

**Book Notices.**

"The Death of Christ." Its Place and Interpretation in the New Testament. By James Denny, D.D., Professor of New Testament Language, Literature, and Theology, United Free Church College, Glasgow. London: Hodder & Stoughton. Toronto: Upper Canada Tract Society. Pp. xix-334. Price, \$1.50.

This is a book of unusual importance. It treats the most momentous subject in Christian theology. It discusses it with a devout and reverent thoroughness not unworthy of the theme. "The death of Christ has not had the place assigned it," says the author, "either in preaching or theology which it has in the New Testament." His purpose is to set forth that cardinal event in the relief which it has in the oracles of God. The author begins with the life and teaching of Jesus himself as recorded in the Gospels. He shows how impossible is the theory that only towards the close of his ministry did this solemn truth come to the consciousness of Jesus himself. He points out the fact that from the time of his baptism and temptation it furnishes the only explanation to his life and ministry. It is also the theme of the earliest Christian preaching as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. It is the especial burden of the epistles of St. Paul.

Our author shows that this conception is fundamental, that the sacrificial death of our Lord is essential to the very idea of the Atonement. "It was not Paul's theology," he says, "it was his gospel." It was the burden, too, of the Epistle to the Hebrews, "the most theological writing of the New Testament." In this epistle Christ's priestly office and propitiatory sacrifice are intimately connected. In the Johannine writings, the same great truth is presented with striking clearness, iteration, and power.

The importance of this doctrine in preaching and theology are duly set forth. There can be no Gospel without Atonement. "The Atonement," says our author, "is the key to the unity and therefore to the inspiration of Scripture." It is the proper evangelical foundation for a doctrine

of the person of Christ. The incarnation is not intelligible, nor credible, nor defensible, except when defined by the relation of the Atonement. The Atonement is the basis for an adequate doctrine of God, of his love and fatherhood. It is the foundation of Christian ethics as of Christian life. A pathetic interest in the minds of many of its readers attaches to this book in that it was the subject of the last editorial ever written by the late Hugh Price Hughes.

"The Dawn of the Reformation." By Herbert B. Workman, B.A. Author of "The Church of the West in the Middle Ages." Vol. II. The Age of Hus. London: Chas. H. Kelly. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. xvi-375.

In a previous volume Mr. Workman treats with conspicuous ability the Age of Wyclif, in this volume he treats the Age of Hus. He discusses in a lucid and luminous manner the stormy history of the great Reformer. The interest gathers chiefly about the famous Council of Constance, by which Hus and Jerome, in violation of the safe-conduct of the Emperor Sigismund, were done to death. It was one of the greatest gatherings of notables ever known in history. To this little town by the Boden See were gathered a hundred thousand persons of many lands and many tongues. Twenty-seven languages were spoken. There were a hundred dukes and earls, the representatives of eighty-three kings and princes. There were twenty-nine cardinals, thirty-three archbishops, two hundred and fifty bishops, eighteen thousand priests, five hundred and seventy-eight doctors in law or theology, six hundred official scribes—a great Parliament of the Nations. Stabling was found for thirty-six thousand horses. The Council lasted over three years and six months and was a scene of violence and strife and crime. Five hundred bodies, says our author, were fished up from the Rhine; murder was an easy and silent way of getting rid of a foe.

One may still visit the great hall, the old cathedral, and the old Dominican monastery in which several