

**JESUS THE GIVER AND THE
FULFILLER OF THE NEW
LAW. A COURSE OF EIGHT
SERMONS ON THE BEATITUDES**

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Jesus the Giver and the Fulfiller of the New Law. A Course of Eight Sermons on the Beatitudes
by Alexander Watson

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ALEXANDER WATSON

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SERMONS
ON
THE BEATITUDES.

JESUS THE GIVER AND THE FULFILLER
OF
THE NEW LAW.

A COURSE OF EIGHT
SERMONS ON THE BEATITUDES,

ADAPTED TO EACH DAY IN

The Holy Week and to Easter Day.

PREACHED IN ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, CHELTENHAM.

BY THE REVEREND
ALEXANDER WATSON, M.A.,
CURATE OF THE CHURCH.



LONDON:
JOSEPH MASTERS, ALDERSGATE STREET,
AND 78, NEW BOND STREET.

MDCCL.

TO THE
RIGHT REVEREND FATHER IN GOD,

JAMES HENRY,

LORD BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

MY LORD BISHOP,

THE kind manner in which your Lordship has been pleased to express yourself in reference to a series of sermons I printed, on "The Seven Sayings of our LORD on the Cross," emboldens me thus formally to offer the present volume for your Lordship's favourable consideration.

The sermons which I now wish to dedicate to your Lordship, were like the others, preached during the Holy Week and on Easter day; and I humbly trust that your

Lordship will accept them as an offering of my grateful respect and thankfulness for the paternal oversight and guidance which it has been my privilege to enjoy during the now nearly ten years that I have been a curate in your Lordship's Diocese.

It was my aim in the former series, to show that the dying words which our adorable LORD uttered from His Cross, are instinct with great truths of objective religion, as well as with precepts applying those truths subjectively. In the discourses which are contained in this volume it has been my endeavour to set forth the reality of the legal obligation of the Gospel ; and to exhibit the truth that HE, Who gave the New Law as our Prophet, Priest, and King, HIMSELF fulfilled that law as our Great EXAMPLE, full of the grace which rebounds from His Sacred Person, as the Anointed ONE, upon the redeemed race of which HE is federally and spiritually the HEAD.

If in any way I shall have succeeded in

strengthening some in this much forgotten view of the Gospel as the highest and most perfect Law, under which the obedience of man has been drawn, I shall rejoice that the vindication of so vital and fundamental a truth shall have been given to the public, in connexion with the tribute of my affectionate and dutiful respect for one, whom I trust and pray the good Providence of God may long preserve to this Diocese as its spiritual Ruler, distinguished by munificence, forbearance, gentleness, and fatherly solicitude for the well-being of all committed to his charge and oversight.

I have the honour to subscribe myself,

My Lord Bishop,

Your Lordship's dutiful and

obliged Son and Servant,

ALEX^R. WATSON.

Cheltenham, Lent, 1850.

SERMON I.

MEEKNESS THE RULE OF ADVANCEMENT IN CHRIST'S KINGDOM.

ST. MATTHEW V. 5.

"BLESSED ARE THE MEEK, FOR THEY SHALL INHERIT THE
EARTH."

THESE words form a portion of the opening of that sublime Sermon on the Mount, to which the followers of the Crucified have ever loved to refer, as the great storehouse of Christian ethics. They form, in fact, one of the Eight Beatitudes with which our LORD commenced the promulgation of the doctrine HE came to teach, to enforce and to exemplify. They were spoken by HIM Who was foretold in ancient prophecy: "I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put My words in His mouth; and HE shall speak unto them all that I shall command HIM." And it was

¹ Deut. xviii. 18.