

says Professor Kent, 'one may follow the unfolding of these great religious ideas which have become the mainspring of humanity's progress, and which have determined the nature of the faith of more than half mankind. For, crystallizing, they became the religion of the Jew; being perverted, they degenerate<sup>1</sup> into Mohammedanism; and, expanding, they developed into Christianity.' <sup>1</sup>

(2) From the Jew himself let us turn to glance for a moment at his literature. Now, in a way, of course, we all know that the Bible is unlike any other book; but, unhappily, our easy-going indifference, which languidly takes the fact for granted, prevents our realizing *how* unlike it is. Robert Louis Stevenson once said of the Gospel according to St. Matthew that he believed it would move and startle any one who would make a certain effort of imagination and read it freshly like a book, not drearily and dully like a portion of the Bible. And it is just that effort of imagination which is needed in

<sup>1</sup> *History of the Hebrew People* (The United Kingdom), p. 5.