

THE REALITY OF JESUS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649268863

The reality of Jesus by J. H. Chambers Macaulay

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

J. H. CHAMBERS MACAULAY

**THE REALITY OF
JESUS**

THE
REALITY OF JESUS

BY

J. H. CHAMBERS MACAULAY
M.A.

HODDER AND STOUGHTON
LIMITED LONDON

BT

301

0125

45204519 ✓

TO
MY WIFE, VIOLET AND JOHN
A
TRINITY OF HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS
TO
TEACH ME HOW TO LOVE

PREFACE

THE reality of life concerns every man. Jesus is that Reality. The new thought of men is concentrated on the significance, the nature and the value of human personality. Personality lies at the root of the problems of life. In the final issue, religion will be found to be the sovereign factor in recreative forces. Religion is the loyal and passionate personal relationship of the soul to God. Jesus establishes this relationship in terms of human experience.

The Reality of Jesus is the energy of individual character and the vital power of social reconstruction. Theories as to collective betterment are futile, if the personal will to righteousness is wanting. Spiritual forces in the personal soul are the dynamic of progress.

The Religion of Jesus is the reality of life. If a sense of unreality haunts men with regard to religion, Jesus is misunderstood or misrepresented. There is nothing remote, occult or unreal about Him. He is vital. He strips religion of everything artificial and reveals life. He is at once simpler and deeper than all expositions concerning Him.

The literature of the New Testament is a protest-

against artificial exposition. The Gospels are not formal biographies but impressionist portraits. The fact of Jesus never becomes a dead letter, and the "*Mind of Christ*" is the greatest fact with which the mind of man can come in contact. Multitudes to-day are adrift, uncertain, unhappy and inefficient in life, for lack of the reality of faith. Jesus re-creates belief in God and belief in men. He gives to life its joy, its duty and its destiny. Within the shadow of the world's restlessness lurks the Reality of Jesus, and the demand for a religion adequate to life is the conscious or unconscious quest of men for the Reality of God to-day.

J. H. CHAMBERS MACAULAY.

SKELMORLIE,

September 1921.

INTRODUCTION

UNREALITY in religion cannot long continue, once men are awake to the issue. No creed, no external institution, exists for its own sake. Christianity must possess and convey the Reality of Jesus or perish. The consideration of the deepest things in life will always bring the sense of responsibility and perplexity. Spiritual foundations are not always easily discerned. Facile solutions are not of permanent value. When thought is pushed to its limit concerning the reality of life, the horizons of man's spirit expand and reveal something vaster than the mind can absolutely capture. Perplexity and uncertainty may arise from the depth of man's experience and from the outreach of his hope. The reality of religion is always greater than the immediate grasp of the personal spirit. This belongs to the greatness of the soul and to the mystery of spiritual progress. It is a call upon the soul to put forth all its powers.

There is, however, another type of perplexity and uncertainty. It is the anxious outlook upon affairs, not because of their essential greatness, but because of confusion of mind, bewilderment of spirit, and the