# JEWISH ARTISAN LIFE IN THE TIME OF OUR LORD. TO WHICH IS APPENDED A CRITICAL COMPARISON BETWEEN JESUS AND HILLEL

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Jewish Artisan Life in the Time of Our Lord. To Which Is Appended a Critical Comparison between Jesus and Hillel by Franz Delitzsch & Mrs. Philip Monkhouse

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#### FRANZ DELITZSCH & MRS. PHILIP MONKHOUSE

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#### ARTISAN LIFE.

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### JEWISH ARTISAN LIFE

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IN THE

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## JESUS AND HILLEL.

Translated from the German of DR. FRANZ DELITZSCH.

BY

MRS. PHILIP MONKHOUSE.



Multæ terricolis lingue, collestibus una.



LONDON:
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15, PATERNOSTER ROW.
1877.

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#### PREFACE.

HE acknowledged success which has attended the publication of the works of Dr. Delitzsch in his own country, and the great appreciation they have met with in this, so far as they are known, has encouraged the Translator in supposing that the following papers will not prove uninteresting to English readers.

In an age when, on the one hand, science and research have made all more or less critical, every contribution towards the more accurate realisation of circumstantial details, must commend itself to the Biblical student; whilst on the other, in an age when science and research have made many educated men more or less sceptical, any contribution which places in clear and sharp contrast, the wide gulf which separates the highest human intelligence from that of Him who spake as never man spake, must commend itself to all who recognise in Jesus the Son of God.

THE COLLEGE,

BIRKENHEAD.

May, 1877.

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### JEWISH ARTISAN LIFE AT THE TIME OF JESUS.

I.

The Herodian Government and the second Temple, considered in their relation to Handicraft.

HEN Jesus, on a certain Sabbath day, stood up in the synagogue of Nazareth, and the men and women of the little country town, in which he had grown up, beheld the wonder-working prophet of Galilee in their midst, the enigma of His presence seemed to them to grow only more enigmatical; and, confused in understanding rather than touched at heart, they looked one upon another and

Jüdisches Handwerkerleben zur Zeit Jesu. Fünf Vorträge im Leipziger Jünglingsverein gehalten im Winter 1867-8. Von FRANZ DELITZSCH. Zweite nevidirte Auflage. Erlangen, 1875.

asked, "Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not this the carpenter?"

In this question of the Nazarenes lies the justification of the task which I propose to myself. Handicraft is historically interwoven with the person of Jesus. For the moment we will not argue whether He might with equal reason have been called "the carpenter," as the carpenter's son, but the artisan class may well feel itself honoured in the highest degree through the simple fact that He was the legitimate, though not actual son of a carpenter, and was Himself so called. What, in comparison to this fact, are all imperial and royal charters which guilds and corporations have to show? higher honour can ever belong to the position of a working man, than that Jesus sprang from a mechanic's family; and that, if not Himself a mechanic. He had no doubt taken part in their employments. Through this, all labour is hallowed; or, which is the same thing, ennobled in a more than earthly sense.

I address a circle of young mechanics,' and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These papers were originally read before the Young Men's Association, in Leipsic.