

**THE PILLARS OF TRUTH: A
SERIES OF
SERMONS ON THE
DECALOGUE, PP. 1-237**

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The Pillars of Truth: A Series of Sermons on the Decalogue, pp. 1-237 by E. O. Haven

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E. O. HAVEN

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THE
PILLARS OF TRUTH:

A Series of

SERMONS ON THE DECALOGUE.

By E. O. HAVEN, D.D., LL.D.,
PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.



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P R E F A C E.

THE following Discourses were delivered before the students of the University of Michigan, in the College Chapel, on Sabbath afternoons, and are now published without alteration. After the close of the series the Young Men's Christian Association of the University adopted the following resolution :

“ *Resolved*, That we have listened with great interest and profit to the series of discourses on the Ten Commandments, delivered by Rev. Dr. HAVEN, President of the University, on Sabbath afternoons, and would respectfully suggest to him the propriety of having them published in the form of a book.”

The thought of printing them had not previously been entertained by the author; and having concluded to assent to the suggestion, it has not been thought advisable to

give a more extended examination to the subject, though the Decalogue is practically inexhaustible, and a thorough treatise upon it would be a complete moral philosophy.

It will be seen that the author has not aimed at a florid style, but rather to express the most valuable truth in a few simple and direct words. In this way he has found that the careful attention of listeners is secured, and he trusts that those who have sufficient interest in the subject to read the discourses will find them promotive of that thought and faith essential to the best and highest life.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN,
ANN ARBOR, *July*, 1866.

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THE
PILLARS OF TRUTH.

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT.

Worship only God.

THOU SHALT HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME.—EXODUS XX, 3.

Is any man among us ever inclined to break this commandment? Has not that part of the world called Christian outgrown all disposition to break it? If so, to explain it is only to gratify curiosity, and practically superfluous.

It is not so. Not only is every one of the Ten Commandments binding upon all men, every one is also often broken by persons who have received Christian instruction. The Decalogue is God's grand compendium of moral philosophy. Whoever obeys it in letter and spirit is a perfect man. A young man once said to Jesus, "All these have I kept from my youth up!" He must have entertained a very high estimation of his own character to have made such an assertion honestly. I doubt not that he was a