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THE FOURFOLD LIFE.

DURING the ages in which God made himself known, truths and doctrines were gradually developed, and came out more and more clearly through the diverse times. From Genesis to Revelation there is a marked progress in doctrine and a sustained advance in the disclosures given of grace and truth, till in the New Testament record it blossoms out into the character and life of Jesus Christ, who is in bodily form a manifestation of the Godhead. In the former ages God spake to man by his prophets, but in the last times he has spoken by his Son, and thus all revelation culminates in Him. Though all Scripture is given by inspiration of God and therefore profitable; yet the four Gospels form, in many respects, the most important part of the Bible. They are, from their position and character, the heart through which the life-blood of revelation circulates. All previous revelations flow into them, while the later disclosures flow out of them as their fountain-head. While in other parts of Scripture we hear of Him only by the hearing of the ear, here we meet Christ face to face, and our eyes behold Him. The four Gospels therefore may well be called the very Ark of the Covenant where the Cherubim of glory overshadows the mercy-seat.