

**THE FAITH THAT
MAKES FAITHFUL**

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The faith that makes faithful by William Channing Gannett & Jenkin Lloyd Jones

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WILLIAM CHANNING GANNETT & JENKIN LLOYD JONES

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BY
WILLIAM CHANNING GANNETT
AND
JENKIN LLOYD JONES

So nigh is grandeur to our dust,
So near is God to man,
When Duty whispers low, *Thou must,*
The youth replies, *I can.*

New Edition Printed from the
Thirty-fifth Thousand

1918
THE STRATFORD COMPANY, Publishers
BOSTON

Dedications

Old and New

1886—To our yoke-fellow, JOHN CALVIN LEARNED,
whose Faithfulness is working Faith in
many.

1894—Good greeting to him now, in the new light!

1918—To HENRY MARTIN SIMMONS, beloved com-
rade, also in the light, another laborer in
the old days for the Faith of Faithfulness.

1886—To our yoke-fellow, JOHN CALVIN LEARNED, whose Faithfulness is working Faith in many.

After Thirty-two Years

A word of explanation, perhaps of apology, is due for this attempt to give new life to an old book,—a plain little collection of sermons, that and nothing more. All the chapters did duty in the pulpit before they were caught by the printing-press. The book was an endeavor to state the universalities of religion, the maximum of faith with the minimum of dogma, the perennial conditions of the blessed life; the simplicity of the gospel of loyalty and love, which knows not the limitations of creed or race or space or time. What it was in the beginning it is now; we have not dared to try revision. Doubtless we should say many things differently, were we to say them now, but it does not follow that we should say them better. Any attempt to revise would be like fitting up an old homestead. When the work is done, it is no longer the old home, but a different one.

The little book has had a history quite its own. Twice the plates have been destroyed by fire, and a third and last set, nearly worn out, was lost in the changes of a Chicago printer's shop. This new edition is printed from a copy bearing on its title-page, "Thirty-fifth Thousand," and dated 1907. For many years the Potts publishing house of New York was wont to purchase the unbound sheets from the Chicago publishers, bind and publish under its own imprint, and include in a series of devotional, life-helping little books. Several thousands were thus circulated. Some of the separate sermons have done extended duty in tract form. The little book has faced a traveling public in cheap editions sold at the railroad news-stands in Great Britain. Oft-times, with a certificate inserted, it has

AFTER THIRTY-TWO YEARS

served to keep the memory of the happy wedding-day. It has been translated, in whole or in part, into French, German, Swedish and Italian. Many the kind messages about it. We have reason to believe it has found welcome at the bedside of the sick, in the hands of the weary, in homes of the poor, on tables of the rich. Believers and non-believers, orthodox and heterodox, Catholic and Protestant, Jews, Christians, Mohammedans, and representatives of the Oriental world, have testified to its helpfulness.

This, of course, is joy to us. More and more it seems as if things were done *through*, rather than *by*, their human agents or spokesmen, and our part were chiefly gladness to be used. If now, in the new dress given it by an Eastern publisher, the collection is to find a new constituency among the children of those who responded to its first appeal, its two authors will again be humbly and deeply grateful.

In 1900, through the good offices of Lady Aberdeen and Henry Drummond, the writers were parted, and two little volumes, one entitled "Blessed be Drudgery," and the other, "Faithfulness," were published by Bryce & Son, Glasgow, Scotland, with a preface by Lady Aberdeen. By her kind permission that preface is reproduced here.

J. L. J.
W. C. G.

September, 1918.

And now — October, 1918 — this little book has a new, and a memorial, value. The first proof of the preface above had passed under Mr. Jones' eye; but, when the second came, the kind eyes were closed, and it is left to friends to carry out his intents. In the thirty-two years that have gone by since the book first appeared he has taken a leader's part in many high causes; but perhaps nothing more characteristically shows his heart and mind and will to do than the thoughts and phrases of his four sermons here reproduced, — "Faithfulness," "Tenderness," the insight that sees "Unity" everywhere and the sense of the "Divine Benediction" resting on all things. "The Faith that Makes Faithful," — the words are his own, to be found if one seeks in these pages. In them his life is summed up — and continues.

W. C. G.

Preface Written by Lady Aberdeen for the Scotch Edition

To all of us there come times when we are out of heart with ourselves and with all that goes to make up our lives. Constant worry, endless toil, perpetual disappointments, seem then to be our lot; we feel ourselves unable to cope with the evil without and within, and our belief in the "Love which walketh in Mystery" becomes weak and faint.

We are, perchance, looking back to times when we dreamt how we, too, might

"Join the choir invisible
Of those immortal dead, who live again
In minds made better by their presence: live
In pulses stirred to generosity,
In deeds of daring rectitude, in scorn
For miserable aims that end with self,
In thoughts sublime that pierce the night like stars,
And with their mild persistence urge man's search
To vaster issues."

And our ideals may seem dead and faded and beyond our reach. The following chapters will teach us, if even that be so, how we may "idealize our Real," how our Drudgery may become our Blessing, how the Failures, the Burdens, the Temptations, which we are lamenting, may prove our best Friends on the upward way.

A magician's wand is put in our hands and, if we will but consent to use it, we shall see everywhere about us in that lot which seemed so dark but a little ago, gems and

PREFACE

treasures inestimable which only wait to be ours by our use of them.

The ennobling influence of powers lying dormant, it may be, in our friendship; the strength, the endurance, the self-sacrifice flowing from true love and tenderness and thought for others; the steadfast loyalty to all that is highest and holiest which is begotten by faithfulness to common duty; the peace of God passing all understanding, which garrisons the hearts and the lives of those who through life and death cling to the Truth as it is revealed to them by the Spirit of Christ; these are the angels shown to us as hovering about the path which once appeared to us so full of thorns.

We cannot read this book without feeling that such angels are not far from every one of our lives, however outwardly poor and small and narrow these may seem. And we must therefore rejoice that it is destined to exercise its ministry of high thought and helpful stimulus on this side of the Atlantic, as well as on that to which it owes its birth.

ISHBEL ABERDEEN.

Bordighera, March, 1890.

HADDO HOUSE
ABERDEEN, SCOTLAND

June 24, 1918

Dear Mr. Jones:

Please believe that I deeply appreciate your request, and that nothing would gratify me more than that you should reprint my little preface to your new edition, for I feel it an honor and a privilege to be in any way associated with a book which has had such an influence, inspiring and comforting so many.

I wrote a preface, or rather a foreword, to each of the little books as published in Scotland. Please do with them what you like. Probably you know that it was Henry Drummond who arranged for the publication of the edition by Bryce.

.

We shall look forward to receiving the promised copy of the book, for which we pray an extended sphere of usefulness.

Yours very sincerely,

ISHBEL ABERDEEN AND TEMAIR.