

**STUDIES OF THE
PORTRAIT OF
CHRIST, VOL. II**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649715152

Studies of the Portrait of Christ, Vol. II by Rev. George Matheson

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

REV. GEORGE MATHESON

**STUDIES OF THE
PORTRAIT OF
CHRIST, VOL. II**

(47)

I
881

STUDIES OF THE PORTRAIT
OF CHRIST

STUDIES OF THE
PORTRAIT OF CHRIST

BY THE REV. GEORGE MATHESON

M.A., D.D., F.R.S.E., FORMERLY MINISTER

OF THE PARISH OF ST. BERNARD'S

EDINBURGH



VOLUME II

LONDON

HODDER AND STOUGHTON

27 PATERNOSTER ROW

1900

PREFACE TO VOLUME I

IN these pages I have endeavoured to trace the spiritual development, not of the life, but of the work, of Jesus exhibited in the Gospel narrative. Necessarily, therefore, I have fixed my attention not on the Divine or miraculous, but on the human, side of Christ. There can be no development in *miracles*; it is as wonderful to be an *inch* above nature as to be a mile. Being a study of development, the chapters, though very short, are rigidly connected and cannot be read in isolation. The book is not an abstract essay with foot-notes and references; it is semi-devotional; each chapter ends either with an invocation or a prayer. Having completed the first part of the studies I offer it by way of instalment and by way of experiment. Should it meet with general sympathy I should like to pursue the narrative to its close.

G. M.

EDINBURGH, 1899.

P R E F A C E

I HERE resume the Narrative from the point at which my first volume closed—the feeding of the multitude in the desert of Bethsaida. To every word of the previous Preface I adhere; I add a few remarks by way of elucidation. By the Title of this Book I do not mean a study of the different Portraits which have been drawn of Christ, nor even a comparison of the Pictures drawn by the Four Evangelists. The Portrait of Christ is to me the united impression produced upon the heart by these four delineations. My office is not that of a critic, not that of a creator, not that of an amender, but simply that of an interpreter; I study the Picture as it is.

I am glad that the reception by the public has invited me to pursue the subject. I am specially glad that I have not been suspected of a wish to minimise the Divine side of

Christianity. I have been for years persuaded, and with an ever-increasing conviction, that there is an element in Christ which is not to be explained by the stream of human heredity, but which implies an original Divine Sonship. But there is also confessedly that which *was* human—that which hungered, thirsted, hoped, feared, grew. I believe it grew into a progressive recognition of the steps of that redeeming work for the sake of which He was born, and which was already completed in the heart of the Father—that work whose every step was an act in that great Death-Sacrifice which reached from the depths of the Wilderness to the heights of Calvary. The light which is a unity in the sky is given in fragments by the pool; even so on the waters of earth was the *plan of the Father* revealed in fragments. The aim of this book is to *piece* these fragments. I have alluded only to those incidents which bear on the development. For this reason I have paused at Calvary, which is professedly the development's close.

G. M.



CONTENTS

	PAGE
CHAPTER I	
THE FADING OF CHRIST'S FIRST HOPE,	I
CHAPTER II	
THE SECOND HOPE OF JESUS,	15
CHAPTER III	
THE SHADOWS OF JERUSALEM,	30
CHAPTER IV	
THE PROGRESS TOWARDS JERUSALEM,	44
CHAPTER V	
ON THE MOUNT,	59
CHAPTER VI	
THE EFFECT OF THE MOUNT ON THE PLAIN	73