

**THE PILGRIM;  
ESSAYS ON  
RELIGION**

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The pilgrim; essays on religion by T. R. Glover

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**T. R. GLOVER**

**THE PILGRIM;  
ESSAYS ON  
RELIGION**



BY THE SAME AUTHOR

THE CONFLICT OF RELIGIONS IN THE  
EARLY ROMAN EMPIRE.

THE JESUS OF HISTORY.

JESUS IN THE EXPERIENCE OF MEN.

THE CHRISTIAN TRADITION AND ITS  
VERIFICATION.

# THE PILGRIM

ESSAYS ON RELIGION

BY  
T. R. GLOVER

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AND PUBLIC ORATOR IN THE UNIVERSITY

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STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT

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R. G.

QUIDQUID EX ILLO AMAVIMUS  
QUIDQUID MIRATI SUMUS  
MANET MANSURUMQUE EST



## Preface

A VOLUME of collected papers must have some central idea, and perhaps that central idea is given clearly enough in the title and in the article that stands first. All the sections of the book turn upon the spiritual life, and on that interpretation of it which we find in the New Testament, in its precursors and in those who in art and life have developed and elucidated it.

The study of Jeremiah appeared in the *Expositor*. "The Meaning of Christmas Day" was written at the request of the Y.M.C.A. for distribution in the British Army, and it was reprinted, I understand, by the wish of the American Y.M.C.A. for the American Expeditionary Force. Two other papers in a somewhat different form were in a small booklet, once published by the Student Christian Movement under the title of *Vocation*, and now out of print. Others rest on contributions to the *Nation* and other journals, but have been completely rewritten. Four at any rate have not been in my writing before.

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## The Pilgrim

THE pilgrim seems to be dropping out of our religious conceptions. There are hymn-books which still keep a place for pilgrim hymns, but they are probably not often sung, except by children. And we are told often enough that the sentiment is false—if the hymn-writer insists that he is “but a stranger here,” it is his own fault; earth is not, as he asserts, “a desert drear”; and the reference of all happiness to another world is unsound, and, perhaps, unchristian. On the contrary, R. L. Stevenson is a good deal nearer the mark:

The world is so full of a number of things,  
I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings.

So he wrote in the *Child's Garden of Verse*, and the couplet stood for a poem in itself. The greater part of his work is to the same tune—the world is a good place, planned to be so by “our cheerful General on high,” and, indeed, achieved, if you will only have the sense “to be up and doing,” and take the gladness of it. If you grumble:

Bleak without and bare within,  
Such is the place that I live in,—

he bids you look better at it; why, if nothing else, the very frost of winter will “make the cart-ruts beautiful,” and, in short,

To make this earth our hermitage  
A cheerful and a changeful page,  
God's bright and intricate device  
Of days and seasons doth suffice.