

**A HISTORY OF THE NEW
TESTAMENT TIMES; THE
TIME OF JESUS, VOL. II.**

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A history of the New Testament times; The time of Jesus, Vol. II. by A. Hausrath

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A. HAUSRATH

**A HISTORY OF THE NEW
TESTAMENT TIMES; THE
TIME OF JESUS, VOL. II.**

A HISTORY
OF THE
NEW TESTAMENT TIMES.

BY
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THE TIME OF JESUS.
VOL. II.

TRANSLATED, WITH THE AUTHOR'S SANCTION, FROM THE THIRD GERMAN
EDITION, BY

CHARLES T. POYNTING, B.A., & PHILIP QUENZER.



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Fifth Division.

HEROD.

[*Continued.*]

HEROD.

10. THE AUGUSTAN AGE IN JUDEA.

THE great changes in the organization of the empire which Augustus undertook upon his return to Rome in the autumn of the year 29 B.C., did not at first affect Judæa, since this country retained its sovereignty. The more did the people feel the greater activity in trade and commerce, which soon showed itself under the protection of monarchy. In the East, the industries of the Hellenists especially received a fresh impulse, but the mercantile Jews also honoured in Augustus the patron of their business. Streets and public buildings became the chief objects of attention to the administration; and as Augustus himself, for the purpose, laid most serious contributions upon the public treasury, so also did he demand from his friends and connections similar exertions for this end. Among the rulers who courted the favour of Rome, a genuine rivalry sprang up to attract attention by erecting buildings, laying out roads, improving streets, making aqueducts and canals, enlarging harbours, and similar works of public utility, which was the more profitable since the chief minister of state, Agrippa, almost surpassed his master and friend in this passion for building.

A further merit of this new era was its cultivation of poetry and art. Since it was not possible for oratory to exercise its noblest task in the Forum, all talent embraced the literary career. The rostra having been deserted, there followed the age of the