desire of ages

desire of ages is a phrase that has captivated readers and scholars alike, encompassing deep spiritual insights, historical context, and timeless relevance. This comprehensive article delves into the origins, themes, and significance of Desire of Ages both as a renowned Christian literary work and as a broader spiritual concept. We will explore its historical background, the central messages it conveys, the impact it has had on religious thought, and its enduring influence in contemporary faith communities. Readers will also discover practical applications and the ways Desire of Ages continues to shape spiritual growth and understanding today. If you're seeking a detailed exploration filled with valuable information and actionable insights, this article will provide a thorough overview—making it a must—read for anyone interested in the desire of ages and its lasting legacy.

- Understanding the Desire of Ages: Origins and Meaning
- The Historical and Literary Background
- Key Themes in Desire of Ages
- The Spiritual Impact and Influence
- Desire of Ages in Modern Faith Communities
- How to Apply the Lessons from Desire of Ages
- Conclusion

Understanding the Desire of Ages: Origins and Meaning

The phrase "desire of ages" holds a unique place in Christian literature and theology. It is widely associated with one of the most influential religious books, which examines the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. The term itself is drawn from biblical prophecy, notably referencing the long-anticipated Messiah, described as the one whom humanity has desired throughout the ages. Over time, "desire of ages" has come to symbolize the universal yearning for hope, redemption, and spiritual fulfillment. Whether explored as a title or as a broader spiritual concept, the desire of ages reflects humanity's deepest aspirations for meaning, reconciliation, and divine connection.

The Historical and Literary Background

The book "Desire of Ages" was first published at the end of the 19th century, authored by Ellen G. White, a prominent Christian writer and religious leader. Its release marked a significant moment in Christian literature, providing a detailed and accessible account of the life of Jesus Christ. The historical context of the late 1800s, a period marked by religious revival

and social change, contributed to the book's widespread acceptance and influence. In addition to its biblical foundation, the work is renowned for its engaging narrative style, blending theological insights with practical lessons that resonate across generations. Over the decades, Desire of Ages has been translated into numerous languages and remains a cornerstone text for many faith-based communities worldwide.

Significance in Christian Literature

Desire of Ages stands out among religious texts for its comprehensive approach, blending historical detail with spiritual interpretation. It is considered one of the most important works in the Seventh-day Adventist tradition and is highly respected by other Christian denominations. Its literary structure and thematic depth have contributed to its status as a classic in devotional literature, often used for personal study, group discussion, and theological education. The influence of the desire of ages extends beyond its immediate religious context, impacting broader discussions about morality, leadership, and the nature of spiritual longing.

Key Themes in Desire of Ages

At its core, Desire of Ages explores several profound themes that continue to inspire readers. These themes are rooted in the life and teachings of Jesus, providing a blueprint for spiritual growth and ethical living.

The Nature of Divine Love

One of the central messages of Desire of Ages is the unconditional love of God for humanity. The narrative emphasizes the compassionate character of Jesus, highlighting His acts of kindness, mercy, and humility. This theme encourages readers to reflect on the transformative power of love and its ability to heal, restore, and unite individuals and communities.

Redemption and Salvation

Desire of Ages presents a comprehensive view of salvation, portraying Jesus as the fulfillment of ancient prophecies and the source of hope for all generations. The book delves into the significance of His sacrifice, the meaning of grace, and the pathway to spiritual renewal. These insights offer readers a deeper understanding of the Christian faith and the enduring quest for redemption.

Practical Spirituality and Daily Living

Beyond theological concepts, Desire of Ages offers practical guidance for everyday life. Readers are encouraged to cultivate virtues such as patience, forgiveness, and humility. The text provides actionable lessons for

navigating challenges, building strong relationships, and fostering a spirit of service in the community.

- Unconditional love as a guiding principle
- Hope and redemption in times of adversity
- The role of faith in personal transformation
- Practical steps for spiritual growth
- Building connections through empathy and service

The Spiritual Impact and Influence

Desire of Ages has left a lasting imprint on spiritual thought and practice. Its influence can be seen in the lives of individuals, the teachings of churches, and the development of faith-based organizations. The book has inspired countless readers to deepen their relationship with God, pursue lives of integrity, and contribute positively to society. Through its accessible language and relatable stories, Desire of Ages bridges the gap between ancient wisdom and modern experience, making spiritual truths relevant and meaningful for each new generation.

Shaping Religious Education

Desire of Ages is a staple in many religious education programs, serving as a foundational text for Bible study, theological reflection, and character development. Its balanced approach to doctrine and practical application makes it valuable for both new believers and experienced scholars. By presenting complex spiritual ideas in a clear and engaging manner, the book fosters a deeper appreciation for the teachings of Jesus and the principles of Christian living.

Fostering Community and Service

The book's emphasis on love, service, and compassion has motivated readers to engage in acts of kindness and community outreach. Many faith-based initiatives and humanitarian projects trace their inspiration to the values articulated in Desire of Ages. The work continues to encourage believers to extend their faith beyond personal devotion, impacting the world through selfless service and social responsibility.

Desire of Ages in Modern Faith Communities

In the contemporary world, Desire of Ages remains a vital resource for spiritual growth and communal identity. Churches, study groups, and

individual readers draw upon its insights to navigate the complexities of modern life. The universal themes addressed in the book—such as hope, forgiveness, and the search for meaning—resonate with people from diverse backgrounds and traditions. Its message of love and redemption continues to unite believers and foster a sense of shared purpose.

Adaptations and New Editions

Over the years, Desire of Ages has been adapted into various formats to reach new audiences. Modern editions, audio versions, and digital resources make the book accessible to a wider range of readers. Study guides and companion materials help individuals and groups engage more deeply with its teachings, ensuring that the message of the desire of ages remains relevant in changing times.

Interfaith and Global Perspectives

The universal appeal of Desire of Ages extends beyond specific denominations, offering insights that are meaningful to people of different faiths and cultures. Its exploration of universal values and ethical principles provides a foundation for interfaith dialogue and collaboration. In an increasingly interconnected world, the desire of ages continues to foster understanding and cooperation among diverse communities.

How to Apply the Lessons from Desire of Ages

The teachings in Desire of Ages offer practical guidance for personal and communal growth. Readers can incorporate its lessons into their lives by embracing its core values and striving to embody its message in daily interactions.

- 1. Reflect regularly on the principles of love and compassion outlined in the book.
- 2. Engage in acts of service, helping those in need within your community.
- 3. Foster an attitude of forgiveness and patience in relationships.
- 4. Participate in group study or discussion to gain new perspectives and deepen understanding.
- 5. Seek opportunities for spiritual growth through prayer, meditation, and study.

By applying these practical steps, individuals can experience a greater sense of purpose, connection, and fulfillment. The desire of ages provides a roadmap for living with integrity, hope, and resilience, regardless of life's challenges.

Conclusion

Desire of Ages remains a profound and influential work, offering timeless wisdom and spiritual guidance. Its exploration of love, redemption, and practical faith continues to inspire readers across generations and cultures. Whether approached as a literary masterpiece, a spiritual manual, or a source of personal transformation, the desire of ages holds enduring relevance for anyone seeking deeper understanding and purpose in life.

Q: What is the main message of Desire of Ages?

A: The main message of Desire of Ages centers on the life, teachings, and sacrificial love of Jesus Christ, emphasizing themes of redemption, hope, and practical spiritual living.

Q: Who wrote Desire of Ages and when was it published?

A: Desire of Ages was written by Ellen G. White and was first published in 1898 as part of her series on the life of Christ.

Q: Why is Desire of Ages considered significant in Christian literature?

A: Desire of Ages is significant because it offers a detailed and relatable account of Jesus' life, blending historical context with spiritual insights and practical lessons for daily living.

Q: What are the key themes found in Desire of Ages?

A: Key themes include divine love, redemption, forgiveness, hope, the fulfillment of prophecy, and the importance of practical spirituality in everyday life.

Q: How has Desire of Ages influenced modern faith communities?

A: It has shaped religious education, inspired acts of service and community outreach, and continues to guide believers in spiritual growth and ethical living.

Q: Can Desire of Ages be used for group study?

A: Yes, Desire of Ages is widely used in group study settings, with companion guides and discussion materials available to facilitate deeper understanding.

Q: What practical lessons can be learned from Desire of Ages?

A: Readers learn the value of compassion, forgiveness, patience, and selfless service, as well as how to apply these virtues in daily interactions.

Q: Is Desire of Ages relevant to people of different faiths?

A: While rooted in Christian teachings, the universal values and ethical principles in Desire of Ages appeal to people of various faiths and cultural backgrounds.

Q: How can I incorporate the teachings of Desire of Ages into my life?

A: Reflect on its core messages, engage in community service, practice forgiveness and compassion, and participate in regular spiritual study and reflection.

Q: Are there modern adaptations of Desire of Ages?

A: Yes, Desire of Ages has been adapted into modern editions, audio books, digital formats, and study guides to reach new audiences and remain relevant today.

Desire Of Ages

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The Desire of Ages: Unpacking a Timeless Longing

Have you ever felt a deep, persistent yearning for something more? A sense of incompleteness that whispers promises of fulfillment just beyond your grasp? This profound, almost primal feeling, is what we might call the "Desire of Ages"—a universal human experience woven into the fabric of our history, literature, and spirituality. This post will delve into the nature of this desire, exploring its various manifestations throughout history and offering insights into how we might understand and navigate this powerful force within ourselves. We'll examine its connection to meaning, purpose, and the pursuit of lasting happiness. Prepare to embark on a journey of self-discovery as we unravel the complexities of the Desire of Ages.

What is the Desire of Ages?

The "Desire of Ages" isn't a singular, easily definable entity. Rather, it's a metaphorical term encompassing a wide range of human aspirations and longings. It represents that inherent human drive to transcend our current state, to reach for something beyond the mundane, to find lasting fulfillment and connection. This might manifest as a longing for:

Spiritual Enlightenment: The search for a deeper understanding of our purpose, our place in the universe, and our connection to something greater than ourselves.

Material Wealth: The pursuit of financial security and comfort, often perceived as a pathway to happiness and freedom.

Romantic Love: The yearning for a deep and meaningful connection with another person, a soul mate who completes us.

Creative Expression: The urge to create, to leave our mark on the world, and to share our unique perspectives and talents.

Personal Growth: The desire for self-improvement, to become a better version of ourselves, and to overcome our limitations.

The Historical Context of the Desire of Ages

Throughout history, the Desire of Ages has been reflected in countless ways. From ancient myths and legends to modern-day philosophies and religions, humanity has grappled with this persistent yearning. Consider:

Ancient Mythology: Stories of gods and heroes often depict quests for immortality, ultimate power, or the attainment of a utopian ideal—all reflecting different facets of this fundamental human drive. Religious Traditions: Many faiths offer frameworks for understanding and addressing the Desire of Ages, providing pathways to spiritual fulfillment and a sense of belonging.

Literature and Art: Countless works of art explore themes of longing, loss, and the pursuit of meaning, capturing the essence of this universal human experience.

Understanding the Nature of the Desire

The Desire of Ages is often rooted in a feeling of incompleteness or dissatisfaction with our current circumstances. It's a powerful motivator, driving us to strive for something better, something more meaningful. However, it's crucial to understand that this desire, in and of itself, is not inherently positive or negative. It's the way we pursue it that determines its impact on our lives.

Unhealthy pursuits of the Desire of Ages can lead to disappointment, disillusionment, and even suffering. For example, an obsessive focus on material wealth at the expense of relationships and personal well-being can leave us feeling empty and unfulfilled.

The Path to Healthy Fulfillment

A healthy approach to the Desire of Ages involves self-awareness, mindful pursuit, and a balanced perspective. This means:

Identifying your true desires: What truly matters to you? What brings you genuine joy and fulfillment?

Setting realistic goals: Break down your aspirations into achievable steps, celebrating progress along the way.

Cultivating gratitude: Appreciating what you already have can reduce the intensity of your longing and increase your overall sense of well-being.

Seeking balance: Don't allow any single pursuit to consume your life to the exclusion of others.

Navigating the Desire of Ages

The journey toward fulfilling the Desire of Ages is a deeply personal one. It requires self-reflection, a willingness to learn and grow, and a commitment to living a life aligned with your values. The path is rarely linear; it's filled with twists, turns, and moments of both triumph and disappointment. But it's in the process of striving, of learning, and of growing that we truly discover what it means to live a meaningful life.

Conclusion

The Desire of Ages is a fundamental aspect of the human condition. Understanding its nature and navigating its complexities is crucial for living a fulfilling life. By cultivating self-awareness, pursuing our goals with intention, and maintaining a balanced perspective, we can harness the power of this desire to create a life filled with purpose, meaning, and lasting happiness.

FAQs

Q1: Is the Desire of Ages always about material things?

A1: No, the Desire of Ages encompasses a wide range of aspirations, including spiritual

enlightenment, meaningful relationships, creative expression, and personal growth, not just material possessions.

Q2: How can I identify my true desires?

A2: Spend time reflecting on what brings you joy and fulfillment. Consider your values, your passions, and what truly matters to you. Journaling, meditation, and spending time in nature can be helpful tools.

Q3: What if I never achieve my goals?

A3: The journey itself is often more important than the destination. Focus on the growth and learning that occur along the way, and remember that setbacks are opportunities for learning and adaptation.

Q4: How can I avoid unhealthy pursuits of the Desire of Ages?

A4: Regularly assess your priorities and values. Ensure that your pursuits are aligned with your overall well-being and don't come at the expense of other important areas of your life.

Q5: Is it possible to completely fulfill the Desire of Ages?

A5: The Desire of Ages is an ongoing process, not a destination. While we may experience moments of profound fulfillment, the inherent human drive for growth and transcendence will likely continue throughout our lives. The key is to embrace the journey and find joy in the pursuit.

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desire of ages: The Desire of Ages Ellen G, 2021-02-14

desire of ages: The Desire of Ages E. G. White, 2015-03-01 More than six billion of us live on this planet now—growing rapidly toward seven billion. We're separated by many differences: sex, race, religion, language, customs, and geography. Nevertheless, we also have some things in common. We breathe the same air. We all bleed the same red blood. We all need food, rest, and shelter. Oh, yes, we have one other thing familiar to each one of us—we all want happiness. Happiness—an elusive, sort of nebulous something that every one of us spends a lifetime pursuing. Some of us try to find it in things. We think that if only we could be rich, we'd be happy. When we're rich, we have money. Money buys things, and things make us happy. Or do they? Others of us try to find happiness in becoming well-known—maybe even famous. If the masses adore us, surely, then we would be happy, right? Or maybe we look for happiness in being powerful and important, in plunging headlong into pleasure-seeking and entertainment, or in trying to find someone else who can make us happy. We want happiness. We crave it—all of us. Through all ages of history, we have desired it. Nevertheless, this inexpressible desire of all ages cannot be found in things, in fame, in

power, in pleasure-seeking. It can be found only in a Person, and you can probably guess who that Person is. This book is His story. In Him is the end of your guest for happiness.

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327 42. Tradition	338 43. Barriers Broken Down
45. The Foreshadowing of the Cross 3	53 46. He Was Transfigured
367 48. Who Is the Greatest?	372 SECTION VI. — THE REJECTED
ONE 49. At the Feast of Tabernacles	5
	herd
410 53. The Last Journey From Galilee	417 54. The Good Samaritan
	l Show 434
56. Blessing the Children	138 57. "One Thing Thou Lackest"
Priestly Plottings	SECTION VII. — NEARING THE END
60. The Law of the New Kingdom 46	67 61.
Zacchaeus	
	486 64. A
Doomed People	
502 66. Controversy	
Woes on the Pharisees 521	
531 69. On the Mount of	
536 70. "The Least of These My Brethren"	545 71. A Servant of Servants
73. "Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled" 5	67 SECTION VIII. — THE CRUCIFIED
74. Gethsemane	
Caiaphas 596 76. Judas	
Pilate's Judgment Hall 618 78.	
	Finished"
	TO THE FATHER'S THRONE 80. In
Joseph's Tomb 656 81.	
	nou?"
672 83. The Walk to Emmaus	
86. Go Teach All Nations 6	
Companion Volumes are: Vol. I.—Adam & Eve Through King	
Prophets Vol. II.—King Solomon Until the Promised Delivere	-
Times and Ministry of the Apostles — Acts of the Apostles Vo	
Unanimously Achieved — The Great Controversy * Supernat	
Present, & Future * — TRANSFORMING TRUTH STRANGER	
desire of ages: New Testament. Ny Soratra Masina am	y ny Fanekena Vaovao any Jesosy Kraisty

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may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. (Ephesians 6:11) The tremendous amount of material on this subject presented a challenge in compiling that which could tell the high points of the history, provide the best possible lessons and warnings for God's people, extend hope and encouragement for these last days (when Satan and his hosts are making war with the remnant), while keeping it within the confines of the cover of this small volume. Our hope and prayer is that we have succeeded in this challenge, presenting the reader with a priceless aid in preparation for earth's final conflict, as well as the day-to-day trials and struggles with the powers of darkness. The Lord be magnified!

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desire of ages: The Great Controversy Between Christ and Satan Ellen Gould Harmon White, 2020-09-28 Before the entrance of sin, Adam enjoyed open communion with his Maker; but since man separated himself from God by transgression, the human race has been cut off from this high privilege. By the plan of redemption, however, a way has been opened whereby the inhabitants of the earth may still have connection with heaven. God has communicated with men by His Spirit, and divine light has been imparted to the world by revelations to His chosen servants. "Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." 2 Peter 1:21. During the first twenty-five hundred years of human history, there was no written revelation. Those who had been taught of God, communicated their knowledge to others, and it was handed down from father to son, through successive generations. The preparation of the written word began in the time of Moses. Inspired revelations were then embodied in an inspired book. This work continued during the long period of sixteen hundred years,—from Moses, the historian of creation and the law, to John, the recorder of the most sublime truths of the gospel. The Bible points to God as its author; yet it was written by human hands; and in the varied style of its different books it presents the characteristics of the several writers. The truths revealed are all "given by inspiration of God" (2 Tim. 3:16); yet they are expressed in the words of men. The Infinite One by His Holy Spirit has shed light into the minds and hearts of His servants. He has given dreams and visions, symbols and figures; and those to whom the truth was thus revealed, have themselves embodied the thought in human language. The ten

commandments were spoken by God Himself, and were written by His own hand. They are of divine, and not of human composition. But the Bible, with its God-given truths expressed in the language of men, presents a union of the divine and the human. Such a union existed in the nature of Christ, who was the Son of God and the Son of man. Thus it is true of the Bible, as it was of Christ, that "the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us." John 1:14. Written in different ages, by men who differed widely in rank and occupation, and in mental and spiritual endowments, the books of the Bible present a wide contrast in style, as well as a diversity in the nature of the subjects unfolded. Different forms of expression are employed by different writers; often the same truth is more strikingly presented by one than by another. And as several writers present a subject under varied aspects and relations, there may appear, to the superficial, careless, or prejudiced reader, to be discrepancy or contradiction, where the thoughtful, reverent student, with clearer insight, discerns the underlying harmony. As presented through different individuals, the truth is brought out in its varied aspects. One writer is more strongly impressed with one phase of the subject; he grasps those points that harmonize with his experience or with his power of perception and appreciation; another seizes upon a different phase; and each, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, presents what is most forcibly impressed upon his own mind—a different aspect of the truth in each, but a perfect harmony through all. And the truths thus revealed unite to form a perfect whole, adapted to meet the wants of men in all the circumstances and experiences of life. God has been pleased to communicate His truth to the world by human agencies, and He Himself, by His Holy Spirit, qualified men and enabled them to do this work. He guided the mind in the selection of what to speak and what to write. The treasure was intrusted to earthen vessels, yet it is, none the less, from Heaven. The testimony is conveyed through the imperfect expression of human language, yet it is the testimony of God; and the obedient, believing child of God beholds in it the glory of a divine power, full of grace and truth.

desire of ages: The Desire of Ages Ellen White, 2017-10-21 This book is the third volume in White's five-volume series entitled The Conflict of the Ages. The series tells the story of Christian history as told in the Bible, beginning from Genesis and ending in Revelation. The Desire of Ages covers the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. Her interpretation of history and the Bible is quite original, and provided a theological foundation for the forming of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Like the denomination she helped to develop, her book became the subject of much controversy. In it, she draws on mystical experience and comes to conclusions far different from the mainstream attitudes of her time. Theologians today still criticize her work on the basis of its potentially heretical views on such core doctrines as those of the Trinity or the Incarnation. Even so, her commentary addresses issues relevant to the Christian faith that many others had failed to mention whatsoever, and her unique and influential voice still challenges readers to reevaluate Christian perspectives on Jesus and the progression of history. Born: November 26, 1827, Gorham, MaineDied: July 16, 1915, Elmshaven, California Related topics: Christian life, Church history, History, Jesus Christ, Patriarchs (Bible)Basic information: Ellen Gould White (born Harmon) (November 26, 1827 -July 16, 1915) was a prolific author and an American Christian pioneer. She, along with other Sabbatarian Adventist leaders, such as Joseph Bates and her husband James White, formed what is now known as the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Ellen White reported to her fellow believers her visionary experiences.

desire of ages: The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue V. E. Schwab, 2020-10-06 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER USA TODAY BESTSELLER NATIONAL INDIE BESTSELLER THE WASHINGTON POST BESTSELLER Recommended by Entertainment Weekly, Real Simple, NPR, Slate, and Oprah Magazine #1 Library Reads Pick—October 2020 #1 Indie Next Pick—October 2020 BOOK OF THE YEAR (2020) FINALIST—Book of The Month Club A "Best Of" Book From: Oprah Mag * CNN * Amazon * Amazon Editors * NPR * Goodreads * Bustle * PopSugar * BuzzFeed * Barnes & Noble * Kirkus Reviews * Lambda Literary * Nerdette * The Nerd Daily * Polygon * Library Reads * io9 * Smart Bitches Trashy Books * LiteraryHub * Medium * BookBub * The Mary Sue * Chicago Tribune * NY Daily News * SyFy Wire * Powells.com * Bookish * Book Riot * Library Reads Voter Favorite * In the vein of The Time Traveler's Wife and Life After Life, The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue is New

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desire of ages: *A Thoughtful Hour* Jerry D. Thomas, 2014-01-01 A devotional study guide based on The Desire of Ages and Messiah.

desire of ages: Conflict of the Ages (The Complete Series) Ellen G. White, 2018-04-03 desire of ages: The Desire of Ages Ellen Gould White, 2017-09-17 Excerpt from The Desire of Ages: The Conflict of the Ages Illustrated in the Life of Christ Satan, by wily scheme and craft, has perverted these longings of the human heart. He makes men be lieve that this desire may be satisfied by pleasure, by wealth, by ease, by fame, by power; but those who have been thus deceived by him (and they number myriads) find all these things pall upon the sense, leaving the soul as barren and unsatisfied as before. It is God's design that this longing of the human heart should lead to the One who alone is able to satisfy it. The desire is of Him, that it may lead to Him, the fulness and fulfilment of that desire. That fulness is found in jesus the Christ, the Son of the Eternal God. For it was the good pleasure of the Father that in Him should all the fulness dwell; for in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bod ily. And it is also true that in Him ye are made mil with respect to every desire divinely implanted and normally followed. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at www.forgottenbooks.com This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.

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prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation. A clear description is provided of the over-arching great
controversy between Christ and Satan, which began in heaven but is presently battling over the
souls of mankind and will be brought to an end here on this earth. CONTENTS Preface
FAITHFUL TO HARLOT 1. The Destruction of Jerusalem
Centuries
REMNANT TO REFORMATION 4. The Waldenses
From Rome
143 10. Progress of Reform in Germany 154 11. Protest of the Princes
Scandinavia 195 14. Later English Reformers 201 15. The Bible and the
French Revolution 218 SECTION III.— TRIALS IN THE NEW WORLD 16. The Pilgrim Fathers

Awakening
TRUTHS REDISCOVERED 22. Prophecies Fulfilled
Sanctuary?
Immutable
Revivals
The Origin of Evil
Agency of Evil Spirits
First Great Deception426 34. Can Our Dead Speak to Us? (Spiritualism) 441
SECTION V.— TRIALS AT THE END 35. Liberty of Conscience Threatened (Aims of the Papacy)
450 36. The Impending Conflict
520 42. The Controversy Ended
I.— Adam and Eve Through King David's Reign — Patriarchs and Prophets Vol. II.— King Solomon
Until the Promised Deliverer — Prophets and Kings Vol. III.—The Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ —
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Found the Messias" 15. At the Marriage Feast 16. In His Temple 17. Nicodemus 18. "He Must Increase" 19. At Jacob's Well 20. "Except Ye See Signs and Wonders" 21. Bethesda and the Sanhedrin 22. Imprisonment and Death of John SECTION IV. — DAYS OF PROMISE 23. "The Kingdom of God Is at Hand" 24. "Is Not This the Carpenter's Son?" 25. The Call by the Sea 26. At Capernaum 27. "Thou Canst Make Me Clean" 28. Levi-Matthew 29. The Sabbath 30. "He Ordained Twelve" 31. The Sermon on the Mount 32. The Centurion 33. Who Are My Brethren? 34. The Invitation 35. "Peace, Be Still" 36. The Touch of Faith 37. The First Evangelists 38. Come Rest Awhile 39. "Give Ye Them to Eat" SECTION V. — FALLING SHADOWS 40. A Night on the Lake 41. The Crisis in Galilee 42. Tradition 43. Barriers Broken Down 44. The True Sign 45. The Foreshadowing of the Cross 46. He Was Transfigured 47. Ministry 48. Who Is the Greatest? SECTION VI. — THE REJECTED ONE 49. At the Feast of Tabernacles 50. Among Snares 51. "The Light of Life" 52. The Divine Shepherd 53. The Last Journey From Galilee 54. The Good Samaritan 55. Not With Outward Show 56. Blessing the Children 57. "One Thing Thou Lackest" 58. "Lazarus, Come Forth" 59. Priestly Plottings SECTION VII. — NEARING THE END 60. The Law of the New Kingdom 61. Zacchaeus 62. The Feast at Simon's House 63. "Thy King Cometh" 64. A Doomed People 65. The Temple Cleansed Again 66. Controversy 67. Woes on the Pharisees 68. In the Outer Court 69. On the Mount of Olives 70. "The Least of These My Brethren" 71. A Servant of Servants 72. "In Remembrance of Me" 73. "Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled" SECTION VIII. — THE CRUCIFIED 74. Gethsemane 75. Before Annas and the Court of Caiaphas 76. Judas 77. In Pilate's Judgment Hall 78. Calvary 79. "It Is Finished" SECTION IX. — TO THE FATHER'S THRONE 80. In Joseph's Tomb 81. "The Lord Is Risen" 82. "Why Weepest Thou?" 83. The Walk to Emmaus 84. "Peace Be Unto You" 85. By the Sea Once More 86. Go Teach All Nations 87. "To My Father, and Your Father" Appendix The Companion Volumes are: Vol. I.—Adam & Eve Through King David's Reign — Patriarchs and Prophets Vol. II.—King Solomon Until the Promised Deliverer — Prophets and Kings Vol. IV.—The Times and Ministry of the Apostles — Acts of the Apostles Vol. V.—The Christian Era Until Victory is Unanimously Achieved — The Great Controversy * Supernatural Revelations Explaining Past, Present, & Future * — TRANSFORMING TRUTH STRANGER THAN FICTION -

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