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Titolo Pubbl/distr/stampa	Interpreting Christian History [[electronic resource]] Hoboken, : Wiley, 2008
ISBN	1-280-19753-6 9786610197538 0-470-77416-9 1-4051-4541-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (306 p.)
Disciplina Soggetti	270 Church history History History - Religious aspects - Christianity Church history - Religious aspects Religion Philosophy & Religion Christianity
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Preface; Introduction; Diversities of Belief, Practice, and Priorities; History and Diversity; Steering Between Two Extremes; The Compass and Structure of the Book; History and Theory; 1 The Unfolding of Christian History: a Sketch; Christianity: a Jewish Heresy Spreads Across the Eastern Empire; Greek and Latin, East and West; Persecution, Legal Establishment, Empowerment, and Retreat; The Eastern Church, the Spread of Islam, and Expansion Northwards; The Western Church of Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages; Disputes over Control, and the Rise of a Continental Church The High Medieval SynthesisLater Middle Ages: the Era of Fragmentation; Challenges and Ruptures: Renaissance and Reformation; The Age of Competing Orthodoxies; Challenges to Orthodoxy: Reason, Enlightenment, and Revolution; The Era of Romanticism and its Implications; The Multiple Crises of the Twentieth

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	Century; Reflecting on the Process of Historical Development; 2 Constantly Shifting Emphases in Christian History; Means to Holiness Become Ultimate Goals; Asceticism: Giving Things Up for God; Expecting Miracles; Martyrdom; Sacrament and Sacrifice: the Eucharistic Church The Company of Heaven: the Communion of SaintsPurity of Doctrine and Instruction: the School of Faith; The Christian Community and its Membership; Reflections on Shifting Priorities; 3 Church Historians' Responses to Change and Diversity; The Early Church: Eusebius of Caesarea; Early Medieval Church History: Bede; The High Middle Ages: A Monastic Chronicle; Renaissance Historiography: Rhetoric and Skepticism; The Reformation and the Rise of a Sense of History; The Rise of Reformed Schools of Church History; Confessional Histories in the Age of Orthodoxy Writing Christian History in the Shadow of the EnlightenmentToward "Modern" Histories of Christianity; Postmodern and Liberation-oriented Approaches to Christian History; Summary and Conclusions; 4 Some Theologians Reflect on the Historical Problem; The Historical Background to Historical-critical Theology; The Challenge of Ludwig Feuerbach to "Modernizing" Theology; German Liberal Protestant Theology of the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries; Responses to Liberalism in the Twentieth Century; Thomism, Mysticism, and Neo- liberalism: Some Roman Catholic Responses Cultural Diversity, Liberation, Postliberalism, and PostmodernityDrawing the Threads Together; Conclusion; Notes; Index
Sommario/riassunto	This book explores the theological lessons to be learnt from 2000 years of Christian Church history. An exploration of the theological lessons to be learnt from the difficult history of the Christian churches over the past 2,000 years Opens with an introductory essay on the whole of Church history, making the book suitable for lay readers as well as students Combines historical, historiographical and theological analysis Reunites the disciplines of theology and Church history Concludes that we can only ever perceive a facet of Christianity given our hist