

**THE  
REASONABLENESS OF  
THE CHRISTIAN FAITH**

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The reasonableness of the Christian faith by David S. Cairns

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**DAVID S. CAIRNS**

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THE CHRISTIAN FAITH**

*BY THE SAME AUTHOR*

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**CHRISTIANITY IN THE MODERN  
WORLD.**

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LONDON: HODDER AND STOUGHTON

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THE REASONABLENESS  
OF THE  
CHRISTIAN FAITH

BY

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TO  
MY SISTER



## P R E F A C E

THE following volume is based on a shorthand report of four addresses delivered at the invitation of the Christian Evidence Society to undergraduates of Cambridge University and others in the Examination Hall in the spring of 1913. These addresses were re-delivered to soldier audiences in the base camps at Rouen and Havre and elsewhere in 1916, and the additional material, due to the restatement of the argument under war conditions, is incorporated in the Epilogue. It has been thought better to retain in the earlier chapters the freedom of an unwritten address, though at the cost of some obvious drawbacks. I am much indebted to many friends for their assistance in the production of these lectures, in particular to Dr. T. R. Glover, for an admirable summary published in the *Cambridge Magazine*; to Professor Oman of Westminster College,

Cambridge, for his invaluable help in Cambridge and in Rouen Camp; to Professor Burkitt and to Father Waggett of the Christian Evidence Society; to Mr. Joseph Callan and Mr. Arthur Reade of the Y.M.C.A. in Rouen and Havre; and to my brother, the Rev. W. T. Cairns, and Dr. Glover, for their revision of the proofs, and to all those students and soldiers who heard them, in contact with whose minds my own thoughts have become wider and more definite.

Not least would I thank those whose spoken and written criticisms have brought me into fuller understanding of the difficulties of thoughtful men and women of to-day. It was my original intention and promise to print the many questions sent in to me at Cambridge, with the answers given at the time. But the delay in publication, the wholly altered conditions, and the necessities of space have made it desirable to delete this part of the manuscript, and instead to endeavour to meet the substance of the more important of these criticisms in the text.

DAVID S. CAIRNS.

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