

**THE
INCOMPARABLE
CHRIST**

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The Incomparable Christ by Calvin Weiss Laufer

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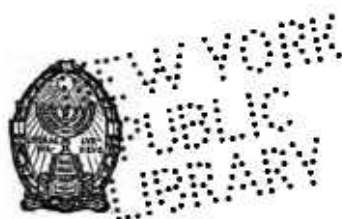
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BY
CALVIN WEISS LAUFER



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PREFACE

THERE is more of Christ in the world to-day than in any previous period of history. In spite of its many failures and excesses, he is the controlling dynamic of modern civilization. He is the spring of its life; and thoughtful men and women, irrespective of race or creed, do him honor. Because Christ is at its center, the remotest circumference of the modern world is moved and swayed by his spirit. Modern culture has a Christian trend because Christ rules within it toward that end. The pages of history are Christian because he inspires, controls, and directs the life which the historian observes and records.

The best possible approach to an appreciation of Jesus Christ is through personal religious experience. The basis of faith in him is in the soul itself, and what we experience there in our relation to a higher order helps us to understand him. The more deeply we live the more incomparable do we find him. If we walk in the light as God gives it, feel its warmth,

heat, and power, we apprehend his transcendent personality and presence, and rejoice in their efficacy, power, and uniqueness. We cannot lose Christ so long as we have thought and felt deeply. Human nature demands such a person as he and hails him with a joyous "My Lord and my God!"

Since science has taught us to believe in the integrity of our religious experiences, we have been drawn to Jesus in increasing numbers. A common experience is the cause of this. What the Saviour saw, heard, and felt in his sublime moments we in a lesser degree have seen, heard, and felt. There is, therefore, an affinity between us and him that compels the acknowledgment of his divinity. We apprehend his deity because now also we are sons of God. To deny Christ is to dishonor ourselves.

Our religious experiences, come they to us out of solitude, or the sanctuary, or from the manifold relations of society, lead unerringly to the recognition of his spiritual leadership and supremacy. Having them, faith is as natural an efflorescence

of the soul as is the phenomenon we witness in the unfolding of a bud into a flower.

With this great principle in mind more than anything else, the following chapters were written. They are now submitted to the reading public in the sincere hope that in nothing may they detract from the beauty of Christ, whose incomparable personality and character are the inspiration of man's undying soul.

Many great hearts have contributed to the completion of this volume. Notable among them are the Rev. A. H. McKinney, D.D., eminent in the sphere of religious education, and the Rev. J. Francis Morgan, Ph.D., prominent in the Synod of New Jersey as pastor and preacher, who read the manuscript and gave valuable suggestions and criticisms. The writer is also greatly indebted to his devoted wife for her sacrifice of many evening hours at the family fireside while the writing of it was in progress. With the prayer and good wishes of these generous souls, the book is laid at the feet of the Christ as a slight expression of faith, gratitude, and devotion.

November, 1914.

C. W. L.