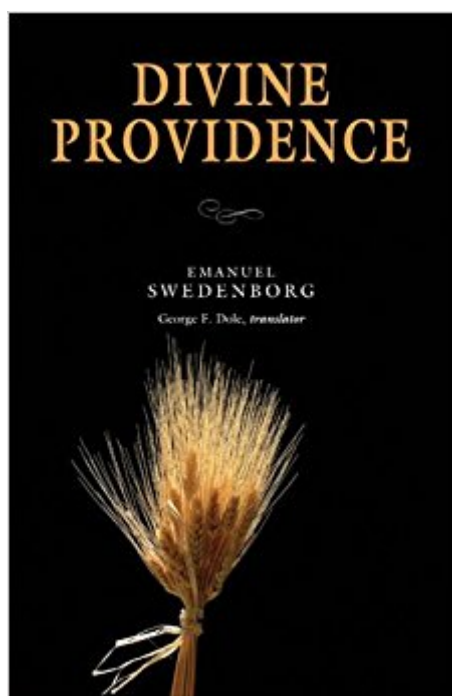


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DIVINE PROVIDENCE: PORTABLE: THE PORTABLE NEW CENTURY EDITION (NW CENTURY EDITION)



Synopsis

Divine Providence is one of the major works of the Enlightenment scientist and religious seer Emanuel Swedenborg. It provides a coherent and satisfying solution to what has been called "the problem of evil": How are God's goodness and power reconcilable with evil's presences in the larger world and in the human mind and heart? By tackling an array of issues that commonly undermine belief in God, including war, suffering, and inequality—and by revealing the wise and loving laws that lie hidden behind these seemingly senseless phenomena—Divine Providence aims to restore our faith in the meaningfulness of the world. Despite its universal focus, Divine Providence is also a highly practical book on the personal level, demonstrating how we can put aside negative attitudes and behaviors and grow into positive thought and action. The New Century Edition of the Works of Emanuel Swedenborg is a modern-language, scholarly translation of Swedenborg's theological works. The series' easy-to-read style retains the dignity, variety, clarity, and gender-inclusive language of Swedenborg's original Latin, bringing his thought to life. This portable edition contains the text of the New Century Edition translation, but not the introduction, annotations, or other supplementary materials found in the deluxe editions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Emanuel Swedenborg (1688-1772) was a Swedish scientist, nobleman, and theologian who spent his life investigating the mysteries of the soul. Born in Stockholm to a staunchly Lutheran family, he graduated from the University of Uppsala and then traveled to England, Holland, France, and

Germany to study the leading scientists of the time. He gained favor with Sweden's King Charles XII, who gave him the position of overseer of the Swedish mining industry. Later, he was given a seat on the Swedish House of Nobles by Charles XII's successor, Queen Ulrika Eleonora. Between 1743 and 1745 he began to have visions of heaven, hell, and Jesus Christ which resulted in a stream of books about the nature of God, the afterlife, and the inner meaning of the Bible. He devoted the last decades of his life to studying Scripture and presenting his own unique theology to the world.

People who are completely materialistic say to themselves, "What is divine providence? Is it anything but a word that the masses hear from the clergy? Has anyone ever seen a trace of it? Aren't our planning and wisdom and deceit and malice the real causes of everything that happens in the world? Is the rest anything but needs and deductions and a lot of accidents? Is divine providence hidden away somewhere in all this? How can it be present in trickery and deceit? Yet these people say that divine providence is in control of everything. Show it to me, and I will believe it. Can anyone believe in it otherwise?" This is the voice of the strict materialist, but spiritually-minded people speak differently. Since they acknowledge God, they acknowledge divine providence too. They see it as well, but they cannot show it to anyone who thinks only in physical terms, on the basis of physical events. These people cannot raise their minds above the material world and see the signs of divine providence in its outward appearances. They cannot figure out anything about it on the basis of its laws, which are laws of divine wisdom. So if they were to see it with any clarity, they would make it material and thereby not only becloud it with distortions but also profane it. Instead of recognizing it, they would deny it; and anyone who at heart denies divine providence is denying the Lord as well. . . . Divine providence is never acting in the same direction as our deliberate love. It is always acting against it. This is because from our own inherited evil we are constantly hungering for the deepest hell, while the Lord, through his divine providence, is constantly leading us away from it and drawing us out of it, first to some milder hell, then out of hell, and eventually to himself in heaven. This effort of divine providence is going on all the time; so if we were to see or feel vividly this carrying off and pulling away, we would be outraged. God would become our enemy, and in the evil of our self-centeredness we would deny him. So to prevent us from knowing about this, we are kept in a free state where all we can know is that we are leading ourselves.

I was introduced to the writings of Emanuel Swedenborg in the early 70's. At the time I was new to

college and was taking a class in "World Religion" and learned about Swedenborg during class. His writing was never presented to me as a stand alone religion but that his writings would help me to be a better Christian, Lutheran, or provide deeper perspective into any faith. The more I learned about his writing the more I was deeply touched by what he had to say. In the 70's Swedenborg's most essential writings were in very hard to read translations based on the original Latin writing styles of the 1800's. As a result it was very difficult to read and understand. Now we have new translations written for this century in the "Portable New Century Editions". These are excellent works written by extremely skill translators and even though the concepts have tremendous depth they are easy to understand. If you are interested in learning what the writings of Emanuel Swedenborg have to say about the bible, and gaining a deeper understanding I can recommend these translations with no reservation. In particular, I recommend the 'New Century Editions" of; "Heaven and Hell", "Divine Love and Wisdom", "Divine Providence", translated by George Dole. I also recommend "The True Christianity Vol. 1 and 2, translated by Jonathan Rose and "Secrets of Heaven Vol. 1 and 2, translated by Lisa Hyatt Cooper. I'm sure someone will ask me; "Well Steven, if you had to recommend only one of these books, which would it be?" Well they are all good but "Divine Love and Wisdom" is a great place to start. Highly recommended reading for the spiritual seeker.

Good

The messages are thought provoking and powerful. Like other spiritually oriented books, the material is rather heavy and, in my opinion and experience has to be read more than once to grasp it. Overall it is very good and although very old, is still applicable to this day and age.

Swedenborg's writings have been popular for centuries, but every so often the language of the translation needs to be updated. That's exactly what's happened in the New Century Edition of "Divine Providence". The message is as convincing as ever, but the English has been updated and smoothed out a bit to make it easier to read. Excellent ebook and bargain-priced.

Have you ever wondered How God manages the universe? This volume is thought provoking and easy to read for such a profound topic. Having read this book I am certainly more at peace and now have a better grasp of why I am here and the purpose of creation.

A book that opens up possibilities of life after death! This book helps you find your true purpose a really great read

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