

## PREFACE

It has been my privilege in the intimacy of the classroom to become acquainted with some of the difficulties encountered in the effort to reconcile Christian faith with scientific and philosophical conceptions. This experience has largely determined the method and content of what has been written and those to whom it is addressed. The attempt is made to show that modern as compared with ancient thought affords a superior constructive basis for Christian faith, making it possible to form a theology that shall effectively promote present religious life. The need of such a theology is evident, for construction still yields to criticism, especially in the realm of systematic theology. I present the results of my experience with the hope that some of the needs, not only of the theological student but of the general reader, may be met. The difficulty and complexity of the subjects treated invite the reader's sympathetic consideration of any attempt to deal seriously with them at all. The spirit in which I have written is that of reverence