

**THE CREDIBILITY OF THE
GOSPEL, "ORPHEUS" ET
L'ÉVANGILE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649107193

The credibility of the gospel, "Orpheus" et l'Évangile by Pierre Batiffol & G. C. H. Pollen

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

PIERRE BATIFFOL & G. C. H. POLLEN

**THE CREDIBILITY OF THE
GOSPEL, "ORPHEUS" ET
L'ÉVANGILE**

THE CREDIBILITY OF THE GOSPEL

"ORPHEUS" ET L'EVANGILE

BY
MONSEIGNEUR PIERRE BATIFFOL

TRANSLATED BY
REV. G. C. H. POLLEN, S.J.

EX LIBRIS
BASIL'S BOOK STORE
no. 3481 9/6/31

LONGMANS, GREEN AND CO.
39 PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON
NEW YORK, BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA
1912

Nihil Obstat :

HENRICUS S. BOWDEN, Congr. Orat.,
Censor Deputatus.

Imprimatur :

EDM. CANONICUS SURMONT,
Vicarius Generalis.

WESTMONASTERII, die 14 Aprilis, 1911.

TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE.

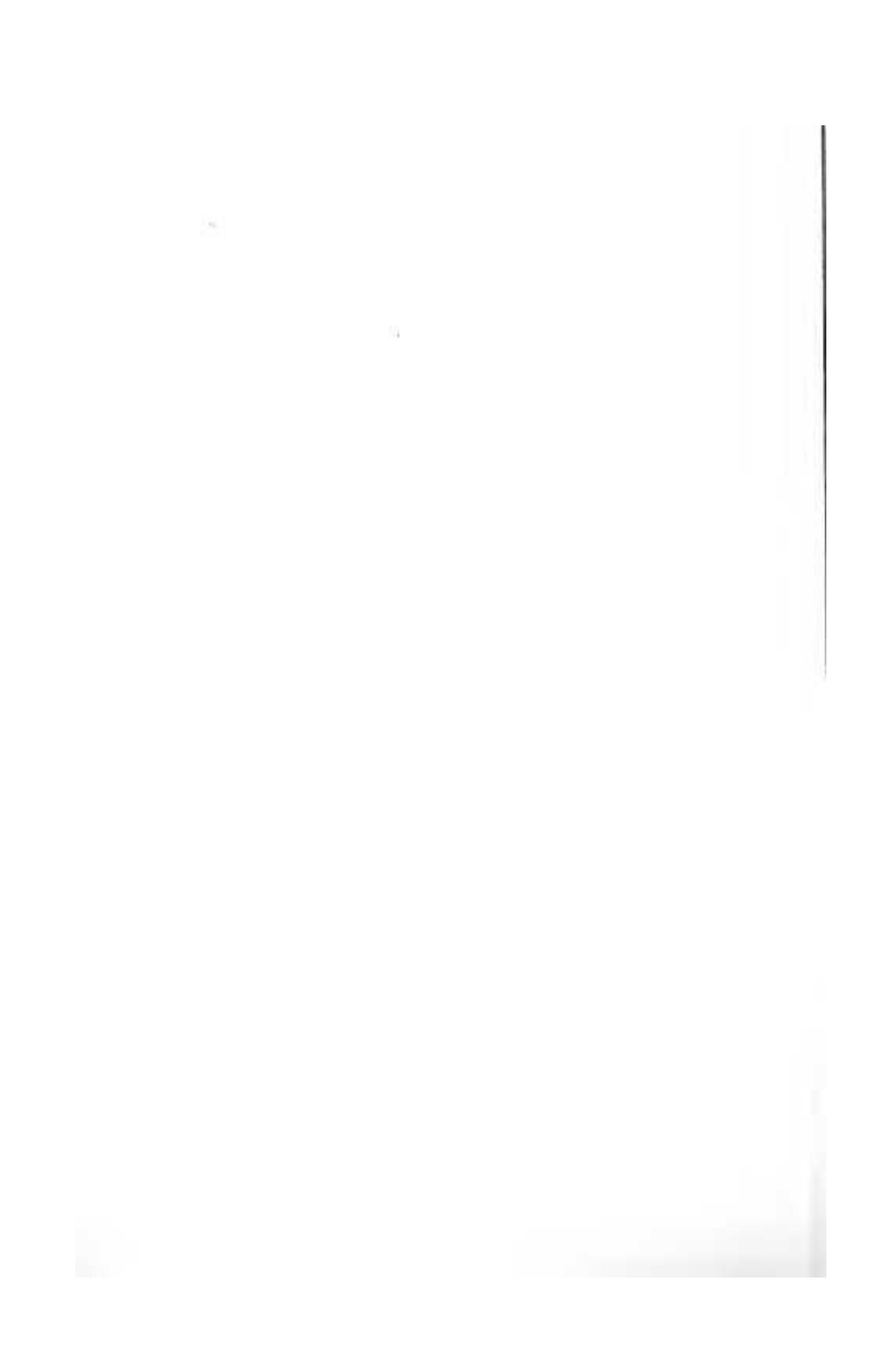
IN presenting to English readers this concise summary of the most recent arguments which can be used in defence of the historic truth of the Gospels, it has been thought advisable to alter the title, since the *Orpheus* of Reinach has not made the same impression in this country as in France. The title actually adopted will be found referred to by Mgr. Batiffol in his preface.

I have followed the author's version of all earlier writings, Scripture, Josephus, etc. Where, however, he has quoted an English author, such as Sanday, I have taken the passage from the original. I have done the same for a certain number of recent writers, Harnack, Jülicher, etc., of which there are published English translations, which can be presumed to have the approval, or at least assent, of their respective authors. In all these cases two sets of pages will be found

with each reference. The first referring to the English translation, the second to the actual reference given by Mgr. Batiffol. The following is a list of the translations employed :—

- S. Reinach, *Orpheus*. Histoire générale des religions.
 — *Orpheus*. A General History of Religions. Tr. by
 Florence Simmonds. (Heinemann, 1909.)
- J. Lagrange, *Quelques remarques sur l'Orpheus*.
 — *Notes on the "Orpheus" of M. Salomon Reinach*.
 Tr. Rev. C. C. Martindale, S.J. (B. H. Blackwell,
 Oxford, 1910.)
- A. Harnack, *Die Mission und Ausbreitung des Christen-
 tums in den ersten drei Jahrhunderten*.
 — *The Expansion of Christianity in the first three
 Centuries*. Tr. James Moffatt. (Cheyne & Bruce,
 Theological Translations Library, 1904-5.)
- *Lukas der Arzt*.
 — *Luke the Physician, the Author of the Third Gospel,
 and the Acts of the Apostles*. Tr. Rev. J. R.
 Wilkinson. (Crown Theol. Library, 1903.)
- *Sprüche und Reden Jesu*.
 — *The Sayings of Jesus*. Tr. Rev. J. R. Wilkinson.
 (Crown Theol. Library, 1903.)
- *Das Wesen des Christentums*.
 — *What is Christianity?* Tr. T. B. Saunders. (Theol.
 Tr. Lib., 1894.)
- A. Jülicher, *Einleitung in das Neue Testament*.
 — *An Introduction to the New Testament*. Tr. Janet
 P. Ward. (Smith, Elder & Co., London, 1904.)
- E. Schürer, *Geschichte des jüdischen Volkes im Zeitalter
 J. C.*

- E. Schürer, *A History of the Jewish People in the Time of Jesus Christ*. Tr. Rev. John Macpherson. (T. & T. Clark, Edinburgh, 1890.)
- J. Weiss, *Paulus und Jesus*.
— *Paul and Jesus*. Tr. Rev. H. J. Chaytor. (Harper, N. York, 1909.)
- P. Wernle, *Die Quellen des Lebens Jesu*.
— *The Sources of our Knowledge of the Life of Christ*. Tr. E. Lummis. (Ph. Green, London, 1907.)



LETTER FROM
MGR. GIBIER, BISHOP OF VERSAILLES.

DEAR MONSEIGNEUR,

I am glad to hear that you intend to publish the lectures given by you at Versailles on the credibility of the Gospel. By this means you will enable a larger audience to obtain the benefit previously confined to the select body present at our meetings. Yours was the first series of lectures in the course of Higher Religious Instruction which we have established in our episcopal city ; and by your perfect mastery over your subject, and the practical and learned manner in which you brought before us the history of the Gospel and the life of Christ, you have ensured the success of our whole plan.

To answer the most recent objections of certain rationalists, you have quoted statements made by other rationalists, who have been overcome by the force of the evidence,