

**RACE AND RELIGION:
HELLENISTIC
THEOLOGY: ITS PLACE
IN CHRISTIAN THOUGHT**

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Race and Religion: Hellenistic Theology: Its Place in Christian Thought by Thomas Allin

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THOMAS ALLIN

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RACE AND RELIGION

Hellenistic Theology :
Its Place in Christian Thought.

BY

THOMAS ALLIN, D.D.,

Author of "Universalism asserted as the Hope of the Gospel" (7th Ed.);
 "Redemption; its true extent as taught in Holy Scripture."

Via prima salutis
 Quod minime veris, Gratiâ pandatur ab urbe.
 VIBG. ÆS. VI. 87.

London :

JAMES CLARKE & CO., 13 & 14, FLEET STREET.

1899.

LETTER.

DEAR MR. ALLIN,

I have read with the greatest interest the proof sheets of your work on Hellenism which you kindly sent me.

Many convinced members of the Church of England are unaware of the existence, from the earliest times, of a type of Christianity which conceives of God as the Responsible Parent-source, immanent in the Universe; and which regards the Incarnation not as an expedient to remedy a marred plan, but as the climax of an eternal purpose "before the foundation of the world."

I consider that the careful study, the vigorous exposition, the earnest thought, which characterise your volume are calculated to bring conviction and consolation to Anglicans of this type, and constitute a valuable contribution towards that wholesome reaction from the narrow limits of

Augustinian theology to the depth and optimism of the noble thoughts of Clement and Athanasius, which is more and more perceptible in the religious thought of the age.

I wish your volume, in the highest sense, abundant success.

I am, sincerely yours,

BASIL WILBERFORCE.

*20, Dean's Yard, Westminster Abbey.
October, 1839.*

PREFACE.

It is the special good fortune of Hellenism that it appeals at once to the Liberal and to the Conservative; to the latter because it is the most ancient and venerable statement of Christian teaching which we possess; to the former because of its remarkable anticipation of much that seems modern in the religious thought of to-day.

Hardly a year passes without the publication of some book which startles the Conservative by its apparent novelty; and yet the seemingly strange doctrine is often one which, to the early Hellenist, was a commonplace. That which seems revolutionary is, in fact, hardly more than a reversion to primitive models.

* * * *

In the thought of Hellenism a profound unity underlies all phenomena, and works steadily and surely towards the elimination