

# **SOCIAL SALVATION**

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Social Salvation by Washington Gladden

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**WASHINGTON GLADDEN**

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SALVATION**



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WASHINGTON GLADDEN



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## PREFACE

THE following lectures have been prepared for delivery, in March, 1902, before the students of the Divinity School of Yale University, upon the Lyman Beecher Foundation. This preface is written before the date of their delivery, but if no accidents shall occur, what is here printed will have been spoken before it is published.

Fifteen years ago last month I had the honor of speaking in the same place upon the same foundation. That course of lectures upon the relation of the pulpit to the social questions of the day was afterwards printed under the title, "Tools and the Man: Property and Industry under the Christian Law." In the present course economic questions have therefore been passed by, and attention has been drawn to other problems with which the Christian pulpit has need to concern itself. That the Christian



pulpit recognizes this need I have some means of knowing, for scarcely a day passes that does not bring me letters from ministers of the gospel asking for suggestions and helps in the study of some of the questions with which these lectures deal. It is quite impossible for me to answer these inquiries, but I hope that this volume may afford some assistance to those who seek such direction.

The lectures are addressed to men who are preparing for the ministry, but the truth presented is not for ministers alone. The whole discussion concerns laymen as deeply as ministers; the subjects discussed bring home to every citizen his responsibilities. Ministers are not in this book considered as possessing any priestly character; they are spoken to as men who by their intelligence and their social position ought to be leaders of public opinion; the remedies for social ills here suggested are not ecclesiastical remedies, they are such as require the coöperation of all men of good-will in every community. And yet I hope that those who read the book will be able to recognize the significance of its title. If Society were articulate, its cry would

## PREFACE

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be, "What must I do to be saved?" That is the social question which this volume tries to answer. How incomplete and fragmentary the answer is, no one knows so well as I: but it is such as I have, and I give it in the hope that its broken lights may lead some who read it into larger vision.

WASHINGTON GLADDEN.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,  
COLUMBUS, O., February 25, 1902.

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