

BAPTISM AND FEET-WASHING

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Baptism and feet-washing by P. Bergstresser

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P. BERGSTRESSER

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AND
FEET-WASHING.

BY

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PREFACE.

THIS work has been undertaken to supply a felt want in our Lutheran Church. Ever since "The Waynesboro' Discussion," in 1879, of which debate only two thousand copies were published, we have been solicited for copies, from the East and West, and when the discovery was made that the edition was exhausted in a short time, some brethren in high position in the Church wrote to us, and urged us to prepare our arguments, on the various propositions discussed, and to publish them in separate book-form. The work now issued is an attempt to do this. This book is fuller on the propositions discussed than the debate, because we had more leisure to investigate the subjects.

Any person of ordinary intelligence can find in this work sufficient arguments for all ordinary purposes to refute those who make a dipping baptism essential to salvation, and also to convince them of our more beautiful and scriptural mode of baptism by pouring or sprinkling, as well as for the refutation of those who oppose Infant Baptism.

On Feet-Washing the treatise is quite full, and

should satisfy any impartial reader that there is no such sacrament commanded in the Word of God to be practiced in the public assemblies of the Church.

The work is commended to the prayerful attention of the whole Church.

PETER BERGSTRESSER,

ROCKWOOD, PA.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

PART I.

THE MODE OF BAPTISM.

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION	7
CHAPTER I.	
THE DEFINITION OF BAPTISM	13
CHAPTER II.	
JOHN'S BAPTISM	19
CHAPTER III.	
JESUS NOT DIPPED BY JOHN.	35
CHAPTER IV.	
BAPTIZO AND BAPTO	43
CHAPTER V.	
LUTHER NO IMMERSIONIST	60
CHAPTER VI.	
SCRIPTURE USAGE OF BAPTIZO	67
CHAPTER VII.	
PLACES WHERE BAPTISMS WERE PERFORMED	83
CHAPTER VIII.	
BAPTISM IN CHURCH HISTORY	106
CHAPTER IX.	
NATURE AND DESIGN OF BAPTISM	109

PART II.	
THE SUBJECTS OF BAPTISM.	
	PAGE
CHAPTER X.	
THE GREAT COMMISSION,	125
CHAPTER XI.	
THE FITNESS OF CHILDREN FOR BAPTISM,	132
CHAPTER XII.	
THE APOSTLES AND CHURCH HISTORY	135
CHAPTER XIII.	
THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT	143
CHAPTER XIV.	
OBJECTIONS ANSWERED	157
PART III.	
FEET-WASHING.	
CHAPTER XV.	
FEET-WASHING—NOT A SACRAMENT	189
CHAPTER XVI.	
THE LANGUAGE EMPLOYED	195
CHAPTER XVII.	
THE CIRCUMSTANCES INVOLVED	203
CHAPTER XVIII.	
FEET-WASHING A JEWISH CUSTOM	209
CHAPTER XIX.	
THE TRUE DATE OF THE PASSOVER,	223
CHAPTER XX.	
JOHN AND SYNOPTISTS HARMONIZED	227

INTRODUCTION.

THIS book needs no introduction. The author informs us in his preface that the book has been born of controversy, and comes forth in this new dress and enlarged enfoldment at the request of religious teachers, East and West, and in answer to a felt need in the Church. We have nothing of so comprehensive a character in the literature of the Church. We have some excellent manuals and tracts upon parts of the subject comprehended in this work, but no single volume so comprehensive in completeness and entirety of the subject as "Baptism and Feet-Washing." This work is not the child of an hour, but bears the marks of years of drudgery. Every paragraph exhibits the scholarly research and logical arrangement that characterize everything that Doctor Bergstresser has ever written. It is exhilarating, in these days of sham and pretense, to fall in with a naturalness and scholarly simplicity that make obscure things plain and the secrets of scholars common property.

Phillips Brooks, one of the greatest preachers that America has ever produced, once said, "Some books