

**THEOLOGIA GERMANICA: WHICH  
SETTETH FORTH MANY FAIR  
LINEAMENTS OF DIVINE TRUTH, AND  
SAITH VERY LOFTY AND LOVELY  
THINGS TOUCHING A PERFECT LIFE**

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Theologia Germanica: Which Setteth Forth Many Fair Lineaments of Divine Truth, and Saith  
Very Lofty and Lovely Things Touching a Perfect Life by Franckforter

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Theologia Germanica.



**S**TRONG Son of God, Immortal Love,  
Whom we, that have not seen thy face,  
By faith, and faith alone embrace,  
Believing where we cannot prove.

\* \* \* \* \*

Thou seemest human and divine,  
The highest, holiest manhood Thou;  
Our wills are ours, we know not how,  
Our wills are ours to make them Thine.

\* \* \* \* \*

O Living Will that shalt endure,  
When all that seems shall suffer shock,  
Rise in the spiritual Rock,  
Flow through our deeds and make them pure.

That we may lift from out the dust,  
A voice as unto him that hears,  
A cry above the conquered years,  
To one that with us works, and trusts

With faith that comes of self-control  
The truths that never can be proved,  
Until we close with all we loved  
And all we flow from, soul in soul.

TENNYSON.

Theologia deutsch.

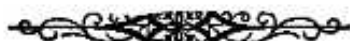
## Theologia Germanica:

Which setteth forth many fair Lineaments of  
Divine Truth, and saith very lofty  
and lovely things touching a  
perfect Life.

EDITED BY DR. PFEIFFER FROM THE ONLY  
COMPLETE MANUSCRIPT YET KNOWN.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN BY  
SUSANNA WINKWORTH.

With a PREFACE by the Rev. CHARLES KINGSLEY,  
Rector of Everley, and a LETTER to the Translator  
by the CHEVALIER BUNSEN, D.D., D.C.L., &c.  
And an Introduction by  
Professor CALVIN E. STOWE, D. D.



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## TO THE READER.

For the evangelical Christian this little work needs no other recommendation than that which is given by Martin Luther, in his brief, terse, and characteristic preface to it as originally published by him. Amid the multitude of theological works then in existence, with which his mind had been wearied and bewildered, this met his eye as an oasis in the desert, as a precious lump of pure gold in a slag of earth and stone. It sets forth the essential principle of the gospel in its naked simplicity, just as it is, and just as it proves itself most acceptable to every soul which feels its need of sal-

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Rec. M.P. 9-24-40

vation and finds that salvation in Christ alone.

A sense of sin, a conviction of deep depravity, a feeling of utter helplessness, lies at the foundation of all adequate appreciation of the gospel. In proportion as this conviction and feeling is quick and fresh, the gospel is life and power; in proportion as it is faded and indistinct, the gospel becomes powerless and lifeless. As it has been justly said in nervous, idiomatic English, *Well enough needs no help.*

Never does the Christian, taught by the Spirit, feel so utterly helpless as when he labors in earnest to secure his own salvation or the salvation of a fellow creature. He here finds obstacles which God alone can remove, he here encounters a labor which God alone can accomplish; and no language can fully express his own feeling of his own

impotency, and of the unspeakable worth of that Saviour who *is able to save to the uttermost.*

The great value and interest of the following treatise depends on the vividness and entireness with which it holds these ideas, and the singular simplicity, energy and clearness with which it expresses them. Man never becomes spiritually minded, he always continues wordly, until he has finally despaired of himself, and thrown his soul wholly on God in Christ. Then he can *taste the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, and see that the Lord is gracious; and soon other objects will have no glory by reason of this glory that excelleth.* By such a one this *German Theology* will be relished with keenest zest of appetite; and while to others it will appear dull, old-fashioned, unmeaning and mystical.