

# **FROM THE EXILE TO THE ADVENT**

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From the exile to the advent by William Fairweather

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**WILLIAM FAIRWEATHER**

**FROM THE EXILE  
TO THE ADVENT**



FROM THE EXILE

TO

THE ADVENT

BY

REV. WILLIAM FAIRWEATHER, M.A.

KIRKCALDY



EDINBURGH

T. & T. CLARK, 38 GEORGE STREET

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## BOOK I

*THE EXILE AND THE RETURN, B.C. 588-538*



### CHAPTER I

#### THE EPOCH OF THE EXILE

1. **The Name and what it covers.**—The name *Exile*, when used without qualification, cannot be said to give a very correct idea of the historical relations of the period under review. It is an improvement on the designation so long in use—that of the *Captivity*; but even when we distinguish between the Assyrian and the Babylonian Exile it is very inadequate, and does the history no justice. *Deportation* is perhaps the word that best conveys a right conception of what happened to the Israelitish people at this crisis. It was a favourite principle of Eastern despotism to remove large numbers of people from their native settlements to some region within the domains of the conquering power. This weakened the alien and strengthened the empire; while the mixture of blood tended also to the spread of general culture. The dregs of the population were usually left behind. It was upon the nobility, the youth, and the intelligence of a vanquished community that the victors liked to prey. The application of this principle by Nebuchadnezzar to the Hebrew nation brought about the condition of things known as *the Exile*. It will be necessary to keep in view the following facts:—

(1) The deportation of the Ten Tribes to Assyria, about B.C. 740.