

PREACHER, POET, SONGWRITER, AUTHOR & GREAT MAN OF GOD—Martin Luther taught that only faith could lead to salvation & he had to fight the good fight of faith all his life to continue preaching this new doctrine, which was strongly resisted by the Pope & Catholic Church & led to his excommunication. He then went on to translate the New Testament himself into the language of the people so that everyone could read the truth, & he was a real rebel against the church system of his day - who were the real rebels against God! He rejected celibacy & married a former nun who'd also rejected celibacy & they continued faithfully witnessing until the day he died at the age of 63. Luther was a prolific writer & his writings truly helped to change the world of his day, & many of the truths he wrote about in the Middle Ages hold just as true today! PTL!

FOLLOWING ARE SOME EXCERPTS FROM ONE OF HIS LAST BOOKS, which was only translated from the original German hundreds of years after Luther's death. The editors of this translation explain why there was such a delay in the translation & give a little background of the book: "When we set out to find the book in its original language & when we proceeded to have it translated, we were shocked & amazed at the interference we encountered from a wide variety of sources. Two different translators were made the victims of intimidation, & only after a rather drastic experience were we able to complete its translation in spite of its brevity. In effecting the translation of this work we became increasingly convinced that a well-organized plot to keep this book hidden exists."

"LUTHER'S EXPERIENCE WITH THE JEWS WAS VERY DISAPPOINTING. He spent many years trying to convert them. Like St. Paul, he gave the Jews the first chance at the Gospel, but concluded in later years, as the reader will soon see, that his efforts in this direction were futile. Some of Dr. Luther's language will shock the reader, but it is our business to give you the words of the Reformer just as he wrote them, & not on the basis of our agreement or disagreement. Regardless of any other purpose that this translation may serve, it will serve one fundamental purpose: namely, this generation is not the first generation which has faced a Jewish problem. Yes, it will serve a second purpose: namely, an alertness to the Jewish problem does not necessarily indicate that the individuals who are alerted are depraved or non-Christian. For those who doubt that these writings originated with Martin Luther, the original language may be found in Martin Luther's works in the Congressional Library, Washington, D.C., & in any one of several Lutheran seminaries."

NOW WE HAVE LUTHER'S OWN INTRODUCTION TO HIS BOOK: "I had decided not to write anymore, neither of the Jews, nor against the Jews. Because I have learned, however, that those miserable, wicked people do not cease trying to win over to themselves us, that is, the Christians also, I have permitted this booklet to go forth that I might be found among those who have resisted such poisonous undertaking of the Jews, and have warned the Christians to be on their guard against them. I would not have thought that a Christian would permit himself to be fooled by the Jews to share their exile & misery. But the Devil is the god of the World, and where God's Word is not, he has easy sailing, not only among the weak, but also among the strong. God help us. Amen."

LUTHER GOES ON TO SAY: "It is not my intention to quarrel with the Jews or to learn from them how they interpret & understand the Scriptures, I have known all that before. Much less do I intend to convert the Jews. For that is impossible. Nor does it do any good among the Jews everywhere, and they have generally become worse. Also, because they became so hardened to visitations that they do not want to become conscious of their terrible dilemma, that they have now been in exile for over 1400 years, & cannot yet see an end or definite time of relief through fervent, eternal crying & screaming to God. If visitations do not help, we might as well figure that our talking & interpreting will help much less."

"THEY HOLD ONE PRINCIPLE ON WHICH THEY DEPEND & IN WHICH THEY TRUST SO MUCH. That is, they are born of the highest people on earth, of Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebecca, Jacob, etc. We (Goyim) heathen are not human beings in their sight, but hardly worthy to be regarded as worms. For we are not of that high, noble blood, birth & descent. Therefore God must suffer them in their schools, prayers, songs, doctrine & entire life - there they stand before Him & pester Him. He must hear how they exalt themselves & praise God for separating them from the heathen, & permitting them to be born of the holy fathers & chosen them for His own holy nation, etc. And there is no end of boasting about blood & bodily birth of the fathers."

"WELL, NO ONE CAN DEPRIVE THEM OF THEIR BOASTING about blood & the tribe of Israel. In

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the Old Testament they lost many a battle on that account. All prophets have chided them because of it, for it is a proud carnal assumption without spirit & faith, but they have also been murdered & persecuted because of it. They are boastful, proud fools who to this day can do more than to praise themselves because of their nobility & blood, praise themselves alone & despise & condemn the whole world in their schools, prayers & teachings, yet they imagine themselves to be standing before God as His dearest children!"

LUTHER CONTINUES IN A LITTLE STRONGER LANGUAGE: "Our Lord also calls them 'vipers.' In John 8:39: 'If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham.' Verses 41: 'Ye are of your father, the Devil.' 'This was unbearable for them, that they should be the children of the Devil, as they cannot bear it yet. For if they would have to give us this foundation (Abraham's children), everything that they have built upon it would have to fall.'

"THEY ARE THE REAL LIARS & BLOODHOUNDS, who have not only perverted & falsified the entire Scripture from beginning to end & without ceasing with their interpretations. And all of the anxious sighing, longing & hope of their hearts is directed to the time when some day they would like to deal with us heathen as they dealt with the heathen in Persia at the time of Esther. O how they love that book Esther, which nicely agrees with their bloodthirsty, revengeful & murderous desire & hope! The sun never did shine on a more bloodthirsty & revengeful people as they who imagine to be the people of God, who desire to & think they must murder & crush the heathen. And the foremost undertaking which they expect of their Messiah is that he should slay & murder the whole world with their sword."

"IF IN THIS WORLD A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN WERE TO PARADE IN A WREATH (token of virginity), but underneath were nothing but a nasty, shameful whore, what would it help her? This it would do to her, that people would despise her seven times more than a free, public whore! Thus God always chided Israel, a mean whore, through His prophets, because they practised all manner of idolatry & wickedness under the show of outward commandments & sanctity. As Hosea especially laments in Chapter 2:4,5: 'I will not have mercy upon your children, for they be the children of whoredoms. For their mother hath played the harlot.' They are condemned because they have God's commandment & do not keep it, but act against it without ceasing."

"THEY BRAZ & ROAST that they have had the land of Canaan, the city of Jerusalem & the temple from God. Although God has overthrown such boasting & vanity many times, especially through the King of Babylon who led them away & destroyed everything, like the King of Assyria had before led away & destroyed all Israel. Finally, they were rooted up & devastated by the Romans, that they might comprehend how God did not consider, nor will He regard country, city, temple, priesthood & principality, that He should consider them His own chosen people on that account. Yet their iron neck (as Isaiah calls it) is not bowed with shame. They constantly remain stiff-necked, hardened & immovable."

UNDER A SECTION ENTITLED 'DEVIL-POSSESSED', LUTHER SAYS, "They boast about their circumcision, but the purpose for which they were circumcised - to keep God's commandments - does not mean anything to them. They know how to boast of their Law, Temple, Divine Services, city & country & principality, but disregard the purpose for which they had it. The Devil has possessed these people with all his angels, that they always boast of outward things, their gifts, their accomplishments & deeds, which is to offer up the empty shells without the kernels. Therefore, I do not care to have anything to do with any Jew. St. Paul says they are given over to wrath. The more you try to help them the harder & more wicked they become!"

"GOLD & SILVER ARE THEIR MESSIAH. No people under the sun always have been, still are, & always will remain more avaricious than the Jews, as can be noticed in their cursed usury. Whenever they can direct Scripture to their insatiable avarice (desire for money) they wickedly do so. You would think that God & His prophets did not know of anything else to prophesy other than how the fathomless avarice of the Jews could be satisfied with the silver & gold of the heathen."

"KNOW, MY DEAR CHRISTIAN, that next to the Devil you have no more bitter, more poisonous, more venomous an enemy than a real Jew who earnestly desires to be a Jew.

Be it so or

not, I know full well that the full, ready will is not lacking with them if they could only transform it into deeds, in secret or openly. Should they at times do something good, know full well that it is not done out of love for you, nor for your good. In order to have space to live among us they must of necessity do something. But their heart remains as I have said.

"IN SECRET THEY CURSE THE CHRISTIANS. They strengthen their faith & bitter hatred against us by saying among themselves, 'Keep on, see how God is with us & does not forsake His people'

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as they honor the Father. He that honoreth not the Son, honoreth not the Father who hath sent Him.' (Jn. 5:23)"

LUTHER ENDED WITH HIS RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THESE TROUBLEMAKERS, the first being that no more synagogues be permitted. He said, "If God would say to us now or on the day of judgement, 'Do you hear, you are a Christian & know that the Jews openly blasphemed & cursed Me & My Son, & you gave them a place to do so, also protected & guarded them so that they could do no unhindered & unpunished in your country, city or house!' Tell me, what shall we answer the Lord?"

"MAYBE MILD-HEARTED & GENTLE CHRISTIANS WILL BELIEVE I AM TOO RIGOROUS & DRAMATIC - against the poor, afflicted Jews, believing that I ridicule them & treat them with too much sarcasm. By my word, I am far too weak to be able to ridicule such a satanic breed. I would fain do so, but they are far greater adepts at mockery than I & possess a god who is master in this art - it is the Evil One himself."

"IF THEY COULD KILL US ALL THEY WOULD GLAIVE & DO SO." In fact many of them murder Christians, especially those professing to be surgeons & doctors. They know how to deal with medicaments in the manner of the Italians - the Borgias & Medicis - who gave people poison which brought about their death in one hour or in a month. Therefore deal with them harshly as they do nothing but excommunicate & blaspheme our Lord Jesus Christ, trying to rob us of our lives, our health, our honour & our belongings."

AT THE END OF HIS TREATISE LUTHER TALKS ABOUT THE JEWISH MESSIAH, THE ONE THEY STILL AWAIT! The Jews desire no more from their Messiah than that He should be a worldly King, who would slay the Christians, divide the world among the Jews & make them rich Lords, & finally die like other kings & his children after him likewise. Of what good would the Jewish Messiah be to me, if he could not help me, poor human being, against my spiritual lone, and could not make my life one tenth part as good as that of a sow? If however, I had a Messiah who could help me in spiritual need, that I would not have to fear death, would always & eternally be certain of life, could mock at the Devil & hell & would not have to shiver before the wrath of God, then my heart would skip for joy & be drunken with happiness! Then I would light a fire of love for God & never cease to thank & praise Him. If then He would not give me silver & gold & other riches, still the whole world would be a paradise to me even if I should have to live in a prison. Such a Messiah we Christians have, and for it we thank God the Father with full, overwhelming joy of our hearts!" PTL!



DR. MARTIN LUTHER