

**THE RETURN OF  
CHRISTENDOM,  
PP. 1-249**

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The Return of Christendom, pp. 1-249 by Various

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CHRISTENDOM**



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# THE RETURN OF CHRISTENDOM

BY  
A GROUP OF CHURCHMEN

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY  
BISHOP GORE

AND AN EPILOGUE BY  
G. K. CHESTERTON

New York  
THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

1922

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### NOTE

THOUGH the chapters composing this book have been in every case the subject of careful consultation between the writers concerned, and are in a real sense the fruit of their collaboration, the authors do not claim that their outlook is identical in every detail, and responsibility for statements made and views put forward in each chapter rests with the contributor of that chapter alone.



## INTRODUCTION TO THE AMERICAN EDITION

At a moment when everything has been shaken that can be shaken there are those, honest souls they are, who are asking themselves the question, Is it Christianity that is a failure or merely those who are its exponents? Has Christianity been so shaken that it is tottering to the fall? Are the high ideals and glorious visions of twenty centuries a mere Jack O'lantern mocking us as our feet flounder in the morass of today's confusion?

With sufficient justification we might answer that it is Christianity, and therefore Christ, that is at fault, had Christianity been loyal to the spiritual and moral precepts and example of its Founder in the field of the world for a continuous period in the past by the masses of the population with the result as we see it. The truth of the matter is that the great principles of Christ and His Church stand out in bold and sad relief against the lurid history of the last decade, unshaken and unshakable. At the very instant they condemn us for not having made them the active motive of all life, they beg us to learn our lesson and, as never before, take Christ at His word.

"It fortifies my soul to know  
That though I perish, Truth is so;  
That, howsoe'er I stray and range,  
Whate'er I do, Thou dost not change.  
I steadier step when I recall  
That if I slip, Thou dost not fall."

It would be unfair for me to quarrel with the title of