Adam Neder offers an exploration of the concept of “participation in Christ” in Karl Barth's Church Dogmatics and what it means for understanding Christian faith. He clarifies Barth’s claim that humanity as a whole, and human beings individually, participate in Jesus Christ; revelation, election, creation, reconciliation, and redemption all take place in Christ; and their meaning may only be comprehended in Christ. In these acts of inclusion and realization, the creature is incorporated into a fellowship that is nothing less than participation in the being of God.

My Personal Review:
In this work, Adam Neder offers an excellent treatment of the theme of participation in Barth's work. He moves through all four volumes of the Dogmatics, then to a summarizing chapter on Christology and ends with a comparison of Barth's views of participation and Orthodox teaching on theosis. The book is well-written and well organized. It is easy to follow Neder's argument throughout as he clarifies Barth's approach and counters misunderstandings of those who think Barth has nothing helpful to contribute to the subject.

The central argument of the book is that Barth HAS a consistent position on human participation in Christ and it is worthy of the church's attention and reflection. Neder says of Barth in his conclusion "his teaching concerning the participation in Christ should be understood as a constructive contribution to the church's tradition of reflection on the meaning of human participation in the being of God and not merely a rejection of that tradition" (p. 88).
This book will be helpful to people who think Barth's theology has no room in it for humanity and for those who are interested in the notion of participation in theology.

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