

**THE KINGDOM OF
CHRIST UPON EARTH
AND OTHER SERMONS**

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The kingdom of Christ upon earth and other sermons by Bishop Webb

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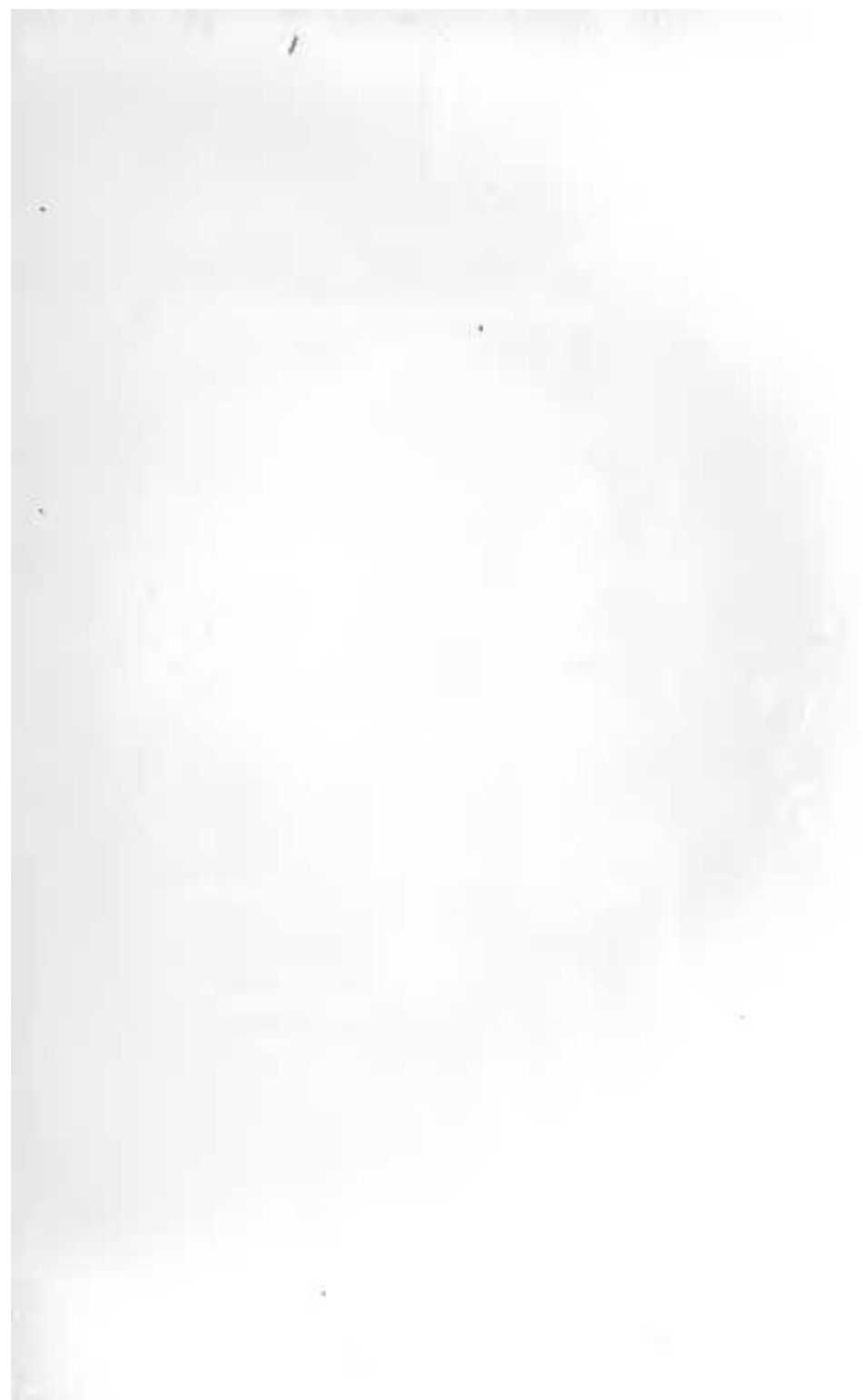
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BISHOP WEBB

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THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST
UPON EARTH

BY THE RIGHT REV. BISHOP WEBB

Late Dean of Salisbury

Formerly Bishop of Bloemfontein and Grahamstown

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BY THE RIGHT REVEREND
BISHOP WEBB

*late Dean of Salisbury
formerly Bishop of Bloemfontain and Grahamstown*

WITH A PREFACE

BY THE REV.

GEORGE BODY, D.D.

Canon Missioner of the Diocese of Durham

London

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TO
ALL THOSE WHOM THE BISHOP
LOVED AND TAUGHT AND PRAYED FOR DURING
HIS MINISTRY ON EARTH
(AND WHOM HE SURELY STILL REMEMBERS)
THESE SERMONS,
FOUND IN MANUSCRIPT AMONGST HIS PAPERS,
ARE DEDICATED

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PREFACE

I AM asked to Preface this book of Sermons, and the request is one I cannot refuse to comply with. My great reverence and personal affection for Bishop Webb make such a refusal impossible.

But even more than this my strong conviction that these sermons will be of great value makes this compliance a duty. I believe Bishop Webb to be one of the greatest teachers of Christian truth in our day. At least he has been so to me. I owe him a deeper debt of gratitude than I can express. No one has ever helped me more as a teacher of theology.

He had no new revelation to voice, or truth to teach. He taught the Catholic Faith, "the faith once for all delivered to the saints," the faith as it is revealed by and in the Incarnation of the Eternal Word, the Faith taught and confessed "everywhere in every Church." But that Faith

he had received into his inner nature, and out of it he spake it. The one Faith comes to us always conditioned in its presentation in Christian teaching. It is conditioned by the mental conditions of every age. The Faith of the first century is the Faith of the twentieth, but there is a contrast in its form of teaching. It is conditioned by the varied nationalities which are in the Catholic Church. The Faith of the West, of the East, of the Anglo-Saxon race, is one in its essential features. But its expression is conditioned by the varying characteristics of its peoples. Hence there is an Anglo-Catholic theology which is the result of the special characteristics of our race and of the providential education of its Church by God. It is this Anglo-Catholic theology that Bishop Webb saw with such fulness and distinctness, as it found expression in his vocal and written teaching.

For the fact that the Faith comes to us through conditioned teaching is to be seen in its individual teachers. This we recognize in the character of individuality of all the writers of the Holy Scriptures, and also of all the great historic teachers of the Catholic Church. Probably no