

# THEOLOGICAL MONTHLY.

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## The Marks of Justification.

From Dr. E. Preuss's *Die Rechtfertigung*, Part VIII.

THE REV. JUL. A. FRIEDRICH, Iowa City, Iowa.

So we have full, perpetual, and sure forgiveness. But that is something within us, and hence no one can know for certain whether his neighbor has it or not. Therefore in order that we may not err in our judgment when trying the spirits, God has given us two marks by which we can know whether a person is in the state of forgiveness or not. These two marks are the confession of the mouth and good works. Not good works alone, otherwise many would be in the state of grace who reject Christ. True, ancient and modern obscurants wish to persuade us that good works alone testify to the presence of justification, and in that way they, like the honorable Sultan Saladin, try to bring themselves into heaven on a bypath. God's house, however, has no small side-entrance; it has only *one door*, and that door is Christ. For beside this name there is none other under heaven given among men whereby they can be saved, even though they do all the good works that can be performed. The first mark, then, of the presence of God's perpetual grace is confession of Christ. Where that is wanting, there forgiveness of sins cannot even be thought of. On the other hand, where it is found, there we may at least assume that faith is present in the heart. And where there is faith, there is also forgiveness. Therefore Christ attaches so much weight to our confessing Him freely and openly before men. He says: "Whosoever shall confess Me <sup>1)</sup> before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in heaven." Matt. 10, 32. 33. On the basis of this declaration we say: Where there is a joyous confession of the Lord, there is also forgiveness; otherwise He would not confess in heaven the name of him who confesses His name here on earth. In fact, He caused the pillar among His apostles to make such a confession not only Matt. 16,

1) Ὁμολογήσει ἐν ἐμοί. So that his confession abides in Me.

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## BOOK REVIEW.

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**Proceedings of the Oregon and Washington District.** 40 pages.  
25 cts. (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.)

This report contains a German doctrinal essay on "The Call to the Ministry," by Pastor F. Nitz. J. H. C. F.

**Redeeming Love.** Lenten and Funeral Songs for Mixed Voices. Compiled by *Walter Wismar*. 48 pages,  $6\frac{1}{8} \times 9$ . Single copy, 35 cts.; in dozen lots, 28 cts. each; in hundred lots, 23 cts. each. (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.)

The announcement of this publication in our THEOLOGICAL MONTHLY comes too late for this year's Lenten season, but pastors should call the attention of their choir directors to it, so that they may consider using it next year or, perhaps, in the course of the year at funeral services. Some of the selections may also be sung during the Communion service. It is the hope of the compiler, Mr. Walter Wismar, organist at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, St. Louis, that his collection of sacred music will encourage a-cappella singing on the part of our choirs. J. H. C. F.

**The Great Deception.** By *Prof. Carl A. Blomgren, Ph. D.* 16 pages,  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 7\frac{3}{4}$ . (Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Ill. 1926.)

The "great deception" treated in this brief treatise by the Professor of Old Testament Interpretation in Augustana Theological Seminary is the Higher Criticism. In spite of its brevity the treatise furnishes a very lucid account of the higher critical theories and of the various recent

reactions against the negative criticism. Professor Blomgren's analysis of the doctrines which underly the Modernism of Fosdick leaves no doubt as to the author's personal attitude. He stands four-square upon a Bible which is indeed the inspired Word of God. G.

**Christian Symbolics**, or Exposition of the Distinctive Characteristics of Catholic, Lutheran, and Reformed Churches as Well as the Modern Denominations and Sects Represented in This Country. By *E. H. Klotsche, A. M., Ph. D., D. D.* 1929. 413 pages, 6×9¼. \$3.50. (The Lutheran Literary Board, Burlington, Iowa.) Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

Professor Klotsche, the author of this text-book on Comparative Symbolics, is instructor in Exegesis and Symbolics at the Western Theological Seminary of the United Lutheran Church at Fremont, Nebr. In this volume he presents the teachings of the various denominations represented in our country. After discussing the general confessions of the Christian Church, he takes up the Greek Church, the Roman Catholic Church, the Lutheran Church, the Reformed Church, and the Episcopalian Church. His material on these chief divisions of Protestantism covers about two-thirds of the book. The remaining 130 pages are devoted to the smaller and less important denominations.—The reader will find that this book is as complete a guide in the subject as can be found in English. There is a very complete index covering points of doctrine and the churches mentioned in the book. The references to the Lutheran Confessions, of which there are many, are to the *Triglotta* edition of Concordia Publishing House. The author also acknowledges the value of Guenther's *Symbolik*, particularly the "excellent edition by Dr. L. Fuerbringer." The student will find the book not only orthodox in its treatment of the subject, but refreshing in its lively presentation of thesis and antithesis. The pastor who wishes to review his Comparative Symbolics will enjoy the work when using this text. For ready reference in connection with sermons, conference papers, addresses, and preparation for adult catechumen instruction the book will prove exceedingly helpful. W. G. P.

**The Miracles of Our Savior.** By *William Taylor, D. D.* \$1.00. (Double-day, Doran & Co., Inc., 1928.) Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

These sermons on the thirty-two chief miracles wrought by Jesus offer much useful material to the preacher. While the exegesis is not in every case acceptable and the applications occasionally are far-fetched, they proclaim the glory of Jesus as the Savior of the sinner and the Helper in every need. We should like to quote a few striking statements: "There is no alternative: Either Jesus Christ is God, equal with the Father, or He was a blasphemer. The idea that He was merely a model man is, in the face of these gospels, absurd." "The second in the ever-blessed Trinity, He took our nature upon Him and bore our sins, nailing them with His own body to the tree, so that now the most aggravated sinner amongst us, believing in him, may be freely and righteously forgiven for His sake." "It has come to be supposed by multitudes that before one can be a real convert, he must be for a lengthened period under what is

called conviction of sin. . . . Wherever an inquirer [of this kind] has been a long while in obtaining a cure, it has been because he was unwilling to apply to Christ for it or to accept it in Christ's way." "If they [men who were hindered by Providence from entering the ministry] only look aright upon their opportunities of service where they are, they will find them in abundance." "We must dismiss the idea that this wine was not in any degree exhilarating, but was only grape syrup, and with that must go the other opinion that it is a positive sin to drink wine in any, even the smallest quantity." "Just as some among ourselves to-day suppose that the evils of the world can be arrested, counteracted, and finally overcome only by His visible and personal [?] reign upon the earth."—The reader will naturally have to be on his guard against the specific Reformed errors. To point out some of them: Christ is withdrawn from us in bodily presence; through the exercise of that which man has God bestows upon him that which he has not [faith]; the symbolism of the Lord's Supper; there are priests who aver that they may, by divine authority, grant absolution; we are still under obligation to rest one day in seven. (On his attitude towards the means of grace see THEOL. MONTHLY, 9, 112.)

E.

The *Deichertsche Verlagsbuchhandlung* (Dr. W. Scholl), Königsstrasse 17, Leipzig, Germany, issued the following works:—

1. Festgabe fuer Theo. Zahn. M. 10; bound, M. 12.50.

When Dr. Theo. Zahn, the senior of the theological faculty in Erlangen, last year observed his ninetieth birthday, his colleagues honored him with a beautiful birthday present, consisting of a number of essays dedicated to him, all representing worth-while contributions to theological thought and literature. All these essays may be bought separately at the prices indicated. The table of contents is as follows:—

a. Ph. Bachmann: <i>Stellung und Eigenart der sogenannten Erlanger Theologie</i> . . . . .	M. 90
b. O. Procksch: <i>Koenig Josia</i> . . . . .	1.80
c. H. Strathmann: <i>Ist der gesetzliche Eid noch haltbar?</i> . . . . .	2.50
d. H. Preuss: <i>Bachs Bibliothek</i> . . . . .	1.20
e. W. Elert: <i>Zur Geschichte des kriegerischen Ethos</i> . . . . .	1.00
f. Fr. Ulmer: <i>Wesen und Umgrenzung der Liturgik</i> . . . . .	.70
g. P. Althaus: <i>"Bekenne einer dem andern seine Sunden"</i> . . . . .	1.50
h. W. Vollrath: <i>"Denn auch deine Sprache verraet dich"</i> . . . . .	.80
i. Fr. Hauck: <i>Die Freundschaft bei den Griechen und im Neuen Testament</i> . . . . .	.90
j. L. Rost: <i>Zu Amos 7, 10—17</i> . . . . .	.40

I found the essays on the Erlangen theology and on Bach's library especially interesting. In the former, Dr. Bachmann focuses attention chiefly on Harless, Thomasius, v. Hofmann, and Frank, and while some of his evaluations cannot receive our sanction, he frankly draws attention to the weak points in the theology of some of the great masters, for instance, to the *kenosis* teaching of Thomasius and the opposition of v. Hofmann to the doctrine of the substitutionary atonement. Here and there the essayists have made concessions to modern Liberalism, which we cannot endorse.

2. **Wie studiert man Theologie im ersten Semester?** Briefe an einen Anfaenger von *Dr. Martin Kaehler*, weiland Professor in Halle. Vierte durchgesehene Auflage, besorgt von *Dr. Paul Althaus*, Erlangen. M. 2.50.

The charm of Kaehler's style has never impressed me so forcibly as in these "letters," written to show students of theology what and how they ought to study, to help them overcome some harassing doubts, and, we may add, to remind graduates of theological schools how they may wisely employ their leisure hours. There are paragraphs here which one would be fain to liken to sparkling diamonds, so exquisite they are in form and thought.

A.

- Why Believe It?** Practical Studies in Christian Beliefs as Based on the Bible and Corroborated by Science, Philosophy, and Experience. By *Delavan Leonard Pierson*. 176 pages, 5×7½. \$1.50. (The Christian Alliance Publishing Co., New York.) Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

Rev. Pierson is editor of the *Missionary Review of the World*. He calls his book a "primer of faith and conduct." It contains a conservative ("orthodox") presentation of the chief points of Christian doctrine as contrasted with Modernistic teaching. Not all of the author's interpretations of Scripture are acceptable to us, and some of his illustrative quotations are ill chosen. The book can supply valuable material for sermons and lectures.

G.

#### APOLOGETICS AND POLEMICS.

- Voices from Rocks and Dust Heaps of Bible Lands.** By *Prof. J. A. Huffman, D. D.* Introduction by *Prof. M. G. Kyle, LL. D., D. D.* 132 pages. \$1.25. (Gospel Trumpet Co., Anderson, Ind.) Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

- The Nature of Deity.** By *Prof. J. E. Turner, M. A., Ph. D.* 248 pages. \$3.50. (Oxford University Press, American Branch, New York.) Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

- Sabbath-Sunday.** A Word to Sabbatarians and Makers of Blue-laws. By *Rev. I. G. Monson*. 30 cts. (Augsburg Publishing House, Minneapolis; Minn.) Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

- Kalvinismus und Luthertum.** I. Band: *Der Kampf um die Herrschaft im protestantischen Deutschland.* Von *Lic. Dr. Hans Leube*. 402 Seiten. Geh., M. 18; gebunden, M. 20. (A. Deichert'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung, [Dr. W. Scholl], Leipzig.)

The four volumes here discussed differ from one another in nature and purpose, yet each possesses sufficient intrinsic value to compel the attention of the interested reader. Professor Huffman's *Voices from Rocks and Dust Heaps of Bible Lands* is a popular introduction to the exceedingly interesting subject of archeology. Prepared for use as a text for classes and for individual study and written in a language which all can read, it testifies definitely to the historical trustworthiness of the Bible and shows that in this case, science is an asset, not a liability, to the Christian faith. It contains eight chapters, of which the following are the

most instructive: "The Old Testament on Trial before Odd-appearing Witnesses," "Babylonian Stories of the Creation and the Fall," "The Babylonian Flood Story," "The Code of Hammurabi, the World's Oldest Code of Laws," "Tutankhamen and the Exodus," "Light on the Language of the New Testament." The purpose of the book is to show to the general Christian reader the most important of the evidences which archeology has furnished so lavishly in support of the truth of the Holy Scriptures, and we are sure that it will be read with much profit by our young people, especially by those who continue their studies at the high school or the college.

Dr. Turner's *The Nature of Deity* is a book for students of religion and apologetics in particular. Written by a "reader in philosophy in the University of Liverpool," it addresses itself to scholars, with the purpose of showing that modern science, evolutionistic though it be, need not lead to atheistic and materialistic views on religion. Indeed, the logical conclusion to which it leads is a theistic world view, in which agnosticism cannot hold a rightful place. The argumentation is exclusively philosophical, and the author nowhere draws on revealed religion to substantiate his claims. The method of argument is the same which the author employs in his work *Personality and Reality*, to which this volume is a sequel. Having proved in his former work the real existence of a personal deity, the writer now directs his attention chiefly to the attributes that can logically be ascribed to Deity. The final results of his discussion are in marked contrast with the negative and agnostic conclusions which have been reached by materialistic and atheistic investigators. In reading this and similar books, the student is gratified in discovering that the age of materialism is passing and that distinguished scholars are returning to saner views on God and religion. This does not mean that the conclusions in this and in other books of this kind are those of revealed religion, but it does mean that the Christian apologist is no longer obliged to deal with argumentations which are downright worthless even from the viewpoint of common sense. While Dr. Turner's discussions are profound, the almost complete absence of technicalities puts his work within the capacity of general readers who are interested in the important subject.

*Sabbath-Sunday* is an excellent little work, written by a Lutheran pastor who is well known also in our circles, especially through his valuable book on Comparative Symbolics, *The Difference*. In the present brochure Pastor Monson takes issue with the Seventh-day Adventists and other enthusiasts who still insist upon the keeping of the Old Testament Sabbath. But the discussion goes farther and strikes at a still more insidious enemy. The subtitle, *A Word to Makers of Blue-laws*, shows that the author fully realizes the danger threatening the constitutional principle of separation of Church and State through the endeavors of those who desire to impose upon our citizens by civil law the duty of "sanctifying the holy-day." In this connection the author utters timely and most necessary warnings against "legislation on religious questions" and the mingling of Church and State in general. The book deserves wide and careful reading mainly in circles outside the Lutheran Church and ought for this reason to be placed into public libraries and school libraries. The style is popular and dignified, the arrangement of the subjects orderly

and logical, and the presentation of the arguments objective. To win the opponent, the author endeavors to be winsome in every sentence he writes. This gives his book a peculiar charm, since the reader is convinced, but not offended.

*Kalvinismus und Luthertum* is a *magnum opus*, penned by a man whose works promise a new era in the field of modern church history. Dr. Hans Leube is "*Privatdozent fuer Kirchengeschichte an der Theologischen Fakultaeet der Universitaet Leipzig*," where he has gained for himself an enviable reputation as an erudite scholar by his profound and conscientious research work. The volume before us is only the first part of his inquiry into the struggle between Calvinism and Lutheranism in Protestant Germany. It treats only the *Zeitalter der Orthodoxie*, concluding with the controversial activities of Paul Gerhardt in Berlin; but the subject matter is of palmary significance. Modern Protestant theology in Germany is essentially Calvinistic. This is largely due to Schleiermacher's influence, of which the present-day "Crisis Theology" may be regarded as an excrescence. But if the student of church history would fully understand the victory of Calvinism in Germany, he must go back still farther. Schleiermacher's theology was itself only the fruit of that Zwinglian rationalism which centuries before struggled with Lutheran orthodoxy for the ascendancy, even before the great Reformer had passed away. How that fierce struggle was carried on, what means were employed in it, by whom it was resisted, how the mingling of Church and State often aided the Reformed cause,—all this forms the subject of this brilliant investigation, which no teacher of church history can ignore. The work is thoroughly scholarly, and the statements are based upon reliable sources, which the author has examined carefully and from which he has conscientiously endeavored to gain an objective viewpoint. While the reader may not always be in accord with the writer's opinions, he must nevertheless admit that the views expressed show a much deeper appreciation of men and movements than is ordinarily found in works of this kind. Thus in depicting the character, motives, and aims of men like Calixt, Calov, Gerhardt, and others, he patiently and painstakingly enters into detail to picture to the reader accurately just who they were and what they wanted, and he shows himself capable of deep appreciation of the objectives which they had in view. The reviewer knows of no other work which introduces the student so well into this period of modern church history as Dr. Leube's *Kampf um die Herrschaft im protestantischen Deutschland*. The wealth of historic material and its fine distribution and evaluation prove that the author has labored at his task *cum studio et amore*, endeavoring to place into the hand of the student a volume of real value and permanent worth.

MUELLER.

**The Training of the Twelve.** By *A. B. Bruce, D. D.* \$1.00. (Double-day, Doran & Co., New York.) Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

It was in 1871 when this book first appeared. The second and third editions did not introduce essential changes, and it is apparently from the third edition that the book before us has been reprinted. The atmosphere of the work, then, is that of the seventies of the last century, which

accounts for the circumstance that the book is more conservative than Bruce's later writings, for instance, his *Exposition of the Synoptic Gospels* in the *Expositor's Greek New Testament*. The author's aim is to treat everything the gospels tell us of the training of the Twelve while they were with Jesus. His method is more homiletical than exegetical or critical. It seems to the reviewer that a series of sermons on the apostles could well be prepared with the aid of the abundant material here offered (564 pages). The reader will, of course, remember that Bruce is a Reformed theologian, whose interpretation naturally is colored by his doctrinal views.

A.

**The Changing Family.** By *George Walter Fiske*. 324 pages, 8¼×5¼. \$2.25. (Harper & Brothers, Publishers, New York.)

This new book by Dr. Fiske has a fascinating title, for we know that the family has been changing, and the desire is at once awakened to know what the author will say, whether his diagnosis is correct and his proposed remedy is a cure.

In spite of all its outward splendor and glory our country is suffering from an inner corruption; it is "like unto whited sepulchers, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones and of all uncleanness,"—a condition of which many are not aware and which is more alarming than they know. Since the home is a determining factor in its relation to the Church and the State, we may well ask, Are not many of the ills from which we are suffering traceable to the home? Is the changing family the cause? Is the home breaking down, and if so, what must be done to restore the home, to build it up, to make it serve its purpose? A treatise on the changing family ought to answer these questions and answer them correctly. The man who does so has not only grasped a great opportunity, but has also rendered a great service.

Dr. Fiske's book *The Changing Family* is a great disappointment. Not at first; for after reading many pages, one is deeply impressed and is inclined to believe that the book can be favorably reviewed. Ere long, however, the suspicion that all may not turn out well is aroused. Yet there are so many things well said, and the diagnosis has been so well made, that one is inclined to think that perhaps, after all, at least in the main, the right judgment will prevail. Speaking in his introduction of the "Christian family" and saying that "family religion" is "the best insurance against broken homes," one is inclined to believe that the writer had in mind the Christian family and the family religion, which have as their basis the eternal verities revealed in the Bible and which center in the grace of God given us in Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God and Savior of the world.

But, alas! the suspicion which was earlier aroused is well founded, and there is not even room left for the benefit of any doubt. Dr. Fiske devotes the latter, larger portion of his book to the "religious aspects of the modern family." But the religion which he advocates and which, in his opinion, shall restore the home is not the Christian religion, based on an unerring Bible revealing the grace of God in Jesus, the Savior. He says: "Of course, the educated family cannot accept the outworn theory of verbal inspiration, which the Bible never claims for itself. . . . It was

a Reformation theory, by which an infallible Book replaced an infallible Papacy, the authority of both based, unfortunately, on the fallible words of very human men." Christ is to Dr. Fiske merely the "Hero of heroes," a Great Ideal to inspire us to a moral life, and not the eternal Son of God, who became man and shed His blood on the cross as man's Substitute and for man's salvation. The family religion which Dr. Fiske recommends is "a social religion like that which Jesus taught and lived," not the Bible religion of Jesus, which teaches salvation by grace through faith in Christ and which teaches that good works are the fruit of faith. The religion which Dr. Fiske advocates is not a religion which can build up our broken homes, but is the very religion which is breaking them down. We want no more of it, and therefore we cannot recommend Dr. Fiske's book. It is not constructive, but destructive. If any one, however, would have a vivid portrayal of the sad conditions of the modern home and would know how hopelessly the modern religionist with his new, modern Bible faces this situation, he can learn it from Dr. Fiske's book. J. H. C. F.

**Pageants for Special Days in the Church-Year.** By *Mary M. Russell*, M. A. 151 pages, 5×8. \$1.50. (Doubleday, Doran & Co.)

There are fourteen pageants in this book, "designed for use by churches and schools." Among the subjects are: "What the Year Brought," "Lincoln's Preparation for Service," "Mother's Gifts," "The Pilgrim's Thanksgiving," and others, including such as might be used for Christmas, Easter, and Children's Day. While some of these, by careful editing on the part of the pastor, might be used in a school or young people's program, none of them are suitable for use in a truly Lutheran service. W. G. P.

**Roads to the City of God.** A World Outlook from Jerusalem. By *Basil Matthews*. 117 pages, 5×8. \$1.00. (Doubleday, Doran & Co.)

The author of this book, Basil Matthews, is international literature secretary of the Y. M. C. A. He tells the story of the Protestant Christian Missionary Conference held at Jerusalem, Easter, 1928, where 240 representatives met, presents the issues that were considered, and gives pen portraits of the world's living missionary leaders. The book will interest all who wish to learn the motives and ideals of the present workers in missions outside of the Lutheran Church. W. G. P.

**Our Asiatic Christ.** By *Oscar MacMillan Buck*. 171 pages, 4×6¾. \$1.25. (Harper & Brothers, Publishers.)

Dr. Buck, professor of Missions and Comparative Religion in Drew Theological Seminary, presents the present status of Christianity in India and attempts to show how Jesus is there coming into His own—has already come into the high regard of leaders among the Hindus and Mohammedans. The Doctor, however, fails to stress the vicarious atonement of our Lord. W. G. P.

*Books Received:—*

**Under Whose Wings.** By *Zenobia Bird*. 287 pages, 5×7. \$1.75. Published by Biola Book Room.—**The Temple Light.** By *G. Bayard Young, D. D.* 171 pages. \$1.50. Published by Biola Book Room. I cannot recommend these books. W. G. P.