

QUOTATIONS TAKEN FROM THE WORKS OF MARTIN LUTHER

“Christ committed adultery first of all with the woman at the well about whom St. John tells us. Was not everybody about Him saying: ‘Whatever has he been doing with her?’ Secondly, with Mary Magdalene, and thirdly with the woman taken in adultery whom he dismissed so lightly. **Thus even Christ, who was so righteous, must have been guilty of fornication before He died.**” (*Table Talk*, Weimar edition, vol. 2., no. 1472, April 7 - May 1, 1532; Wiener, p. 33).

“But Christ took upon Himself all of our sin, and thus He died upon the cross. **Therefore he had to become that which we are, namely a sinner, a murderer, evildoer, etc....For insofar as he is a victim for the sins of the whole world, He is not now such a person as is innocent and without sin, is not God’s Son in all glory, but a sinner, abandoned by God for a short time. Psalms 8:6.**” (*Detailed Explanation of the Epistle to the Galatians*, part 2, fourth argument, Walch edition, vol. 8, p. 2165, nos. 321-324).

“Then one should take him, the Pope, the cardinals, and lackeys of his idolatrous and papal Holiness, and, since they are blasphemers, tear their tongues out the back of their necks and hang them on the gallows in a row...although such is very little compared to their blasphemy and idolatry. Thus one should let them hold a council, or as many as they wish, on the gallows, or amongst all the devils in hell.” (“Against the Papacy in Rome, founded by the devil”, Walch ed., vol. 17, section 5, p. 1333, no. 79).

“For I cannot pray without cursing. If I should say: Hallowed be thy name; I must add; Cursed, damned, and reviled be the name of the Papists, and of all who blaspheme against thy name... Indeed so I pray every day aloud, and continuously in my heart, as do all with me who believe in Christ, and I do feel that we are heard.” (Erlangen edition, vol. 25, p. 108).

“This preaching ought to by rights be accepted and listened to with great joy, and everyone ought to improve himself thereby and become more pious...But unfortunately, the reverse is now the case, for now we see the people becoming more infamous, more avaricious, more unmerciful, more unchaste and in every way worse than they were under Popery.” (“Sermon on the first Sunday of Advent on St. Matthew’s Gospel 21: 1-9, held in 1533, [Hauspostille]”, Erlangen ed., vol. 1, p. 14).

“The sting of the flesh may easily be helped as long as girls and women are to be found” (Grisar, Fr. Hartmann S. J. *Luther*, vol. 4, p. 126).

“But it is not forbidden that a man should have more than one wife. I could not prevent it today, but I do

not wish to advise it...." (Walch ed., vol. 3, chapter 16, p. 412).

"Be a sinner and sin boldly, but believe and rejoice in Christ even more boldly...No sin will separate us from the Lamb, even though we commit fornication and murder a thousand times a day" (Weimar ed. vol. 2, p. 372; Letters I, Luther's Works, American ed., vol. 48, p. 282).

" The third matter is when one spouse deprives the other and withdraws, i. e. does not render the marriage debt, nor wishes to be with him. As one finds, such a stubborn wife, who has gotten such a notion in her head, and if the husband falls into unchastity ten times, she does not ask about it. Here it is time for the husband to say If you do not want to, another one does; if my wife does not want to, bring on the maid" (Erlangen ed., vol. 20, p. 72).

"If, in faith, an adultery could be committed, it would be no sin" (Möhler, Dr. Johann Adam, Symbolik, p. 131; Luther disput. Tom. I, p. 523).

"When our consciences are assailed by the devil on account of our sins: so one should say, spoke D. M. Luther: holy devil, pray for us: Sancte Satan, ora pro nobis. Have we not sinned against you, kind Sir Devil?" (Table Talk, Walch ed., vol. 22, chapter 26, p. 1242, no. 41).

"For so it is with me: when I wake up, soon the devil comes and disputes with me, until I say: kiss my a_ _" (Table Talk , Weimar ed., vol. 2, p. 15, no. 1263, Dec. 14, 1531).

"Would that I could commit some token sin simply for the sake of mocking the devil, so that he might understand that I acknowledge no sin and am conscious of no sin" ("Letter to Jerome Weller, July 1530", Letters, Weimar ed., vol. 5, p. 519-20, no. 1670; Luther: Letters of Spiritual Counsel, vol. 18, p. 84-87).

"Therefore St. James' epistle is really an epistle of straw, compared to these others, for it has nothing of the nature of the gospel about it" ("Preface to the New Testament", Martin Luther's Basic Theological Writings, ed. by T. Lull, p. 117).

"If someone is being tempted, said Dr. Martin, or is amongst those who are being tempted, let him then beat Moses to death, and throw every stone at him" (Table Talk, Walch ed., vol. 22, chapter 27, p. 1233).