

THE TEACHING OF JESUS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649385447

The teaching of Jesus by George Barker Stevens

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Cover @ 2017

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GEORGE BARKER STEVENS

**THE TEACHING
OF JESUS**

New Testament Handbooks

EDITED BY
SHAILER MATHEWS

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THE TEACHING OF JESUS

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New York

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

LONDON: MACMILLAN & CO., LTD.

1901

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Norwood Press
J. S. Cushing & Co. - Berwick & Smith
Norwood Mass. U.S.A.

TO
The Reverend
CHARLES MELLEN TYLER, M.A., D.D.
PROFESSOR IN CORNELL UNIVERSITY
I DEDICATE THIS VOLUME
IN SINCERE GRATITUDE AND AFFECTION

PREFACE

MODERN theology concentrates its attention more and more upon *Jesus*, — his life, character, and teaching. The numerous *Lives of Christ* and the many treatises upon different aspects of his doctrine, which have appeared within recent years, attest the eager interest which the Christian world feels in his person and history. The diminished emphasis which, by many schools of thought, is now placed upon other objects of religious and theological import — such as the letter of Scripture and ecclesiastical tradition — has served to increase the stress which is laid upon the supreme significance of Christ for the Christian knowledge of God. The dimming of other lights has but enhanced the brightness of his glory.

The aim of this volume is to aid in clarifying the meaning of Christ's life and work by setting forth the principles of his teaching in a clear, succinct, and systematic form. The effort has been made to translate the thought of Jesus into modern terms, and so to correlate the different elements of his teaching as to exhibit its inner unity. His sayings have also been brought into frequent comparison with the Jewish

religious ideas of his age, in order to exhibit the historical background on which his teaching was presented, and thus to bring out into clearer relief its striking independence and originality.

The volume is designed as a text-book for schools and Bible classes and as a manual for private study. It is hoped that it will also prove useful to students of theology and ministers in their preparation for the work of teaching.

GEORGE BARKER STEVENS.

YALE UNIVERSITY,

July 13, 1901.