

THEOLOGICAL MONTHLY.

VOL. I.

JUNE, 1921.

No. 6.

The Paramount Lesson of Job: God's Glory Magnified by Faith Triumphant over Tribulation.

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From time immemorial Biblical scholars have been vitally interested in establishing beyond doubt the real purpose, the ultimate design, the one preeminent lesson of "the greatest didactic poem in the world" — the Book of Job. Ever since men have studied the Bible, from the time of the ancient Rabbis, who penned their mysterious glosses, and especially from the time when the first Christian scholar, Ephrem Syrus, Presbyter of Edessa, devoted his attention to the baffling problems of Job, the foremost students of Biblical lore — Jerome, Augustine, Gregory the Great, Aben Ezra, Saadia, Cardinal Cajetan, De Pineda, Bucer, Calvin, Beza, Luther, Schultens, Rosenmueller, Ewald, Delitzsch, Umbreit, Renan, Froude, and hosts of others, to this writing, have pried into the *locos vexatos* of this wonderful book; and yet, aside from a few obvious facts, we are assured by most eminent men that in the main we still "float upon a sea of conjecture."

It is true, many of the *quaestiones vexatae* refer to problems with which we, in the present discussion, are not concerned. The questions regarding the authorship, canonicity, and integrity of the Book of Job, while intensely important for other considerations, have little bearing upon the subject which shall hold our attention now. For our purpose it is immaterial by whom, at what time, and in what manner the book was composed, though we personally incline to the view that it is the oldest book in the Bible, and that it was written either by Job himself or by Elihu. However, be that as it may. The question before us is whether there is in the book a single great lesson, which the author desired to teach, and if so, what this paramount lesson may be.

That some special design was in the mind of the writer is obvious from the absolute unity and harmony that prevail through-

BOOK REVIEW.

Christian Art in the Place and in the Form of Lutheran Worship.

By *Paul E. Kretzmann, Ph. D., B. D.* Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. 1921. 415 pages, 6×9¼. Profusely illustrated. Bound in full cloth. Price, \$3.50.

For all the great variety of topics treated in this volume of Dr. Kretzmann's a nice balance between its component parts is maintained. This to us is the best proof of the author's mastery of his subject. The book treats "The History of Church Architecture and Ecclesiastical Art," "The Lutheran Church Building and Its Appointments," "Liturgies," "Hymnology," "The Festivals," "The Lutheran Service," and under these general heads such details as the catacombs, Ivan the Terrible's Cathedral, California missions, Gloria Dei Church of Philadelphia, medieval stained glass, Christian symbolisms, resting-rooms for women, the treatment of the altar. Lecterns (we thank the author for spelling this word l-e-c-t-e-r-n), how to choose colored windows, the vestments, gowns, the various parts of the liturgy, and countless other subjects are treated, — and yet these many details properly unify into chapters, and the chapters organically grow into two books, and the two books by an inner necessity grow into one, — "Christian Art in the Place and in the Form of Lutheran Worship."

Dr. Kretzmann has deposited in this work a very considerable crudi-

tion. He quotes from works as far apart as Fergusson's great *History of Architecture*, Ruskin's *Stones of Venice*, Stoddard's *Lectures*, *Lehre und Wehre*, Lake's *Apostolic Fathers*, and Lochner, *Hauptgottesdienst*. But this mass of source material is skilfully woven into continuous narrative or description, as the case may be. The book makes delightful reading. It is adorned with many pertinent and beautiful illustrations, is printed on good paper, well bound, an elegant book in every way. The index is not satisfactory, but, then, who has ever seen a satisfactory index?

GRAEBNER.

The Lost Note in Much of the Present-Day Preaching. *David H. Bauslin*. Commencement Address, Philadelphia Seminary, 1920. Issued in pamphlet form.

We have read voluminous books and laid them aside in disgust, because they contained little or nothing that was worth while; and we have read brief addresses, lectures, or essays which contained much that was good and filled our heart with delight. The commencement address by Dr. Bauslin belongs to the latter class. Dr. Bauslin makes a plea for *doctrinal* preaching as the only kind of preaching that is commanded, that is needed, that will keep the Church right, that will save souls, and that will insure an audience for the preacher.

"In anxious efforts to make the pulpit fit into the times, it has been transformed into a school of sociology with Jesus Christ left out or into a forum for the discussion of what are alleged to be living and up-to-date current questions." After this arraignment of the modern pulpit, Dr. Bauslin says: "You are never going to get the ethics of Jesus from men who reject the theology of Jesus. . . . The personality of God, the deity of our Lord, the atonement by the cross, the regenerated life implied in the use of Word and Sacrament, life beyond the grave — these and the related doctrines of grace must be restored to their rightful place in our preaching if the truth and grace of the Gospel are to dominate the hearts of the people, and if good works are to be manifest in their lives. . . . The vast public ignorance of Christian doctrine and history are among the most deplorable and ominous dangers among us. . . . It is not believing on Christ as I have conceived Him, . . . but rather believing on the Christ that is set before me in the Gospel, that saves men."

The commencement speaker directs himself against the superficial preaching of the "men in the ministry who are too mentally indifferent to think hard and long" when he says: "In our sermons we must, at least at intervals, get below the surface and deal greatly with great realities."

The *ceterum censeo* of the speaker addressing a class of ministerial graduates is: Preach doctrine! "The preaching, then, I take it, for the religious conflicts of the day will consist in a revival of doctrinal preaching. . . . There is need of a stiff evangelical interpretation of the Gospel which shall meet the real needs of man's nature. The age needs pre-eminently in its pulpits preachers, not lecturers; a Gospel, and not a philosophy; a message from heaven, and not a theme earth-evolved; a real message of hope and glad tidings of no dubious sound." Quoting Phillips Brooks, he says: "No preaching ever had any strong power that was not the preaching of doctrine. The preachers that have moved and held men have always preached doctrine. . . . Preach doctrine, preach all the doc-

trine that you know, and learn forever more and more; but preach it always, not that men may believe it, but that men may be saved by believing it."

Doctrine has long ago been the "lost note" in the preaching from sectarian pulpits. That our Lutheran pastors are still preaching doctrine is due to a large measure of grace which God has given us. But the warning of Paul, "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall," is applicable also here. The tendency of the time is to rob us of doctrinal preaching and thorough doctrinal instruction of our catechumens, both children and adults. Our strenuous life, the multiplicity of a pastor's duties, overorganization in the Church, the frequent requests made to preach on a great variety of topics, the insistent demands of a "practical age," indifference finding its expression in the union movements in the Church: all these things are temptations to neglect doctrinal preaching and instruction. The study of the Scriptures in the original Greek and Hebrew, of the Book of Concord, of Luther, and of sound theological books needs to be much encouraged.

FRIEZ.

Lutheran Book Concern, Columbus, O.:—

1. **The Devotional Life of the Church Worker.** *Walter E. Schuette.* 92 pages. 45 cts.

This booklet treats of the inner, devotional life of a church-worker, hidden in Christ, as the prerequisite of every really successful effort in the Lord's field. Over against an over-busy, Martha-like, often mechanical activity, it urges the contemplative Mary-like devotional spirit, evinced in heartfelt prayer, earnest study of God's Word, devout song, in short, in constant true communion with God through Jesus Christ, as the dynamic force and guiding principle of what a Christian does on behalf of Christ. On page 41 the writer says: "Bear in mind that church-work essentially is not systematic, business-like execution of certain methods in external affairs, but the edification of the body of Christ, the true upbuilding of the spiritual life of the members of the congregation." Thus the message is good, and the appeal timely. By way of criticism we may add that the introductory chapter is rather misleading, almost irrelevant, and we regret that no greater stress is laid upon faith as the true foundation and source of all Christian devotional life. Though faith is everywhere implied and taken for granted, yet there ought to be an entire chapter showing how devotional life is after all nothing else but a strong, true, living faith exerting itself in the various activities of a child of God. MUELLER.

2. **The Lord's Prayer.** Sermons on the Catechism, Vol. III. *Robert Emory Golladay, D. D.*, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Columbus, O. X and 457 pages. \$2.50. Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

Reverend Golladay is the author of several well-received volumes of sermons on Luther's Catechism. His *Lenten Outlines and Sermons*, *The Ten Commandments*, and *The Apostles' Creed* are favorably known in Lutheran circles. In the present volume, *The Lord's Prayer*, he treats a most vital subject, the model prayer bequeathed to us by our Lord. The book contains 32 sermons written in vivid, sparkling style, and setting forth the sound doctrines of Scriptural truth on prayer in a spirit that

marks the writer's own faith, piety, and devotion. All in all, the collection of sermons may well serve as a guide to busy pastors, and as a book of real instruction to interested laymen. Several errors have crept into the print which ought to be corrected in future editions; and here and there a word or expression might be altered to good advantage. MUELLER.

Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Goettingen, Germany:—

1. **Luther-Brevier.** Von Gottesfurcht und Gottvertrauen. Betrachtungen Martin Luthers, herausgegeben von *Emanuel Hirsch*. 76 pages. 10 cts. plus export duty, etc.

Sixty-six brief, pithy, stirring, illuminating selections from Luther's writings, mostly from the pre-Wartburg period, are here offered for use in private or family devotion. All of them are full of doctrine and comfort; not a few of them are gems of Christian thought. The little brochure was published during the war, in 1917, and ranks among the best that has come from the religious press of Germany during the years of Germany's great sorrow.

2. **Monatsschrift fuer Pastoraltheologie zur Vertiefung des gesamten pfarramtlichen Wirkens, neu begruendet von Dr. H. A. Koestlin;** herausgegeben von *Dr. Paul Wurster* und *Dr. Jacob Schoell*. 17. Jahrg., Heft 1—5, Oktober 1920—Februar 1921. 50 cts. for six months.

The pastorate that is to be served by this publication is in spirit and form different from that which we know in the American Lutheran Church. The contents of the publication are interesting enough, but can afford hardly any stimulation or help to our pastors.

Wartburg Publishing House, Chicago:—

- Quellen und Dokumente zur Geschichte und Lehrstellung der ev.-luth. Synode von Iowa u. a. St.** Gesammelt von *Geo. J. Fritschel*, D. D. 9. Lieferung. 35 cts.

With honest regret the historians of the Lutheran Church of America will learn that the series of source materials which Dr. Fritschel began to publish a number of years ago, is terminated with this issue.

Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Ill.:—

- My Church.** Vol. VI. Edited by *Ira O. Nothstein*. 132 pages. 40 cts.

The present volume of this illustrated Lutheran manual, "pertaining principally to the history, work, and spirit of the Augustana Synod," will be appreciated in circles outside of the Swedish Synod, chiefly because of the contributions "The Spirit of the Fathers," by Dr. J. Telleen, "Pastor Jonas Swensson," by Dr. Nils Forsander, and "Jenny Lind." The last article, "The Lutheran Church of the World" is an adaptation from Luecke's "The Distinctive Characteristics of the Lutheran Church."

Ernst Mussgang, Publ., 323 Cedar St., St. Paul, Minn.:—

- The Truth about the so-called "Luther's Testament in English."** Tyndale's New Testament. *L. Franklin Gruber*. 71 pages.

In view of British spleen that has been manifested even in the investigation of historical facts, this study which shows the measure of Luther's help to Tyndale is a satisfaction and delight to the Lutheran student of the English Bible.