

**FOUR PRINCES, OR, THE GROWTH
OF A KINGDOM: A STORY
OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTERED AROUND FOUR TYPES**

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Four princes, or, The growth of a kingdom: a story of the Christian Church centered around four types by James A. B. Scherer

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JAMES A. B. SCHERER

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FOUR PRINCES

OR

THE GROWTH OF A KINGDOM

A Story of the Christian
Church centred Around
Four Types

BY

JAMES A. B. SCHERER, Ph.D.

FOUNDER OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN MISSION IN JAPAN
TEACHER IN THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF THE UNITED SYNOD
PASTOR OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

"Zu finden die allgemeine
Geschichte in Einzeldarstellungen"

REGIS
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Dedicated
TO
ALL WHO LOVE AN INTERESTING STORY

WITH THE ASSURANCE THAT IF THEY ARE
DISAPPOINTED IT IS THE FAULT
NOT OF THE STORY
BUT OF

THE AUTHOR

K E Y

Mark 4 : 26-28

"SO IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD :

The Seed.	"As if a man should cast seed into the ground ; . . . and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. . . ."	<i>Paul.</i>
The Blade.	"First the blade,"	<i>Constantine.</i>
The Ear.	"Then the ear,"	<i>Bernard.</i>
The Corn.	"After that the full corn in the ear."	<i>Luther.</i>

FOREWORD



THE three greatest structures standing in the world to-day are the Pyramids of Egypt, the Parthenon at Athens, and St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome. It is a striking fact that these three structures represent, in successive order, precisely the three chief contributions of all time to human history and human civilization.

The Pyramid.—The Great Pyramid, already two thousand years old when Abraham visited the Pharaoh, is still the most prodigious of human constructions. A city of twenty-two thousand houses could be built from its cubic contents. According to Herodotus, with whom in this respect modern scholars agree, a hundred thousand men must have been employed continuously for twenty years in its construction.

But the chief interest of the Great Pyramid lies in this: that it is a fit symbol of that sublime foundation, laid first on the banks of the Nile and the Euphrates, whereon all superstructures in the arts and letters have been reared. For the East is the birthplace of history, the early home of civilization. Out of the East came light. We of the West are proud and

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glad in the sunshine. Let us not forget gratitude for the mysterious and bountiful Orient, which has been the ultimate source of all the brightness that has come to bless our world.

The Parthenon.—What the lands of the Pyramid began, the land of the Parthenon completed. The liberal arts reached their climax of development in Greece. The Parthenon to this day remains the most perfect work of art that has been produced. In the phrase of Emerson,—

"Earth proudly wears the Parthenon
As the best gem upon her zone."

To-day our highest art is but a feeble imitation of the art of Phidias and Zeuxis. And as with art, so was it with philosophic thought. The world's great trinity of intellectual giants lived in Greece consecutively. When Socrates was forty years old Plato was born, to become his disciple; and Aristotle, when eighteen years old, became in turn the pupil of Plato. It was the golden age of the giants. Down to this day their influence on human life and character is inestimable. Even Christian theology, as to its form, has been plastic under the immortal touch of Plato and Aristotle, who died centuries before our Lord was born. Mystics, we call the kinsmen of Plato; and of the other, rationalists. Between these two hostile camps are fought all