

**KINGDOM OF GOD
SERIES; THE
LIFE OF JESUS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649515639

Kingdom of God Series; The Life of Jesus by Harris Franklin Rall

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

HARRIS FRANKLIN RALL

**KINGDOM OF GOD
SERIES; THE
LIFE OF JESUS**

KINGDOM OF GOD SERIES

Edited by
Henry H. Meyer and David G. Downey

DEC 3 1917

THE LIFE OF JESUS

BY
HARRIS FRANKLIN RALL



THE ABINGDON PRESS
NEW YORK CINCINNATI

Copyright, 1917, by
HARRIS FRANKLIN RALL

The Bible text used in this book is taken from the American Standard Edition of the Revised Bible, copyright, 1901, by Thomas Nelson & Sons, and is used by permission.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
THY KINGDOM COME ON EARTH	7
A WORD FROM THE AUTHOR	9
SUGGESTIONS FOR STUDY	12
I. BETWEEN THE TESTAMENTS	13
II. THE LAW AND THE HOPE	22
III. FOUNDATIONS FOR THE KINGDOM IN JESUS' DAY	30
IV. JOHN THE PROPHET	38
V. JESUS' PREPARATION AND HIS CALL	45
VI. CHOOSING THE WAY	51
VII. BEGINNING HIS WORK	57
VIII. JESUS' MINISTRY TO THE SICK	64
IX. THE MINISTRY TO THE SINFUL	70
X. THE COMPANIONS OF JESUS	77
XI. POPULARITY AND OPPOSITION	85
XII. BEYOND THE BORDERS OF ISRAEL	92
XIII. THE GREAT CONFESSION	100
XIV. THE TRANSFIGURATION	107
XV. APPROACHING THE CROSS	115
XVI. ENTERING JERUSALEM	123
XVII. THE MESSAGE OF WARNING	131
XVIII. FINAL CONFLICTS	139
XIX. PREPARING THE DISCIPLES FOR THE FUTURE	147
XX. THE LAST SUPPER	157
XXI. GETHSEMANE	164
XXII. THE TRIAL	171
XXIII. THE CRUCIFIXION	180
XXIV. THE RISEN CHRIST	188
XXV. A REVIEW	194
XXVI. THE ACHIEVEMENT AND THE CHALLENGE OF JESUS' LIFE	200
INDEXES	207

THY KINGDOM COME ON EARTH

THE kingdom of God does not complete itself in the redemption of the individual. It includes the individual and infinitely more. The Kingdom means that some day science and society, commerce and civics and letters and trade shall be sweetened, purified, and uplifted till they are in happy harmony with the will and purpose of the divine Father. Only so can there be anything like an adequate answer to the first petition of our Lord's Prayer. "Thy kingdom come and thy will be done *on earth* as it is in heaven."

Jesus clearly intended that his disciples should interest themselves in the temporal and earthly aspects of the heavenly Father's dominion and power. They are to pray for the coming of his Kingdom, and the accomplishment of his will on earth, even as they pray for daily bread or for the forgiveness of sin. "Thy kingdom come. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins." To pray thus sincerely and intelligently presupposes active participation in the working program of the Kingdom; that is, in all those activities making for that transformation and reconstruction of life through which alone individuals and organized society can be brought into accord with the will and the rule of God.

Too often in human history the sharp contrast between actual conditions and the higher demands of the Christian ideal has discouraged those upon whom rested the responsibility for making that ideal real. A short-range view of life has obscured the actual growth of the Kingdom which the larger perspective of history reveals. In the face of the overwhelming preponderance of sin and selfishness in the world the Christian Church has again and again contented itself with snatching as many brands as possible from the burning, without, at the same time, seeking to organize the

constructive forces of life and of society for the seemingly impossible task of putting out the conflagration. Thus the actual process of the Kingdom's coming among men has proceeded for the most part "without observation," like the first growth of the seed that has been buried in the soil.

It is possible to-day, in the light of the completed records of the Old and New Testaments and the subsequent history of the Christian centuries, to discover definite stages of advance with successive landmarks of progress in the gradual establishment of the reign of God in individual lives and in the institutions of mankind. Such a survey of progress already achieved should hearten the organized Christian forces in their forward look and their endeavor to establish still more firmly among men the principles and ideals of the Kingdom. It should encourage the individual to redouble his efforts and inspire in him an unfaltering confidence in the ultimate realization and triumph of God's rule. Herein lies the purpose of the special course of study in the Development of the Kingdom of God in which this volume constitutes one textbook. Part of the course originally was issued in periodical form, providing adult Bible classes with consecutive studies covering a period of three years. These studies have been carefully revised and are now offered for wider use in a series of convenient and inexpensive textbooks.

Beginning with a brief consideration of the fundamentals of religion and the nature of man and of Deity, the studies trace the development of religious experience and ideas among the Hebrews and the Jewish people down to the beginning of the Christian era. This early period, covering the development of the Kingdom in Old Testament times, is presented in two volumes of twenty-six study chapters each, the division being made at the point in the historical development following the rise of eighth-century prophetism and the fall of Samaria. In similar manner two volumes are devoted to the Life and Teachings of Jesus which are assumed to be of central importance in the forward and upward movement of humanity.

Subsequent studies present in two volumes a survey of

the Development of the Kingdom since the time of Christ, including a discussion of those social-religious movements of the present day, the support and inspiration for which are to be found primarily in the Christian conception of God and the world. The concluding volume of the series is entitled *The Christian Hope* and presents in constructive form the abiding faith of the Christian fellowship in the final triumph of the kingdom of God.

It is confidently expected that in their revised form these studies will serve a two-fold purpose. As elective courses for adult Bible classes interested in this vital and most fascinating of all studies, their usefulness has been much enhanced. At the same time they are intended to meet the increasing demand for modern textbooks written in scholarly spirit but popular style for preparatory and high schools and for advanced groups in week-day religious instruction in local parishes. That they are admirably suited for either purpose will be evident from an examination of any one of the volumes in the series.

THE EDITORS.

A WORD FROM THE AUTHOR

THE character of this volume is to be understood in the light of its purpose. It does not aim to include every item of the gospel records. It does not try to give all possible knowledge about customs and places. It seeks to utilize assured critical results, but it does not give critical studies. Though interested in spiritual values, its purpose is not that of a devotional handbook. Nor is its chief concern the attempt to arrange all the gospel incidents in chronological order.

This volume is one of a series of biblical studies under the general title, "*The Development of the Kingdom of God.*" Back of that title lies the conviction that history is the carrying out of a great purpose of God. Jesus of Nazareth has been the greatest creative force in this movement of humanity. It is this place which he holds in the