ORIGINS OF CHRISTIANITY. VOL. II. THE APOSTLES

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Origins of Christianity. Vol. II. The Apostles by Ernest Renan

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VOL. II.

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THE

APOSTLES.

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BY

ERNEST RENAN,

MEMBRE DE L'INSTITUT.

AUTHOR OF "THE LIFE OF JESUS," ETC., ETC.

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL FRENCH.



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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

INTRODU	CTI	0.N.—	-Criti	cal E	Zeamin	natio	n of C	Irigin	al Da	cu-	PAGE
ments										13	7
CHAPTER				1						ur-	
rection	i of	Jesus,	-Th	e Ap	pariti	ons o	it Jer	usaler	n.		54
CHAPTER											77
—Sec	ona	1700000	un sej	c oj	Deser's	(4) (4)	204	100		396 2000	71
CHAPIER					-						
of the	peri	od of	App	arili	ous				•		83
CHAPTER Propi											91
							- 125 				Set
CHAPTER											3006
					•						104
CHAPTER					1 To 1						57623
Prose	lytes	•		2.5	•	*	3		¥3.	4	122
CHAPTER of poo											
esses a							*		85	*	130
CHAPTER	VII	<i>I.—I</i>	iral I	Perso	cution	D	eath e	of Sta	phen	_	
Destre									*******		144
CHAPTER	IX	-Fi	rst M	issio/	s.—P	hilip	the L) Эвасот	<i>a</i> .	٠	154

CHAPTER X.—Conversion of St. Paul		162
CHAPTER XI.—Peace and Interior Developments of Church of Judea	the	179
CHAPTER XII.—Establishment of the Church of Antioc	·h	196
CHAPTER XIII.—The idea of an Apostolate to the Gent		
—Saint Barnabas	*	206
CHAPTER XIV.—Persecution of Herod Agrippa I		214
CHAPTER XV.—Movements Parallel to, and Imitative Christianity.—Simon of Gitto	of ·	226
CHAPTER XVI.—General progress of the Christian Missi	ons	236
CHAPTER XVII.—State of the World in the First Cent	ary	252
CHAPTER XVIII.—Religious Legislation of the period	*	278
CHAPTER XIXThe Future of Missions	٠	290
NOTES		305

THE APOSTLES.

INTRODUCTION.

CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

The first book of our History of the Origins of Christianity brought us down to the death and burial of Jesus; and we must now resume the subject at the point where we left it-that is to say, on Saturday, the fourth of April, in the year 33. The work will be for some time yet a sort of continuation of the life of Jesus. Next to the glad months, during which the great Founder laid the bases of a new order of things for humanity, these few succeeding years were the most decisive in the history of the world. It is still Jesus, who, by the holy fire kindled in the hearts of a few friends from the spark He himself has placed there, creates institutions of the highest originality, stirs and transforms souls, and impresses on everything His divine seal. It shall be ours to show how, under this influence, always active and victorious over death, the doctrines of faith in the resurrection, in the influence of the Holy Spirit, in the gift of tongues, and in the power of the Church, became firmly established. We shall describe the organization of the Church of Jerusalem, its first trials, and its