

**THE CAMBRIDGE BIBLE FOR
SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.
THE GENERAL EPISTLES
OF ST. PETER & ST. JUDE**

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The Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges. The General Epistles of St. Peter & St. Jude by E. H. Plumptre & J. J. S. Perowne

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E. H. PLUMPTRE & J. J. S. PEROWNE

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**The Cambridge Bible for Schools
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GENERAL EDITOR:—J. J. S. PEROWNE, D.D.,
DEAN OF PETERBOROUGH.

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THE GENERAL EPISTLES OF
ST PETER & ST JUDE,

WITH NOTES AND INTRODUCTION

BY

E. H. PLUMPTRE, D.D.,
DEAN OF WELLS.

EDITED FOR THE SYNDICS OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESS.

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PREFACE
BY THE GENERAL EDITOR.

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① THE General Editor of *The Cambridge Bible for Schools* thinks it right to say that he does not hold himself responsible either for the interpretation of particular passages which the Editors of the several Books have adopted, or for any opinion on points of doctrine that they may have expressed. In the New Testament more especially questions arise of the deepest theological import, on which the ablest and most conscientious interpreters have differed and always will differ. His aim has been in all such cases to leave each Contributor to the unfettered exercise of his own judgment, only taking care that mere controversy should as far as possible be avoided. He has contented himself chiefly with a careful revision of the notes, with pointing out omissions, with suggesting occasionally a reconsideration of some question, or a fuller treatment of difficult passages, and the like.

Beyond this he has not attempted to interfere, feeling it better that each Commentary should have its own individual character, and being convinced that freshness and variety of treatment are more than a compensation for any lack of uniformity in the Series.

DEANERY, PETERBOROUGH.

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. The Text adopted in this Edition is that of Dr Scrivener's *Cambridge Paragraph Bible*. A few variations from the ordinary Text, chiefly in the spelling of certain words, and in the use of italics, will be noticed. For the principles adopted by Dr Scrivener as regards the printing of the Text see his Introduction to the *Paragraph Bible*, published by the Cambridge University Press.

INTRODUCTION.

CHAPTER I.

THE TRAINING OF THE DISCIPLE.

1. THE early years of the Apostle whose writings are now before us appear to have been passed in the village of Bethsaida (= *Fishtown*, or more literally *Home of Fish*), on the West coast of the Sea of Galilee, not far from Chorazin and Capernaum (John i. 44). Its exact position cannot be determined with any certainty, but it has been identified with the modern '*Ain et Tabigah*, and must be distinguished from the town of the same name on the North-Eastern shore of the Lake, which, after it had been enlarged and rebuilt by Philip the Tetrarch, was known as Bethsaida Julias, the latter name having been¹ given to it in honour of the daughter of the Emperor Augustus.

Among the fishermen from whose occupation the town derived its name was one who bore the name either of Jona (John i. 42; Matt. xvi. 17) or Joannes (in the best MSS. of John xxi. 15—17), as being a Grecised reproduction of the old Hebrew Jochanan, or Jehohanan (1 Chron. vi. 9, 10), and conveying, like its Greek equivalents, Theodorus or Dorotheus, the meaning of "the gift of God." An uncertain tradition (Coteler, *Constt. Apost.* II. 63) gives his mother's name also as Joanna. It is probable, but not certain, from the priority given to his name in all lists of the

¹ The distinctness of the two places is seen in the record of the feeding of the Five Thousand, which took place near the Eastern Bethsaida (Luke ix. 10—17), and was followed by the passage of the disciples across the lake to that on the Western shore. (Mark vi. 45.)