

**JESUS AND THE  
YOUNG MAN  
OF TO-DAY**

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Jesus and the young man of To-day by John M. Holmes

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**JOHN M. HOLMES**

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JESUS AND THE YOUNG  
MAN OF TO-DAY



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# Jesus and the Young Man of To-day

BY  
JOHN M. HOLMES



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## PREFACE

For years, men have been drifting indifferently from the church because so many religious leaders insist upon reading into the Bible all the theological accretions and beliefs of the Christian church, until the actual life and teachings of Jesus are obscured.

Without becoming openly antagonistic, and in most cases, without even removing their names from the church register, these so-called "doubters" lose their interest in the church and in things religious.

The great world war which has recently closed put our doctrines, beliefs, and professions to a severe test with the result that many beliefs and customs which were previously considered very important were discarded and the manly qualities which Jesus emphasized in His teachings and exemplified in His life blazed forth with such splendor that they became the ideals of hundreds of men who had never openly professed to be followers of Him.

The studies are an outgrowth of experience in dealing with students and business men, Christian and non-Christian, who were in the throes of intellectual reconstruction. They were written primarily for the college student who, no longer able to accept his boyhood beliefs, seeks a restatement of faith which will meet the needs of his reason as well as of his heart. The writer does not attempt to set forth a complete life of Jesus and does not pretend to discuss the fundamentals of the Christian church. He lays no claim to originality. Quotations from authoritative writers are frequently inserted. The plan and much of the material of the studies are taken from "Studies in the Life of Jesus Christ," by E. I. Bosworth.

The writer would like to take this opportunity to thank the many kind friends who have read the manuscript and offered helpful suggestions. Dr. E. I. Bosworth, of Oberlin; Dr. M. H. Lichliter, of Cleveland; Dr. John C. French, of

the Johns Hopkins University; Sergeant Oliver M. Ainsworth, of the Medical Department, U. S. A.; Rev. F. A. Juhan, Mr. Allen J. Graham, Mr. B. E. Geer, and especially Mr. J. W. Norwood, of Greenville, S. C., by their kind assistance made it possible for the course to be published, although they are in no way responsible for the views expressed therein.

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J. M. H.

Greenville, S. C., February 14th, 1919.

## INTRODUCTION

Four men, after a long, arduous climb, came to the top of a high mountain, overlooking a broad valley. The first man was a geologist. In his description of the valley, he told of the kind of rock and soil, the various strata, and the geologic movements which produced the present shape of the valley.

The second man was a surveyor. He approximated the length and breadth of the valley, the miles of winding road, the probable width of the river, and the time it would take to cross from mountain to mountain.

The third man was a farmer. He told of the amount of timberland, the approximate number of acres in corn, pasture, and meadow, and of the suitability of the valley for farming.

The fourth man was a poet. As he stood on the mountain top, he saw the grandeur of the scene stretching before him: the patches of green, and the squares of cultivated soil; the winding river reflecting in places the glancing rays of the declining sun; the long shadows cast by the higher mountains; then, far away in the distance, the interwoven hills covered by a hazy veil of blue forming a great wall against the sky. His description of the valley was a poem in which he tried to convey the impression which the grandeur of the scene made upon his mind.

Each of these descriptions was, in its own way, true. Each was based upon the same actual fact. The first three dealt with material or external facts; the fourth treated of a fact of inward experience.

Such is the case with the four gospels. Matthew, Mark, and Luke give an account of the teachings and life of the historical Jesus. John endeavors to give the impressions made upon his life by the Risen Christ. It is not the actual sayings of Jesus or the facts of His life which primarily interest the fourth evangelist, but the infinite significance of