Revisiting George Lindbeck’s “The Nature of Doctrine”

The Nature of Doctrine, by George Lindbeck, is one of the most influential works of academic theology of the past 50 years. Lindbeck sets forth the central tenets of a postliberal approach to theology, emphasizing a cultural-linguistic approach to religion and a rule theory of doctrine. In addition to his account of the nature of religion, Lindbeck also addresses the resolution of historic doctrinal conflict among Christian communities, the relationship between Christianity and other religions, and the nature and task of theology itself.

Eugene Rogers was educated at Princeton University and then Yale University, where he was a student of George Lindbeck. Rogers taught at Yale College and Divinity School, Shaw University Divinity School, St. Anselm College, and, from 1993 to 2005, at the University of Virginia, where for several years he chaired the Program in Theology, Ethics, and Culture. He is currently professor of religious studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

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