

**BUDDHIST TEXTS QUOTED AS
SCRIPTURE BY THE GOSPEL
OF JOHN: A DISCOVERY IN
THE LOWER CRITICISM**

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Buddhist Texts Quoted as Scripture by the Gospel of John: A Discovery in the Lower Criticism
by Albert J. Edmunds

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สุตตันตปิฎก ทีฆนิกาย

๒. — มทวิคฺฉิโก.

๕โม สัสส ภควโต ธนโต สัมมัตถนัมภัสสัสส.

มทพทานสุตฺติ ปจฺจมี.

เซวมิ เม สุตฺ. เถถิ สมนิ ภควา ถาวธิตฺถิ วิหริ
เวสฺวานิ ธมฺมมิตฺถิตถีสวามิ ทมฺวิคฺฉิโก. ๒๐ โห สัมภุชฺชาน
ภิกฺขุณฺโณ ปจฺจมนคิตฺติ นินฺนปาทปฏฺฐิตฺถิภูตานิ ทเวมิถฺททมาเส
คฺคินฺนสิรมฺภานํ สันนินฺนคฺคานํ ปุทฺเตนวาธปฏฺฐิตฺถิภูตานิ ธมฺมิ ทถ
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ธัสสฺส โห ภควา ทถทถ โสธชฺชุกฺคา วิสฺสฺสช
ชคฺคินฺนคฺคานสุตฺถิ เทส ภิกฺขุณฺโณ นิมิ ทถาสฺสธิตฺ. ๒๑. โห-ภควา
ชฺชุกฺคาเสสา เชน ทเวมิถฺททมาเส เทนุปลฺลชฺชมิ, ชุปลฺลชฺชมิทฺถิ

Specimen page of the King of Siam's edition
of the Buddhist Scriptures in Pali. (Bangkok,
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Buddhist Texts Quoted as Scripture

BY THE

GOSPEL OF JOHN :
a discovery in the lower criticism.

(John VII. 38 ; XII. 34.)

By ALBERT J. EDMUNDS,
Author of Buddhist and Christian Gospels.

PHILADELPHIA :
MAURICE BRIX, 129 South Fifteenth Street, and A. J. EDMUNDS,
241 West Duval Street.

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Dedicated to my friend MAURICE BRIX.

PREFACE.

Since the manuscript of *Buddhist and Christian Gospels* was despatched to Japan in September, 1904, I have continued to find parallels between the two great religions. A remarkable one, discovered this spring in a Buddhist book newly published by the London Pāli Text Society, has called forth the present essay. For fuller information my readers must refer to the Tōkyō book.

Our somewhat provincial education has not yet made us realize that, at the time of Christ, India was one of the four great Powers of the earth. The other three were China, Rome and Parthia. But India was the greatest intellectually, and her then most popular religion, Buddhism, was the dominant spiritual force upon the continent of Asia.

It is to be regretted that so few theologians and even Orientalists are acquainted with Pāli literature. Our culture has too long been bounded by the River Euphrates, and the central fact of the world's religious history has not yet taken its place in the historical imagination of Europe and America. That central fact is this:—The two greatest missionary religions, each emanating from a wonderful personality, started from the Holy Land of antiquity,* and proceeded in opposite directions around the

*The region between the Ganges and the Nile. See *Buddhist and Christian Gospels*, Historical Introduction.

world. Each went as far as it could go until it reached the Pacific Ocean ; and now, in Japan and the United States, these two great world-faiths are facing each other. Henceforth the Pacific Ocean, instead of the Mediterranean Sea, must be the centre of our culture ; and the two religions, instead of being enemies, must be friends.

241 West Duval Street,

Germantown :

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It is well known, that there are, in the New Testament, quotations from other literatures than the Hebrew and the books of its Canon, as when Paul quotes the Greek poet Aratus (1) and Jude the apocryphal book of Enoch. (2)

In the Gospel of Mark there is a quotation, as if from Scripture, which does not occur in the Old Testament, but which Rendel Harris discovered in a midrash on Genesis ascribed to Philo. (3) It evidently emanates from some early commentary or apocryphal work known to the Evangelist.

MARK IX. 13.

I say unto you, that Elijah is come, and they have also done unto him whatsoever they listed, *even as it is written of him.*

Nowhere does the Old Testament foretell that the second Elijah will be persecuted. The quotation is therefore apocryphal or extra-Judaic.

(1) Acts XVII. 28.

(2) Jude 14 and 15.

(3) Philonis Judæi Alexandrini libri Antiquitatum, Questionum et Solutionum in Genesin. Basileæ, 1527, folio.