



WALTER BRUEGGEMANN

Walter Brueggemann is an American theologian who is widely known for being one of the most influential scholars of the Old Testament. He has served as faculty at Eden Theological Seminary for 25 years before serving at Columbia Theology Seminary where he currently works. His primary method with text is rhetorical criticism, hearing how he hangs on to theologically significant words shows that words truly matter to him.



Selected Quotations

- "Sabbath, in the first instance, is not about worship. It is about work stoppage. It is about withdrawal from the anxiety system of Pharaoh, the refusal to let one's life be defined by production and consumption and the endless pursuit of private well-being."
- "The key players, it turns out, are those who refuse to be credentialed or curbed by traditional modes of power, who understand that the transformative power of truth is not a credible companion for consolidating modes of established power, but that truth characteristically runs beyond the confines of such power."
- "Multitasking is the drive to be more than we are, to control more than we do, to extend our power and our effectiveness. Such practice yields a divided self, with full attention given to nothing."
- "Quite clearly, the one thing the dominant culture cannot tolerate or co-opt is compassion, the ability to stand in solidarity with the victims of the present order. It can manage charity and good intentions, but it has no way to resist solidarity with pain or grief."



Online Materials:

- Awakening / Contemplations Part II of VI (2020)
- The Ache / Contemplations Part I of VI (2020)
- Walter Brueggemann: An Interview (2018)

Further reading

- Interrupting Silence: God's Command to Speak Out (2018)
- Virus as a Summons to Faith: Biblical Reflections in a Time of Loss, Grief, and Uncertainty (2020)
- Delivered Out of Empire (2021)