

**"THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS  
WITHIN YOU": CHRISTIANITY  
NOT AS A MYSTIC RELIGION  
BUT AS A NEW THEORY OF LIFE**

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"The Kingdom of God is Within You": Christianity Not as a Mystic Religion But as a New Theory of Life by Leo Tolstoy & Constance Garnett

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**LEO TOLSTOY & CONSTANCE GARNETT**

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Tolstoi, L.N.

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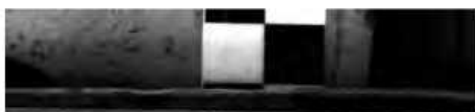
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# "THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS WITHIN YOU"

## CHAPTER VIII

### *DOCTRINE OF NON-RESISTANCE TO EVIL BY FORCE MUST INEVITABLY BE ACCEPTED BY MEN OF THE PRESENT DAY*

Christianity is not a system of rules but a new conception of life, and therefore it was not obligatory and was not accepted in its true significance by all, but only by a few—Christianity is, moreover, prophetic of the destruction of the pagan life, and therefore of necessity of the acceptance of the Christian doctrines—Non-resistance to evil by force is one aspect of the Christian doctrine, which must inevitably in our times be accepted by men—Two methods of deciding every quarrel—First method is to find a universal definition of evil, which all must accept, and to resist this evil by force—Second method is the Christian one of complete non-resistance by force—Though the failure of the first method was recognised since the early days of Christianity, it was still proposed, and only as mankind has progressed it has become more and more evident that there cannot be any universal definition of evil—This is recognised by all at the present day, and if force is still used to resist evil, it is not because it is now regarded as right, but because people don't know how to avoid it—The difficulty of avoiding it is the result of the subtle and complex character of the government use of force—Force is used in four ways: