

## THE GOSPEL OF THE SON OF MAN

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It is touchingly characteristic of Jesus that His favorite designation of Himself was as the Son of Man. All that this title meant to Him may not be easily determined, but what it means for us is certain, and is veritable gospel. The ancient philosophy had said to man, "Know thyself," and modern philosophy and science have sought to enable him to do this. But no degree of introspection or observation has shown him that which has been made known in Jesus. In addition to what has been learned from history, anthropology, psychology and kindred subjects there is needed what has been revealed in the person Jesus. For when He called Himself the Son of Man He realized and proclaimed that he was in the fullest sense a member of our human race, humanity's son, one of ourselves, our brother. In Him we have the supreme revelation of man to man by the Man. He is the truth concerning man, and we who have been gradually but irresistibly led from faith in Jesus as the Son of man to faith in Him as the Son of God, see also in Him that which man has in common with his God. Man was created originally in the likeness of his Maker, and in Jesus, the second Adam, that likeness appears in its perfection. In Him God reveals Himself in the image of man. Therefore, it is, as Bousset declares in concluding his study of Jesus: "When we absorb ourselves in the contemplation of that figure, we feel a great uprising of the spirit. For these we touch, indeed, upon the foundations of our own spiritual and personal existence." If we could only know all that Jesus is, we should know all that man was intended to be. And Jesus not only was, but He is and ever will be the Son of Man. Yesterday, to-day, and forever, He is the same, very man of very man. It is easier to believe in His perfect deity than in His perfect humanity; yet the latter is equally true and equally important with the former. Dante saw clearly, when amid the blinding glory that surrounds the throne of God he perceived one like unto ourselves:

"For I therein, methought, in its own hue  
Beheld our image painted."

Being thus the Son of Man, Jesus presents the essential elements that unite all men, rather than the peculiarities which separate them. He cannot be confined in the thought of the race to any one land. Jesus is the Man without a country. For He belongs to