MOHAMMED, BUDDHA, AND CHRIST: FOUR LECTURES ON NATURAL AND REVEALED RELIGION

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649134052

Mohammed, Buddha, and Christ: four lectures on natural and revealed religion by $\,$ Marcus Dods

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

MARCUS DODS

MOHAMMED, BUDDHA, AND CHRIST: FOUR LECTURES ON NATURAL AND REVEALED RELIGION



MOHAMMED, BUDDHA, AND CHRIST.

FOUR LECTURES

ON

NATURAL AND REVEALED RELIGION.

MARCUS DODS, D.D.

Fonden:
HODDER AND STOUGHTON,
27, PATERNOSTER ROW.
MDCCCLXXVII.

THESE Lectures to Young Men were recently delivered at the English Presbyterian College, London, and are published in compliance with the custom of the Lectureship.

M. D.

GLASGOW,

April, 1877.



CONTENTS.

LECTURE I.

MOHAMMEDANISM.

Page 1.

The Mohammedan creed—Unity of God—Estimate of Mohammed's idea of God—A purely Semitic idea—Its results on Mohammedan history—The second Article, Mohammed the Prophet of God—In what sense true—His courage and sincerity—Change that passed upon him—His licentiousness—His abuse of the prophetic office—Practical duties of Moslems—Their regularity and frankness in prayer—The fast of Ramadan—Almsgiving—Pilgrimage—Mecca—Pilgrim rites—Uses of pilgrimage—Objectionable features of Mohammedanism—Paradise—Fatalism—Polygamy—Mohammed's example—Facility of divorce—Disastrous effects of the marriage laws—Lane's opinion—Slavery.

LECTURE 11.

MOHAMMEDANISM

Page 69.

Arabia previous to Mohammedan era — Monotheism lapsing into polytheism and idolatry—Zabism—Fetishism —Barbarous habits and customs—Inhumation of female children—Judaism in Arabia—Christianity—Irreligiousness of Arabs—The Hanyfs—Mohammed, a Hanyf—
Mohammed's personal influence—His appearance, manners, character, and habits—Voltaire's judgment on cause
of success of Islam—Carlyle's judgment—Its fallacy—
The sword and Islam—Arab love of lighting and plunder
—Feeling of strength in united Arabia—Simplicity and
upright government of early caliphs—Other causes of
success—Literature and Islam—Saracen and Greek
learning and philosophy—Intolerance of Islam—Meekness towards Moslems—Its results on Arabia—Islam
compared with Mosaism—General criticism—Judgments
pronounced by Freeman, Osborn, and Lord Houghton.

LECTURE 111.

BUDDIIISM.

Page 120.

Is Buddhism a religion?-Its origin. Three anterior religions in India - Brahmanism - F. manarion and Absorption-Transmigration-Salvation by priestly rites and transcendental knowledge | Seaction against Brahmanism -Life of Sakya-moni-His sympathetic nature His search for emancipation from suffering-Conversations with Brahmans-He retires to the jungle-He becomes the Buddha - Prevails upon himself to publish his discovery Missionary ardour of first disciples - His last words -Account of the system-1:s postulates-Materialism and transmigration - Misery of all existence - Death no deliverance-Karma-Continuity of personal identity-The Four Great Truths-Path to Nirvana-Nirvana, a moral condition-Defect in Buddhist ethical system-Annihilation-Mr. Rhys David's exposition of Nirvana-Inherent excellence of Buddhism - Its practical failure-Deterioration of popular Buddhism-Its formalism-Its atheism has resulted in polytheism and saint-worship.

LECTURE IV.

THE PERFECT RELIGION.

Page 187.

Current theories to account for religions-Universality of religion-Definition of religion-Fallacious tests of perfect religion-True criterion-The Christian religion gives highest idea of God-It does so because it has its root in revelation-Revelation defined-Centres in the Incarnation-Incarnation not a Semitic idea, therefore given or revealed-Christianity the one true religion-Primitive revelation-Revelation in history-Revelation and speculation-Morality of Christianity and other religions-Moral teaching and moral influence -Superiority and perfection of Christianity-How far the purposes of religion have been served by natural religions-The religious systems to be distinguished from the men adhering to them-Dadu-Religions, in what sense false-Is the absolutely best also the relatively best religion- Comparison of Arabian Christianity and Mohammedanism-Conditions of society impervious to Christianity-Inferences regarding missionary effort-Conclusion.

