

**SERMONS ON  
PRACTICAL  
SUBJECTS**

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Sermons on practical subjects by Lant Carpenter

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**LANT CARPENTER**

**SERMONS ON  
PRACTICAL  
SUBJECTS**



*Relig.  
Theol.*



SERMONS  
ON  
PRACTICAL SUBJECTS,

(BY THE LATE)  
REV. LANT CARPENTER, LL.D.

*ed.*  
EDITED BY  
MARY CARPENTER  
(AUTHOR OF "OUR CONVICTS," "MORNING AND EVENING MEDITATIONS,"  
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## P R E F A C E.

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THE late Rev. Dr. Lant Carpenter was one of the Pastors of Lewins' Mead Chapel, Bristol, where he was highly esteemed for his ministry and his good works, both in his own congregation, and in the city generally. He also held a prominent position in the British Unitarian body, to which he belonged.

Shortly after his departure from this world in April, 1840, a volume of his sermons was prepared by his family for publication; this was edited by his eldest Son, Dr. William Benjamin Carpenter, the Physiologist, while his second Son, the Rev. Russell Lant Carpenter, prepared a Memoir of his Father. Both were published in a large octavo form, and were disposed of among friends by subscription. These volumes were not therefore extensively known.

Dr. W. B. Carpenter thus speaks in his Preface to the Sermons:—"No one who long attended on Dr. Carpenter's preaching, could avoid perceiving that he regarded it as his chief duty to impress his hearers with

an operative sense of their Christian obligations ; and that he regarded all other objects as but secondary. Those who were best acquainted with the intellectual powers which he possessed, must have observed that, in his zealous devotement of these to his Master's service, he often restrained their exercise,—preferring the simplicity which could be understood by all, to those higher flights in which but a part of his audience could follow him. No wish has, therefore, been felt by his Family, to make this Selection convey an idea of his philosophic acumen, his critical learning, or his argumentative skill. They have rather desired to exhibit that to which he rendered these subservient,—his zeal and earnestness in the enforcement of the precepts of Christ, derived as they were from his deep conviction of their Divine authority,—the enlarged views he possessed of Christian duty, resulting from a faithful improvement of his religious experience,—and the warmth of that benevolence, which, springing perhaps from natural temperament, was expanded and invigorated by his steady aim to imitate his Great Master, and to carry on his work of love and mercy.”

Sermons such as these, illustrated by the daily life of the preacher, must at all times be a useful help to those who desire to live in conformity with the Will of God, and in true development of the grand purposes of existence. They were greatly valued by all who had the privilege of coming under the influence of Dr. Lant



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Carpenter's life and teachings, and the results of their teaching have been perceptible in the lives of those who received them. A period of thirty-five years since his lamented death has not diminished that sense of their excellence.

The present Editor, Dr. Lant Carpenter's eldest Daughter, feeling how largely she is indebted to her Father's influence and teachings, is desirous to extend them to the present generation, and has therefore selected the following Sermons from the original volume, with two not included in it. She hopes, by presenting them to the public in an inexpensive form, to make them generally useful. This volume will be accompanied by an abridgment of the *Memoir*, for which she is indebted chiefly to the Brother, who originally prepared it.

THE RED LODGE HOUSE,  
BRISTOL, *May 3.*



## INDEX.

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SERMON.	PAGE.
I. GOD OUR HEAVENLY FATHER .. .. .	1
II. GOD THE SOURCE OF ALL .. .. .	17
III. "DWELLING IN THE LIGHT INACCESSIBLE." ..	27
IV. LIFE AND IMMORTALITY BROUGHT TO LIGHT BY THE GOSPEL .. .. .	38
V. OPEN AVOWAL OF RELIGIOUS TRUTH .. ..	51
VI. THE ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES OF THE GOSPEL ..	64
VII. "THINK ON THESE THINGS" .. .. .	74
VIII. "WE HAVE CORRUPTED NO MAN" .. ..	96
IX. CHRISTIAN PATRIOTISM .. .. .	110
X. THE YOUNG EXHORTED TO WALK IN THE GOOD OLD WAY .. .. .	127
XI. ORNAMENTS AND INFLUENCE OF THE FEMALE SEX .. .. .	142
XII. HOPE IN GOD .. .. .	158
XIII. THE CLOUD NOT BIGGER THAN A MAN'S HAND	172
XIV. THE CHRISTIAN'S PEACE .. .. .	182
XV. "THE WILL OF THE LORD BE DONE" .. ..	195
XVI. THE WILL OF GOD THE BEST RULE OF DUTY	206