

# **STUDIES IN GALILEE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649545711

Studies in Galilee by Ernest W. Gurney Masterman & George Adam Smith

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](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**ERNEST W. GURNEY MASTERMAN & GEORGE ADAM SMITH**

# **STUDIES IN GALILEE**



# Studies in Galilee

*By*

ERNEST W. GURNEY MASTERMAN, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.G.S.  
*Jerusalem*

WITH A PREFACE

*By*

GEORGE ADAM SMITH, D.D., LL.D.  
Professor of Old Testament Literature, United Free Church College, Glasgow

---

CHICAGO  
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS  
1909

ANDREW  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.  
OCT 29 1910  
— LIBRARY. —

COPYRIGHT 1909 BY  
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Published October 1909

*C. J. P. 4*

Composed and Printed By  
The University of Chicago Press  
Chicago, Illinois, U. S. A.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
L. M. N. M.

Born, Nazareth  
October 29, 1872

Died, Jerusalem  
April 27, 1908





## PREFACE

I contribute with pleasure a few lines of preface to my friend Dr. Masterman's work on Galilee, though I feel, after reading it, that the value of its contents lifts it above the need of any commendation. Besides the Memoir of the Survey under the Palestine Exploration Fund, and the relevant chapters in works dealing with the whole country, several learned monographs have been written in English and German upon the geography, the history, the archaeology and the present dialect of Galilee. Among these Dr. Masterman's book will take a place of its own. It furnishes fresh and notable contributions to our knowledge of so famous a region. It is richly stored with facts; it is lucidly written; and cannot fail to prove alike valuable to the expert and interesting to the ordinary reader.

The foreign student, who visits a country for research alone, gains, it is true, much advantage from the concentration of his attention upon the particular lines of history or of physical science in which he is already expert. But his impressions of the life of nature or of man cannot be so numerous nor always so just as those received by the cultured resident and servant to the needs of the people. To the latter things happen, lights break, and materials and powers of judgment are given which are not possible to the more or less rapid traveler, with limited time, a fixed itinerary, and few opportunities of repeating and crossing his routes. In the case even of the most learned and judicious of travelers errors of fact and defects in proportion are inevitable. A resident in the country has the means of correcting these errors and of providing a more just perspective of the whole land.

Dr. Masterman is familiar with Galilee, as he alone can be who has not merely traveled its main routes, but for some time has been at work in it; obliged, in pursuit of his calling, to journey by its numerous byways, welcomed into intimate relations with its inhabitants. He has lived through the seasons of the Galilean year, with an eye and mind that have been trained by long observation of physical phenomena in other parts of Palestine. He has studied the domestic and public customs of the people, and is familiar with the

folk-lore. Altogether, Dr. Masterman has labored for sixteen or seventeen years in the East. His numerous papers in journals devoted to the history or the geography of the Holy Land prove his acquaintance with the literature, ancient and modern, and have been largely used by experts. Very few know the recent history of the land or the life of the people like himself.

As he points out, there is no better center for exploring the greater part of the province than Safed, where he has lived and worked for two years. Safed commands the Upper Jordan Valley, the coasts of the Lake and both the Upper and Lower Galilees, through all of which the calls of his profession, as well as the interests of research, have carried him from time to time, and have given him many opportunities of revising and increasing his knowledge of the country. It is from Safed that an observer may most easily become familiar with the proportions of the whole province, while such famous localities as the plain of Butaiha, Gennesaret and the sites of Capernaum, Chorazin, and Bethsaida lie immediately below him.

With all these the following chapters are concerned. The reader will find a lucid account of Galilee as a whole, its structure, frontiers, divisions, natural products, the resulting characters of its people's life, and its place in history. On the vexed questions of the particular topography, whether one agrees or not with Dr. Masterman's answers, it will be recognized that the data he offers for the latter are sound and that his reasoning is not arbitrary nor extreme. Especially welcome is the full information which he contributes about Gennesaret and the whole northern coasts of the lake. His support of the view, that extends Gennesaret east of the hill el 'Oreimeh, is an important contribution to a more than difficult question. Those of us who have argued for a different conclusion from his as to the site of Capernaum will appreciate the reasonableness and insight of the evidence which he brings forward for Telhum; it must influence the further debate of this problem. Only less helpful are his descriptions of Kerâzeh and et-Tell, the probable sites of Chorazin and Bethsaida. English readers will welcome the summary of what is known of the ruined synagogues of Galilee, vivified as it is by the reports of Dr. Masterman's own visits to them and his observations of their curiously pagan features. The criticism of the figures of Josephus and of modern

estimates of the ancient population of Galilee seem to me of great value. I would have welcomed the expansion of the remarks on Nazareth into a description and discussion as long as that on Capernaum; and some treatment of the site of Taricheae. But Dr. Masterman does not offer his book as exhaustive of the data of Galilee. What he has given will both stimulate and control future discussion of a region which is not only full of many topographical problems but presents these to us in close connection with some of the greatest events of all history.

GEORGE ADAM SMITH