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**Epitome De Fide Et Operibvs, Adversvs chimærica[m]
illam atq[ue] monstrosam Martini Lutheri libertatem,
quam ipse falso ac perdite Christiana[m] appellat**

Hoogstraten, Jacobus van

Coloniæ, 1525

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Widmung

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¶ Reuerendo in Christo patri, Christophoro, diuina miseratione
Constantinensi episcopo, gratosissimi archiepiscopi Bremensis
illis illustrissimisq; principis in pontificalibus uicario, ac theo-
logo profundissimo, f. Jacobus Hochstratus, artiū & sa-
crae theologiae professor humillimus. S. P. D.

2. Tim. 4.

PAULUS gentium doctor discipulū, ad ueritatis defensionē
graui quadam adiuratione adigens, nouissimorūq; die-
rū, periculosisima supuentura tpa p̄dicēs. Erit tēpus
inquit cū sanā doctrinā non sustinebunt, sed ad sua de-
sideria coaceruabunt sibi magistros prurientes auribus; A posto-
licam hanc ammonitionē atq; p̄nunciationē, reuerendissime in
Christo pater, clare cōspicim⁹ omnino quadrare hisce infeliciſ-
simis Lutheranæ perfidię diebus, in quos (mea quidē sententia)
feces seculorū haud dubie deuenērūt. Vt autē rem paucis p̄strin-
gamus, scripsit intra paucos annos Martinus ille plebicolor libellū
quēdā, cui dulcissimū Christianæ libertatis titulū indidit. Inter o-
mnes sane libros, quos edidit (ni fallor) pestilentissimū, in q̄ multo
uerborū lenocinio dulci melle illitū, autib⁹ incautorū p̄sentissimū
instillat uenenū, id quod facile cōspicet quis lector q̄ libellū hūc
nostrū capite quinto & tertio decimo legere dignabitur, in suo nā
que tractatu, ante omnia suadet docetq; Martinus, ne æterni q-
dē p̄mij obtinēdi gratia, exerceam⁹ opa iustitię, sed missis bonis o-
perib⁹, oēm spem salutis in sola fide collocemus. Ve⁹ si uita hu-
mana (id q̄ sine dubio res est) nihil aliud sit, quā humanæ opera-
tiōes, age obsecro qd est aliud, bona opa posthaberi, q̄ uitā bonā
in hoc mūdo extingui. Quod sane, p̄ uitribus noster molit⁹ Marti-
nus, qñ quidē eo auctore, a bonis opib⁹, homines adeo p̄dicāt li-
beri, ut sola fide, de beatitudine sint securi. Porro q̄a hominē te-
ste Julio cæsare, id qd uolūt, libēter credūt, nihilq; sit hōibus liber-
tate suaui⁹, idcirco Martinus q̄ nihil eo& p̄termittat, q̄ quoq; mō
ad fallēdū adminiculo eē possint, suo execrabilī tractatui, titulū p̄-
tulit de libertate christiana, hō adeo ad iposturā nat⁹, ut uel i p̄o ti-
tulo nō nihil gaudeat fallere, oscitātesq; in fraudē dulci uocabulo
illicere. Atq; ego (ut ue⁹ fatear) blanda illa inscriptiōe, puocat⁹,
cupiebā uidere librū, eiusq; legēdi nō mediocris icesit cupidō. Cū
que iā oculis plustrarē, offēdi primū, dulciloquā ac uenustā, casti
cuiusdā eloquij faciē. Cāte⁹ cū iā ad itima ei⁹ diligēter mētis aciē



figerē, pestilētissimi erroris uenēnū, sub multo melle, usq; adeo oc-
cultatū atq; ab scōsum dephēdi, ut multo mihi diffīcili fuerit, illud
pcipe, q̄ dephēsū cōfutare. Oia nāq; hō ȳ sut⁹, atq; ex merismēda
cījs cōflat⁹, suo libello i posturis, captiōib⁹ & nōnullis sophistāz agit
strophis, iterdū qđe latētiorib⁹, aliqñ ȳ o dolis usq; adeo māifestis, ut
nēini nō possit uideti mi⁹, q̄ tādē frōte ausus fuerit hō, tā apte hōi
busilludere, q̄ si uero uniuersi adeo eēnt stupidi, ut nūq; illi⁹ p̄sti-
gias olfacere possent. Quocirca cū hēc ita se habere, alme p̄sul, cō
pissem, puincā mihi a sc̄tā fide apostolica delegatā attēdes, existi
mabā, etiā & mihi dictū eē, qđ mox post ȳba, initio cōmēorata, ad
iūxit ap̄fus. Tu uero iqt uigila, in oib⁹ labora, ministeriū tuū i ple.
Ac hac p̄fecto monitiō incitat⁹, iustū duxi in hoc opusculo pro
mea uirili iſuſſiſſimā Martini technas i posturasq; detegere, dete-
ctasq; ppulsare, atq; ea potissimū ratiōe, auctore i p̄m ueluti serpē
tē cōtinuo pestifēz uir⁹ spirātē, q̄ subdol⁹, q̄ deniq; uigilāter oib⁹
cauēd⁹ sit, toti mūdo traducere, ut a p̄fidī uiri pestilētissima doctri-
na, hoīs dolosei⁹ iā ituētes deinceps maiori cū cura, sese segregēt
atq; elōget. Qua de re fortissimi athletē Dauid exēplo, de torrēte
scripturaz, q̄nq; a principio sūp̄sim⁹ lapides limpidiſſimos, clarissi-
mas inq; qnq; theologicas ȳtates, qb⁹ Goliat gīgas ille spuri⁹, q̄ s̄e
penūero maledixerat exercitui dei uiuētis, i frōte pcussus, nō am-
pli⁹ in hac re caput attollat, singulis q̄q; ȳtatiib⁹, duas subiecim⁹ tē
diculas, qb⁹ hō uafer, circūuenit decepitq; i cautos. His ita detectis
i probatisq; enodauim⁹ de ide cōcordauim⁹ q̄b⁹ applicar⁹ scripturaz
q̄ pugnare iter se uidebāt, diffīciles sentētias. Postrēo sub finē so-
phisticas aliqt Martini captiūculas detexim⁹, cōfutauim⁹ q̄b⁹ ua-
niſſima ſūdamēta ſup qb⁹ ſane, ſuā emētitā ſūdauit libertatē. His
itaq; oib⁹ ut acta ſunt uigilāter plectis accurateq; discussis, i dño cō-
fidim⁹ ſtuſos ſelectoſ facile p̄ceptu⁹, Lut. libertatē, p̄ſuſ eē cō-
fictā ac cōmētiā, atq; ab i p̄o diabolo oīm maloſe ſatore, p̄genitā.
Et i ſupquā Lut. magno ſupcilio christianā p̄dicat, lōge poti⁹ chīc
ricā, imo (i ſcripturas i mitemur) mēſtruatā ſtercoratiāq; libertatē
eē nūcupādā. Tuę igi⁹ fuerit hūanitatis dignissime p̄ſul, lucubratiū
culā nīam familiari ſtilo exaratā, quā p̄ ueteri amore, singulariq; fa-
uore (q̄ me i meritū ſp̄psecuta ē) tuę doctiſſimę paternitati dedica-
ui) benigno uultu māibusq; porrectis accipere, ſuū q̄q; Hochstra-
tū (ut ſolet) ſibi commendatum retinere. Vale Coloniæ Anno
M D XXV, quarto kalendas Maias.

2. Timo. 4

Ordo libelli

a 2



¶ Ad lectorem.

Habes itaq; Christianæ lector opus exiguum, familiari atq;
scholastico stilo exaratū, aduersus illā falsam ac emētitā Lu-
theri libertatem, quam christianam ipse nuncupat; cui (ut ingenue
fatear) nō nihil laboris impēdimus ut hominis uersutissimi tech-
nas, dolos, imposturas ac captiōes deprehēderemus; propediē ue-
ro (deo annuente) alium libellum paulo auctiōrem æditiū sumus
aduersus eundē tractatum Lutheri de christiana libertate inscri-
ptum, & per nos in quinquaginta tres paragraphos fideliter di-
stinctū. Ad hunc edendū profecto non modo inuitat com-
moditas, uerum & iusta impellit necessitas, quando
in hoc nostro opusculo tam crebro illius tracta-
tus citauimus paragraphos, & lectorē ple-
rung ad eos remissimus. Vale beni-
uole Lector, nostrosq; labores
pro fidei pietate pera-
ctos boni consule,

M D XXV. Crisp. M.