

SEEDS OF THOUGHT

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Seeds of Thought by William Tait

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WILLIAM TAIT

**SEEDS OF
THOUGHT**

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BY

WILLIAM TAIT, D.D.

LATE INCUMBENT OF ST. MATTHEW'S, RUGBY, NOW OF
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TO THE
Congregation of Trinity Church, Pau.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,—

I have reprinted this little volume at the recommendation of many whose judgment I esteem; and I dedicate it to you in affectionate remembrance of the sympathy you shewed to me at a time of overwhelming sorrow; your kindness on that sad occasion will never leave my memory.

Your very affectionate Pastor,

WILLIAM TAIT.

October 1881.

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PREFACE TO NEW EDITION.



THIS little work was originally the fruit of a Congregational Bible-class. The short expositions contained in it, are simply a very few of the answers and explanations which from time to time were given. And as the writer has been out of England for the last seventeen years, he may be permitted to preface it by the kind words which follow:—

I very willingly comply with the request of the thoughtful and devout author of this work, that I would preface the Second Edition with a few words of recommendation. There is, I imagine, a growing demand for works of this character, which may assist in that most difficult but most fruitful of all devotional exercises, meditation on Holy Scripture. Dr. Tait gives in this work a meditation (such as even an intelligent

mind, imbued with Holy Scripture, might find it difficult to frame for itself) for each week. And the title explains why the meditation is to be made to serve for the *week*. It may be read over, each day, in the seasons of devotional retirement, with such ejaculatory prayers and aspirations as may arise out of it, or be suggested by it. The work contains *seeds* of truth; and seeds must lie a long while in the soil before they germinate. It is hoped that each of these seeds, by lying in the mind for seven days, may stir some effort of thought in a new and profitable direction.

The greatest service which a religious teacher can confer on those whom he instructs, whether from the pulpit or from the press, is to lead and stimulate them to think for themselves. And if it is read with something beyond simple attention, with patient and thoughtful and prayerful study, I cannot doubt that the reader will find this little book very useful. He will occasionally come across thoughts of rare beauty (as "The Hope of Resurrection" on the Seventh Sunday): and of great depth (as "The Two Rests," on the

Fifteenth Sunday). And the simplicity and luminousness with which the thoughts are in all cases expressed, will do much to commend them.

The book, as a single glance will show, is full of those doctrines of grace which are known under the name of "Evangelical." But the cultivation and thoughtfulness of the writer are a guarantee that neither in this nor in any other of his works will narrowness or party-spirit be found, or want of sympathy with those who, while equally sincere and devout in their allegiance to our common Master, regard Christian truth (it may be) from a somewhat different point of view.

EDWARD MEYRICK GOULBURN, D.D.,

Dean of Norwich.

DEANERY, NORWICH,
July 16, 1881.