

PREFACE.

AS "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for correction, for instruction in righteousness," surely the study of a people to whom reference is made—sometimes frequent reference—in twenty-four of the books of the Bible cannot be without profit. That the history of the Edomites is extremely fragmentary is admitted, but that circumstance has been to my mind an incentive to attempt the compilation of one that is connected. The young—and it is for the young only that I write—would be unlikely to do this for themselves. I should much regret should any make this little work a substitute for the study of the sad story of Edom in God's Word; but hope it may be an aid in that study.

Among the works I have consulted I would acknowledge my special indebtedness to Josephus, Smith's Bible Dictionary, Bush's Notes on Genesis, and Barnes' Notes on the Acts of the Apostles.

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