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T. W. Manson

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The
TEACHING OF JESUS

STUDIES OF
ITS FORM AND
CONTENT

by
T. W. MANSON

CAMBRIDGE
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IN MEMORIAM
PATRIS CARISSIMI

אִישׁ תָּם וְיָשָׁר
יִרְאֵה אֱלֹהִים וְסָר מֵרַע

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P R E F A C E

THE present work, as I have tried to make clear in the title, does not pretend to be a complete and exhaustive treatment of its subject. Neither is it a collection of detached essays. It is a set of studies which are linked together by two main ideas. One is that the substance of the Gospel 'is neither a dogmatic system nor an ethical code, but a Person and a Life'.¹ The other is that the key to the New Testament is the notion of the 'saving Remnant'. In the light of these two ideas it seems possible to see light clearly and to understand much in the teaching of Jesus that would otherwise remain obscure.

The book has grown out of the technical studies described in Chapter I (pp. 15–21). My original plan was to publish the results of these studies *simpliciter*, and to leave it to others to draw their own conclusions: and I prepared a first chapter somewhat after the style of what now appears as Appendix I, but much more elaborate and detailed. This I showed to Principal Oman and Professor Anderson Scott. Both agreed that the results were interesting, and both advised me that it would be better if their implications could be drawn out more fully. This I have attempted to do. In the process more and more of my material has been absorbed in the text, and the Appendices have been correspondingly reduced. From first to last the work has occupied the greater part of my leisure time during the past five years. Its publication now is made possible by the generosity of the Syndics of the Press.

¹ Lightfoot, *Commentary on Philippians*, Preface to 1st edition (end).

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The nature of these studies is such that my time has had to be spent in close application to the details of the Synoptic Gospels rather than in wide reading of books about them: and consequently my largest debt is to Moulton and Geden, and Hatch and Redpath. Huck's excellent *Synopse der drei ersten Evangelien* (5th ed.) has also been in constant use. Two other works demand special acknowledgement: the great Commentary of Strack and Billerbeck, and Canon Streeter's invaluable book, *The Four Gospels*. I have taken Canon Streeter's 'Four-document hypothesis' seriously and used it in my own investigations. These, for what they are worth, seem to me to confirm it in essentials. Where I am conscious of borrowing from other works the fact is acknowledged in the footnotes.

I have also to record with gratitude the help which I have received at all stages in the preparation and production of this book. Principal Oman and Professor Anderson Scott gave valuable advice and encouragement at the point where such things were most needed. Professor A. A. Bevan, Professor P. S. Noble and Mr C. P. T. Winckworth kindly allowed me to consult them on special points. Professor J. M. Creed read the typescript and, by his suggestions, enabled me to make some considerable improvements in detail. My friend the Rev. J. R. Coates, of the Selly Oak Colleges, Birmingham, read the whole of the text, partly in proof and partly in manuscript, and made many valuable suggestions. My principal creditors are three: the Rev. E. W. Philip, M.A., who read the whole work in manuscript and again in proof, checked the biblical references, and made many important criticisms and suggestions; the Rev. P. L. Hedley, B.D., who performed like services when the book was in proof; and my

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wife, who prepared the whole of the typescript for the Press. The vigilance of Mr Philip and Mr Hedley has availed to clarify many obscurities in my writing and to ensure accuracy in the references. For any blemishes that remain the responsibility must be laid at my door. Finally I have to thank the officials and craftsmen of the Press for their unfailing skill and kindness.

T. W. MANSON

FALSTONE MANSE
NORTHUMBERLAND

August 1931

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

The demand, which has come sooner than I expected, for a second edition of my book gives me an opportunity of acknowledging the kindness with which it has been received by reviewers and readers alike. It has not been possible to carry out any extensive revision of the text; nor, indeed, is there any important change that I should care to make. I have, however, added a few notes, which will be found on pp. 330–333.

T.W.M.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- B.D.B.** Brown, Driver and Briggs, *Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament*.
- G.J.V.** Schürer, *Geschichte des Jüdischen Volkes im Zeitalter Jesu Christi*. 4th edition.
- H.B.N.T.** Lietzmann (editor), *Handbuch zum Neuen Testament*.
- I.C.C.** *International Critical Commentary*.
- J.T.S.** *Journal of Theological Studies*.
- K.A.T.** Schrader, *Die Keilinschriften und das Alte Testament*. 3rd edition by Zimmern and Winckler.
- K.H.C.** Marti (editor), *Kurzer Hand-Commentar zum Alten Testament* (1897–1904).
- L.O.T.** Driver, *Introduction to the Literature of the Old Testament*. 9th edition.
- N.H.W.B.** Levy, *Neuhebräisches u. Chaldäisches Wörterbuch über die Talmudim u. Midraschim*.
- S.B.** Strack and Billerbeck, *Kommentar zum Neuen Testament aus Talmud u. Midrasch* (1922–1928).
- S.N.T.** *Die Schriften des Neuen Testaments*. 3rd edition.
- U.A.C.** Meyer, *Ursprung u. Anfänge des Christentums*.

References to the Old Testament, unless otherwise stated, are to the 2nd edition of Kittel's *Biblia Hebraica*: those to the New Testament are to the text of Westcott and Hort. Citations of the LXX version follow the chapter and verse division in Swete's manual edition.