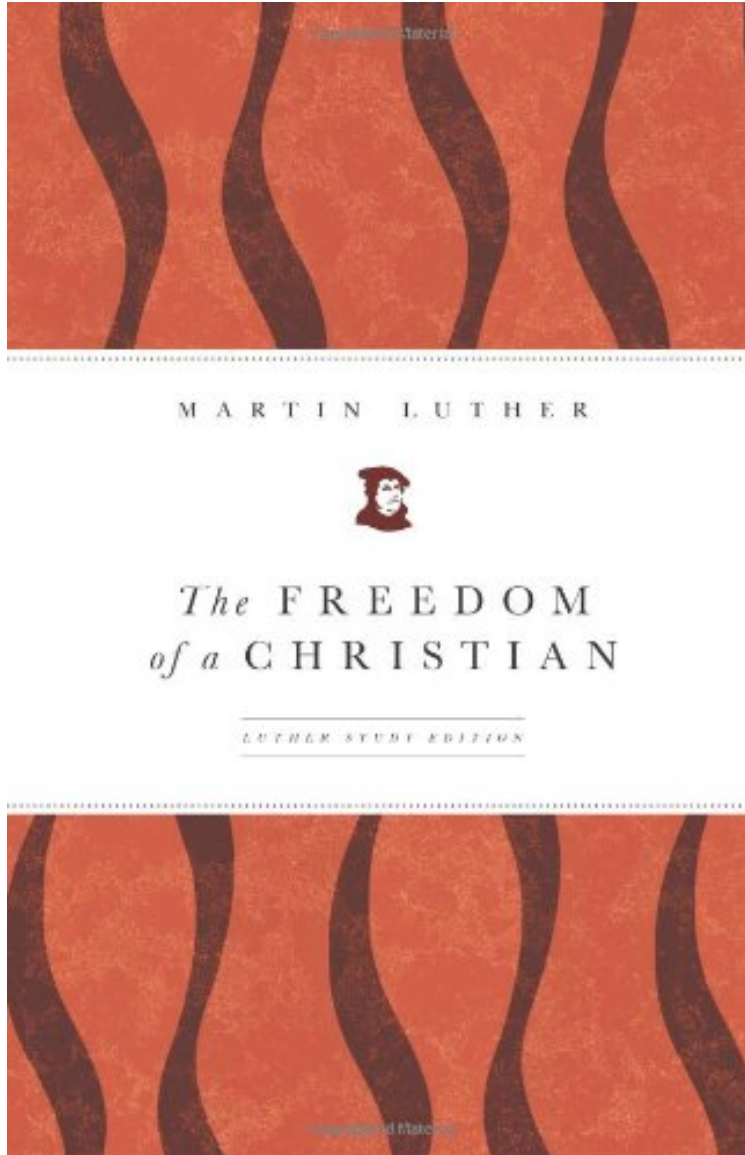


The Freedom of a Christian

Martin Luther

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Martin Luther : The Freedom of a Christian before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Freedom of a Christian:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. nearly 500 years old but still packs a powerful punch. By S. Lee There's nothing quite like Martin Luther, one of the Magisterial Reformers, to harken near 500 years after first penning this and show how faulty and insufficient your gospel has been. Yes, nothing quite like it. In less than 100-pages, Mark D. Tranvik offers a new and lucid introduction and translation to one of Luther's earliest works: The

Freedom of a Christian. The brief introduction is not meant to be comprehensive but just enough to whet ones appetite and senses to feel the force of Luthers ardent words. Despite the bad rep Luther might have (too vulgar, too long-winded, too paradoxical, too vehement, too anti-semitic, too chaotic, etc, all of which need to come under scrutiny), he is first and foremost pastoral. Hes not concerned with an abstract gospel for the Christian to affirm; no, hes much more concerned about Christians interacting with the living and dynamic God who is full of love and grace. This particular work was the first Luther writing Ive ever read, a few years back. Having been able to re-read it for a research paper, it was so very refreshing. His dialectical imagination, theologia crucis (theology of the cross), pushes and pulls the reader in and out of the seemingly incomprehensible paradox of grace: simul justus et peccator (simultaneously justified and sinner). In Freedom of a Christian, Luther once again employs his dialectical imagination to offer yet another simul: simultaneously freed from works and works from freedom. On the one hand, we are freed from works none of that works righteousness. On the other hand, we work from freedom very much of that righteous works in Christ to be repeated in todays real time-space. Quite refreshing, eh? sooholee.wordpress

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Martin Luther By Jill Meilahn This book is billed as the most important of Luther's writings, next to his Small Catechism. It was written before he was excommunicated from the Catholic church and also contains his letter to Pope Leo. This book was enlightening, even to a life long Lutheran, and stimulated much discussion about our beliefs and their basis in our book club. The translation is quite readable (some of our group were worried about reading something written in the 16th century). I would highly recommend it to anyone who wants to know the basis of the Lutheran Church, written in the words of Luther himself. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Hero of the Faith By Quinn Martin Luther is one of my personal heroes and this small work on the doctrine of Faith Alone is amazing and still as relevant today as when he first penned it. I found it a joy to read through and recommend it to anyone wanting to study their faith or learn more about what Protestants believe about salvation. If you're looking for a concise and clear presentation, this is it.

Perhaps no work of Martin Luther's so captures the revolutionary zeal and theological boldness of his vision as The Freedom of a Christian. Yet, it is not easily accessible today. Mark Tranvik's new translation of Luther's treatise brings alive the social, historical, and ecclesial context of Luther's treatise. This is the first of a set of student guides to key Reformation treatises by Martin Luther, concentrating on those most widely used in college settings.

About the Author Mark D. Tranvik is Associate Professor Religion at Augsburg College, Minneapolis, and director of the Lily Endowment program on vocation there.