

RELIGION AS FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD

I.

FRIENDSHIP THE CORE OF RELIGION

"Abraham, my friend."—*Isaiah xli. 8.*

ALL human progress has been from details to principles, from the confusion of many seemingly separate things to the wide generalizations which grouped the many into one by new-found relations. Newton, seeing the apple fall to the ground, wondered why it did not fall the other way. Thinking out the problem, he saw that it was in obedience to a law by which every particle in the universe is attracted to every other particle. Like a flash came the answer to a thousand other questions—came the vision of the stars, held in their courses by the wondrous law of gravitation.