

**GOD AND THE SOUL: AN
ESSAY TOWARDS
FUNDAMENTAL RELIGION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649594542

God and the Soul: An Essay Towards Fundamental Religion by Richard A. Armstrong

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RICHARD A. ARMSTRONG

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FUNDAMENTAL RELIGION**

GOD AND THE SOUL

63-580

An Essay towards Fundamental Religion

BY
RICHARD A. ^{Clark}ARMSTRONG, B.A.
Author of 'Man's Knowledge of God,' etc.

'ONE thought I have, my ample creed,
So deep it is and broad,
And equal to my every need,—
It is the thought of God.'

—F. L. Hosmer.

London
PHILIP GREEN, 5, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, W.C.
1896

PRINTED BY ELSOM AND CO.
MARKET-PLACE, NULL.

TO
My fellow-Worshippers

AT
**Dove Street Church,
Liverpool,**

THIS BOOK IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.

10-11-26 P.T.H.

PREFACE

THIS book is offered to such as shrink from the study of great works of philosophy, yet desire to find intellectual justification for trust in God and the Religious Life. It approaches the supreme controversies which rend human thought a little more closely than did my 'Man's Knowledge of God'; but like that little essay it seeks its readers, not among philosophers, but among men and women of average culture, and especially the young. Writing then neither for philosophers nor even for the readers of their books, I have thought I might make free use of their material. Chiefly I have thus availed myself of what has been written by him to whom I owe more, in the realm of thought, than to any other thinker, Dr. James Martineau. I have written with my own mind penetrated by some of his writings, and I have here and there adopted even his illustrations rather than search for others sure to be less appropriate. If the result of this freedom should be to turn any student from my pages to his, I shall indeed have done that student a splendid service. Others along whose lines I have framed part of

my essay are Professor Flint, Dr. W. G. Ward, and Dr. John Fiske. To Mr. Richard H. Hutton and to Professor C. B. Upton I am also indebted for valuable criticisms on portions of this treatise in manuscript or proof.

The substance of these chapters was first prepared in the form of lectures delivered in connection with Mrs. Humphry Ward's settlement at University Hall, London. Hence a directness of address, and here and there a colloquialism, which I have not endeavoured to remove.

If it may be given me to help a few who are feeling out for a surer basis of faith and hope, I shall rejoice that I have written.

R. A. A.

Liverpool, *October, 1896.*

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