

**IN CHRIST JESUS,
OR, THE SPHERE OF
THE BELIEVER'S LIFE**

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In Christ Jesus, or, The sphere of the believer's life by Arthur T. Pierson

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ARTHUR T. PIERSON

Author of "The Crisis of Missions," "Miracles of Missions," "Many Infallible Proofs," "New Acts of the Apostles," etc., etc.

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To my brother, beloved
In Christ Jesus,
Rev. C. I. Scofield, D.D.,
whose fellowship in faith
and Bible study
have done much to stimulate and
encourage Christian believers;
and to all who
have found in Christ Jesus
the Sphere
of all Life and Blessing,
this book is inscribed.

INTRODUCTORY

THERE is in a Russian palace, a famous "Saloon of Beauty," wherein are hung over eight hundred and fifty portraits of young maidens. These pictures were painted by Count Rotari, for Catharine the Second, the Russian empress ; and the artist made a journey, through the fifty provinces of that vast empire of the north, to find his models.

In these superb portraits that cover the walls of this saloon, there is said to be a curiously expressed compliment to the artist's royal patron, a compliment half concealed and half revealed. In each separate picture, it is said, might be detected, by the close observer, some hidden, delicate reference to the empress for whom they were painted. Here a feature of Catharine

appears; there an attitude is reproduced, some act, some favorite adornment or environment, some jewel, fashion, flower, style of dress, or manner of life—something peculiar to, or characteristic of, the empress—so that the walls of the saloon are lined with just so many silent tributes to her beauty, or compliments to her taste. So inventive and ingenious is the spirit of human flattery when it seeks to glorify a human fellow-mortal, breaking its flask of lavish praise on the feet of an earthly monarch.

The Word of God is a picture-gallery, and it is adorned with tributes to the blessed Christ of God, the Savior of mankind. Here a prophetic portrait of the coming One, and there an historic portrayal of Him who has come, here a typical sacrifice, and there the bleeding Lamb to whom all sacrifice looked forward; here a person or an event that foreshadowed the greatest

of persons and the events that are the turning-points of history; now a parable, a poem, an object-lesson, and then a simple narration or exposition or explanation, that fills with divine meaning the mysteries that have hid their meaning for ages, waiting for the key that should unlock them. But, in whatever form or fashion, whatever guise of fact or fancy, prophecy or history, parable or miracle, type or antitype, allegory or narrative, a discerning eye may everywhere find HIM—God's appointed Messiah, God's anointed Christ. Not a human grace that has not been a faint forecast or reflection of His beauty, in whom all grace was enshrined and enthroned—not a virtue that is not a new exhibition of His attractiveness. All that is glorious is but a phase of His infinite excellence, and so all truth and holiness, found in the Holy Scripture, are only a new tribute to Him