminal Christian thinkers of the present age, alert to the implications of Christian living both in the West and in India, and Paul Weston is established as an outstanding interpreter of his thought. To have this treasury so thoughtfully drawn from the vast corpus of Newbigin's writings, and so skilfully presented, is a blessing indeed.' Professor Andrew Walls Centre for the Study of the Non-Western World, University of Edinburgh 'Lesslie Newbigin's writings span an extraordinary range of topics, and he brings a deeply refreshing Christian wisdom to everything he touches. He is if anything even more needed today than he was in his own lifetime. This book will enable a new generation to draw living water from the deep well of his prayerful thought and so to be re-energised for the tasks ahead.' N. T. Wright, Bishop of Durham" --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Monumental figure in the twentieth-century worldwide church. Internationally esteemed British pastor and missionary theologian. Ecumenical statesman and prolific writer. Lesslie Newbigin (1909-1998) was all of these and more. This reader fills a long-standing need for a comprehensive introduction to Newbigin and his legacy. Opening with a short biography of Newbigin and a discussion of his major theological and missiological themes, the volume sets selected readings in context with brief introductions and offers suggestions for further reading from Newbigin's corpus. Praise for Lesslie Newbigin and his writings: "Newbigin has made a bold and major step forward in the debate on Christianity, pluralism, and Western self-understanding."-- Lamin Sanneh in "The Christian Century""When my students finally realize what Newbigin is saying, they panic. When they realize that even the most faithful circles they know have been seduced by sectarianism, solipsism, Gnosticism, and nihilism, they worry that apostasy is unavoidable. . . . Yet, despite the surrounding darkness, Newbigin never loses hope, because he stays focused on the light that has come."-- Telford Work in "Pro Ecclesia""Newbigin is most impressive, indeed awesome, when defending the universality of the Christian gospel and exposing the muddleheadedness and loss of nerve that have turned many Western churches into domestic chaplaincies rather than launching pads for cross-cultural mission at home and abroad."-- Vinoth Ramachandra in "Themelios""Seeing both liberal and fundamentalist Christians imprisoned in the epistemological presuppositions of the Enlightenment, Lesslie Newbigin offers them liberation by pointing to the fiduciary character of all human knowledge. The best form of apologetics, he contends, is the preaching of the particular yet universal gospel."-- Geoffrey Wainwright on Newbigin's "Proper Confidence"

An excellent overview of Newbigin's work. Weston thoughtfully uses early and later writing to open a

window into Newbigin's thought development. A great survey.

Interested in what Newbigin has to say? This is a good place to start, I think. Newbigin was a prolific writer and discovering this book helped me decide the which and where. Great time saver. Much of what Newbigin had to say continues to be applicable today and Weston has done a great job pulling it together.

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