

**THE BEGINNINGS
OF CHRISTENDOM:
A POPULAR SKETCH**

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The Beginnings of Christendom: A Popular Sketch by W. G. Tarrant

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W. G. TARRANT

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OF CHRISTENDOM:
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 OF
 MICH.

THE
Beginnings of Christendom

A Popular Sketch

William
George
BY
TARRANT, B.A.

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PREFACE

So much interest was displayed in the subject of these chapters by the popular audiences to whom they were first given as lectures that it is hoped their perusal will be found helpful to many, who, having little time to study larger volumes, are nevertheless anxious to learn the chief points in the history of early Christianity. The author has endeavoured to distinguish between the facts enumerated and the opinions which are based on them; and, while the views expressed may be questioned, he believes the statements made can be amply verified.

The reader who desires further information on the subject is strongly advised to consult the manual issued, since these pages were written, by the Rev. W. E. Addis, M.A., under the title, *Christianity and the Roman Empire*, and published by the Sunday School Association, Essex Hall, London.

W. G. T.

London, June, 1893.

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CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

B.C.

63 Romans under Pompey take Jerusalem.

37-4 Herod the Great, King of Judæa.

27 Augustus, Emperor.

A.D.

14 Tiberius, Emperor.

25-36 Pontius Pilate, Procurator of Judæa.

36 *Stephen martyred (?)*.

64 Nero persecutes Christianity at Rome. *Paul died (?)*.

70 Titus takes Jerusalem.

98 Trajan, Emperor.

102 *Clement of Rome died (?)*.

112-114 Pliny, Governor of Bithynia.

117 Hadrian, Emperor.

125 (?) *Apologies of Quadratus and Aristides*.

135 Bar Cochba's Revolt crushed.

138 Antoninus Pius, Emperor.

- 140-150 *Marcion flourished.*
150 *Montanus flourished.*
150-165 *Justin Martyr flourished.*
161 **Marcus Aurelius**, Emperor.
163 *Papias died (?)*.
165 (?) *Tatian composed the 'Diatessaron.'*
170 (?) *Hegesippus, historian.*
178 (?) *Celsus wrote against Christianity.*
118-200 *Irenæus flourished.*
180 **Commodus**, Emperor.
193 **Septimius Severus**, Emperor.
193-220 *Clement of Alexandria flourished.*
197-220 *Tertullian flourished.*
205-254 *Origen flourished.*
222 **Alexander Severus**, Emperor.
249 **Decius**, Emperor.
249-258 *Cyprian flourished.*
250 (?) *Sabellius flourished.*
260-270 *Paul of Samosata flourished.*
284 **Diocletian**, Emperor.
303-305 Great Persecution.
306 Constantine Cæsar in the West.
310-336 *Arius flourished.*
313 *Edict of Milan in favour of Christians.*
320-350 *Athanasius flourished*
324 **Constantine**, Emperor.
325 *Council of Nicea.*

