

years studying up until about the turn of the century studying the ancient Greek philosophers. Then he decided to devote himself more directly to Christian studies and devoted about ten years to the study of the church fathers. After about ten years of that he decided to study the Bible itself more directly. So from 1509 on he devoted himself very particularly to the study of the Bible. In 1509 he published a Treatise on the Psalms in which he tried to find exactly what the sense of the Psalms was, and what it meant for his own soul. Three years later he published a commentary on the epistles of St. Paul. He discovered in Paul the teaching that ~~salvation~~ justification is by faith alone. In his commentary on I Corinthians 8 he wrote, "It is almost profane to speak of the merited works especially toward God. The opinion that we can be justified by works is an error for which the Jews are especially condemned. Our only hope is in God's grace. Now you might find similar ideas in 15-13⁺ preaching but no stress on it. great stress was a combination of iniquity and ~~corruption~~ corruption calling people to put God first and to seek to live lives in accordance with the teaching of the Scripture, but any clarification of doctrine in such a way as to point out the errors that have come in to the doctrinal teaching of the church was entirely foreign to actual efforts. They could find no heresy in his teachings, though they tried very hard to do it. This man seemed to have given teachings which today would be considered heretical in the Roman Catholic Church. We put great stress in these commentaries on salvation by faith alone and he gathered about him in France a group of young men greatly interested in classical studies and he led these men to become greatly interested in studying the Bible and finding out exactly what it meant. So here you have in France humanism moving in the direction of Bible study and of emphasis on the teachings of the Word. When Martin Luther began his lectures he used these two works of ~~Fabian~~ Faber as the text for his first sets of lectures. Some think that it was from this that he got his formula, "by faith alone", from the work of ~~the~~ man from whose writings