

**THE LIFE OF OUR LORD, IN THE WORDS  
OF THE FOUR EVANGELISTS. BEING THE  
FOUR GOSPELS ARRANGED IN  
CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER, AND  
INTERWOVEN TO FORM A CONTINUOUS  
NARRATIVE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649634576

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Cover @ 2017

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**ANNA M. PERRY**

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By ANNA M. PERRY,

*WITH AN INTRODUCTORY NOTE*

By WILLIAM M. TAYLOR, D.D.

NEW YORK,  
THOMAS WHITTAKER,  
2 AND 3 BIBLE HOUSE

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## INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

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MANY admirable "Lives of Christ" have been published in recent years, and much light has been thrown by some of them on the important questions which relate to the person and work of the Saviour. But there is some danger, lest in our perusal of such books, we overlook the sublime simplicity of the Scripture narratives themselves. The true life of Christ is contained in the four gospels. The tendency of modern writers, however, has been to dwell upon the distinctive features of each gospel, and so to bring out the special aspects of the character and teachings of the Lord, which each Evangelist saw from his own personal angle of observation. To borrow an expression from the astronomer, and apply it in a slightly different sense from his, our modern critics have given us mainly "the personal equation" of each of the four inspired penmen. This has, doubtless, added to the correctness of our knowledge of Him, "in the knowledge of whom standeth eternal life." But it has also slightly put into the background the fact that the four portraits are representations of the one Christ; and the purpose of the compiler of this little book is to make manifest the true spiritual harmony of the different records, by reading them into each other, so that the devout student may feel that they are all delineations of the same divine original. The harmonizing of incidents,

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## INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

which is produced by putting them into what seems to have been their real order, is of little consequence in comparison with the presentation of the Spiritual Harmony which underlies their fourfold delineation of the Son of God, and it is in the latter respect that the true value of this compilation will be recognized. It is a book for the closet, and we commend it to all whose desire it is "that they may know Him, and be found in Him."

WM. M. TAYLOR.



## COMPILER'S PREFACE.

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THE design of this volume is to give a consecutive view of our Saviour's life and teachings, by combining in one narrative the four Gospels of the Evangelists. In doing this, not only has the sacred text been diligently studied, but many acknowledged authorities consulted and compared; and a few simple notes have been added, containing the reasons for the order of the harmony.

It is a well-known fact that the chronology of many of the incidents in the life of our Lord cannot be accurately settled. All, therefore, that is claimed in the present work is, that the order of the harmony adopted is a *natural* one, and it is hoped that it will commend itself to the candid reader. In the arrangement of the volume, special attention has been paid to the wants of those who may wish to use it merely for purposes of reference. For such, an index of subjects has been provided, that the collected statements of the Evangelists with regard to any passage, may readily be found. An index, showing the location of every verse taken from the Gospels, has also been prepared.

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NOTE.—The *figures* refer to the notes at the end of the book; the *letters* to a list of the renderings of Von Tischendorf, following the notes.

## PREFACE.

The compiler is aware that there have been other works of this kind claiming attention. The present volume, however, has certain distinctive features of its own, while, at the same time, it possesses some advantages not found collectively in any other book. Among its various characteristics, the following may be enumerated :

1. The division of the text into chapters and verses has been retained, and the division of the pages into columns, thus preserving the familiar form of the Bible.

2. From beginning to end, the exact language of the Authorized Version has been employed.

3. The separate accounts of the four Evangelists have been, without repetition of language, woven into a continuous narrative, uninterrupted by division into sections, or by words of introduction to the events related.

4. But few words have been supplied ; and when necessary to resort to this expedient in order to preserve the continuity of the narrative, they have been enclosed in brackets.

5. For the satisfaction of persons holding opposite views from those followed in the present volume with regard to the sequence of certain events, different ways of reading have been suggested in several instances, conformable to their opinions. (See notes on chap. xxxvi. 10, and chap. xlii. 18).

6. A list of various improved renderings from the Greek text of Von Tischendorf, has been appended.

It has been with a spirit of the utmost reverence that this combination of the Gospel narratives has been attempted. To alter even the position of a single story, or of one word of

## PREFACE.

that which has been sacred from childhood to so many hearts, has been esteemed no light matter, but a labor to be undertaken only by the most careful and reverent hands. No motive, therefore, apart from an intense longing to present, in one view, a perfect picture of our Saviour's life and ministry, could have induced the compiler to engage in such a work. In its accomplishment, no pains have been spared to render it satisfactory to the earnest Bible student, the humble-minded follower of Jesus, who, from love to the Master, and actuated by an ardent desire to catch the very spirit of His life, searches the Scriptures because they testify of Him. Such an one can hardly fail to gain from its perusal, new views of Christ, a more exalted idea of His character, and a deeper acquaintance with His person and work.

A. M. P.

### ADDITIONAL NOTE.

*It has been the aim, so far as possible, to present the four Gospels entire. To avoid REPETITION OF LANGUAGE, however, certain verses, or parts of verses, have been necessarily omitted.*