

THE SOCIETY FOR ECUMENICAL STUDIES

The Forgotten Trinity (second edition, CTBI, 2011)

A review by Barney Milligan

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Is the doctrine of the Trinity an irrelevance? Or is it of vital importance to the life of the churches? In 1983 the British Council of Churches set up a Study Commission on Trinitarian Doctrine which grappled with these questions and other issues. It was prompted to do so by:

- the need to set the charismatic movement's witness to the Spirit in a Trinitarian context
- the theological concerns of the Orthodox members of the BCC
- work done by the World Council of Churches' Faith and Order Commission

The result of this commission was a three volume publication under the title *The Forgotten Trinity*:

- Vol.1: The Report of the BCC Study Commission on Trinitarian Doctrine Today
- Vol.2: A Study Guide on issues contained in the report
- Vol 3: A Selection of papers presented to the Commission

Although more than 20 years old, they remain an important contribution to ecumenical theological discussions. The second edition is now available, combining the three publications from the work of the Commission - a Report, a Study Guide and a Selection of Papers - in a single volume for the first time.