

**THE PLACE OF  
CHRISTIANITY  
AMONG THE  
RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD**

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The Place of Christianity Among the Religions of the World by J. Estlin Carpenter

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PLACE OF CHRISTIANITY  
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RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD

BY  
J. ESTLIN CARPENTER, M.A.

'One accent of the Holy Ghost  
This heedless world hath never lost.

London  
PHILIP GREEN, 5, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, W.C.  
1904

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#### PREFATORY NOTE.

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THE first three chapters of this little book were originally written for the *Inquirer* in 1901, as part of a series of surveys of the progress of thought and knowledge in philosophy and religion during the nineteenth century. They are now republished (with the addition of a section on Islám), by way of a brief popular introduction to the great study of the history of religion which is at length definitely established among us.

The fourth chapter was prepared at the invitation of the Committee of the International Council of Unitarian and other Liberal Religious Thinkers, which held its second meeting at Amsterdam in September, 1903. A few passages in the section on Hindu thought have been expanded, in order to bring out more clearly the contrasts between the fundamental conceptions of religious experience in the Indian and the Hebrew developments. In tracing the barest outlines of the succession of faiths, and endeavouring to estimate their relative spiritual significance, it is inevitable that those who speak from the outside should lay a different emphasis on the same facts compared to those who speak from within. Just as the art, the poetry, the ethical types, of the higher races vary, so also must the specific expressions of faith. The time has not yet come when the East and the West can see eye to eye. But we are daily learning new lessons of sympathy and reverence. To help, however imperfectly, to enforce this teaching, is the purport of the following pages.

J. E. C.

Oxford, *January*, 1904.

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## CONTENTS.

I. COMPARATIVE RELIGION AND MODERN THOUGHT . . . . .	9
i. The Assumptions of Philosophy . . . . .	11
ii. Rise of Comparative Mythology . . . . .	15
iii. Evolution and Anthropology . . . . .	18
II. LIGHT ON THE OLD TESTAMENT . . . . .	22
i. Babylonia and Egypt . . . . .	23
ii. Persia and Greece . . . . .	30
III. THE SACRED BOOKS OF THE EAST . . . . .	36
i. India and the Vedic Literature . . . . .	39
ii. Buddhism and Indian History . . . . .	43
iii. China: Confucianism, Taoism, and Buddhism . . . . .	51
iv. The Significance of Islám . . . . .	67
IV. THE PLACE OF CHRISTIANITY AMONG THE RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD . . . . .	80
i. The Principle of Judgment . . . . .	81
ii. Hindu Thought and the Doctrine of the Deed . . . . .	85
iii. Buddhism and the Person of the Buddha . . . . .	93
iv. Christianity and the Historical Method . . . . .	98
v. The Religion of Jesus . . . . .	105

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