"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" (German: "Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott") is one of the best known hymns by the reformer Martin Luther, a prolific hymnodist. Luther wrote the words and composed the melody sometime between 1527 and 1529. It has been translated into English at least seventy times and also into many other languages. The words are a paraphrase of Psalm 46.
The aftermath of the Iraq War, which occasioned an unprecedented bout of transatlantic vituperation, may seem an unpropitious moment to publish a history of the German people that leans over backwards to be generous towards its subject. But was there ever a better time? It is now, with Germany tiptoeing away from its postwar Atlanticist allegiance and openly flirting with anti-Americanism, that it is most tempting for Americans to see German history reflected in the distorting mirror of the Third Reich.
It is of course easier to be objective about German history 60 years after the end of the Second World War - Taylor and Barraclough finished their books in 1945 and 1946 respectively. Chronologically, the treatment is uneven, although not unreasonably so. By page 65, or after less than 20 per cent of the main text, the Reformation has been reached. The pace then slows, with almost a third of the total being devoted to 1500-1789 and about the same to 1789-1890. The aftermath of the Iraq War, which occasioned an unprecedented bout of transatlantic vituperation, may seem an unpropitious moment to publish a history of the German people that leans over backwards to be generous towards its subject. But was there ever a better time? It is now, with Germany tiptoeing away from its postwar Atlanticist allegiance and openly flirting with anti-Americanism, that it is most tempting for Americans to see German history reflected in the distorting mirror of the Third Reich. A Mighty Fortress: A New History of the German People, a 2004 history work by Steven Ozment. The Mighty Fortress, a 1955 newsreel film of Billy Graham's 1954 Crusade for Europe.