

# **THE SIMPLE GOSPEL**

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The Simple Gospel by H. S. Brewster

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**H. S. BREWSTER**

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BY  
REV. H. S. BREWSTER

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TO MY MOTHER,  
ANNA POMEROY WILLIAMS BREWSTER,

THIS LITTLE BOOK IS REVERENTLY AND  
AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.



## PREFACE

**T**HIS volume does not purport to be a commentary on all the details of The Sermon on the Mount. It is principally concerned with the great currents of thought that run through the entire discourse. It is little more than an elucidation of the obvious.

But there seems to be a call for just such an elucidation; for the great writers on the social gospel have seen the meaning of Jesus so clearly that many of them have failed to realize how callous the majority of our minds have been to that meaning. It is said that some of Laplace's "therefores" represent several sheets of calculation for the ordinary mathematician; and much that was obvious to Rauschenbusch needs considerable thought from the rest of us. But the process is very simple, after all, and resembles nothing else so much as picking out the large letters on a full map whose small lettering tends to obscure the principal words.

In a work of this kind, however, it is always difficult to eliminate the personal equation, and the writer, when lecturing on the substance of this book, has been told that he has allowed his personal prepossessions to color his understanding of the Gospel. But his personal prepossessions and early training belong to the intense individualism of a section of New England far remote from any vital interest in the burning social questions of the day; and although some of the book has been written practically within the sound of the industrial conflict, there has been a sincere endeavor to hear only the voice