STUDIES OF THE PORTRAIT OF CHRIST. VOLUME I. TENTH EDITION

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Studies of the Portrait of Christ. Volume I. Tenth Edition by George Matheson

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GEORGE MATHESON

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Trieste



STUDIES OF THE

PORTRAIT OF CHRIST

BY THE REV. GEORGE MATHESON M.A., D.D., F.R.S.E., FORMERLY MINISTER OF THE PARISH OF ST. BERNARD'S

EDINBURGH



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PREFACE

My design in this book is to study, not the portraits, but the Portrait, of Christ. I am not concerned with the products of Italian art. I am not occupied with a criticism of the various views which have been taken of Christ in literature. I am not even engaged in a comparison of the four aspects of Christ in the New Testament. The Portrait which I study is one hung up in the heart—the combined effect of all the different aspects which the Gospels reveal.

The work is not critical, but introspective. I do not seek to *paint* a Christ; I stand before the Christ already painted, and try to analyse its Features. Necessarily, I limit myself to that which is human. There is

PREFACE

something which is Divine; but, just because it is Divine, it defies my analysis. These pages confine themselves to that element in Jesus which grew. They seek to trace the steps of the process by which His earthly work was developed—from the dawning of the great resolve to the dying on the Cross. To complete the design I shall require to extend this work into another volume; the present reaches only to the Desert of Bethsaida.

G. M.

EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND.

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CONTENTS

CHAPTER VI

THE PLAN OF THE LIFE OF JESUS, . . . 65

CONTENTS

viii

CHAPTER VII			PAGN
THE COUNTERPARTS OF THE THREE TH	EMP	TA-	
TIONS,	8	1997	76
CHAPTER VIII			
THE WEARINESS AT THE WELL, ,	٠	٠	89
CHAPTER IX			
THE FIRST RESULT OF SAMARIA, .	8	8 8 8	101
CHAPTER X			
THE SECOND RESULT OF SAMARIA, .	2		314
CHAPTER XI			
THE LEAGUE OF FITY,		392	126
CHAPTER XII			

PECULIARITIES OF THE LEAGUE OF PITY, . 138

CHAPTER XIII

THE FIRST CIRCLE OF THE LEAGUE OF PITY, . 149

CONTENTS	ix
the state of the state of the state	

PAGE

CHAPTEP XIV

THE	EXTENSION	OF	THE	RING,		5.0	160

CHAPTER XV

THE EDUCATIONAL RETICENCE OF JESUS, . 173

CHAPTER XVI

THE FIRST CONTESTED MIRACLE, . . . 185

CHAPTER XVII

PREPARATION FOR A MISSIONARY CRUSADE, . 198

CHAPTER XVIII

PREPARATION FOR A MISSIONARY CRUSADE-

CHAPTER XIX

THE SIMULTANEOUS SUPPLIANTS, . . . 222

CHAPTER XX

THE LIMITATIONS OF THE FIRST MINISTRY, . 234