

PROJEKT BESCHREIBUNG



IEG

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Friedrich Adolf Lampe (1683-1729) and the Bremen Mission: the transformation and transfer of inner-church reform to outward missions.

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The rise of modern missionary work finds itself in close relationship with the rise and establishing of Pietism in Germany. The prime example of this is the mission work of the first decades of the eighteenth century set out by the Franckesche Stiftungen in Halle under August Hermann Francke's leadership. Other confessions followed shortly thereafter. This project is two-fold. It first seeks to specifically understand and describe the "inner mission" of the churchly/ecclesial Pietists and how an impulse to reform what the Pietists assumed to be a "fallen church" led to the "outward mission" of later Pietist organizations and churches. It is at this early point in the development of Protestant missions that we find the "other" actually existing inside the boundaries of the congregation—those Christians who fell outside the defined community of faith became the subject of an inner mission to awaken souls. The writings of Reformed Pietist and Bremen pastor Friedrich Adolf Lampe will be specifically taken up to see how this "inner mission" was articulated. It will then be considered in light of later "outward mission" endeavors taken by the Bremen church to other regions. Important in this second phase of the project is recognizing specifically how descriptions of non-Christians coming from later missionary reports reflect earlier Pietist descriptions of non-believing Christians. From this study, we will obtain a better understanding of how Pietist images of the "true Christian" found in their attempts at inner-church reforms shaped the conception of the "other" in later endeavors by Protestant missionaries.

