

Since I wrote, Mr H. G. Wells has brought out a number of religious works, *God the Invisible King*, *The Soul of a Bishop* and *The Undying Fire*, which, their readers will notice, have much in common with some of the positions in Book I of this volume, though with marked differences also. It seems better to say that these very widely read books and mine had a wholly independent origin, and have reached separately the same or similar truths, so far as they agree.

The brief additions, notes and references added since the War will be easily recognised.

Francis Thompson's poem "In no Strange Land" is printed here by kind permission of Messrs Burns and Oates.

Book II should not be taken as a History of Early Quakerism, or as a full record even of the early teaching. It consists of four separate essays, expounding the work of the four chief Quaker writers of that time, so far as is necessary for my purpose. That purpose is to be fair historically to the founders, and to correlate the ancient position to the modern one here presented. Had there been no differences between our outlook and that of the seventeenth century it would not have been worth while to write such a book as this at all. The work had already been better done once for all. But it is idle to expect any such identity of forms of theological thought. We live in a different Kosmos. Our connotation of "God" and "Man" has grown. Enough if my readers conclude, as I hope they will, that under all diversities of forms of thought and expression, the same truths, the same experience, the same Gospel remain.

J. W. G.

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