

Gottschalk: Servant of God. A Story of Courage, Faith, and Love for the Truth. Connie Meyer. Jenison, MI: Reformed Free Publishing Association, 2015. Hardcover. 160 pages. \$17.95. Reviewed by Dr. Julian Kennedy, member of Covenant Protestant Reformed Church in Northern Ireland.

Connie Meyer has penned this short and beautifully illustrated biography of a virtually unknown saint of the medieval period to ostensibly reach more young people in the church but it is a profitable read for all ages. Gottschalk born 806AD, was a man of the stature of Augustine and the sixteenth century Reformers, who stood for exactly the same truths they did and suffered greatly as a result. The short chapters make for easily digested bite-sized chunks of material. She herself is the talented illustrator, mainly with pencil. Gottschalk ought to be remembered for his unwavering stand for double predestination in a church that largely was dismissing all the doctrines of grace. Despite the fact he was a monk, was a member of the Roman Catholic church, and likely partook of the mass regularly, he was a man in whom God by his Spirit, revealed the great truth of the sovereignty of God in salvation and all its facets, namely the five points of Calvinism. As with his Lord he was accused of heresy, found guilty at various synods, flogged, imprisoned for many years and indeed ended his days more or less in solitary confinement. Connie Meyer brings out the many similarities between his experiences and sufferings and that of Christ himself. The book will encourage boldness, bravery and perseverance in those who read it and clearly demonstrate that even in the apparently darkest hours of true Christendom God has his faithful servants able to stand and defend the faith among kings, ecclesiastical leaders and the common people of their day.