

THE CONTENTS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649303878

The contents of the New Testament by Haven McClure

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HAVEN MCCLURE

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THE MACMILLAN COMPANY
NEW YORK · BOSTON · CHICAGO · DALLAS
ATLANTA · SAN FRANCISCO

MACMILLAN & CO., LIMITED
LONDON · BOMBAY · CALCUTTA
MELBOURNE

THE MACMILLAN CO. OF CANADA, LTD.
TORONTO

THE CONTENTS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

An Introductory Course

BY

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State Teachers' Association)

New York

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

1921

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Set up and printed. Published July, 1921

FERRIS
PRINTING COMPANY
NEW YORK CITY

PREFACE

This book is the crystallization of a number of years' classroom experience in teaching the New Testament as an elective English course in a public high school of over five hundred students. The objective has been to present the results of the labors of the world's greatest Bible scholars in a manner intelligible to the younger mind and to the general reader. At the same time an effort has been made to keep in consonance the contents of the New Testament with the revelations of modern science, and to do this without in any way impairing anyone's respect for primitive Christianity. Approaching the subject from the detached point of view and in modern phraseology, the writer is pleased to have had this treatment of materials, particularly concerning the humanity of Jesus and of Paul, commended alike by Protestant, Catholic and Jew. The author desires to acknowledge an indebtedness which can never be adequately repaid to O. M. Pittenger, Superintendent of the Indiana State School for the Deaf, and to L. G. Hickman, critic teacher of English at Indiana University, both of whom read the manuscript in part, and but for whose encouragement it might never have been begun or completed; to Edgar J. Goodspeed, professor of New Testament interpretation and patristic Greek at the University of

Chicago, who suggested certain ideas reflected therein, and who read the materials concerning the Fourth Gospel; and most of all to my dear friend, Clayton R. Bowen, professor of New Testament interpretation in the Meadville, Pa., Theological School, the ideal type of Christian scholar and gentleman, to whom more than any other one person the writer is forever obligated concerning New Testament criticism. Finally, to the many bright minds of those younger people who have taken the writer's course of New Testament study in high school, he is indebted for many suggestions that would otherwise not have been incorporated.

January, 1921.

H. M.

PART I

AN ELEMENTARY INTRODUCTION TO THE
DOCUMENTS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT