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## The Need of Study.

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It is a powerful and significant word which St. Paul addressed to his young assistant Timothy, when he writes to him: "Give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine" (*πρόσεχε τῇ ἀναγνώσει, τῇ παρακλήσει, τῇ διδασκαλίᾳ*). 1 Tim. 4, 13.

It seems that modern conditions are causing many of us to forget the full force of this remark. It has been said that the days of the old-fashioned pastor are numbered, and that the multitude of tasks which are being heaped on the minister in his charge are making it impossible to put that attention to work in the study which was formerly deemed essential. With board meetings and committee meetings and society meetings, and teachers' training classes and catechumen classes and a host of other labors crowding in for every minute of the time, there is simply no opportunity for a thorough and calm study of the Scriptures and of theological subject-matter such as we have, in the past, been associating with the office of a pastor. The *πολυπραγμοσύνη* of the modern minister is becoming an axiom, and the situation is assuming alarming proportions. The question is, Have we really reached the stage when a pastor must be satisfied with a mere glance at the Bible text and at the theological literature which is gotten out for his special benefit? Are we really so pressed for time that we cannot devote a certain portion of every day to the systematic study of the Scripture and of all the other material which was formerly considered essential for a pastor's labors?

One of the best among the recent studies taking up this question contains the following thoughts on the art of preaching and on the work of the minister. In the first place: It is absolutely necessary that the work of the pulpit reflect the labor of the study. Any one desiring to be a real leader of his congregation, a guide to souls seeking the right way in faith and life, a personal witness for the redemption of Jesus Christ, and a stimulating teacher of the Word of Truth, must devote enough time to systematic study so that there will be a proper proportion maintained between the

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## BOOK REVIEW.

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Synodical Reports of the Missouri Synod: *Eastern District*. (German edition.) Fifty-first Report. 63 pages. 30 cts.—*Oregon and Washington District*. Seventeenth Report. 44 pages. 25 cts.—*Colorado District*. Third Report. 71 pages. 34 cts. (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.)

The report of the Eastern District contains a German essay on "The Deity of Christ" by Pastor Chr. Kuehn; that of the Oregon and Washington District, a German essay on "Unionism" by Dr. F. Pieper; that of the Colorado District, an English essay on "Church Discipline" by Pastor Otto Heerwagen, and a German essay (continuation) on "The Saving Grace of God" by Pastor Theo. Hoyer.

FRITZ.

Luther's Preface to the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. By *Prof. W. H. T. Dau, D. D.* 16 pages. 10 cts. (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.)

This new translation of Luther's celebrated Preface to the Romans is a reprint from the November number of the THEOLOGICAL MONTHLY. The fact that "this brief essay is a condensed Christian dogmatics" is reason sufficient why every pastor and teacher ought to read and study it. No doubt also many a layman in our churches would be thankful to have his attention directed to this excellent treatise.

FRITZ.

**Lutheran School Journal** (*Schulblatt*). An Educational Monthly published by the Ev. Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States. Edited by an Editorial Committee of the Faculty of Concordia Teachers' College, River Forest, Ill. \$1.50 per annum. (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.)

The *Lutheran School Journal* is being published in its sixtieth year. The abundance and variety of material published in this monthly of forty pages is of such a nature that every teacher in our Synod and every pastor teaching school ought to be a subscriber and a reader. An additional feature of the *School Journal* as it is now published is the News Service by the School Board of the Missouri Synod.

FRITZ.

**Search the Scriptures!** A Series of Graded Bible Lesson Outlines for the Use of Bible Classes. By *Prof. Paul E. Kretzmann, Ph. D., D. D.* Issued by Authority of the General Sunday-school Board of the Missouri Synod. Vol. I. *The Life of Jesus the Savior*. From the Introduction to the Story of His Life to His Transfiguration. Vol. II. *The Life of Jesus the Savior*. From Christ's Second Foretelling of His Passion to His Ascension. Vol. III. *The Establishment and the Propagation of the Christian Church*. Each pamphlet contains 32 pages, 6×9. Each, 15 cts. (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.)

It is very gratifying that the young people of our churches are showing an increased interest in Bible-study. If our people will diligently study the Bible, we have reason to believe that our Church will remain true to its heritage and alive to its missionary duty in this world. In addition to the *Bible Student* and the *Junior Bible Student*, the new graded Bible lessons, *Search the Scriptures!* are excellent helps for our pastors and congregations to acquaint young people with the Word of God. When studying the outlines, the Bible itself is to be used as the text-book. The purpose is not to teach something *about* the Bible, but *the Bible itself*. The outlines given provide opportunity for an eight-year Bible-study course. In his introduction, Dr. Kretzmann says: "The plan of the series is to begin with the life of the Savior, which will be treated in chronological sequence for two years. A third year will take up the establishment and the propagation of the Christian Church, on the basis of the Acts of the Apostles, the Pauline epistles, and the catholic epistles. The fourth year will offer a survey of the entire Bible, of the books, of the writers, and of all the circumstances which will make for a better understanding of the Bible-text. The fifth year will take up all the chief doctrines of the Bible in a brief treatment. The sixth year will give a survey of the entire Old Testament history. The seventh year will be devoted to a study of the most beautiful passages in the poetical books of the Old Testament. And the eighth year will treat of Christ in the Old Testament."

FRITZ.

**Men and Missions.** Edited by *L. Fuerbringer*. Vol. I. *John Eliot, the Apostle to the Indians*. By *W. G. Polack*. 48 pages, 5×7½. 20 cts. (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.)

One of the chief reasons why our people take comparatively little interest in the mission-work of the Church, and why our mission boards have not more money at their disposal, is because our people know little

about the Church's missions and the spiritual needs of their fellow-men. Under the direction of Dr. L. Fuerbringer, a series of mission booklets is to be published by our Concordia Publishing House. The first booklet, *John Eliot*, written by the Rev. W. G. Polack, who has recently been added to the faculty of Concordia Seminary, is now on the market. What the series will offer, Dr. Fuerbringer tells us in his preface to this first volume: "Other booklets that have been promised will tell the story of our India Mission, our Negro Missions, the Work of Our Church in South America, and of other branches of our mission-work. Short biographies are being prepared of Wyneken, the Father of Our Home Missions; Schwartz, the Apostle to India; Louis Harms, the Founder of the Hermannsburg Missions; David Livingstone, Missionary and Explorer; and other messengers of peace. *A Guide for Mission-study* is also contemplated, as well as a *History of the Great Awakening in the Nineteenth Century*. If the books prove acceptable and find such a sale that the undertaking is successful, also from a financial point of view, the series will be extended, and another very successful and desirable series may be planned: *Founders and Fathers of Our Church*."

In announcing this first volume, the publishers say: "This book is also suitable for reading and study by the upper grades of our Christian day-schools and Sunday-schools, by Bible classes and young people's societies."

FRTZ.

**Our King Victorious.** A Sacred Cantata on the Basis of the Medieval Liturgy and Liturgical Plays. Words by *Paul E. Kretzmann*. Music by *B. Schumacher*. 112 pages, 7×11¾. \$1.25. (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.)

Our Lutheran Church has always been known for its good church music. Nothing in church music has yet surpassed the good old Lutheran choral. The music played by our church organists and that sung by our church choirs ought not to be of an inferior grade. Since a large number of the singers in our choirs of to-day, especially in the cities, have some musical training, greater demands, such as the singing of cantatas, can be made upon them. The cantata *Our King Victorious* can be used on almost any occasion. Those who know say that Mr. Schumacher's composition is a work of merit.

FRTZ.

**Outlines of Lessons for Sunday-School Teachers' Institutes and Training-Courses.** By *Prof. Paul E. Kretzmann, Ph. D., D. D.* 43 pp., 6×9¼. 20 cts. (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.)

This is an excellent outline of lessons for Sunday-school teachers' institutes and training-courses, published by request from many quarters of our Church. It offers four main courses of study, viz., Bible-study; Child Study; Religious Pedagogy; Church History and Missions. Course I covers four terms, during which the following four subjects are treated: Introduction to Bible-study; Old Testament History, Institutions and Types; New Testament History; Fundamental Doctrines and Facts of Scripture. Course II is divided into two subjects: Term I, Fundamental Facts in Child Study; Term II, Advanced Child Study. Course III treats: The Teacher; The Subject-matter and Methods of Teaching.

Course IV offers subjects in Church History and Missions. All courses are thorough and practical. Thus under Mission-study are offered studies in: Early Church Missions, Medieval Missions, Mission-work in India and Burma, Mission-work in Africa, Mission-work in China, Japan, and the South Sea Islands, Mission-work in America, Lutheran Missions, Practical Mission-work. These outlines may also be used for general lecture-work within the congregation.

MUELLER.

The Southern Nebraska District presents its first report, embodying the proceedings of its convention at Juniata, August 20—26, and a German paper by Dean J. H. C. Fritz on the "Missionary Task of the Christian Church," of which an English *résumé* is given at the end of the publication, also the Articles of Incorporation for the District. The price is 25 cts. It was published by the District, but can be ordered from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

DAU.

**The Way in Christ.** Studies in the Way of Salvation. For Bible classes, Bible schools, academics, and personal use. By *Adolf Hult*. 358 pp. (Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Ill.)

This book is grouped as Vol. V of the *Bible Study Quarterly* for the Bible Class Department. It contains excellent material for a year's work, divided into 52 lessons under the four heads: A. Christ (1—13); B. Coming to Christ (14—26); C. Abiding in Christ (27—39); D. Glory with Christ (40—52). The author is a gifted and well-read man and has a good eye for essential things and things of practical importance. For each lesson he gives, first, the text, usually brief, followed by expository remarks and review questions. Next are offered materials for illustration, and these are followed by suggestions for home study and for meditation. The Bible-text used is the American Revised.

DAU.

**Man's First Disobedience.** By *Leander S. Keyser*. 84 pages, 5×7½. \$1.00. (The Macmillan Company, New York.)

Man in Eden, his original nature, his temptation and fall into sin, are here discussed in the language of modern apologetics, but from the standpoint of confessional Lutheranism. Dr. Keyser does not employ any of the familiar evasions and ambiguities in treating the story of man's age of innocence and of the Fall, but accepts the literal truth of all that is said in Genesis. The book is an apologetics, not so much against the negations of the infidel as against the contradictions now so commonly heard in the Christian Church itself against the Bible record of the origin of evil.

GRAEBNER.

**The Minister's Every-Day Life.** By *Lloyd C. Douglas*. 220 pages, 5×7¾. \$1.75. (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.)

In this book practical suggestions are given to the young minister. The book is written in an interesting style, spiced with humor. What we do not like about the book is the fling which the author repeatedly takes at the "old-time religion." He says: "It is, of course, important that religion should be revised and invoiced, from time to time, in the interest

of preserving its vitality. The 'old-time religion,' to which many persons think we must now return, has little more to justify it than an old-time chemistry, an old-time physics, or an old-time political geography."

Fritz.

**The Prophetic Books of the Old Testament.** 2 volumes. By *Frederick Carl Eiselen*. 314 and 628 pages,  $5\frac{3}{4} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . Cloth, \$5.00 the set. (Methodist Book Concern, New York. Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.)

The author of the two volumes entitled *The Prophetic Books of the Old Testament* is professor of Biblical Isagogics in Garrett Biblical Institute. Among the most popular of his works which have appeared in the past we may list *The Minor Prophets*, *The Books of the Pentateuch*, *The Psalms and Other Sacred Writings*, *The Christian View of the Old Testament*, and *Prophecy and the Prophets*. All of them are noted for clearness of diction, comprehensiveness of detail, and depth of research. Doctrinally Professor Eiselen may be classed among the conservative evangelicals who mediate between orthodox Biblical scholarship and liberalistic, destructive criticism. This tendency is strongly represented in *The Prophetic Books of the Old Testament*, and greatly decreases the value of the volumes. Volume I discusses the prophetic histories — the Books of Joshua, Judges, Samuel, and Kings, and the prophetic sermons — the Books of Isaiah and Jeremiah. Volume II treats the Book of Ezekiel and the prophecies of the twelve Minor Prophets. The historical events of each book, the doctrinal contents, and the history of its criticism are discussed at great length and afford the reader, if not a safe guide, at least a clear idea of what modern scholars have judged concerning the authenticity and canonicity of the prophetic books of the Old Testament. MUELLER.

**Mobilizing for Peace.** Edited by *Frederick Lynch, D.D.* 324 pages,  $5 \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ . Cloth, \$2.00. (Fleming H. Revell Co., New York.)

This book contains thirty addresses by prominent Christian representatives and leaders of the Church, — educators, statesmen, and publicists, — delivered at the Congress on America and the Permanent Court of International Justice, called by the World Alliance for International Friendship through the churches, which convened at Philadelphia on November 13—15. Each address constitutes a powerful appeal for peace and urges the entrance of America into the World Court. War is utterly and absolutely unchristian; there should not be two contradictory moralities in any real civilization, one for individuals and another for governments; peace, security, and justice can reign only when extreme nationalism is sunk in some form of international community; and lastly, America must associate herself in the endeavor to realize the family of nations; these are a few of the fundamental statements emphasized in the addresses, in which men like Nathan Soederblom, Y. Y. Tsu, General Secretary, Chinese Students' Christian Association of North America, T. G. Brierley Kay of London, A. G. Dorland of Canada, Oscar Strauss, A. Lawrence, Fridtjof Nansen, R. B. Fosdick, Wm. Merrill, Prof. Wm. Adams Brown, Gov. Wm. E. Sweet, and others took part. The whole issue is now a matter of history. The advice given was not heeded. Nevertheless, these addresses are an expression of the earnest desire for peace which swayed the hearts of men at the close of the late World War. MUELLER.

**The Moral Life and Religion.** By *James Ten Broeke*, McMaster University, Toronto, Canada. 244 pages, 5¼×7½. Cloth, \$2.00. (The Macmillan Company, New York.)

Professor Ten Broeke's *The Moral Life and Religion* is an attempt to trace back morality to its true source, the innate religious consciousness of man. The will and character, the sum total of man's duties and virtues, the ideas of goodness and self-sacrifice, social organization, as viewed from the angle of its moral significance, are all rooted in religion, which is universal and constitutes the springs of all moral action. Professor Ten Broeke's book is a powerful polemic against modern antitheistic philosophies which leave no room in man's heart for the conception of God and the moral consciousness. His argumentation is clear, his reasoning conclusive. Numerous corresponding notes and references show that he has diligently studied the masters who have written on the subjects which he treats. The point of view is empirical and largely psychological. Since the scope of his study is narrow, he deals only with selected problems, but these are of universal interest to students of ethics and religion. The treatment of religion is limited to what may be considered its relation to morality. While not in agreement with every statement, the reviewer is glad to state that the reading of this book gave him much pleasure.

MUELLER.

**Lutherisches Weltmissions-Jahrbuch fuer das Jahr 1925.** Herausgegeben im Auftrage der Missionskonferenz in Sachsen durch *Lic. Erich Stange*. 80 pages. (Leipzig: Verlag von H. G. Wallmann.)

For the 38th time this informing publication makes its appearance. Among the American contributors to this volume are Dr. Drach, of Baltimore, Dr. Pfeiffer, of Columbus, and Rev. Bielnicki, of New Jersey. Besides articles on mission methods and reviews of particular missions, the little brochure offers statistics of foreign missions by Lutheran bodies in all parts of the world and a classified survey of mission literature published during 1924.

DAU.

#### Brief Mention.

Concordia Publishing House offers Rev. O. C. Schroeder's tract, **Positive Evidences of Bible Truths**. 20 pages. 10 cts. — Success Printing Company, St. Louis, offers **The Great Supper of the Lord**. Ten poems of *Christian Eckhardt* with English and German text, and compositions of *Liborius Semmann*. — Johannes Hermann of Zwickau, Saxony, offers Dr. Zorn's treatise on Genesis, chaps. 1—5, in an English version, **The Whole Christian Doctrine, etc.**, by *Pastor W. F. Docter* of Cleveland, O. The testimony of Bryan against the evolution theory, to which credit is given in the translator's preface, has lost much of its value since Bryan scrapped it at the recent Presbyterian Convention to save his pet vagary of prohibition.

DAU.