GRACE AND GLORY: SERMONS PREACHED IN THE CHAPEL OF PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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Grace and glory: sermons preached in the chapel of Princeton Theological Seminary by Geerhardus Vos

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GEERHARDUS VOS

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GRACE AND GLORY

Sermons Preached in the Chapel

or ———

Princeton Theological Seminary

GEERHARDUS VOS



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CONTENTS

I.	The Wonderful Tree 7	
II.	Hungering and Thirsting after Righteousness 37	9
III.	Seeking and Saving the Lost 61	
IV.	"Rabboni" 89	
V.	The More Excellent Ministry 107	
VI.	Heavenly-Mindedness133	200



I. The Wonderful Tree

Hosea XIV, 8: "I am like a green fir-tree; from me is thy fruit found."

THIS prophetic utterance represents one of the two inseparable sides in the make-up of religion. If we say that religion consists of what God is for man, and of what man is for God, then our text in the divine statement, "From me is thy fruit found," stands for the former. To balance it with the other side some such word as that of Isaiah might be taken, "The vineyard of Jehovah of Hosts is the house of Israel." Nor would it be an arbitrary combination of disconnected passages thus pointedly to place the one over against the other. In each case a careful study of the prophet would reyeal that not some incidental turn of thought. but an habitual point of view, imparting tone and color to the entire religious experience, had found expression in a characteristic form of statement. The two points of view are supplementary, and, taken together, exhaustive of what the normal relation between God and man involves. Until we learn to unite the Isaiahtype of piety with that of Hosea, we shall not attain a full and harmonious development of our religious life.

Let us this time look at the half-circle of truth expressed by the older prophet. The text stands in the most beautiful surroundings, not merely within Hosea's own prophecy, but in the entire Old Testament. There is a charm about this chapter more easily felt than described. It is like the clear shining after rain,