REASONABLE RELIGION

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Reasonable religion by Charles Coke Woods

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CHARLES COKE WOODS

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THE REASONABLE RELIGION

By

Rev. Charles Coke Woods, Ph. D.



Cincinnati : JENNINGS AND GRAHAM New York : EATON AND MAINS

To My Three Sous, Edward, William, and Robert

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A BEGINNING WORD

THIRTEEN thousand copies of these addresses were distributed over Central California by the courtesy of the Fresno Morning Republican. Requests for their publication in book form have come from various sources, including laymen engaged in active business, university students, and ministers of the gospel. Similar requests have come from members of the Los Angeles Methodist Preachers' Meeting, before whom three of the "Addresses" were read as "A Paper," in January, 1911.

By way of illustration, a phrase of current slang expresses the attitude of many people to-day: "Any old thing" will do for a religious belief. "Dowieism," "Tingleyism," "Eddyism," "Spiritualism," or almost anything else seems good enough for multitudes of people. People are after the very best in everything except in RELIGION. When it comes to that, "Any old thing" will do. A nightmare dream, some wild and weird hallucination, or some ageold vagary from the dense darkness of longforgotten ages—anything will do when it comes to RELIGION. But with these same people, "Any old thing" will not do when it comes to irrigation, architecture, agriculture, sanitation, and education. People who are so unintelligent and indiscriminate with regard to religion, are intelligent and discerning when it comes to other things. It is high time for a REASON-ABLE RELIGION. The following addresses seek to show that the essential teachings of the Christian Religion are supremely reasonable. These addresses plead, as their general title indicates, for "The Reasonable Religion." May they forward the cause of Him who said, "Come, let us reason together." "Let us REASON together."-Isa, 1:18.

"As he REASONED of rightcousness."-Acts 21:25.

"A REASON of the hope that is in you."-1 Per. 3:15.

"Your REASONABLE service." -- Rom. 12:1.

"If you think strongly enough you will be forced by science to believe in God."-Lord Kelvin.