

**THE NEXT STEP IN
EVOLUTION.
THE PRESENT STEP**

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The Next Step in Evolution. The Present Step by I. K. Funk

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I. K. FUNK

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EVOLUTION.
THE PRESENT STEP**



*"Come unto Me all ye that labor
And are heavy laden."*

Photogravure, after printing by H. Hudson.

The
Next Step in
Evolution
The Present Step



by

I.K.FUNK, D.D. LL.D.



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PREFACE

TO THE FOURTH EDITION

After six years—since the publication of this little book—I find that now I would only the more surely express belief in several essential points.

Christ's second coming should not be understood to be a literal, physical coming, but His reappearance in the spirit and characters of His followers and in the world at large. Thomas said to Christ: How can we know the way, since we know not whither Thou goest? Christ replied, I am the way; no man cometh to the Father but in the way I come; he must be as I am and do as I do, and then he will find the Father and he will

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find Me. He who willingly serves others and is kind-hearted and is pure in heart, shall see God. And in the very nature of things, none other can.

Evolution explains much of the development of man; but in each kingdom the type life of the next higher kingdom was not evolved, it came from above. John Fiske, himself an evolutionist of authority, says: "Cerebral psychology tells that in no possibility can thought and feeling be in any sense the products of matter" ("Destiny of Man," page 109). Wallace is still more explicit. (See foot-note, page 22.)

The reappearance of Christ in the characters of those who truly follow Him is becoming increasingly manifest. Never was the race of man so unselfish as now. Recent famines in Russia, in China, in India touched thou-

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sands of hearts, and relief started spontaneously from many sides. Every year the thought of war between nations is more and still more unnatural, barbarous, brutal. The Brotherhood of Man appears—dimly, but it appears—above the horizon.

Selfishness is becoming more difficult; and that it is shortsightedness is clearly recognized by many—"there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty," and naturally so. After a while—in these growths a thousand years are as one day—selfishness will be manifest folly. By and by we will be, as a matter of course, our brother's keeper. To be in harmony with the Great Soul of the universe will be seen to be the direction of the least resistance. The *way* of the man who opposes it is becoming perceptibly harder, and yet