

**KING'S COLLEGE
LECTURES ON
IMMORTALITY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649213566

King's College lectures on immortality by Various

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

VARIOUS

**KING'S COLLEGE
LECTURES ON
IMMORTALITY**

KING'S COLLEGE LECTURES
ON
IMMORTALITY

KING'S COLLEGE LECTURES
ON
IMMORTALITY

BY

REV. J. F. BETHUNE - BAKER, D.D.
REV. PREB. A. CALDECOTT, D.D., D.LIT.
VERY REV. HASTINGS RASHDALL, D.D.
PROF. WM. BROWN, M.A., D.Sc., M.D.
REV. H. MAURICE RELTON, D.D.

EDITED BY

W. R. MATTHEWS, M.A., B.D.,
Dean of King's College, London.

LONDON
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON PRESS, LTD.
18, WARWICK SQUARE, LONDON, E.C. 4
1920

Philips

3/1928

184

man

PREFACE

FOR several years it has been the custom to have courses of public lectures in Theology at King's College. One volume of lectures, "The Church of England, its Nature and its Future," has already been published, and the present book contains the lectures which were delivered in the Michaelmas Term of 1919. The Theological Faculty of King's College has conceived it to be a part of the function of a University to make the results of academic study available for that wide public which has an intelligent interest in intellectual and spiritual progress without possessing the leisure to pursue detailed investigation. There is no subject in which the close relation between research and educated opinion should be more jealously

PREFACE

guarded than that of Theology. And the benefit of such a relation will not be all on one side. The expert whose thoughts have been occupied with the things of the spirit cannot fail to gain a renewed sense of the momentous nature of the problems with which he deals when he is called upon to lay his conclusions before men and women who are immersed in the full stream of practical life. The large audiences which have listened to the lectures and the ready response which our invitation to take part in the courses has received from scholars in many universities are sufficient proof that the need which we have sought to meet is felt on both sides.

The lectures contained in this volume were not prepared with a view to publication and they are now printed in response to several requests that they might be brought together in a permanent form. They stand in the book practically as they were delivered. No attempt has been made to secure uniformity of standpoint or treatment, and each lecturer is respon-

PREFACE

sible only for his own contribution. The Editor ventured to suggest the subjects of the lectures with a view to securing that as many aspects of the subject as possible should be dealt with in the course. It would be too much to expect that the whole field should be covered in five lectures, and it will not escape the notice of the reader that several important topics have been passed over with slight mention or in silence. Thus the thorny question of the value of the evidence provided by psychical research has been touched on only incidentally by Dr. Brown. To have embarked upon a full consideration of this controversial matter would have required many more lectures. The metaphysical arguments for the immortality of the soul have been passed over because a profitable discussion of them seemed hardly possible without a degree of technicality which would have been inconvenient. The reader may, however, be reminded that some distinguished contemporary philosophers, among whom may be mentioned Dr. McTaggart and Professor

PREFACE

Howison, still hold that a valid metaphysical argument can be stated.

The hope of personal immortality is so closely bound up with our affections that it lends itself to credulity and superstition. On the other hand, there are minds which, in reaction from the illegitimate indulgence of the "will to believe," have persuaded themselves that the belief in personal survival is no part of pure religion. It is the aim of these lectures to assist in showing that faith in the future life is a rational faith and may be held all the more strongly when purged of some of the fancies which fear and hope have woven round it.

W. R. M.

King's College,
London

CONTENTS

	PAGE
PREFACE	v
THE RELIGIOUS VALUE OF THE IDEA OF A FUTURE LIFE	3
By Rev. J. F. BETHUNE-BAKER, D.D., Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity in the University of Cambridge	
THE ARGUMENT FROM THE EMOTIONS. . .	41
By Rev. Preb. A. CALDECOTT, D.D., D.LIT., Emeritus Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy	
THE MORAL ARGUMENT FOR PERSONAL IMMORTALITY	77
By Very Rev. H. RASHDALL, D.D., Dean of Carlisle	
IMMORTALITY IN THE LIGHT OF MODERN PSYCHOLOGY.	128
By W. BROWN, M.A., D.Sc., M.D., Reader in Psychology in the University of London	
THE CHRISTIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE CONCEPTION OF ETERNAL LIFE . . .	167
By Rev. H. M. RELTON, D.D., Vicar of Isle- worth, Lecturer in Dogmatic Theology	