

17. Empirical theology

Leslie J Francis has been part of the international movement to shape the field of empirical theology. He was a founding member of the editorial board of *Journal of Empirical Theology* and of the International Society for Empirical Research in Theology (ISERT). He is a former Vice President of ISERT. Some key texts display this concern.

Books edited

Francis, L. J., Robbins, M., & Astley, J. (Eds.). (2009). *Empirical theology in texts and tables: Qualitative, quantitative and comparative perspectives*. Leiden: Brill. pp. 400. ISSN 1389 1189 and ISBN 978 9004 16888 6.

Francis, L. J., & Ziebertz, H-G. (Eds.). (2011). *The public significance of religion*. Leiden: Brill. pp. xi + 495. ISBN 978 9004 20706 6.

Astley, J., & Francis, L. J. (Eds.) (2013). *Exploring ordinary theology: Everyday Christian believing and the Church*. Farnham: Ashgate. ISBN 978 1 4094 4257 8.

Chapters

Francis, L. J. (2003). A socio-psychological profile of young Anglicans in Wales: a study in empirical theology. In R. Pope (Ed.), *Honouring the past and shaping the future: Essays in honour of Gareth Lloyd Jones* (pp. 233-252). Leominster: Gracewing. ISBN 0-85244-401-X.

Francis, L. J. (2004). Empirical theology and hermeneutical religious education: a case study concerning adolescent attitudes toward abortion. In H. Lombaerts & D. Pollefeyt (Eds.), *Hermeneutics and religious education* (pp. 355-373). Leuven: Peeters. ISBN 90-429-1558-7.

Francis, L. J. (2004). Personality theory, empirical theology and normativity. In J.A. van der Ven & M. Scherer-Rath (Eds.), *Normativity and empirical research in theology* (pp. 137-158). Leiden: Brill. ISBN 9-004-12663-5.

Francis, L. J. & Turton, D. W. (2004). Recognising and understanding burnout among the clergy: a perspective from empirical theology. In D. Herl & M.L. Berman (Eds.), *Building bridges over troubled waters: Enhancing pastoral care and guidance* (pp. 307-331). Lima, Ohio: Wyndham Hall Press. ISBN 1-55605-367-3.

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Francis, L. J. (2009). Comparative empirical research in religion: Conceptual and operational challenges within empirical theology. In L. J. Francis, M. Robbins, & J. Astley (Eds.), *Empirical theology in texts and tables: Qualitative, quantitative and comparative perspectives* (pp. 127-152). Leiden: Brill. ISSN 1389 1189 ISBN 978 9004 16888 6.

Francis, L. J., and Robbins, M. (2012). The theology of religions and psychological type: An empirical enquiry among participants at the Parliament of the World's Religions. In J. Astley, L. J. Francis, M. Robbins, & M. Selçuck, M. (Eds.) (2012). *Teaching religion, teaching truth: Theoretical and empirical perspectives* (pp. 205-222). Oxford: Peter Lang. ISBN 978 3 0343 0818 2.

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