

**THE ETERNAL CHRIST.
STUDIES IN THE LIFE OF
VISION AND SERVICE**

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The Eternal Christ. Studies in the Life of Vision and Service by Joseph Fort Newton

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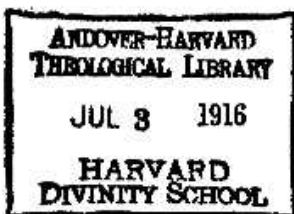
Studies in the Life of
Vision and Service

By
JOSEPH FORT NEWTON, LIT. D.
Author of "David Swing: Post-Preacher,"
"Lincoln and Herndon," etc.



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To My Mother
SUE GREEN NEWTON
A sweet Christian Mystic
Who first taught me of
The Eternal Christ

Foreword

THESE studies speak for themselves, dealing as they do with great themes in a popular manner, and, it is hoped, with some glow and colour. They are meant to aid those who are bewildered by the voices of the age, and its whirling eddies, by showing that the realities of faith are still real, abiding, and may be trusted. Each man has his point of view, his vision and his dream, but these great truths are ours in common, though we may see them from varying angles. They unite us, and should draw us into one vast communion of vision of service, that each may share the faith of all.

What is truly religious is ultimately reasonable, but reason alone is not enough. Those who have had an overwhelming sense of spiritual reality did not have any other faculties or any other facts than those may be aware of who have no such assurance. It is as a man thinks, and unless we think of religious truth religiously, from the inside, it must ever seem dim. One grave defect of our age is a lack of definite purpose and method in the culture of the inner life, which of itself is quite enough to account for our penury of

faith, without resort to intellectual doubt. If these little essays induce a sweeter mood, or a deeper habit of heart, they will be of aid to those who would live the life of faith.

All through there is a recurring emphasis on the lives and teachings of the great mystics, in the belief that, as those mighty spirits kept our faith aflame in other and darker ages, so they may help to renew and make more victorious the faith of our day. For the rest, once assured that what the prophets see is there, we may rejoice in the Unity of Faith and speak its melodious language, and by the Culture of the Soul attain, it may be, to fellowship with the Eternal Christ, whose we are, and whom we should serve while it is day, ere the night cometh.

J. F. N.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

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