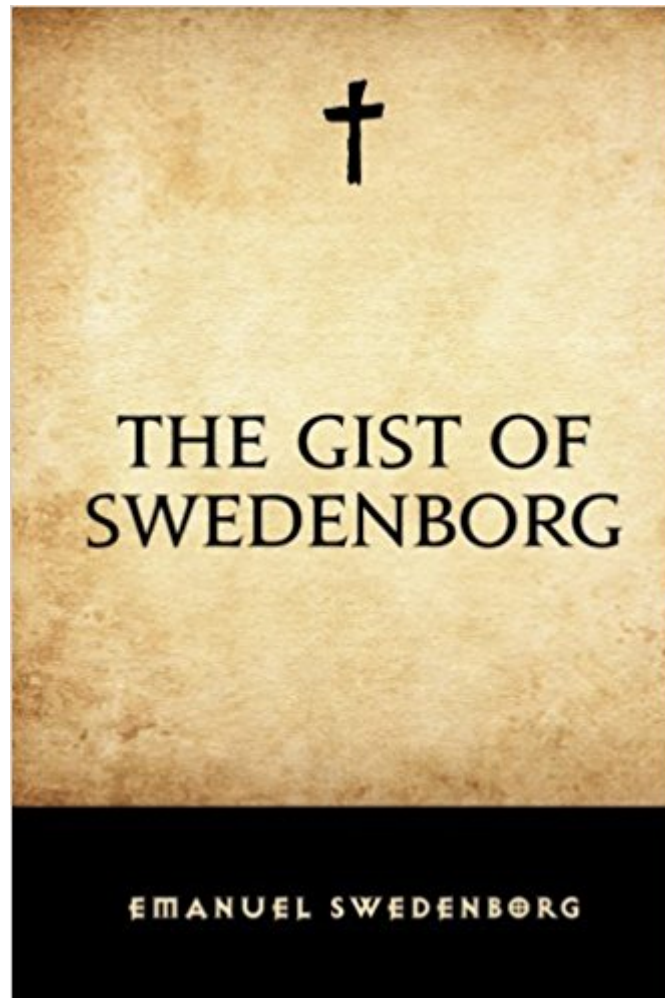




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# The Gist Of Swedenborg



## Synopsis

Emanuel Swedenborg was an influential Swedish theologian during the 18th century, and this is one of his seminal works. From the intro: "The reason for a compilation such as is here presented should be obvious. Swedenborg's theological writings comprise some thirty or more substantial volumes, the result of the most concentrated labor extending over a period of twenty-seven years. To study these writings in their whole extent, to see them in their minute unfoldment out of the Word of God, is a work of years. It is doubtful if there is a phase of man's religious experience for which an interpretation is not here to be found. Notwithstanding this immense sweep of doctrine there are certain vital, fundamental truths on which it all rests:--the Christ-God, Man a spiritual being, the warfare of Regeneration, Marriage, the Sacred Scriptures, the Life of Charity and Faith, the Divine Providence, Death and the Future! Life, the Church. We have endeavored to press within the small compass of this book passages which give the gist of Swedenborg's teachings on these subjects."

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

About the Author: "Emanuel Swedenborg (born Emanuel Swedberg) was a Swedish scientist, philosopher, Christian mystic, and theologian. Swedenborg had a prolific career as an inventor and scientist. At the age of fifty-six he entered into a spiritual phase, in which he experienced dreams and visions. This culminated in a spiritual awakening, where he claimed he was appointed by the Lord to write a heavenly doctrine to reform Christianity. He claimed that the Lord had opened his eyes, so that from then on he could freely visit heaven and hell, and talk with angels, demons, and other spirits. For the remaining 28 years of his life, he wrote and published 18 theological works, of

which the best known was Heaven and Hell (1758), and several unpublished theological works." (Quote from wikipedia.org) --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

I think the words of this book are true, that's why I love Emanuel Swedenborg, he speaks from his heart and his experience , it's not so much about religion but spirituality, that he speaks of. I love his writings, I wish I had lived in his time for I would have been his pupil !

This book was not what I had hoped it would be, which was a clear overview of Swedenborg's beliefs. Instead what you get is a series of quotes from different Swedenborg works about different topics picked by the editors. Still there were some interesting ideas, some similar to standard Christian belief others wildly different.

I was not well read about Swedenborg so I decided to look this book over and was very glad I did. A very complex thinker and indepth reading is required. The price on kindle makes it a win-win situation.

A good small anthology of Swedenborg's writing; the excerpts are short and invite the reader to seek out the full texts to read deeper.

Every book written by Swedenborg I have enjoyed. I am amazed of how well educated he was and so easy to read and understand his writing.

Good

Having met a young man a couple of years ago who was a born, bred and devoted follower of Emanuel Swedenborg, I ( being somewhat of an Armchair Theologian) became curious as to who this man with the funny name could be and what he taught. I listened intently as this highly intelligent young man began to tell me about this man who talked with angels, devils, Satan, the Virgin Mary, spirits of men from Other planets in the solar system, even the moon, who had revealed truths to him about heaven (three if them) the Hells (three also) and a myriad of other things that were beyond my Imagination. I looked in my library to see if I could find out anything about him from any of his contemporaries and found that John Wesley had written about him in a very unfavorable way but with compassion, recounting, a testimony of a mutual acquaintance who

told of a time when Swedenborg had been taken with a very high fever while visiting with him and began saying "I am Jesus Christ" stripped off his clothes and ran out into the wet streets and began wallowing in the mire. They were able to get him back into the house and get him cleaned up and he recovered in a few days (I don't recall how many) and it was after this as Wesley understood it, that he began having the conversations with spirits in the spirit world etc. Wesley said of Swedenborg's mind that it was "majestic but in ruins" from what I have read from him I feel the same. There is a blend of profound depth of intellect and even spiritual illumination, with schizoid insanity, and fantastic hallucination that makes Swedenborg's writing both profitable (to the strong minded,) and pitiful due to the insanity that is obvious to all but the extreme idiosyncratic who actually hold this guy's writing on a level with the sacred scriptures. You just have to take his word for it if you are going to believe his stuff he offers virtually no proof for anything he propounded. The gist of Swedenborg is a very nice summary of what he taught. I recommend this book to be read prior to any serious study of Swedenborg's theology/fantasy.

Ok ok ok

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