

# **THE CHRISTIAN VIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT**

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The Christian View of the Old Testament by Frederick Carl Eiselen

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THE CHRISTIAN VIEW  
OF THE  
OLD TESTAMENT

BY  
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## CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
PREFACE.....	7
I. THE NEW TESTAMENT VIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT.....	9
II. THE OLD TESTAMENT AND MODERN SCIENCE...	38
III. THE OLD TESTAMENT AND MODERN CRITICISM	66
IV. THE OLD TESTAMENT AND ARCHAEOLOGY.....	110
V. THE OLD TESTAMENT AND COMPARATIVE RELIGION.....	160
VI. THE PERMANENT SIGNIFICANCE OF THE OLD TESTAMENT .....	227
INDEX.....	264





## PREFACE

DURING the past half century the attitude of many men toward the Bible has undergone a decided change. The old confidence seems to be gone; a feeling of uncertainty and of unrest has taken its place. This small volume is intended to set forth the Christian view of the Old Testament, and to furnish answers to some of the questions men are asking concerning the Sacred Scriptures of the Hebrews, which the early Christians included in the canon of Christian sacred writings. The old foundations are not shaken. The Old Testament has stood the tests of the past, which have been severe and often merciless; and there is to-day stronger ground than ever for believing that in its pages "men spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit."

FREDERICK CARL EISELEN.

Evanston, Illinois.



## CHAPTER I

### THE NEW TESTAMENT VIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

THE Christian Church has always assigned to the Bible a unique place in theology and life. What is true of the Bible as a whole is equally true of that part of the Bible which is known as the Old Testament. Indeed, until the middle of the second century of the Christian era, the only Scriptures accepted as authoritative were those of the Old Testament. Even then, only gradually and under the pressure of real need, different groups of Christian writings were added and received an authority equal to that of the older Scriptures. And though in the course of the centuries there have been some who denied to the Old Testament a rightful place in Christian thought and life, the Church as a whole has always upheld the judgment of the early Christians in making the Old Testament a part of the canon of Christian sacred writings.

It is worthy of note that the Old Testament played an important part in the religious life of Jesus. No one can study the records of his life without seeing that he gathered much of his