# THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS; WITH A COMMENTARY AND REVISED TRANSLATION, AND INTRODUCTORY ESSAYS

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The Epistle of Paul to the Romans; With a Commentary and Revised Translation, and Introductory Essays by Abiel Abbot Livermore

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## ABIEL ABBOT LIVERMORE

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# EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS;

WITH

### A COMMENTARY

AND REVISED TRANSLATION,

AND INTRODUCTORY ESSAYS,

BY

ABIEL ABBOT LIVERMORE.

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#### TO THE

#### LIBERAL CHRISTIANS OF THE UNITED STATES,

THE

CHURCH OF THE FUTURE,

VARIOUS BODIES, BUT ONE SOUL,

THE

ATTEMPT TO EXPLAIN AN EPISTLE, "HARD TO BE UNDERSTOOD,"

AFFECTIONATELY AND RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

BT

THE AUTHOR.

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### INTRODUCTORY ESSAYS.

#### ESSAY I.

#### THE BIBLE, INSPIRED AND INSPIRING.

The question of the inspiration of the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures is one of those great moral problems, which never are, but always are to be, solved. It was discussed in the earliest, and probably will be in the latest ages. For it is in part an historical inquiry, and different principles of historical judgment will lead to different conclusions. It is an intellectual and spiritual question, and therefore all the complexities of mental culture and moral character will come into play, and determine each person to his result. But perchance new words will not be thrown away on such a rich and sublime theme, pertaining to the point where the mind of God has connected itself with the mind of man. To-day, as in the morning prime of the Church, when learned fathers mused and wrote, the fresh dew rests upon it, and glistens bright to heaven. Ever new, as ever old, the march of human affairs, the novel experiences of the race, the arrival of new geniuses, and the successive crises of Christianity, cannot drain dry of interest to every conscientious mind the magnificent question.

Man still asks, and will for ever ask, as if it were too good news to be true, Has the Infinite Intelligence in any sense spoken? Is there a Word of God? Is there a whisper of