

[Skreslet, Stanley H. *Comprehending Mission: The Questions, Methods, Themes, Problems, and Prospect of Missiology* . 2012.](#) Skreslet provides a comprehensive, modern introduction to missiology as an interdisciplinary academic field. Rather than advocating for a single missionary strategy, he maps out how missiology intersects with history, theology, social sciences, and intercultural studies. The work is highly valued for its pedagogical clarity, systematically breaking down the core questions, methodologies, and persistent contemporary problems that define global Christian witness in the 21st century.

Mission Theology

[Blauw, Johannes. *The Missionary Nature of the Church: A Survey of the Biblical Theology of Mission* . 1962.](#) Commissioned by the World Council of Churches, Blauw's influential study traces the biblical foundations of mission across both Testaments. He argues that mission is not merely a tangential activity of the church, but essential to its very identity (the missionary nature of the church). Moving from the centripetal nature of the Old Testament (the nations drawn to Israel) to the centrifugal mandate of the New Testament (the church sent out to the nations), Blauw establishes a robust biblical-theological framework for global witness.

[Henry, A. M. *A Mission Theology* . 1962.](#) Written from a progressive mid-20th-century Roman Catholic perspective, Henry explores the theological reality of the Church's missionary mandate. He contextualizes mission within the overarching economy of salvation, emphasizing that the proclamation of the Gospel must be dynamically related to human history and social development. The work anticipates many of the missiological shifts that would be formalized during the Second Vatican Council, particularly regarding the role of the laity and the necessity of engaging the modern world.

[Tennet, Timothy. *Invitation to World Missions: A Trinitarian Missiology for the Twenty-first Century* . 2010.](#) Tennent, a leading evangelical missiologist, delivers a definitive textbook that grounds global missions firmly within a Trinitarian framework (*Missio Dei*). He frames mission as an extension of the character and actions of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, exploring how this theological foundation shapes contemporary issues like contextualization, urban ministry, and religious pluralism. It serves as an intellectually rigorous and pastorally passionate guide for navigating the realities of the shifting global Christian landscape.

History

[Warneck, Gustav. *Outline of a History of Protestant Missions from the Reformation to the Present Time.* Edited by George Robson. Edinburgh: Oliphant, Anderson and Ferrier, 1901.](#) Originally written by Gustav

Warneck—the father of modern Protestant missiology—and translated/edited for the English-speaking world by George Robson, this foundational text offers a highly detailed, classic survey of Protestant global expansion. Warneck traces the historical development of missionary zeal from its slow awakening during the Reformation through the explosive growth of the 19th century ("The Great Century"). The work is celebrated for its historic value, systematic tracking of missionary societies, and early theological reflections on indigenous church planting.

[Ross, John. *Mission Methods in Manchuria* . 1903.](#) Ross, a legendary Scottish Presbyterian missionary to Northeast China, outlines his highly successful, innovative strategy for establishing indigenous churches. Writing at the turn of the 20th century, Ross argues passionately against Westernizing converts, advocating instead for immediate native leadership, widespread lay evangelism, and translating the Scriptures into the local vernacular. This historical case study remains a classic text in missiological history, illustrating early, practical principles of self-governance and self-support.

[Kane, Herbert J. *A Concise History of the Christian World Mission: A Panoramic View of the Christian World Mission* . 1982.](#) Kane delivers a masterful, accessible single-volume history of the global expansion of the Christian faith from the apostolic era to the late 20th century. Written from a warm evangelical perspective, the book offers a sweeping, panoramic narrative of key missionary movements, figures, and geographic expansions across Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas. Kane balances historical data with missiological analysis, making this an enduring textbook for understanding the historical currents that shaped modern global Christianity.

Dictionaries

[Anderson, Gerald H., ed. *Biographical Dictionary of Christian Mission* .](#) This monumental reference work is the definitive biographical sourcebook for global missiology, containing over 2,400 concise sketches of key figures in the history of Christian mission. Anderson curates entries across Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican, Protestant, Evangelical, and Pentecostal traditions, highlighting missionaries, indigenous leaders, theologians, and strategists. It is an indispensable research tool for evaluating the human stories, diverse methodologies, and multi-faceted historical impact of the global Christian movement.

The page content is assisted by Gemini AI and humanly edited.

