

CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL MONTHLY

Religious Music Among the Jews

WALTER E. BUSZIN

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Book Review

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Editorial ✠

DEDICATION

to a churchman, mentor, and colleague—

Walter E. Buszin

God gave a child—

to parents who presented his life to God for re-creation through saving grace in
Baptism:

who in obedience to God's command honored both his father and his mother all
his life; and to this day of retirement from active ministry holds their regard
for God's will in high esteem:

the saving knowledge that life is bounded in fellowship with God and men by the
forgiveness of sins:

nurture and admonition through Word and Sacrament, which drew from him the
response of adoration and praise for the living God, Father, Son, and Holy
Spirit.

God gave opportunities to a young churchman—

to become equipped for holy ministry in the teaching profession:

to live enriched by the study and teaching of language, grammar, and the skills of
rhetoric:

- to endure the hardships of teaching in areas of secondary interest and skills:
- to find comfort and inspiration in the witness and proclamation of the "fifth evangelist," J. S. Bach:
- to formulate a Choral Union in the Lutheran Church which provided edifying and spiritually healthy activities for youth:
- to learn the spirit and place of the organ in the worship life of the church:
- to develop as conductor and become dedicated to the vast literature in all fields of music, especially to that which is related to liturgical worship:
- to know the skills of how to handle
 the triads and their inversions,
 the seventh chords and their nonroot positions,
 the altered sixth chords,
 passing tones, accented and unaccented,
 counterpoint of the 17th and 18th centuries:
- to see the form and symmetry represented by
 the French Overture,
 the Italian *Sinfonia*,
 the Gavotte, Sarabande, and Gigue,
 the Passacaglia and Fugue,
 the Chorale and its Gregorian roots:
- to note the strengths of all these forms and inventions especially employed with vernaculars:
- to express through the nuances of the languages of the Sacred Scriptures the hortatory and eschatological joy and hope of the church:
- to know, teach, and convince students, colleagues, and administrators that all that is said above is really important and vital to the church's life and mission as the church
 proclaims kerygmatically the Law and the Gospel,
 evangelizes the world,
 worships Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- God gave the church a committed professor —*
 who taught the lasting values of worship, liturgy, and church music to students;
 pastors in America;
 missionaries in Japan, Korea, India, Africa, and Guatemala;
 professors of university and church-related school faculties
- through writings of churchmen:
 Ambrose, Gregory, Luther, Walther, Gerhardt,
 Heermann, Nicolai, Bach, Schein, Scheidt,

Schütz, Julian, Wackernagel, Zahn, Reed,
Marenholz, Söhngen, and Brunner:

who discovered the evangelical *Schwung* in European theological and musicological thought and injected it into the theological scene in America (which still awaits fuller regard and realization):

who epitomized his concerns and contributions in
editions of

chorales, hymns, and anthems;

introits, graduals, and sequences;

motets, cantatas, and antiphons;

essays on doctrine, life, and church music;

a cooperative hymnal by Lutherans in America for Spanish-speaking peoples,
El Culto Cristiano;

the journal *Response*;

and materials leading toward a new Lutheran hymnal for America:

whose example we mark as we dedicate daily ourselves anew for the training of a
"more excellent ministry."

This is the life of *Walter E. Buszin*, whose principles begin and end in the Gospel. He is guide, interpreter, explorer, and link within the continuity of the church. Christ lives in him! He lives in Christ! To know Christ is to know the Father by the power of the Holy Spirit.

In appreciation,
ROBERT BERGT