## **REFLECTIONS IN CONCLUSION 279**

e

SS

0

18

n

e-

a

Je

10

se

or

to

an

ch

ng

on

er

ess

nd

eir

las

ne

on

rk

:n)

rill

cy

upon the Church of any other nation. The manner in which we solemnize this festival must signify a decided assertion of our Christian independence, a marked protest against that caricature of Christianity which would make it a special German concern, so that our religion must be Germanized before it can bestow upon other races the full blessing and healing of which an ailing world stands in need. The German Lutheran Church must realize that in many ways it is behindhand, and that it, too, has much to learn from others; it must realize that Lutheranism is not a German speciality-all the less so as half the German people, who are Roman Catholics, denounce Lutheranism as a pestilence. Especially must German Lutheranism do penance for the dreadful contamination and distortion of Christianity which I have described in these pages, if there is not to be a deep gulf fixed between it and all other Churches. We in Denmark will no longer live our Christian life in the shadow of Germanism-nor is this a new determination. We will, to use a German phrase, have our own place in the sun, in the sun of God's grace which shines with the same