

Stauzin, here is my signature. I want you to take care of Luther and don't tell me what you do. So Luther started for home with the Imperial legate. He had a safe conduct that was still good for another couple weeks. He had not gone from there very long when the Emperor signed an order: Luther was an outlaw; anybody who found him was an outlaw; he was to be taken and destroyed as a menace to the country.

Then they heard Luther had disappeared. He had been seen in the neighborhood of Eisenhauf one day as he travelled and then he was seen no more! All over Europe there was rumor that Luther had disappeared. Alexander the Papal representative wrote to the Pope. He said, People are saying we have done away with him; would God it were true. \_\_\_\_\_ the famous German painter was then on a trip to the Netherlands and he wrote in his diary, "They have done away with Martin Luther, now who is going to teach us the blessed gospel? All over Europe people were excited, Luther had disappeared!

When they were a little way from Eisenauch which belonged to Duke Frederick, suddenly a band of horsemen came out from the woods and attacked the people in the wagon, knocked them all over to the ground; seized Luther, stuck him on a horse and dashed off. They took Luther, stuck him on a horse and dashed off. They took Luther through the woods all day back and forth till night came. At night they took him up the hill to the Wartburg castle that stands above the city of Eisenauch. They there dressed him up as a knight with a beard and disguised him, and kept him secretly. There he was kept in the Wartburg where Frederick did not know where he was. Frederick could safely say, I don't what's become of him. I don't know where he is. But Luther wrote letters from the Wartburg. He wrote many letters. Frederick had a long illness. Luther wrote letters to him, comforting him, giving him long expositions of Scripture pointing him to Christ showing him how he could be led in his life through Christ. He wrote articles that were disseminated widely. He got busy trying to translate the NT into Greek. How different from some of us.

Suppose we'd have been hidden in the Wartburg. Don't you suppose we'd have been running to the window every few minutes and saying, Are they coming? Are they coming? Will they get me? No. Luther sat in his study there working until his health began to degenerate from inactivity. Then he would go out with the others when they hunted, and he would write letters drawing illustrations from the nature he saw for the Gospel. He wrote his letters headed "From the Isle of Patmos" or "From the Region of the Birds". He had marvellous use of language. He translated the N.T. while there.

One day he got a letter from Wittenburg. They said in Wittenburg there is a man named Carlestad who was a professor there and at first when Luther came Carlestad had been much against him. He said Luther was introducing innovations. We should stand by the old system and not introduce those innovations, he said. He began to see Luther was right. Then he began to go beyond Luther, and now Carlestad would take up the Bible and read, We are grateful that you have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them unto babes. Carlestad would put on overalls and go down the street and meet a couple of laborers, and say, Would you please explain this verse in the Greek NT? Because God reveals it to babes! He just went to an extreme.