

**THE LIFE, CHARACTER AND ACTS OF
JOHN THE BAPTIST; AND THE RELATION
OF HIS MINISTRY
TO THE CHRISTIAN DISPENSATION.
BASED UPON THE JOHANNES DER
TÄUFER OF L. VON ROHDEN**

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L. VON ROHDEN & WILLIAM C. DUNCAN

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BY THE
REV. WILLIAM C. DUNCAN, M. A.,
PROFESSOR OF THE GREEK AND LATIN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
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TO THE
REV. THOMAS S. CONANT, D. D.,
OF ROCHESTER UNIVERSITY.

TO WHOM HE IS INDEBTED FOR HIS
FIRST INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL LITERATURE,

This Volume
IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED.

BY HIS FRIEND,
THE AUTHOR.

P R E F A C E .

THE basis of the present treatise is a German monography written by L. Von Rohden, of Lübeck, and published by him in 1838, under the title "Johannes der Täufer in seinem Leben und Wirken, dargestellt nach den Zeugnissen der heiligen Schrift." The book is commended by Neander, in his Life of Christ, as "the production of a promising young theologian of Lübeck, and a work well fitted for general circulation."

The whole of the treatise of Von Rohden has been translated and is presented in this volume. Carefully elaborated additional matter, however, amounting to from one-third to one-half as much as the original work, has been incorporated into the body of the monography; and much has been given in the form of critical and explanatory notes, of which only a few, and those of little value, are found in Von Rohden. In this way the treatise has not only been adapted more completely to the wants of the general reader, but has also been converted into a convenient manual of reference for the use of such as are interested in biblical studies, on all points relating to the history and labors of John the Baptist.

In preparing the material which has been added, the

author has had constant reference to those critical authorities which treat most fundamentally of the various topics which have come under consideration. Among the writers to whom he is most indebted, whom indeed he has carefully consulted on every point of importance, he would mention J. G. E. Leopold, monography on John the Baptist, entitled "Johannes der Täufer, eine biblische Untersuchung" (published in 1825); Dr. A. Neander, *Leben Jesu* (Life of Jesus); Dr. G. B. Winer, *Biblisches Realwörterbuch*; Prof. J. L. Jacobi, in *Kitto's Cyclop. of Bib. Literature*; Drs. A. Tholuck and F. Lücke, *Commentaries on the Gospel of John*; and, in their *New Testament Commentaries*, Dr. S. T. Bloomfield, Henry Alford, M. A., and Drs. H. Olshausen, W. M. L. De Wette and H. A. W. Meyer.

This is the first book devoted exclusively to the treatment of the life and ministry of John the Baptist which has ever appeared in the English language. The subjects which it considers the author has attempted to discuss with thoroughness and with impartiality. If his treatise shall be found to fill a place hitherto untenanted in English religious literature, he will be abundantly rewarded for his labors.

W. C. D.

New Orleans, Sept. 15., 1852.

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