

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MATHESIUS BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Johannes Mathesius (born in 1504 in Rochlitz, died in 1565 in St. Joachims-thal) is regarded as a pioneer of the Reformation in Bohemia and as one of the most gifted preachers of early Protestantism. Beyond this, he gained lasting distinction with a biography of Luther and with a collection of expert sermons on mining.

We are indebted to the Vienna church historian Georg Loesche for a comprehensive account of his lifework (2 vols., Gotha 1895). The present research report deals with the literature on Mathesius which has appeared since this monograph. Although there has been unusually intensive research on the Re-

formation in the last two generations, only a few important studies on Mathesius have been published. Several small contributions have appeared on the biography of Mathesius, supplementing that by Loesche. Valuable insight into his activity in Joachimsthal is furnished by a number of studies by Sturm and Volz. Numerous investigations illuminate his relationship to mining and his significance for literary history, while studies focussing on aspects of linguistic history are almost completely lacking. Among the studies dealing with individual works of Mathesius are distinguished works by Volz on Mathesius' sermons on Luther: this work, which appeared in about fifty editions, is evaluated as a significant contribution to the historiography of the Age of the Reformation. Supplementing this report on literature, the author, who is himself preparing a larger publication on Mathesius, points to the scholarly tasks which are still outstanding.

In the second part of the study, the bibliography produced by Loesche in 1895, which already comprised 56 different titles, is supplemented by numerous addenda and corrections. An examination of the manuscripts which have been handed down, showed that several manuscripts had heretofore been erroneously regarded as Mathesius autographs. In conclusion several new contributions on the correspondence of Mathesius are discussed.