

lous. Fire could not consume it · water could not drown it ; infidelity could not overthrow it ; and all forms of opposition have had to confess its indestructibility. The Bible is changeless amid the mutation of all things earthly. "The Word of the Lord endureth for ever." The Bible can hardly ever meet in the future greater opposition than in the past. The loftiest and most gigantic Goliaths of scepticism and atheism have confronted the meek but heroic and God-inspired David of the Book, but in every field of enmity the enemies of the truth have been defeated and often mortally wounded. To-day the Bible has a larger play in the mind, heart and conscience of man than ever before. It has a larger number of cultured defenders and expounders, and men who build their hopes of a glorious immortality upon its sure foundation, than at any former time. What is this book, occupying such a position in the faith and attachment of mankind ? I answer, it is God's revealed will for the guidance and salvation of the human family. The Bible is not a text book of the sciences. It professes not to guide man's investigations in the sciences of geology and astronomy ; but it does say with absolute authority to every one who would journey to the heavenly country, "This is the way ; walk ye in it." This is the book which the Bible Society aims at placing in the possession of every human being on the face of the earth. Her lofty and glorious mission is to distribute God's great gift—the gift of His precious Word to everybody and to every one without note or comment. Grandly has her mission been accomplished thus far, and she "faints not, neither is weary," but moves on through this parched and desert world offering to every thirsty pilgrim the water of life, which if he drink he shall never thirst again. The one mighty difficulty meeting us at the threshold of such a subject as the Bible is to know which of the many important aspects of it to present. We might probably dwell upon its characters ; its history, the most ancient in the records of the race ; its poetry, infinitely transcending the richest and the rarest of human productions. We might dwell upon the evidences of its genuineness and authenticity, and discourse of its power as an educator and civilizer, showing how the laws and literature of every progressive country are vitally indebted to the volume of inspiration. But I take it that my theme to-night will accord most fully with the heart and life, and object of the Bible Society if I ask you to consider the testimony of these scriptures to Jesus Christ—"They are they which testify of me." I.—The testimony of the Scripture to Christ. Jesus Christ is the sum and substance of this revelation. He is its Alpha and Omega. Christ is the sun that shines with light and love in the moral firmament of this glorious Book. Jesus is the life of the Book—the life that gives unity, and variety, and vitality to its old and new Testament records. Christ is the magnet that is attracting the peoples of all lands to the study of the Book. Blot that name from its pages and it comes under the law of death, and ceases to be what we prize it as to-day. Let us, then, listen to the testimony which the Scriptures bear to Christ. Jesus said, "They are they which testify of me." They bear a typical testimony to Christ. In the early history of the race God was pleased to instruct man to inaugurate a religious system which should be typical of something more complete. A portion of the Scriptures is therefore typical in its revelations and teachings. In these typical Scriptures the great Redeemer is set forth in the sacrifices offered, and in certain rites and ceremonies. This you see in the morning and evening sacrifice—in the offering on the great day of atonement. Take the pascal lamb as an illustration of the typical testimony borne to Jesus Christ. You are familiar with the original history of the Passover. The command of God was given, and the lamb was slain. The blood was sprinkled, and the Israelites dwelt in safety that terrible night in Egypt. Why? Because God said, "When I see the blood I will pass over you." But what has all this to do with Jesus the Christ? This typical testimony then, may have been dim and vague ; but in the review is it so to us? Listen to Paul in his Corinthian letter ; "For Christ our passover is sacrificed for