

**THE EPISTLE TO THE  
HEBREWS, IN THE  
REVISED VERSION**

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The Epistle to the Hebrews, in the Revised Version by A. Nairne

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**A. NAIRNE**

**THE EPISTLE TO THE  
HEBREWS, IN THE  
REVISED VERSION**



*THE CAMBRIDGE BIBLE  
FOR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES*

GENERAL EDITOR FOR THE NEW TESTAMENT:—

R. ST JOHN PARRY, D.D.

FELLOW OF TRINITY COLLEGE

THE EPISTLE

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THE EPISTLE  
TO THE

# HEBREWS

In the Revised Version  
With Introduction and Notes

Alexander  
by

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Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge

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1921





PREFACE  
BY THE GENERAL EDITOR

THE General Editor does not hold himself responsible, except in the most general sense, for the statements, opinions, and interpretations contained in the several volumes of this Series. He believes that the value of the Introduction and the Commentary in each case is largely dependent on the Editor being free as to his treatment of the questions which arise, provided that that treatment is in harmony with the character and scope of the Series. He has therefore contented himself with offering criticisms, urging the consideration of alternative interpretations, and the like; and as a rule he has left the adoption of these suggestions to the discretion of the Editor.

TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

*December, 1920.*

## PREFACE

IN this edition of the Epistle to the Hebrews the Cambridge Greek Testament for Schools and Colleges has been adapted for the use of those who do not know Greek. Of the Introduction Part I (Plan and analysis) remains unaltered: Part III (Theology of the Epistle) is almost unaltered: Part II (History of the reception, criticism and interpretation of the Epistle) has been shortened and simplified, perhaps less drastically than some might wish: Parts IV and V (Text and style) have been run together into a quite simple sketch. In the Commentary the Titles and Paraphrases of the sections into which the Epistle is divided remain unaltered: the Notes have been revised, often rewritten; Greek words have been entirely cut out, and though the original Greek text is still referred to pretty constantly all is explained in as plain English as could be managed. The long Introduction, especially Part III, and the Paraphrases were intended to lighten the notes in the Greek edition: Introduction and Paraphrases were to shew what the Epistle meant, its purpose, its underlying faith; the Notes were to elucidate particular points, especially of language, and to make the Paraphrases more intelligible. This general plan still shapes the English edition. I believe that this will encourage the student, better than many and long notes would, to pay attention to the text itself of the Epistle: and I hope it may prove the more interesting method of study. I have tried to make the whole book interesting and still, in this

new form, to keep it so. I am, of course, far from counting on success in this endeavour: revision of the earlier book reveals dulness as well as a myriad of other failures to its author, who is however glad to be thus allowed to attempt correction. But I have still aimed at rousing interest: and for that reason have not been too anxious to be easy. I have kept in view as my reader an intelligent sixth form boy. In former days such a boy was reading Thucydides and Aeschylus: it may be supposed that his modern studies require no less enthusiasm and diligence. If so, he will not thank a commentator on the Greek Testament for treating him as a child. And indeed the signs of these times do seem to shew that schools and colleges, teachers and learners, are putting away childish things in their study of Holy Scripture, and are no longer content to "get up" a book of the New Testament but desire to reach the mind and faith of its author, to comprehend something of the ardour and profundity of the first age.

ALEXANDER NAIRNE.

*December, 1920.*