AUNT FRANK'S BIBLE STUDIES: BEING THOUGHTS AND REFLECTIONS ON EVENTS AND CHARACTERS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT FROM THE CREATION DOWN TO SOLOMON

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Aunt Frank's Bible Studies: Being Thoughts and Reflections on Events and Characters in the Old Testament from the Creation down to Solomon by Caroline A. E. Cole

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CAROLINE A. E. COLE

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BEING

THOUGHTS AND REFLECTIONS ON EVENTS AND CHARACTERS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT FROM THE CREATION DOWN TO SOLOMON,

BY

CAROLINE A. E. COLE.

LONDON:

ELLIOT STOCK, 62, PATERNOSTER ROW, E.C.

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Bedication.

I DEDICATE THIS LITTLE BOOK

To you, my dear nephews and nieces, who are living in Europe, Asia, America, and Australia, with the hope that you will accept this tribute of love as a voice from one who is desirous that you should 'search the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Christ Jesus.'

Without a spiritual foundation, what bulwark can your souls possess that will be sufficiently strong to enable you to 'shun profane and vain babblings,' which are so rife in the present day, assuming the forms of Freethought, Agnosticism, and what is termed Intellectual Progress, which only 'gender strife and foolish and unlearned questions'?

If these simple papers attract you to the Word of God, to examine how far the points stated in them agree with Holy Writ, my reward will be ample; for it is impossible for any human soul to be spiritually interested in God's Word without becoming purer, happier, and possessing that unconscious influence which alone can elevate humanity.

That the Holy Spirit may lead, guide, and teach you, is the earnest wish of your affectionate

AUNT FRANK.

'Westfield,' Cheam Road, . Sutton, Surrey.





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THE CREATION AND FALL.

NOTHING but love, unbounded love, could have caused God to create this beautiful world. He needed it not for His own happiness, for joy reigned in Heaven, 'when the morning-stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy.' But an increase of glory shone around the heavenly throne when God looked upon the work of creation and said, 'It was very good.'

We read that God rested on the seventh day. What instruction may not we learn from that one sentence! We see God rested; therefore there must have been previous action. If we are to be like God, we, too, must be active. Work is something high and noble. It is dignified and glorified,

because our Father in Heaven is ever active.

'He neither slumbereth nor sleepeth.'

When God created man, He did not leave him without occupation, but placed him in a garden containing every kind of beautiful fruit. By tending and keeping this garden in order, Adam would see the result of his own labour, the success of which would bring its own reward.

Has not God given to each one of us a garden to keep, the watching and tending of which will likewise bring its own reward? That garden is each one's heart. If neglected, the weeds of destruction will destroy every blossom that would have in time borne fruit. We know that weeds and fruit cannot occupy the same spot. Nor will the evil and the good both equally flourish in the heart. The one or the other must triumph. Therefore, let each one watch his own heart, that it may become at last a garden so fruitful, that our Saviour may delight to dwell therein.

Looking at that lovely earthly Paradise