

**THE WITNESS OF HISTORY TO
CHRIST, FIVE SERMONS PREACHED
BEFORE THE UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE, BEING THE HULSEAN
LECTURES FOR THE YEAR 1870**

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The witness of history to Christ, five sermons preached before the University of Cambridge, being the Hulsean lectures for the year 1870 by F. W. Farrar

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F. W. FARRAR

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THE
WITNESS OF HISTORY
TO CHRIST,

*FIVE SERMONS PREACHED BEFORE THE UNIVERSITY
OF CAMBRIDGE,*

BEING THE HULSEAN LECTURES FOR THE
YEAR 1870.

BY THE

REV. F. W. FARRAR, M.A., F.R.S.,

LATE FELLOW OF TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE;

MASTER OF MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE;

HULSEAN LECTURER FOR 1870, AND HONORARY CHAPLAIN TO THE QUEEN.

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TO THE
REV. W. THOMPSON, D.D.,

MASTER OF TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE,

THESE LECTURES

ARE GRATEFULLY AND RESPECTFULLY
DEDICATED.

P R E F A C E.

A SERIES of accidental circumstances has caused the publication of these Lectures to be long delayed, and renders it necessary to send them forth, even now, in a condition much less complete than I had originally intended and hoped. Among other things I had greatly wished to add, by way of Preface or Introduction, some further considerations upon the subjects with which the Lectures severally deal; but I am obliged to forego this intention. The Lectures were written while I was in a position which left me but little leisure for thought or study; but they are published amid the pressure of still more incessant occupations. I can only pray that with all their imperfections they may be accepted as a sincere and honest effort to strengthen in the minds of those who read them a faith in the great truths

of Christianity; and their purpose will not have wholly failed if they impart to but one single soul a deeper conviction of the certainty of those doctrines which were once found competent to regenerate a diseased and perishing society, and which have lost no single element of their power to quicken, in the hearts of all those who faithfully accept them, the desire to spend a noble life, and the ability to bring that desire to good effect.

I have only to add that a great portion of the proof-sheets was corrected while I had no means of obtaining access to books, and another portion while I was suffering from the effects of a serious accident. I have done my best to ensure accuracy, but it is only too probable that a few *errata*—I hope not many—may have crept into the following pages from these causes.

F. W. F.

MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE,
April 20, 1871.

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I.

THE ANTECEDENT CREDIBILITY OF THE MIRACULOUS.

Τὰ ἀδύνατα παρὰ ἀνθρώποις δυνατὰ ἔσσι παρὰ τῷ Θεῷ.
Luke xviii. 27.

Τί ἄπιστον κρίνεται παρ' ὑμῶν, εἰ ὁ Θεὸς τοὺς νεκροὺς ἐγείρει;
Acts xxvi. 8.