

ThZ 3/26 (2010) S. 223–249

«Zur Lösung einer praktischen Aufgabe»

Mit Schleiermacher die theologische Existenz verstehen\*

Franz Christ, Basel

The article rises the question of theological existence in the horizon of Schleiermacher's theology. First the term is elucidated as it was shaped by Karl Barth in 1933. Schleiermacher's understanding of theology as «positive science for the solution of a practical task» can be an answer to nowadays' multireligious challenge. A discussion of Wolfhart Pannenberg's criticism of Schleiermacher's definition of theology and Albrecht Grözinger's reception of it leads to an explanation of the term of «Kirchenleitung» (church-leadership) in more detail. The circulation of communication between the mainly productive and the mainly receptive ones aims at an even possession of the spirit within the church. After a closer look at the reality of the common spirit Schleiermacher's Christmas dialogue is exhibited as a narrative anticipation of the solution of the task. Finally practical theology is understood as the culmination of the way theology proceeds. Theological existence is rooted in the dialogue which is determined by the Word Incarnated and the Holy Spirit.

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