

**ISRAEL'S LAWGIVER: HIS  
NARRATIVE TRUE  
AND HIS LAWS GENUINE**

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Israel's Lawgiver: His Narrative True and His Laws Genuine by A. Moody Stuart

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**A. MOODY STUART**

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HIS NARRATIVE TRUE AND HIS LAWS GENUINE

BY

A. MOODY STUART, D.D.



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#### THE MAN MOSES.

THAT the Moses of the Bible is a MAN and not an IDEA, it is the leading object of these pages to prove. The genuine impulse of the believing heart and the first clear judgment of the unbiassed mind concur in rejecting with indignation, as plainly incompatible with the Divine authority of the Holy Scriptures, the unnatural and groundless fancy that the greater portion of the laws and the history of Moses is a fiction in which Moses, the brother of Aaron, had no personal part. But the halo of a confident criticism, which sprung up apart from any due reverence for the Holy Scriptures, has attracted critics who believe in the Bible as the Word of God; and through them has shed its influence over Bible readers to whom that Word is above all price, and changed their sound and wholesome aversion into doubt or partial consent. Many, indeed, of these Christian friends

disown the new opinions for themselves, and only plead for them as harmless and allowable. But they would not endure a similarly neutral position regarding the great truths of salvation, such as the atoning sacrifice of our Lord ; and if the truth of the Scripture itself is given up, the saving truth that it reveals cannot long be retained. Every available light on this great subject is therefore earnestly to be desired ; and through every contribution, however limited, some help for establishing His own truth may be supplied by Him " whose testimonies we have taken as an heritage for ever," and whose grace alone can add the blessing.

Moses, the great Lawgiver of Israel, is in the new criticism no longer a real man, as the Church both Hebrew and Christian has in all ages believed him to be ; but an Ideal Person made up of different men, of whom Moses, the leader of Israel out of Egypt, is the first ; and a thousand years after his death Ezra, the leader of the second company of exiles out of Babylon, is the greatest and nearly the last. Between these two the critics interpolate, and after them they add, various unknown men in Jerusalem or in Babylon ; all of whom together, known and