

**THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS. BEING
A LIFE OF CHRIST IN
CONSECUTIVE NARRATIVE,
ARRANGED FROM THE NEW
TESTAMENT**

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The Footsteps of Jesus. Being a Life of Christ in Consecutive Narrative, Arranged from the New Testament by Barbara R. Bartlett

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BARBARA R. BARTLETT

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THE
FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS.

A Bible Reading Book for Schools;

BEING

A LIFE OF CHRIST;

IN CONSECUTIVE NARRATIVE.

ARRANGED FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT.

BY

BARBARA R. BARTLETT,

AUTHOR OF NUMEROUS EDUCATIONAL WORKS.



LONDON:
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1873.

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P R E F A C E.

THE Education Question is a subject engaging the attention of all classes throughout the length and breadth of our land. It is discussed by the great and noble in our senate, and talked over by the workman and peasant in their cottage homes. It is mentioned by the bishops and clergy from the pulpits of our cathedrals and churches; it is spoken about by the city missionary and Bible-woman in their house to house visitation throughout the dark places of our metropolis. There is scarcely a newspaper or periodical issued by the press but has something to say on this prevailing topic.

It must, therefore, be inferred that any subject attracting the attention of so many in such various ranks must be a very important one, which is most assuredly the case, as upon the training and education of England's

children depend the future welfare of our country and the stability of our throne.

Among the nations and kingdoms of the earth England stands unrivalled; upon her dominions the sun never sets; her constitution makes her the home of liberty, the friend of the oppressed. But what is the secret of England's glory and renown? Is it not the Christianity which has taken root in her soil, and is not the open Bible the only means by which that Christianity may be upheld? It has been said that a heathen prince once sent his ambassador to inquire of our Queen the cause of England's greatness. The reply of her Majesty was the present of a Bible, with the message that within the pages of that sacred volume would be found the secret of the greatness and happiness of her kingdom.

And this is the Book which some of our great advocates of education are seeking to proscribe in our schools! They might, indeed, "as well shut the light out of the world, or affection out of the home."

If we close the Bible in our schools we must also close our national history, and many other secular branches of instruction which are interwoven with Christian truth must also be dispensed with. How can the History of England be taught without detailing many facts and circumstances bearing directly upon religion? Some of the most important epochs are those marked by great reli-

gious events, as, for instance, the first grand æra is the "Introduction of Christianity." How can that event be explained without giving a description of our country sunk in heathen darkness, without a knowledge of the true God? How can we speak of the Reformation without referring to the reigns of Henry VIII. and his successors? and can these reigns be mentioned without giving an account of the darkness and superstition which had gradually overspread the country through Papal supremacy?

It is with the object of promoting, not only Bible reading, but Bible teaching in our schools that the present work is offered to the public. The compiler has endeavoured to arrange concisely and harmoniously the narrative of our Saviour's Life in the words of our authorised version of the Bible; not that it should be permitted to take the place of the inspired volume, but that it may be placed in the hands of the young as a simple and easy Bible Reading Book, the truths gathered therein being within the grasp of youthful minds. The references will with facility enable both teacher and scholar to search and compare for themselves the Gospel as narrated by the four Evangelists.

It has been said that the Bible question was settled not long since by the London School Board as follows :—
"The Bible shall be read, and there shall be given there-

from such explanation and instruction in principles of religion and morality as are suitable to the capacity of children." May it not, therefore, be hoped that this humble effort will be one of the instruments in promoting that instruction, not only in our great metropolis, but throughout many of the schools of our land?

B. R. B.

January, 1873.

THE LIFE OF CHRIST:

- Luke i. 26** The angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,
- 27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.
- 28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, *thou that art* highly favoured, the Lord *is* with thee: blessed *art* thou among women.
- 29 And when she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.
- 30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.
- 31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.
- 32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:
- 33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.
- 34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?
- 35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.
- 38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

- Luke ii.** 1 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.
- 2 (*And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.*)
- 3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.
- 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)
- 5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.
- 6 And so it was, that while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.
- 7 And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.
- 8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
- 9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.
- 10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
- 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
- 12 And this *shall be* a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
- 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
- 14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
- 15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.
- 16 And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.
- 17 And when they had seen *it*, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.