

**THE WAY  
EVERLASTING:  
SERMONS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649731596

The Way Everlasting: Sermons by James Denney

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**JAMES DENNEY**

**THE WAY  
EVERLASTING:  
SERMONS**



THE WAY EVERLASTING

THE  
WAY EVERLASTING

Sermons

BY

JAMES DENNEY, D.D.

*Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever*

HODDER AND STOUGHTON  
NEW YORK AND LONDON

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## ELEMENTAL RELIGION.

"O Lord, thou hast searched me and known me."—PSALM CXXXIX. 1.

I ONCE heard a well-known man, speaking of difficulties in the Bible, express himself between jest and earnest in this fashion: "The Gospels are a story, and a story may conceivably be untrue; the epistles are arguments, and arguments may conceivably be unsound; but the Psalms are the immediate reflection of personal experiences, and we can take them as they stand without asking any questions." Certainly that is true of the 139th Psalm, which even in the Psalter has an eminence of its own, and brings us into contact with elemental religion, with the soul's direct and overwhelming experience of God. None of us could have written it, but there is none of us in whom there is not an echo to its sublime and solemn utterance; and that echo is the spirit of God, bearing witness by and with His word in our hearts.

The Psalm has four strophes, each of six verses; and in each of the four an essential aspect or element in the soul's experience of God absorbs the mind of the writer. It will repay us if in following his thought his experience in any degree becomes ours.

1. First, he is overpowered by the experience of God's perfect knowledge of him.

We are apt to speak in this connexion of God's omniscience, but there is nothing about omniscience in