

Adam Palion

Billy Graham, "Ewangelizator w rozdartym świecie. Studium ekumeniczne" = "Evangelist and a Torn World. Ecumenical Study", ed. Adam Palion, "Oecumenica Silesiana" 2016, 1

Ecumeny and Law 5, 313-315

2017

Artykuł został opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej bazhum.muzhp.pl, gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

Billy GRAHAM: „*Ewangelizator w rozdartym świecie*”
Studium ekumeniczne
 (“Evangelist and a Torn World.” Ecumenical Study)
Ed. Adam PALION. [*Oecumenica Silesiana*, Vol. 1]
Katowice 2015, 194 pp.

In 2015, volume one of an academic journal *Oecumenica Silesiana* was issued; its purpose is to promote the humanist, ecumenical, and social thought.

The volume is devoted to the figure of Billy Graham, an American Baptist evangelist, who in 1978 carried on evangelization in the Roman Catholic Archcathedral of Christ the King in Katowice.

The author of the first article in the volume is Wojciech Kowalewski (Evangelical School of Theology), who expands on the subject: “Billy Graham’s theology of mission — a biographical sketch.” The author draws attention to the role and the message of the evangelist, rooted in conservative circles of evangelical Protestantism.

Jerzy Rogaczewski (the Baptist Union of Poland) is the author of the second article: “Cross — at the centre of evangelization,” in which he presents B. Graham’s stay in the Upper Silesia in 1978, and a visit of Billy’s son, Franklin Graham, in 2014.

Another chapter was written by Mateusz Wichary (President of the Baptist Union of Poland): “Conversion as an ecumenical experience of the Cross in the message of Billy Graham.” The author presents a thesis that “the call to conversion made by B. Graham is an ecumenical experience of the Cross, which is still fundamentally important.”

Jerzy Sojka (Christian Theological Academy in Warsaw) deals with the issues related to the Word proclaimed in the theology of Martin Luther

and the later Lutheranism. In his article, the author analyzes the theological thought of Martin Luther, placing the issue of the Word proclaimed in a broader category of “the Word of God.” The author also points to the differences in interpretation and the role of the category of the Word between the theology of Luther and the reformative profession of faith it entails.

The author of the fifth article, Tomasz Józefowicz (School of Theology and Social Science in Warsaw), presents an article entitled: “A holistic mission of the Church as a multifaceted expression of the reality of the Cross. Overcoming the dichotomy between evangelism and social responsibility in the documents of the Lausanne Movement,” on the formation of the term “holistic mission,” that emerged among evangelical theologians in the 1970s. The author stresses that “the authentic mission of the Church should include both evangelism and social activity as its integral and inseparable components.”

“We preach Christ crucified” (1 Corinthians 1:23) as a common task of all Christians” is the title of a chapter written by scholar and lecturer of the Faculty of Theology of the University of Silesia in Katowice, Jan Górski.

Adam Palion, founder of the Ecumenical and Interfaith Dialogue Academy in Katowice is the author of the text: “Ecumenical aftermath of Billy Graham’s evangelization in Silesia.” He presents the history of evangelization in Katowice, starting with Billy Graham’s visit in 1978, which brought hope that the best way to unity is the Cross of Christ.

“Examples of cooperation of Churches in cultural and religious animation in Silesia” is the title of an article written by Henryk Olszar (University of Silesia in Katowice, Faculty of Theology). It describes the relationship between brothers and sisters in faith, represented in Silesia mainly by two denominations: Catholic and Evangelical-Augsburg. Relations between those Churches were not always as proper and friendly as they are in the 21st century. The author presents common ecumenical campaigns, which have contributed to meetings of brothers and sisters in Christ by giving a shared witness. The author provides examples of “Silesian ecumenical hope,” consisting in sharing the pulpit to preach the Word, organizing joint social initiatives of ecumenical nature and common prayers to God for the dawn of the one sheepfold.

In the article that follows, Bożena Cholewa (the Colonel Gwido Langer Technical School Complex in Cieszyn) addresses the subject: “European Union — a common cultural and religious heritage,” presenting an outline of the idea of unification of Europe over the centuries, starting with Herodotus, who lived approximately 484—425 BC, until the events of the 20th century: the Polish Solidarity movement, the Czech Velvet Revolution,” and “the toppling down of the Berlin Wall.”

In the final article, Marcin Imach (University of Silesia in Katowice) presents the historical situation of Christian families in the Middle East, with particular emphasis put on the period of the Crusades and the traditional Islamic period.

The publication is concluded with unauthorized texts of two evangelizations: by Billy Graham (from 1978) and Franklin Graham (from 2014).

Adam Palion