

HISTORY OF THE REFORMATION OF THE 16TH CENTURY - D'Aubigne

Vol. 1 Book 1 Chapters 8 & 9 Book 2 Chapters 2, 3, 6, 7, 8
Book 3 Chapters 1-5

Ch. 8 Quotations from Erasmus: "The virgin mother of God, in whom the people place more confidence than in her Son."

"In the churches they scarcely ever think of explaining the Gospel to the people."

Erasmus soon became the most important man in Christendom. Erasmus was very capable of proposing error, but he did not know how to teach the truth. Truly Erasmus laid the egg which Luther hatched.

- Ch. 9 Hutton took refuge in the Castle of Ebeinburg where Fransis of Sickingen offered an asylum to all who were persecuted by the ultra-modernists. In addition Martin Bucer, and Ecclampadius found asylum in his castle. These were ardently devoted to the cause of Reformation, and were to lead the nobles to take up arms in favor of the Gospel, and to fall with the sword upon that Rome which Luther aimed at destroying solely by the Word of God, and by the invincible power of the truth.
- Ch. 2 Luther's low opinion of Aristotle. Luther's discovery of the Bible. Luther saw the idle like of the majority of the priests. He quits at Erfurth and goes to a cloister.
- Ch. 3 Luther went to a monestary and was given a lowly occupation. He refused to beg for food. During free time he would return to his studies with new zeal. A tender conscience inclined Luther to regard the slightest fault as a great sin.
- Ch. 6 His journey to Rome in 1510 produced subjects of astonishment, scandal and luxury. Luther had thought better things of the dignitaries of the papacy than he had already observed in the inferior clergy, but this was not so. On the steps called "Pilot's Staircase" was found the apex of his visit to Rome. He was ashamed of seeing to what depth superstition had plunged him. He kept thinking of the verse "faith alone without works is justified before God."
- Ch. 7 Returning from Rome, Luther turned his eyes from the pontifical city to the Holy Scriptures, and the Reformation began. Luther received his Doctor of Divinity and swore an oath to devote himself to the study of the Bible and not to that of human tradition. Luther stirs up a controversy while he becomes a friend with Spalaten.