

**CAN WE BELIEVE
IN IMMORTALITY?**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649257669

Can we believe in immortality? by James H. Snowden

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

JAMES H. SNOWDEN

**CAN WE BELIEVE
IN IMMORTALITY?**

116116
Theol.
S.

CAN WE BELIEVE IN IMMORTALITY?

BY

JAMES H. SNOWDEN, D.D., LL.D.

*Author of "The World a Spiritual System: An Outline of
Metaphysics," "The Basal Beliefs of Christianity,"
"The Psychology of Religion," etc.*

154803
23/4/20

New York

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

1919

All rights reserved

COPYRIGHT, 1918
BY THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

Set up and electrotyped. Published, February, 1918

U

MY SON

ROY ROSS SNOWDEN, M.D.

WHO IS NOW DOING HIS BIT
SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE

If a man die, shall he live again?
I know that my Redeemer liveth,
And that he will stand up at the last upon the earth:
And after my skin, even this body, is destroyed,
Then without my flesh shall I see God;
Whom I, even I, shall see for myself,
And my eyes shall behold, and not as a stranger.

— JOB.

The Universe is not dead and demoniacal, a charnel-house with spectres; but godlike, even my Father's.

On the roaring billows of Time, thou art not engulfed, but borne aloft into the azure of Eternity. Love not Pleasure; love God. This is the EVERLASTING YEA, wherein all contradiction is solved; wherein whoso walks and works, it is well with him.

— CARLYLE.

The heart has reasons which the reason does not know. It is the heart that feels God, not the reason. The primary truths are not demonstrable, and yet our knowledge of them is none the less certain. Principles are felt, propositions are proved. Truths may be above reason, and yet not contrary to reason.

— PASCAL.

If e'er when faith had fallen asleep
I heard a voice, "Believe no more,"
And heard an ever-breaking shore
That tumbled in the godless deep,

A warmth within the breast would melt
The freezing reason's colder part,
And like a man in wrath, the heart
Stood up and answered, "I have felt."

— TENNYSON.

For we know that if the earthly house of our tabernacle be dissolved, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

— PAUL.

PREFACE

The literature on the subject of immortality is enormous. The question of a future life is one of the oldest and most fundamental in the history of human thought and goes back to the beginning. One of the most ancient books in existence is the Egyptian *Book of the Dead*, and one of the oldest books in the Bible, Job, deals with this problem. All the bibles and literatures of the world are full of it. The library shelves loaded with these books run back through the centuries and are lost in the mists of antiquity. William R. Alger's work entitled *The Critical History of the Doctrine of a Future Life* has appended to it Ezra Abbot's well-known bibliography of the literature of this subject and it contains nearly five thousand titles in eleven languages; and if it were brought up to date there would doubtless be added to it a thousand titles more.

Are not these enough? Why any more? For the same reason that last year's leaves in the forest are not enough and it must put forth new leaves every year. Every subject is constantly advancing and must be continually written up to date. We cannot express our