

# **PHILOSOPHY: WHAT IS IT?**

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Philosophy: What is It? by F. B. Jevons

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**F. B. JEVONS**

**PHILOSOPHY:  
WHAT IS IT?**



**By F. B. Jevons, Litt. D.**

**Professor of Philosophy in the University of Durham**

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**Personality.**

**The Idea of God in Early Religions.**

**Comparative Religion.**

**Philosophy: What is it?**

# PHILOSOPHY

## WHAT IS IT?

BY

*Frank*  
F. B. JEVONS, LITT.D.

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## PREFACE

ONE of the branches of the Workers' Educational Association expressed a desire to know what Philosophy is; thereby assuming that Philosophy is a concern of the average man and of practical life, and should not be the monopoly of the professed student. Of the truth of this view there can be no doubt, and this book consists of the five lectures which were given by way of an attempt, not so much to answer their question as to bring out the meaning of the question. Hence the interrogative form of the title—*Philosophy: what is it?*

The attempt was necessarily made, in the discussion of the question, to avoid technical terms as far as possible. Without technical terms it is impossible, it may be said, to go very far in the discussion. But it should be possible, without them,



to go far enough to open the discussion, and to indicate both the nature of answers which have been given to the question, and the reasons why some of the answers are less satisfactory than others. Indeed, each of the lectures was followed by an hour's discussion in class, which served to show that working men and women found the question to be interesting and the answers to admit of debate. The lectures are, therefore, now printed, on the chance that others also, as well as those who heard them, may find the question attractive and the answer worth discussing.

F. B. JEVONS.

HATFIELD HALL  
DURHAM  
*5th March, 1914*

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
CHAPTER I	
PHILOSOPHY AND SCIENCE . . . . .	I
CHAPTER II	
MATERIALISM AND IDEALISM . . . . .	34
CHAPTER III	
SCPTICISM IN PHILOSOPHY . . . . .	67
CHAPTER IV	
PHILOSOPHY IN PRACTICE . . . . .	98
CHAPTER V	
PERSONALITY AND THE WHOLE . . . . .	129
INDEX . . . . .	169

