

**ST. JOHN AND OTHER
NEW TESTAMENT
TEACHERS**

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St. John and Other New Testament Teachers by A. Lewis Humphries

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A. LEWIS HUMPHRIES

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BY

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AUTHOR'S PREFACE

IN sending forth this little book, dealing with a subject on which the literature already existing is so very extensive, the author finds it impossible to make formal acknowledgment of all the writers to whom, in greater or less degree, he has been indebted. He feels bound, however, to break through that silence to the extent of expressing his obligation, so far as the discussion of the Fourth Gospel is concerned, to Professor E. F. Scott, with whose critical conclusions, set forth in his book "The Fourth Gospel," he has found himself in large agreement. He would add a word of regret that, owing to limitations of space, he has been compelled to omit from his treatment of the Fourth Gospel a final section dealing with the permanent value of its message.

CONTENTS

I.—ST. JOHN

CHAP.	PAGE
I. THE FOURTH GOSPEL	3
A. ITS NATURE AND PURPOSE	3
B. THE PERSON OF CHRIST	19
C. GOD AND THE HOLY SPIRIT'	31
D. THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD	41
E. THE WORK OF CHRIST	51
F. THE LAST THINGS	62
II. THE EPISTLES OF JOHN	71
III. THE BOOK OF THE REVELATION	90

II.—OTHER NEW TESTAMENT TEACHERS

IV. THE EPISTLE OF JAMES	115
V. THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS	132
VI. THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PETER	152
VII. THE EPISTLES OF JUDE AND SECOND PETER	166
INDEX	179

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TESTAMENT TEACHERS

I
ST. JOHN



CHAPTER I

THE FOURTH GOSPEL

A.—ITS NATURE AND PURPOSE

UPON the threshold of any inquiry concerning the teaching of the Fourth Gospel there stand two problems, one relating to its authorship and the other to its historicity. The identification of the author is one of the outstanding difficulties of criticism. The traditional view, that it was written in extreme old age by John, the son of Zebedee, has many great names, including Godet and Bernhard Weiss on the Continent and Lightfoot and Sanday in England, ranged on its side, and there is much to be urged in its favour. Its opponents, however, are impressive in both number and authority. Some of these, *e.g.* Schmiedel, Wernle, and Martineau, absolutely reject the traditional theory, whilst others, like Wendt and Weizsäcker, occupy a mediating position, and are of opinion that the Gospel is in part made up of material furnished by John, just as the First Gospel is believed to have derived some of its contents from the Logia-