

**THE YOUNG CHRISTIAN'S  
SUNDAY EVENING: OR, AN  
EASY INTRODUCTION TO  
THE READING OF THE BIBLE**

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The Young Christian's Sunday Evening: Or, an Easy Introduction to the Reading of the Bible by  
L. P.

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YOUNG CHRISTIAN'S *52*  
SUNDAY EVENING:

OR, AN

EASY INTRODUCTION

TO

THE READING OF THE BIBLE.

FOR THE USE OF CHILDREN.

BY

THE AUTHOR

OF "THE INFANT CHRISTIAN'S FIRST CATECHISM."

Oh, say not, dream not, heavenly notes  
To childish ears are vain,  
That the young mind at random floats,  
And cannot reach the strain.

Dim or unheard, the words may fall,  
And yet the heaven-taught mind  
May learn the sacred air, and all  
The harmony unwind.

THE CHRISTIAN YEAR.



LONDON:

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AND WATERLOO-PLACE, PALL-MALL.

1831.

21.

LONDON:  
GILBERT AND RIVINGTON, PRINTERS,  
ST. JOHN'S SQUARE.

TO  
LADY ROSS,  
THE KIND ENCOURAGER OF THE  
AUTHOR'S FIRST ATTEMPT TO SMOOTH TO CHILDREN  
THE PATH OF RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION,  
ANOTHER LITTLE WORK,  
UNDERTAKEN PARTLY AT HER LADYSHIP'S REQUEST,  
AND FOR WHICH SHE IS ANXIOUS  
TO SECURE THE SAME COUNTENANCE AND  
APPROBATION,  
IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,  
BY HER OBLIGED AND AFFECTIONATE,  
L. P.

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## PREFACE.

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THE object of the following little book, expressed in its title, scarcely needs any further explanation. At the same time, being well aware of the number of productions, already before the public, in some degree of a similar nature, the Author feels it necessary to state her reasons for the present undertaking.

In looking anxiously for an interesting book, which should serve to introduce her own children to the knowledge of Scripture history, in a manner at once attractive and easy, the Author was led to observe, that most of the works published with this view, are written in so abridged a form, as to deprive the sacred story of those numerous charms

with which it is clothed in the Bible itself;— charms, of which children are so far from being insensible, when presented to them in *language* adapted to their years, that (as far at least as the Author's experience has gone) no subject seems to possess for them half that lively interest, which their young minds attach to the simple, the diversified, the picturesque, and affecting narratives which abound in the Word of God. Were there not difficulties to a child in entering at once on the perusal of the Bible, and many points, especially of geography and history, which require development, not to mention practical application, from which it were pity that they should be debarred, the best method probably would be, even from the first, to put the Scriptures themselves, or at least selections from them, into the hands of children. But, these difficulties and necessities considered, this seemed not advisable at the very beginning. In giving, however, the history of the Bible in other words, and with the necessary explanation, it was desirable to retain, as much as possible, in easy narrative, the

varied fulness of that sacred story ; so that the child's first impressions of the Divine volume should be, that it is not only the best, but the most delightful, book in the world. Such is the end at which the Author has *aimed*, though feeling at every step the difficulty of accomplishing such a purpose, and lamenting her inability to do any thing like justice, even to her own thoughts, how much more to the subject itself !

Besides a developed and connected view, in easy language, of the Scripture story itself, the Author has endeavoured to intersperse in the narrative such notices of the countries spoken of, together with such references to the New Testament, and practical remarks, as would tend to make the work either more interesting, more intellectually improving, or more valuable, in a moral and religious light.

The present volume is carried down, as will be seen, to the close of the Pentateuch ; and it is thus presented to mothers, with the view of ascertaining how far the work is likely to answer its end, before any additions are