

# **THE VICTORY OF FAITH**

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The Victory of Faith by Julius Charles Hare

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**JULIUS CHARLES HARE**

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# THE VICTORY OF FAITH,

BY JULIUS CHARLES HARE, M.A.

ARCHDEACON OF LIVER, Rector of HERTFORD, and  
LATE FELLOW OF TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

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1847.

TO  
THE MASTER AND OTHER MEMBERS  
OF TRINITY COLLEGE

THESE SERMONS ARE DEDICATED

BY ONE WHO OWES THE BUILDING UP OF HIS MIND,  
AND MUCH HAPPINESS FOR MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS,  
TO THE FRIENDS HE HAS FOUND AMONGST THEM,  
AND WHO PRAYS THAT THEY AND THEIR SUCCESSORS,  
AS LONG AS ENGLAND ENDURES,  
MAY STILL EVER BE IN THE FOREMOST RANK  
AMONG THE DISPENSERS OF KNOWLEDGE,  
BOTH OF THAT KNOWLEDGE WHICH TREATS OF THIS WORLD,  
AND OF THAT WHICH GUIDES TO HEAVEN.

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## PREFACE.

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THESE Sermons on Faith are an expansion of a Course preacht before the University of Cambridge in the month of February, 1839. Being called upon to publish them, I deemed it my duty to develope the argument somewhat more fully than my limits had allowed me to do in the pulpit. When I chose the subject, my wish was to shew that the office assigned to Faith in the Christian scheme is not at variance, but in harmony with the rest of man's nature, by tracing the influence of Faith, as exemplified in the relations of our natural life, as well as in the religion of the Heathens, and of the Jews. I was desirous of assisting my youthful hearers in extricating themselves from a difficulty often felt by those who begin to reflect about religion,—namely, how Faith, of which they hear so little in the affairs and duties of ordinary life, should in religion be all in all. According to the original plan, the subjects treated in the last three Sermons of the present series were to be preceded by an introductory one, speaking generally of Faith in its relation to the other parts of our being.

But being led to look into Mr Newman's *Lectures on Justification*, for the sake of ascertaining the view of Faith taken in a work which has excited so much attention, and which represents opinions held by a large body of our Church, I found myself compelled to enter much more at length than I had intended into the argument for establishing the practical power of Faith. Hence the latter part of the subject, which had been my chief reason for undertaking it, was very imperfectly brought out: several paragraphs, among others the Cloud of Christian Witnesses, were omitted in the delivery, lest I should too far exceed the term ordinarily assigned to modern sermons: and some leading topics were merely glanced at, or left altogether untouched. These imperfections I have endeavoured in some measure to remedy, in order that the exposition of the power of Faith in its manifold offices might be less unworthy of the glorious theme. The first two Sermons are printed nearly as they were preached: the third and fourth of the original course have each been divided into two. I trust however that my hearers, who requested me to print them, will not be dissatisfied with the alterations that have been made. Precision and completeness are of greater importance in a printed discourse, than in a spoken one: for the ear can seldom follow the steps of a long and complicated argument.

Writing on this day, I cannot forget, that on this day he, whom God sent to deliver His Church from the thick

darkness spread over it, and to reproclaim the great truth, that man is justified by Faith without the works of the Law,—I cannot forget that on this day that true and valiant man of God, the holy Martin Luther, entered into immortality. It is a day which to me also personally has been hallowed by the deepest grief and the most blessed assurance: for on this day he who had been the light of my life gave up his soul to his Saviour. O that a blessing might rest on these Sermons, so that they might help some in embracing the truth which Luther taught! O that they might strengthen their author to walk in the path in which his brother shewed him the way!

HERSTMONDEN,  
February 16, 1840.

It is not without reluctance and shame that I allow these Sermons to issue from the press anew, unaccompanied by the Notes which were intended to illustrate them. My excuse to my readers, as well as to myself, must be, that the seven years, which have elapsed since the publication of the first Edition, have been employed, so far as leisure could be gained from official duties, in other works, which appeared to be of more immediate interest. By such I am still occupied, with no prospect of obtaining time for the promised Notes until some months have gone by. Therefore, having heard from various quarters that persons have been wishing for these Sermons, which have been out of print for some years, I am induced to republish them