Ernst Käsemann collection, 1967-2015

Emory University  
Pitts Theology Library  
1531 Dickey Drive, Suite 560  
Atlanta, GA 30322  
404-727-4166

---

Descriptive Summary

Title: Ernst Käsemann collection, 1967-2015
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 387
Extent: 0.25 cubic ft. (1 box)
Abstract: Consists of correspondence of Käsemann, notes from one of his classes, and other information about Käsemann.
Language: Materials in English and German.

---

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction
All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Ernst Käsemann collection, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

Processing
Processed by Brandon Wason, 2016.

---

Collection Description

Biographical Note
Ernst Käsemann (1906-1998) was a prominent biblical scholar and professor at Tübingen University. Käsemann studied under the eminent German scholar and theologian, Rudolf Bultmann, and published his doctoral dissertation on the body of Christ in 1933. He went on to write extensively on the topic of the Historical Jesus and on the letters of Paul, often with great concern for social justice. His commentary on the book of Romans and his essays on various

---

Emory Libraries provides copies of its finding aids for use only in research and private study. Copies supplied may not be copied for others or otherwise distributed without prior consent of the holding repository.
New Testament topics are widely influential. Käsemann’s life experiences reflected heavily on his scholarship. He was an opponent of the Third Reich and was briefly imprisoned by the SS in 1937. Later he was conscripted at gunpoint, assigned to fight in the Balkans in 1945, where he was captured and held as a prisoner of war. Three decades later, in 1977, Käsemann's daughter, Elisabeth Käsemann, was murdered and this event also had a profound effect on his writings.

Scope and Content Note
The Käsemann collection is divided into three parts: (1) correspondence, (2) class notes, and (3) biographical and historical information about Käsemann. The correspondence section contains letters written to and from Käsemann with American biblical scholars: Hendrikus Boers, J. Louis Martyn, Calvin Roetzel, and Jim West. The correspondence with Hendrikus Boers contains photocopy reproductions from the Hendrikus Boers collection (MSS 325). Also included are letters to/from Margrit Käsemann, the wife of Ernst Käsemann; Eva Teufel, his daughter; and Dorothy Martyn, the wife of J. Louis Martyn. The second section includes class notes distributed among the students of Käsemann's Hauptseminar on the book of Romans. These notes were compiled just prior to the publication of Käsemann's commentary on Romans. The last section contains collected information about Käsemann, including interviews, obituaries, essays, as well as material on his daughter Elisabeth Käsemann.
Container List

**Correspondence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Boers, Hendrikus, 1967-2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Martyn, J. Louis, 1988-1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Roetzel, Calvin, 1970-1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>West, Jim, 1992-1995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Class Notes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Notes from the Hauptseminar on Romans, 1971</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Writings and Publications on Käsemann**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Articles on Ernst Käsemann, 1998-2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Ernst Käsemann: Widerstand im Zeichen des Nazareners (interview with Josef Amstutz), 1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Obituaries of Ernst Käsemann, 1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Articles on Elisabeth Käsemann, 2011-2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>