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Full Forgiveness.

Translated from Dr. E. Preuss's *Die Lehre von der Rechtfertigung*, Part V.

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

(Continued.)

Are we to produce still more testimonies? Are we to show — and this would be an easy task — that our Evangelical Lutheran Church has confessed the doctrine of full forgiveness at all times? Are we to summon Martin Chemnitz to the arena? or Aegidius Hunnius? Hunnius says: There are no degrees in justification. For it is impossible that a man should have partly obtained forgiveness of sins and partly not. It is also impossible for a man to be partly in grace and partly without it, or to be an heir of eternal life and at the same time a child of the devil. But he that is justified *has obtained full forgiveness of all his sins* and is fully in grace and an heir of eternal life. For in justification our greater or lesser worthiness does not come into consideration, consequently our justification cannot be increased or decreased by our worthiness. Not even our faith conditions our justification in so far as it has this or that quality, being strong or weak, but only in so far as it apprehends its object, the merits of Christ. But the merits of Christ are indivisible.¹⁾ John Gerhard says: The Word of God “carefully distinguishes between justification and

1) *Justificatio nec magis recipit nec minus, quandoquidem fieri non potest, ut quis ex parte remissionem suorum peccatorum obtineat, ex parte vero non; nec quisquam partim in gratia est, partim extra gratiam; nec quis potest esse ex parte haeres vitae aeternae, ex parte vero filius gehennae et damnationis. Sed homo justificatus plenariam omnium peccatorum adeptus est veniam, et totus est in gratia Dei atque vitae sempiternae haeres. Neque spectantur in justificatione illae virtutes, quibus auctis vel diminutis ipsa quoque justificatio tale subeat vel incrementum vel decrementum. Quin ne quidem fides ingreditur justificationem, quatenus ex sua conditione aestimata nunc firma, nunc languida est, sed quod subjectum suum aspicit, quod acquabile semper est. Considerat quippe gratiam justificantis Dei, quae infinitate sua omnem inaequalitatem respuit. Considerat meritum Christi, quod, quia infinitum est et in justificationis actu totum apprehenditur, itidem hujusmodi graduum inaequalitatem in justificationis arcano non constituit. (A. Hunnius, *Articulus de Justificatione*, p. 102.)*

BOOK REVIEW.

Two Simultaneous Conventions. A Declaration of Lutheran and American Principles. Address delivered by *President R. Kretzschmar*, June 14, 1928, at the convention of the Western District of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States. 5 cts.; per 100, \$2.50. (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.)

It was a real privilege to hear President Kretzschmar on our national Flag Day, when the Republican National Convention was in session in Kansas City, deliver this opening address at the convention of the Western District of our Synod. He very clearly indicates the spheres of the Church and of the State and warns against confusing them. Here is a characteristic sentence: "If the Bible did enjoin teetotalism, that would not compel the State to do the same, even as the fact that the Bible evidently does permit the moderate use of wine does not bar the State from passing prohibition laws." The address is so timely, and so admirably does it present the Lutheran position on the relation between Church and State that it ought to be given the widest circulation possible. The address is published in tract form by order of the convention.

Gruesse. Von *E. A. Wilh. Krauss*. Dargeboten aus Dankbarkeit gegen den Entschlafenen. \$1.50. (Northwestern Publishing House Print, Milwaukee, Wis.) Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

No one who made the acquaintance of the sainted Dr. Krauss could fail to notice that he was an independent thinker and a great scholar. There was something sturdy, rugged, virile, about his judgment and his utterances, though he at the same time was a past master in the use of polite forms. His learning was so massive that one felt like a dwarf aside of him. That to these qualities of the head there were joined noble ones of the heart, true piety, fervent love of the truth of the Scriptures, a deep consecration, is well known to all who were privileged to belong to the circle in which he moved. The various characteristics of this great man and theologian are reflected in the sermons, letters, and poems which constitute this posthumous volume. Every page bears the imprint of Dr. Krauss's attractive and unique personality. Courtesy and strength, learning and piety, are here happily united. Now and then he does not disdain to indulge the sense of playful humor, of which he had a goodly portion. In the letters several controverted points are touched upon. The book will be gratefully received and enjoyed. The sermon preached by Dr. C. C. Schmidt at the funeral of his distinguished parishioner forms a welcome addition to these *Analecta Kraussiana*.

Our Great Out-of-Doors. By *C. W. G. Eifrig*. Volume I: *Mammals*. \$1.25. (Rand McNally & Co., Chicago.)

Here is a book for which we have been waiting many years. In Germany the books by Dr. Duemling on birds and mammals served the purpose very nicely. To many a boy and girl these books proved the first stimulus to open up the possibilities of nature study. Professor Eifrig is putting

all the enthusiasm of a true nature-lover into his work at the River Forest Normal, and this same infective enthusiasm is found throughout his book on mammals, which, we hope, will soon be followed by other books of the series. Every animal described is pictured with such sympathetic interest and in such a charming manner that all those who study the book are bound to be delighted. It should find its way immediately to the shelves of home libraries everywhere and especially to the shelves of school libraries. Considering the great amount of excellent illustrations, some of them in color, the price of the book is very low indeed. K.

Luther as an Educator. By *G. M. Bruce*. \$2.00. (Augsburg Publishing House.) Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

Every book written from the standpoint of conservative Christianity is worth while, and especially if such a book calls attention to the greatest facts of the Christian religion. For that reason the book by Dr. Bruce, written as a contribution to the four-hundredth anniversary of Luther's Catechisms, will appeal at once to every person, whether pastor or layman, who wishes to have some correct idea of Luther's greatness in the field of education, particularly of religious education. The author has succeeded in bringing the outstanding facts from the career of Luther in a form which will immediately appeal to the reader and will certainly stimulate the study of Luther as an educator. Together with Dr. Painter's book *Luther on Education* this new monograph ought to be on the shelves of every Lutheran educator. A few slight misprints and one or two slight errors in chronology will easily be detected and corrected. K.

Henric Schartau and the Order of Grace. Biography by *Henrik Haegglund* and Fifteen Sermons by *Henric Schartau*. Translated by *S. G. Haegglund*. \$1.25. (Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Ill.)

Schartau's one great concern was: Are my hearers converted? Are they true believers? He was a stern enemy of all sham Christianity, an implacable foe of rationalistic moralism so prevalent in his day. His strictness was a rock of offense to some of his contemporaries. His sermons, however, prove that he did not only preach the Law in all its severity and warn secure sinners of their terrible end, but that he never failed to preach to penitent sinners the grace of God in Christ Jesus. His biographer commends him for refusing to make of his church "an arena for doctrinal warfare," yet it should be clear to a Christian minister that reproof of false teachers and rejection of false doctrine must be the duty of a true herald of Christ. B.

The Best Possible Sunday-School. By *Walter E. Schuette, D. D.* Cloth. 171 pages. \$1.00. Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

The Sunday-school is here to stay — and here also to give pastor and congregation trouble, for the simple reason that it must do something which can be done only passably even under the most favorable circumstances. The volume before us is an attempt to help the pastor and his staff of teachers in making their Sunday-school as useful as possible. Not every

congregation can boast an ideal Sunday-school, but all can at least strive for "the best possible Sunday-school." The directions given in the book are simple and to the point. The author clearly defines the aim of Sunday-school work, describes the required equipment, states the qualifications of teachers and officers, and discusses the methods of teaching. There is an absence of technical terms and of scientific phrases, and the treatment is popular and genial. To all who are looking for a new text-book on the Sunday-school and its work we recommend this volume, though we do not agree with every suggestion or statement. For instance, while it is true that the language of the Authorized Version must be simplified occasionally, it is not true that this translation often obscures the sense beyond the comprehension of most children. Also, we could hardly recommend in its place the American Revised Version or even the English Revised Version; for while these have improved the text in some instances, they have faults of their own. On the whole, Pastor Schuette's book is a useful, practical, and interesting help for pastors and Sunday-school workers.

MUELLER.

Walking with God. By *Costen J. Harrell*. 190 pages, 4¼×7½. \$1.00. (Cokesbury Press, Nashville, Tenn.) Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

Of this volume the author says in his foreword: "Its genesis will best explain its purpose. For some years it has been the custom of the author to prepare for his church bulletin each Sunday a short interpretation of some phase of our Christian faith. Three purposes have guided him from week to week: to write briefly, so that the busiest might find time to read what had been written; to write simply, so that any reader might understand; to write vitally, so that every reader might be helped to a more intimate walk with God. From a much larger collection of material sixty selections have been made and sent forth in this little volume with the hope that they may do for a wider circle of readers what they were originally meant to do for the writer's congregation." We have found the brief interpretations of Scripture-passages given in this book to be examples of how new interest can be aroused in old truths. For instance, from Matt. 25, 18: "But he that received one talent went and digged in the earth and hid his lord's money," the author points out that it was "the man of average ability that made no use of his talent. . . . There is a great need in the world for men and women of brilliant parts. They are the inspirers and leaders in every great cause. As Longfellow puts it, they 'change the flint into transparent crystal, bright and clear.' But when all has been said, the world moves forward on the faithfulness of men and women of one talent." Of course, the writings of every religionist are determined by his religion, and therefore we find that the author, who is pastor of the Epworth Church, Norfolk, Va., in his article on "The Communion," says that the body and blood of Christ are merely symbolized by the bread and wine, concluding his brief article with these words: "The rich symbolism of the table helps us into an experience of Jesus Christ. It is the Gospel of God's dear Son wrapped in a fair linen cloth. He who discerns that sacrificial love which is so inseparably associated with the material elements in the Sacrament and which so wonderfully

shines through them — such an one experiences the Real Presence." Barring such views of the Reformed churches, the booklet will prove very stimulating and will offer some valuable suggestions for the pastor's sermon work.

FRTZ.

Every-Day Religion. A Book of Applied Christianity. By *John Timothy Stone, D. D., LL. D., Lit. D.* Cloth. 267 pages, 5×7. \$1.50. (W. A. Wilde Company, Boston.)

In this volume Dr. J. T. Stone, of Chicago, presents to the Christian reader seventy-three brief, pointed paragraphs on all manner of topics pertaining to Christian life and conduct. The term "religion" is used in its widest sense and includes ideas which properly cannot be grouped under that heading. Among the subjects treated we find such as "Courtesy in Business," "The Sense of Humor," "The Honor of Service," "The Joy of Giving," "Spring Joys," "After Fifty," "The Bible's Value to You," "The Blessing of Illness," "Honesty and Promptness," etc. The author has in mind the Christian as he should be and act in life — the courteous, patient, kind, resourceful, sympathetic, clean gentleman, whose outward actions are a reflection of the new life within. There is no preaching in these paragraphs, but real guidance by suggestion and appeal, couched in simple, dignified language, which makes the book interesting reading and gives to it both charm and value.

MUELLER.

Unto Victory. By *George A. Gordon, D. D., LL. D.* 141 pages, 5×7¼. \$1.25. (W. A. Wilde Company, Boston, Mass.)

This book contains moralizing essays, in which one looks in vain for that victory over sin, death, and hell which is given us in Christ Jesus, our only Savior.

J. H. C. F.

Negro Problems in Cities. A study made under the direction of *T. J. Woolfer, Jr.* 285 pages, 5¼×7¾. \$2.50, net. (Doubleday, Doran & Co., Inc., New York.)

To those who wish to acquaint themselves with the present status of the American Negro, especially in the larger cities, this volume is well-nigh indispensable. Among the Northern cities treated in this survey of social and industrial conditions are Buffalo, Chicago, New York, Indianapolis, and Philadelphia. The growing interest of the white man in his colored neighbor is strikingly illustrated in the chapters on educational and recreational policies. The housing condition and its related problems of congestion and segregation come in for major attention.

G.

When He Came to Himself. By *Louis Tucker.* 349 pages. \$2.00. (Bobbs-Merrill Co., Indianapolis.)

Here we have another historical novel of the time of Christ. The author tells us in the introduction that his book bears resemblance to *Ben Hur*. But whereas that is the story of a good man who comes to Christ, the purpose of this is to show the changes in the character of a bad man by contact with Jesus Christ. As the title suggests, the book is an expansion of the parable of the Prodigal Son according to the author's viewpoint. Mr. Tucker's book shows that he has thoroughly studied the time

of which he writes. It is startling in its portrayal of the social, political, religious, and economic conditions of those days. We believe that our pastors will profit by reading this book because it so convincingly describes the black, satanic corruption and the total bankruptcy of the heathen world, and shows that the time was really full for the coming of the Savior, who was thoroughly able to save a sin-sick world by His vicarious atonement. The application to our present-day need of the same Christ lies very near.

W. G. P.

To Cariboo and Back. By *M. Ella Chaffey*. Cloth. 244 pages, $4\frac{3}{4}\times 7$. 50 cts.

When Stubby Got His Start. By *Walter E. Schuette*. Boards. 62 pages, $4\frac{3}{4}\times 7$. 25 cts.

Miss Tebbet's Experiment. By *Walter E. Schuette*. Boards. 63 pages, $4\frac{3}{4}\times 7$. 25 cts. Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

Young people like to read, and it is well for their churches to supply them with books that do not outrage their Christian convictions and feelings. The Christian man or woman who writes stories for Christian boys and girls is doing them a great service, which ought to be greatly appreciated, not only by the young people themselves, but also by their parents. The three story-books here reviewed are suitable for our Lutheran boys and girls. *When Stubby Got His Start* is a story for boys between the ages of ten and twelve, *Miss Tebbet's Experiment* is a story for little girls, and *To Cariboo and Back* will be read with pleasure by boys and girls near the age of confirmation. We are sure that our boys and girls will be glad to read these books; and they will not only be entertained, but also benefited.

MUELLER.

Paul the Man. His Life, Message, Ministry. By *Clarence Edward McCartney, D. D.* \$2.00. (Fleming H. Revell Co., Chicago, Ill.) Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

Dr. McCartney is one of the leading Fundamentalists of our country, being well known as a sturdy defender of the authority of the Scriptures. It is a delight for a believing Christian to read this book on St. Paul, which weaves the biographical data of Acts and the epistles relating to the great apostle into one harmonious, satisfying picture. The work is not intended to be critical and does not discuss the various theories on moot questions. It is simply a straightforward presentation of the facts furnished in the Scriptures concerning Paul the man. The book is interesting and helpful. Little slips like the statement on page 108 that Paul on Mars Hill stood before the tribunal before which Socrates was tried—a remark which merely indicates that the author's classical lore has become a little rusty—do not lessen the usefulness of the book, which we take pleasure in recommending to pastors and teachers.

Intimacy with Jesus. By *Charles M. Woodman*. \$1.75. (The Macmillan Co., New York.)

It is a Quaker who has written this book, and hence it is not surprising to find it shot through with mysticism. The author is guided more by subjective considerations than by the simple word of the Scrip-

tures. Jesus is said to have "accommodated Himself to the ideas of the people with whom He lived," to have "accepted at their face value the historical and even the scientific viewpoints of His own day, irrespective of their variance with the results of later investigations." Concerning the cross the author says: "Salvation which is based on a personal relationship and finds its fruition in a spiritual fellowship seemingly needs no death to make it effective"; that is, the vicarious atonement doctrine of the Bible is not tenable. All of which shows that in spite of its beauty of phrase the book is not setting forth the Gospel of Paul and his fellow-apostles.

Songs of the Church-Year. Hymns on the Gospel- and Epistle-texts, and Other Songs. By *Anna Hoppe*. \$1.60. (Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Ill.) Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

A beautiful volume from the pen of a gifted singer. Miss Anna Hoppe has endeared herself to many thousand Lutherans by her simple and yet appealing verses glorifying the Gospel, especially the center of it, the Cross. Dr. Adolph Hult says of her in the foreword: "Miss Hoppe began her poetic writings in the *Northwestern Lutheran* a dozen years ago. Almost all the songs here presented first found a place there. At present her muse sings for periodicals not only in our country, but in Great Britain also. It is not too much to say that she stands in the front rank of Lutheran hymnists in our land." The title correctly indicates that in these spiritual songs the seasons of the church-year are considered; in addition many poems are submitted which do not refer to lessons of any particular part of the church-year, but are of a general nature. May the book be given a cordial welcome in the Lutheran Church of our country!

The Jesuits. A Historical Study. By *H. Boehmer*. Translated from the fourth revised edition by *Paul Zeller Strodach*. 198 pages. \$1.25. (Castle Press, Philadelphia.) Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

Prof. Dr. Heinr. Boehmer, Professor of Church History at Leipzig, died 1927. He was one of the outstanding students of the Reformation and Luther. As such he, of course, also paid close attention to the Counter Reformation, the most active agent of which was the "Company of Jesus," the order of Jesuits. The work before us is not very large; the fourth German edition, which has been translated by Rev. Strodach, is shorter than its predecessors, several chapters having been left out which Boehmer intended to embody in a larger work on the Jesuits. The book had been translated into French and Russian, and now we have an English translation. We welcome this because it makes Boehmer's work accessible to such as cannot read German, and his sketch, as he called the book, merits notice and study, much more than most other publications on the subject. The author used no legends or back-stairs gossip, but gathered his facts from the sources. The Founder, Loyola; The Genesis of the Order; The Change from First Purposes to Others; The Society in Its Successful Period (to 1773), are the chapters of the German work, followed by a bibliography. The translator has given us a very readable English Boehmer.

The diction is fluent, the style is clear. Unfortunately the translation sometimes presents a sense quite different from the original, at times at least a different shade of meaning. The bull of Alexander VI does not "describe the *tonsura* as a papal seal" (p. 11, note), but demands that a *tonsura* have "at least the size of a papal seal." "The *corregidor* answered this self-evident situation" (p. 12) should read: "Naturally he answered the summons" (*Zustellung* is not *Zustand*). Navarre had not forced the Spanish nobles, but these had forced Navarre (p. 14). "*Ganz pathologisch geartet, weil voellig triebhaft*," is not: of a pathological character, but wholly spontaneous (p. 15). "*Noch immer ein phantastischer Tracumer nach Art des Edlen von der Mancha*" is translated a little too vaguely: "A fanciful dreamer always, like the nobles of La Mancha" (p. 17; of course, "*der Edle von der Mancha*" is the one: Don Quichotte). "*Er tat sich zwar sicher etwas darauf zugute*" does not mean: "He considered himself perfectly secure" (p. 17). The reviewer has compared the texts for about a third of the book and was convinced anew of the truth of his old principle that a translator must be particularly at home in the language from which he translates. Nevertheless this publication is of great value, which will be increased when, after a rapid sale, a second edition will have removed the slips. The second edition should also, like the German edition, bring a table of contents. R. W. H.

Christ's Mold of Prayer. By *J. A. Francis, D. D.* 53 pages. \$1.00. (John C. Winston Co.)

The title indicates that the Lord's Prayer is meant. Dr. Francis tries to show why our Savior chose just this sequence of petitions, placing the one for daily bread after the first three. The booklet contains several novel expressions for well-known facts, and these phrases will appeal particularly to lovers of epigrams and aphorisms. But a dollar is rather much for these word-gems. The other parts of the book are disappointing. There is no testimony as to the foundation for all prayer — faith in Christ's atonement. The author's description of the answer to the Lord's Prayer indicates in what sense he wants us to pray: "When every human heart will love God; . . . when every business transaction will be conducted by the principles and in the spirit of Jesus; . . . when in all art galleries there will not be a picture that He would be ashamed to have painted: . . . when that day comes, this prayer will have been answered, and it will not be fully answered until then." The author closes with the disciples' request, "Lord, teach us to pray." That is still necessary after having read the book. R. W. H.

D. L. Moody. His Message for To-Day. By *Charles R. Erdmann, D. D., LL. D.*, of Princeton Theological Seminary. 156 pages, 5×7½. \$1.50. (Fleming H. Revell Company.)

An interesting account of a man who was a "crude, callow, and uncultured youth"; who attended only "certain sessions of the village school, where he had been distinguished more for his pranks and practical jokes than for his pursuit of knowledge"; whose "real school had been that of poverty and privation and hard work"; whose home library consisted only of a "family Bible, a catechism, and a book of devotions"; who left his

home at the age of seventeen and went to Boston, where, "after many days of discouragement, he was finally given a position in the shoe-shop of an uncle"; but who, in spite of it all, became a powerful evangelist, who "for some thirty years was able to stand a strain equal to which few men of his generation were submitted and which few men in any age could have endured"; for "day after day and night after night he addressed gatherings of thousands and tens of thousands. He traveled incessantly. He planned and prayed and preached. He pleaded with the impenitent for the salvation of their souls; and he pried money out of the pockets of the rich for the support of his schools. He led his great Summer Conferences and conducted his winter campaigns. He was tireless in his ceaseless labors, and when his coworkers were exhausted, he was in fine form for another task." Mr. Moody was, no doubt, a man of rare abilities and on both sides of the Atlantic preached in all sincerity that Christ is the Savior of man. If we cannot agree with all the doctrinal views of such a man, yet we find much in reading his biography that is very stimulating.

J. H. C. F.

The Parables of Jesus. By *Elbert Russell*, Professor of Biblical Interpretation in the School of Religion of Duke University. \$1.00. (The John C. Winston Co., Philadelphia, Pa.)

The parables of Jesus occupy a prominent place in His teaching, and their interpretation has given some pastors and teachers a good deal of trouble. The book under consideration, while quite simple and unpretentious, can render good services to all who have to explain the parables. The first three chapters are of a general nature, treating of the importance of the parables, the principles of interpretation, and the teaching by parables. The following ones take up the individual parables of Christ. The theology of the author is not free from the taint of Modernism, which crops out in a statement like this: "The first followers of Jesus were those who shared the apocalyptic expectations of the Pharisees. There is always a possibility that in transmitting His teachings they may have consciously emphasized the apocalyptic element in His message and given His words a literal emphasis which was not in Jesus' mind." The reader will see that here the plenary inspiration of the Scriptures is plainly denied. Looked at purely from the exegetical point of view, the book offers many valuable comments and explanations, although the reviewer cannot endorse all the interpretations propounded.

Narrative Dialogs from the Bible. By *A. Olegg*. (Doubleday, Doran Co.)

This book is in line with recent attempts to make the Bible more accessible to children and young people, especially by presenting it in a form which will, from the outset, appeal to children. The author has taken the Bible-text of some of the outstanding stories and printed them in the form of a dialog. His idea is that a group of children in any kind of school or at home may come together to read the Bible-text according to the form printed in this book. Undoubtedly this plan can be carried out successfully in a great many instances, and whatever method is pursued in having the children and the young people become interested in the Bible-text is at least worthy of a serious trial.

K.