

**SERMONS FOR CHILDREN:
INCLUDING THE
BEATITUDES AND
THE FAITHFUL SERVANT**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649496730

Sermons for Children: Including the Beatitudes and the Faithful Servant by Arthur Penrhyn Stanley

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ARTHUR PENRHYN STANLEY

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INCLUDING

THE BEATITUDES AND THE FAITHFUL SERVANT

PREACHED IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY

BY

ARTHUR PENRHYN STANLEY, D.D.

LATE DEAN OF WESTMINSTER

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NEW YORK

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

1887

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SERMONS FOR CHILDREN.

I.

THE CHILD JESUS.

(December 28, 1871.)

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon Him.—LUKE ii. 40.

THIS day is called the day of the Holy Innocents, because it calls upon us to remember the death of those little children who were killed at Bethlehem at the time of our Saviour's birth, when He also was a little child like them. It is also a day famous in this Abbey, because it was on this day, more than eight hundred years ago, that this great church was finished by its first founder, King Edward the Confessor, who was himself an innocent, guileless man, almost like a little child. We have thought, therefore, that it might be good to mark this day by gathering together here as many

children as could come, and putting before them the example which our Saviour set to all children, He having been Himself a little child and a little boy, such as those who are here to-day. For this purpose the different passages of Scripture have been chosen that have been sung or read to-day ; the eighth Psalm in order that you might see how little children may find out the glory of God in the great works of nature, the beautiful sights and sounds that they see and hear around them ; the fifteenth Psalm in order to show how, from our earliest years down to our latest age, that in which God finds most pleasure is the humble, pure, truthful, honourable mind ; and the one hundred and twenty-seventh Psalm in order to impress upon parents what precious, inestimable gifts are given to them in their little children. And the anthem has been chosen in order to remind all who are young how precious to them are the days of their youth, and how the one thing which they must bear in mind from first to last is to 'fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man ;' and the hymn in order to show how all of us, even the youngest, may come to our gracious Saviour to ask Him to have pity upon us. And the lessons were chosen,

