

## A WORD TO COLLEAGUES

DEAR COLLEAGUE

Now I take the liberty at the same time with this circular to send you\* an example of my recent book "Hans Herlighed" ("His Glory"), thus I must accompany my boldness with a few words.

As I wrote in the Foreword, it was not my original thought to publish these meditations, which I wrote for the "Danskeren's" readers, in book form; it was a Norwegian pastor, who subscribed to the "Danskeren", Past. O. M. Wangenstein, Spring Grove, Minn., who first requested me to do it. I sent some samples to Prof. M. O. Bøckman, director of the Norwegian Churches Pastor's School, with whom I had become acquainted during the United Norwegian church's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, and asked his advice. I considered him as a competent and impartial advisor in such a case. He answered on 19 Feb 1917 among other things: "As to the question, as I understand it, the meditations should be placed in book-form. They are so good, so true, and so rich, that I am of the opinion, they should come out in book-form, if they are prepared thoroughly again."

Later I wrote to several of my colleagues (as best I can remember, 8 of them) in our own church for advice. Some advised to publish, others against on the basis, they implied, that the book would be difficult to sell.

Time slipped by, especially during the changing conditions during and after the world war, also the increasing territory for the book, until I pulled myself back from public activity.

But it came to a stop for me, that I should publish these studies on the gospel of John, convinced that our church people now in our time particularly need to become better acquainted with the picture of our dear Savior, which the apostle John in his gospel gives to Him.

I have prayed a great deal for clarity in this case, and it has come such that one of my colleagues, who advised me to publish, promised to assist me. So I got busy working with going through the manuscript again, and now a new edition of the book is available.

When I saw it, as stated, I took the liberty to send each of my colleagues an example, so I did that, because I see that as the only method of getting the book somewhat known overall in our (religious) community, and this is something that I will want.

Naturally I have no right to force the book on anyone—I do not wish that either. But I dare ask you my dear colleague! to read it, and if you find it worth recommending to your congregation members, they can buy it. The retail price is \$2.00, 25 percent discount to pastors, therefore \$1.50. Anyone who obtains at least 3 buyers, will get the book free, or 25 percent discount on all the books you sell. If you do not want the book, send it back at my expense.

With friendly greeting and wishes for God's rich grace and blessings

Yours in Christ and the service, faithful brother. A. M. Andersen

\*) I have always had a practice of being on name terms with colleagues in our society.