

**EVIDENCES OF THE  
CHRISTIAN RELIGION;  
BRIEFLY AND PLAINLY  
STATED. VOLUME SECOND**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649578962

Evidences of the Christian Religion; Briefly and Plainly Stated. Volume Second by James Beattie

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**JAMES BEATTIE**

**EVIDENCES OF THE  
CHRISTIAN RELIGION;  
BRIEFLY AND PLAINLY  
STATED. VOLUME SECOND**



EVIDENCES  
OF THE *Master:*  
CHRISTIAN RELIGION;  
Briefly and plainly stated.

BY

JAMES BEATTIE, LL.D.F.R.S.E.

PROFESSOR OF MORAL PHILOSOPHY IN MARI-  
SCHAL COLLEGE, ABERDEEN, AND MEMBER OF  
THE ZEALAND SOCIETY OF ARTS AND  
SCIENCES, AND OF THE LITERARY  
AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCI-  
ETY OF MANCHESTER.

VOLUME SECOND.

EDINBURGH:

PRINTED FOR A. STRAHAN AND T. CADELL, LONDON;  
AND W. CARECH, EDINBURGH.

---

M,DCC,LXXXVI.

DEPT. HISTORY  
OXFORD  
OF ART

## SECTION IV.

THE SUBJECT CONTINUED.

*The excellency and singular nature of  
Christianity, a proof of its truth.*

IT was hinted, that the other evidences of our religion may be greatly confirmed by the consideration of its singular nature, and by the peculiar excellency of the knowledge we derive from it. For, if it shall be found to have made its way in the world, in opposition to human power, and by

Vol. II.

A

more

## 2 THE GOSPEL HISTORY

more than human means ; if its excellency be such as to transcend the noblest efforts of human wisdom ; and if in its purity and tendency it be altogether worthy of God ; we must, I think, assign it a divine original.

SOME things pertaining to this part of the subject have been mentioned already. But, in a disquisition of this sort, in which the evidence hangs so closely together, that scarce any one part of it can be treated separate from the rest, a few repetitions will be pardoned, because it is not easy to avoid them.

NEVER was there on earth any other person of so extraordinary a character



as the Founder of our religion. In him we uniformly see a mildness, dignity, and composure, and a perfection of wisdom and of goodness, that plainly point him out as a superior being. But his superiority was all in his own divine mind. He had none of those outward advantages that have distinguished all other lawgivers. He had no influence in the state; he had no wealth; he aimed at no worldly power. He was the son of a carpenter's wife, and he was himself a carpenter. So poor were his reputed parents, that at the time of his birth his mother could obtain no better lodging than a stable; and so poor was he himself, that he often had no lodging at all. That he had no advantages of education, we may infer from  
from

from the surprise expressed by his neighbours on hearing him speak in the synagogue : ‘ Whence hath this man these things ? What wisdom is this which is given him ? Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary ? Are not his brethren and sisters with us ? ’ This point, however, we need not insist on ; as from no education, that his own or any other country could have afforded, was it possible for him to derive that supernatural wisdom and power, that sanctity of life, and that purity of doctrine, which distinguish him from all other human beings. His first adherents were a few fishermen ; for whom he was so far from making any provision, that, when he sent them out to preach repentance and heal diseases, they  
were,

were, by his desire, furnished with nothing, but one coat, a pair of sandals, and a staff. He went about, in great humility and meekness, doing good, teaching wisdom, and glorifying God, for the space of about three years after the commencement of his ministry; and then, as he himself had foreseen and foretold, he was publicly crucified.—This is the man, who at this day gives law to a great part of the world, and to all the most enlightened nations. This is the man, who has been the author of virtue and happiness to millions and millions of the human race. And this is he, whom the wisest and best men that ever lived have revered as a divine person, and gloried in as the deliverer and saviour of mankind.

IN