

Nathan Söderblom

His Life and Work

by Bengt G. M. Sundkler

DESCRIPTION:

Nathan Söderblom (1866-1931), was not only a profoundly influential figure in Swedish church history, but also one of the great pioneers of the modern ecumenical movement. Elected Archbishop of Uppsala, the head of the Lutheran church in Sweden, in 1914, he was a ceaseless advocate for peace during the first world war. His collaboration with George Bell laid the foundations for intercommunion between the Church of Sweden and the Church of England. Finally, in the year before he died, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Despite this, until this landmark biography he was largely neglected by historians, the subject of only a few partial studies. In Nathan Söderblom: His Life and Work, Bengt Sundkler corrects this, with new analysis of Söderblom's meticulously preserved correspondence and interviews with his family, friends and former students. The resulting image is of a man deeply committed to his leadership of ecumenical projects, most significantly his movement of 'Life and Work', but also of a complex and fascinating personality.

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Bengt G.M. Sundkler (1908-1995) was a Swedish-Tanzanian church historian and bishop of Bukoba. His academic appointments included positions in Uppsala, Aberdeen and Tübingen. As well as his work on world Christianity and African church history, which included Bantu Prophets in South Africa (James Clarke & Co., 1948), he wrote several works on Nathan Söderblom.

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