

THE PHILOSOPHY OF FAITH AND THE FOURTH GOSPEL

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649212118

The philosophy of faith and The fourth Gospel by Henry Scott Holland

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

HENRY SCOTT HOLLAND

**THE PHILOSOPHY
OF FAITH AND THE
FOURTH GOSPEL**

**THE PHILOSOPHY OF FAITH
AND
THE FOURTH GOSPEL**

THE
PHILOSOPHY OF FAITH
AND
THE FOURTH GOSPEL

BY THE REV. HENRY SCOTT HOLLAND, D.D.

Regius Professor of Divinity in the University of Oxford

EDITED BY THE REV. WILFRID RICHMOND

Hon. Canon of Winchester Cathedral

LONDON
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET, W.
1920

PREFACE

THIS book consists of two separate sections. In the first, under the title "The Philosophy of Faith," an attempt is made to give Dr. Holland's thought and teaching as a coherent whole. The second is a collection of his contributions to the study of the Fourth Gospel.

I. As to the first section, the task which was set to me was to present Dr. Holland's teaching as a coherent whole. Towards the fulfilment of this task I am prepared to be told that all that I have done is to piece together fragments selected from his writings, and that I ought to have given a systematic restatement of his teaching in my own words.

As a matter of fact, in what is here written I have reduced my own words to a minimum. I have presented his teaching almost entirely in his own words.

My reasons for adopting this plan were these :

1. I mistrusted my own power to state Dr. Holland's meaning better than he had stated it himself.

2. I wished to secure myself against the accusation, to which I should have been open, that I had imported into his teaching a systematic unity which it did not in itself possess. Against any such accusation the method adopted will be my defence.

3. It was characteristic of Dr. Holland's utterances, on any subject, that he went back on first principles, and devoted a section of what he said on the subject to the statement of first principles. This section could generally be detached from its context and application without much alteration.

4. It was the most fundamental principle of Dr.

Holland's thought, as I have shown in Chapter I of my summary of his teaching, that the rationale of any process in thought and life was to be found in the process itself, and that its restatement in the abstract is never adequate to the rationality which it endeavours to present. This principle applies in an eminent degree to his own thought and writing. The substance of his thought would evaporate in the process of reducing it to flat and formal statement. It would lose its real, rational force if it were divorced from the language which both reflected the full spiritual life that it strove to portray, and conveyed to the hearer or the reader something of the spiritual vitality of the thinker himself.

The passages have been purposely chosen as constructive rather than controversial. The atmosphere of passing controversies has been deliberately avoided.

The reader may sometimes be puzzled to find himself passing from philosophy to theology. On reflection he will, I think, see that this is only a natural consequence of what was to Dr. Holland at once his philosophy and his theology. To him the world of thought was one; a world without God was not a world; the process by which man passes from the primary human experience to the living faith through Christ in God was continuous; the logic of faith was the logic of history and fact, the logic of human experience—the philosophy, as he said, of “the man who has become aware of the meaning and purpose of human life as a valid whole.”

I have added, as an Appendix to this section, a sermon, preached in 1907, on “Consciousness, Subconsciousness, and Superconsciousness,” which carries on the thought of Chapter I of the *Philosophy of Faith*, and anticipates very remarkably some of the tendencies of the new psychology.

II. The section dealing with the Fourth Gospel includes two Introductions, a note on the Prologue, and an Appendix.

The first Introduction was written recently. Its thesis is that the Synoptic Gospels demand some such story

as that of the Fourth Gospel, to supplement and explain their story. The second Introduction was written some years ago, but was modified and added to from time to time. It would, no doubt, have been further modified or rewritten had Dr. Holland lived. It deals with the Fourth Gospel itself, its character, purpose, and authorship. Where it touches, as it necessarily does, on the relation of this Gospel to the synoptists, it covers ground common to it with the first Introduction, but from a different point of view. Its purpose is positive and constructive, and if it appears, at any point, to refer to a stage of the Johannine controversy which is past, this does not interfere with the fulfilment of the positive purpose, which is to let the Fourth Gospel explain itself. A detached note on the Prologue and the rest of Chapter I follows the two Introductions. There is further added an appendix, containing a few notes, mainly from Dr. Holland's own Lecture Notes, partly from notes taken at his lectures by Mr. Neville Talbot and Mr. Leonard Jones. The longest and most important of these deals with the *κρίσις*, the Johannine philosophy of belief and unbelief. And to these is further added a criticism of Von Soden's treatment of the Fourth Gospel, which seemed to illustrate the constructive treatment of the subject.

It is hoped that this volume may be followed by another, prepared by the Rev. N. S. Talbot, containing some of the very full notes taken by him of Dr. Holland's professorial lectures, supplemented and corrected by transcripts of Dr. Holland's own notes. This book will present Dr. Holland's relation to the thought of the younger generation. It will include his treatment of some subjects of great theological interest, e.g. the growth in our Lord's consciousness of Sonship, and Sacrifice as a revelation of the Father.

I have to make my acknowledgments to many of Dr. Scott Holland's friends for supplying me with materials which were at their disposal, especially to Miss Marion Murray for the use of her collection of Dr. Holland's sermons printed in *The Christian World Pulpit*

and elsewhere, and of much other material of value; to the Rev. W. H. Savile for access to his collection of sermons printed in various Church newspapers; to the Rev. Leonard Jones for the use of his lecture notes; and to Dr. Hicks, who was to have been associated with Dr. Holland in a book on the Fourth Gospel, for the transcript of Introduction I, and for the use of his analysis of Introduction II. To Mr. Spencer Holland, to the Bishop of Winchester and Bishop Gore, and to Mr. Edward and Mr. Neville Talbot I need make no acknowledgment. Their help has been part of our common labour of love.

CONTENTS

THE PHILOSOPHY OF FAITH

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION—REMINISCENCES OF OXFORD FIFTY YEARS AGO	3
CHAPTER	
I. REASON AND FEELING	13
II. REASON AND FAITH	23
III. REASON AND FACT	34
IV. REASON AND FELLOWSHIP	45
V. SIN AND SACRIFICE.	52
VI. THE CHURCH	68
VII. THE ETHICS OF SOCIAL LIFE	81
APPENDIX—CONSCIOUSNESS, SUBCONSCIOUSNESS, AND SUPERCONSCIOUSNESS	95

THE FOURTH GOSPEL

INTRODUCTION I	109
INTRODUCTION II	135
NOTE ON THE PROLOGUE AND CHAPTER I.	204
APPENDIX TO THE FOURTH GOSPEL	214
INDEX	235