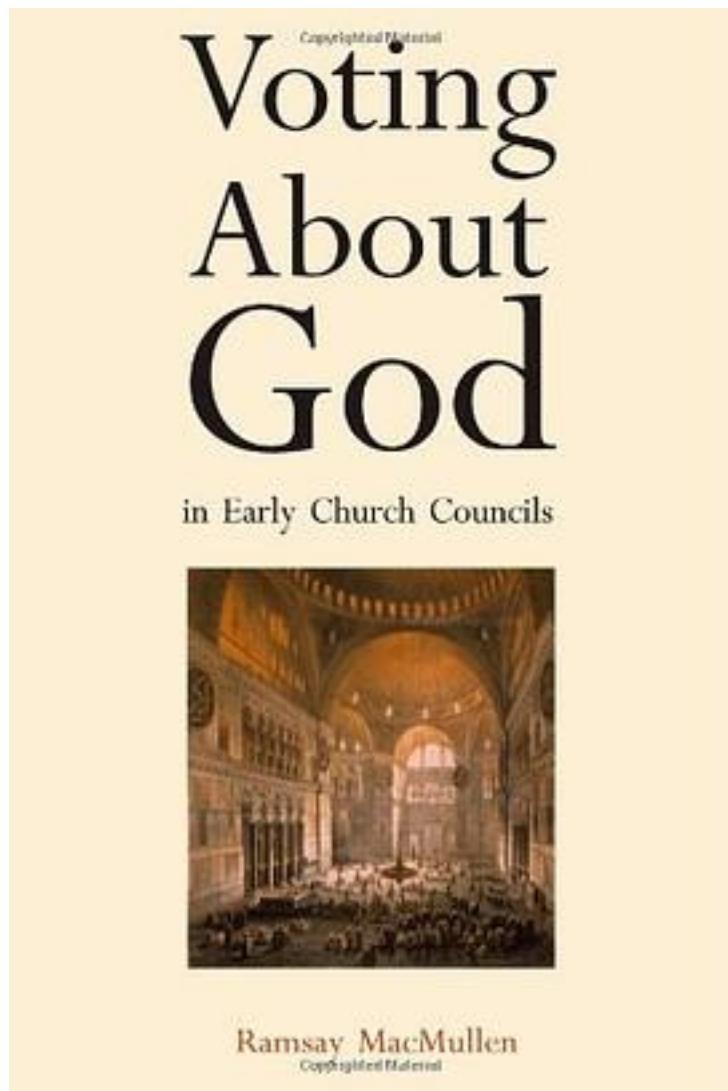


Voting About God in Early Church Councils



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In this study, Ramsay MacMullen steps aside from the well-worn path that previous scholars have trod to explore exactly how early Christian doctrines became official. Drawing on extensive verbatim stenographic records, he analyzes the ecumenical councils from A.D. 325 to 553, in which participants gave authority to doctrinal choices by majority vote. The author investigates the sometimes astonishing bloodshed and violence that marked the background to church council proceedings, and from there goes on to describe the planning and staging of councils, the emperors' role, the routines of debate, the participants' understanding of the issues, and their views on God's intervention in their activities. He concludes with a look at the significance of the councils and their doctrinal decisions within the history of Christendom.

作者介绍:

目录:

[Voting About God in Early Church Councils](#) [下载链接1](#)

标签

教会史

宗教

基督教

MacMullen

HisChristianity

英文原版

评论

这本书读来真的畅快。是最初试图打破政治史和早期基督教大壁垒的一批大作。我经常会认为MacMullen是很敢下论断的作者，但这本书他却没有那么强的主观，而是努力呈现出一幅影响因素多样纠缠、决策过程复杂混沌的图景。虽然给定的范畴是325-553，

但因为政治史的原因，451以前的讨论还是更完备一些。专题式而非编年式的写作方法，让本书确实不是简单的串讲而是多角度的讨论。当然以一套逻辑贯通这些历史背景差别很大的大公会议还是有疏虞【尤其是对四、五世纪教会政治的独立性似乎有过高的估计，参Millar】，到以弗所二会的可讨论空间还蛮大，但依然非常有启发性的作品。

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