

A HISTORY OF LUTHERAN MISSIONS

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A History of Lutheran Missions by Preston A. Laury

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PRESTON A. LAURY

**A HISTORY OF
LUTHERAN
MISSIONS**

A HISTORY OF
LUTHERAN MISSIONS ❧



By
PRESTON A. LAURY, S. T. B.
PASTOR ZION'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH,
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PREFACE.

This volume aims to present the salient features of the extensive missionary literature in the Lutheran Church. Though the treatment of the different methods of missionary operation is not neglected, yet, on account of the limited space, many interesting details had to be omitted. However, it is hoped that the material presented will be of interest to mission friends, a source of information to the uninformed, and a means of removing misconceptions with reference to Lutheran missions.

Acknowledgment is hereby made to Prof. W. Wackernagel, D. D., Revs. C. F. Kuder and W. A. Lambert for many valuable suggestions.

With the hope that it may in part accomplish that for which it is intended, the book is sent on its mission.

PRESTON A. LAURY.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE SALIENT FEATURES OF APOSTOLIC AND MEDIAEVAL MISSIONS.

APOSTOLIC MISSIONS.

THE missionary, like the merchant, the professional man, etc., has his standard of work. The principles which form the basis of missionary operations constitute the standard of the missionary. This standard is found in St. Matthew xxviii. 18-20; St. Mark xvi. 15, 16; St. Luke xxiv. 46-49; Acts i. 4, 5, 8. From Jerusalem as a center, the Apostles were commanded to go throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the world. They should go to bear witness of Christ's death and resurrection. Redemption, the remission of sins through repentance and faith in Him was to be proclaimed. Disciples of all nations, baptized into the name of the Triune God, were instructed to observe all the commands of Christ.

Before Christ committed this trust to the Apostles, He gave them a course of instruction. His first command to them was, "Follow me," "Come learn of me." After their discipleship, His command was, "Go, preach the Gospel to every creature." Christ gave them the example of His labors among the lost sheep of Israel; in exceptional cases among the Gentiles. He also promised to be with them whithersoever they went in His name, and to confirm their efforts with signs following.

This great responsibility needed exceptional ability. While they tarried at Jerusalem the disciples were clothed with power from on high. Invested with the privilege of