

**ADVENT CERTAINTIES:
I. THE THRONE. II. THE
CROSS AND THE SPIRIT**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649268382

Advent certainties: I. The throne. II. The cross and the spirit by Frederick B. MacNutt

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

FREDERICK B. MACNUTT

**ADVENT CERTAINTIES:
I. THE THRONE. II. THE
CROSS AND THE SPIRIT**

ADVENT CERTAINTIES

"The effectual certainties in it all are the Last Judgment by Christ and His saints, the annihilation of all the satanic and daemonic powers hostile to God, the defeat of the 'last' enemy, death, the reign of Christ as King, the final completion of the salvation already experienced on earth 'in Christ' at length 'with Christ,' i.e., in personal fellowship face to face, and finally the handing back of the Kingdom by the Son to the Father. But at the remotest distance of the horizon of eternity swept by the apostle's prophetic vision we still see the flaming certainty—'God is all and in all.'"—ADOLF DEISSMANN.

"Christ is Christianity. To find God in Him, to trust and love God in Him, is to be a Christian. To preach Him in the language of to-day, to the men of to-day, for the needs of to-day, is to preach a Gospel as new and as old as life itself."—HENRY VAN DYKE.

45205580

TO
MY MOTHER.

PREFACE

AMONG the tasks that confront the modern preacher there is none of greater importance than the wise and fearless preaching of the Advent Hope. A recent discussion in the correspondence columns of a leading Church newspaper¹ emphasized this in a striking way to those who closely observe the movements of thought in the Church of our time. It is plainly necessary that the pulpit, without becoming a mere rostrum for the discussion of theological difficulties, should attempt to give clear guidance to thoughtful people about the certainties to which we are committed by Christian faith and which lie near to the heart of Christian life, as distinguished from the secondary elements of belief concerning which there may be a

¹ *The Guardian*, November and December, 1912.

legitimate divergence of opinion. To many who profess and call themselves Christians the whole subject of "the End" is shrouded in uncertainty, and the very idea of "Advent Certainties" suggests an intransigent orthodoxy that boldly ignores modern inquiries into the origins of the Christian Creed.

In the first six sermons contained in this book it has been my aim in a humble way to confirm faith in some of the vital elements of a Christian's faith concerning the End. To make these stand out clearly before the minds and hearts of perplexed believers, if I may judge from experience, is to revive hope and to quicken faith where both were in danger of a melancholy decay. Doubtless there is much which must remain uncertain in a subject so complex and so pregnant with mystery. But there is much also—and this of the first importance—which to faith in the Christ of History and Experience is beyond all doubt. And who that would fain preach God's Gospel but feels his heart burn within him to communicate to an age of unsettlement and bewildering perplexity a

renewal of assurance in the things that really matter as it asks of the Church what message it has concerning the future which means so much to a world of living, dying men ?

The last six sermons in this volume deal with some other sides of the Christian message which bear closely upon our modern needs. Among these is the new attitude to Mysticism and the Experience of the Spirit. There is great and growing inspiration in the witness of this and other like movements astir among us that the human spirit is hungry for God and has discovered for itself nothing in which it can permanently rest apart from the Gospel of the Cross and the Spirit.

These sermons, like those contained in another volume, *The Inevitable Christ*, published two years ago, were preached for the most part during my residences at Southwark Cathedral. Sermons VI and VII were delivered in the pulpit of St. Paul's Cathedral, and Sermon, XII at an Ordination held by the Bishop of Winchester. They are not the work of learned leisure ; but I hope that for this there may be some compensation in the fact that