

**VICTORY OF THE CROSS:
SERMONS PREACHED
DURING HOLY WEEK, 1888,
IN HEREFORD CATHEDRAL**

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Victory of the Cross: Sermons Preached during Holy Week, 1888, in Hereford Cathedral by
Brooke Foss Westcott

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BROOKE FOSS WESTCOTT

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Harriet Douglas Faulkner

12th March, 1891.

THE VICTORY OF THE CROSS.



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SERMONS

PREACHED DURING HOLY WEEK, 1888,

IN

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL,

BY

BROOKE FOSS WESTCOTT, D.D., D.C.L.,

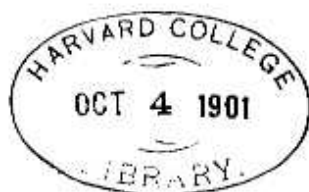
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1888

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Miss M. C. Worcester.

*I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men
unto Myself.—St John xii. 32.*

PREFACE.

IN the following Sermons I have endeavoured to give an outline of the view of the Atonement which frequent study has led me to regard with more and more confidence as both Scriptural and, in the highest sense of the word, natural, since I had first occasion to work at the subject in 1858.

The circumstances under which the Sermons were delivered gave the effort a singular interest. Every one who has had the privilege of fulfilling the office of Lecturer during Holy Week at Hereford must have rejoiced to feel that the Cathedral is recognised by all citizens as their Mother Church, and that every member of the

w. s. *b*

Cathedral Body brings for the help of the great congregations the offering of reverent service.

Some obligations which I have contracted during the composition of the Sermons must be gratefully acknowledged. Shortly before writing them, when their plan was fixed, I read with deep interest Dr Macleod Campbell's and Dr Dale's Essays on the Atonement, which I had till then purposely refrained from reading. To both I owe many suggestive thoughts which I should have been glad to pursue in detail if such discussion had fallen within my scope. I found also a vivid expression of the idea of the solidarity of mankind, which appears to me to contain the true key to the problem—an idea in its essence familiar to Athanasius—in a Sermon of M. Bersier (*La Solidarité*, 1878), to whom I owe the knowledge of a most thoughtful treatise by Mr R. W. Monsell on *The Religion of Redemption* (1867). To these books, in which I have found much help, I must also add Dr Mulford's *Republic of God*, which well repays the labour required for the interpretation of its oracular sentences.

But in this case, as everywhere, the breadth and simplicity of the Apostolic teaching, if it is allowed its full force, rises above all systematic theories, and brings the Gospel to the very heart of life. I have therefore, after setting down the unquestionable lessons of experience, chiefly aimed at presenting, as a fruitful subject for quiet meditation, the different elements which appear to me to be included in the Scriptural view of the Atonement; and if I have been able in any degree to lead the reader to examine patiently for himself what the Apostles reveal on the significance of the remission of sins to men in Christ, and on the fulfilment of the divine destiny of humanity by the Son of man, I shall rejoice in such a result of long and anxious labour.

I hardly need say how deeply I am conscious both of the imperfection of my treatment of the subject, and of the objections which may be made to the mode of treatment which I have chosen. Yet I confess that such a subject seems to me to be best approached in a devotional rather than in a scholastic form; and perhaps thoughtful inquirers