FOREWORD

As indicated by the title, the addresses contained in this book were delivered at various times in the daily Service held in Saint Paul's Chapel, Columbia University. A number of them were also broadcast by radio with the Service. In many instances the subjects of the addresses were suggested to the writer by students, from questions or comment in personal conversation, or from noting the general nature of their thinking and their interest. For however it may appear that they are indifferent to religion today, actual contact with youth, on occasion and in places which prompt them to discuss frankly, will make evident that they are often genuinely concerned, and that they desire simply the right to seek an intelligent understanding of it. Perhaps they follow unconsciously the advice of Saint Paul to "prove all things," but this insistence upon knowing for themselves is a healthy symptom, and the outcome of candor ought to be a greater certainty.

It is quite apparent that the present interest in religion, wherever it is found, has to do with those fundamental issues of life and its meaning which center in the character and teaching of Jesus. He appealed to men so deeply, His words were so vital and applicable to all human need,
that however circumstances may change and knowledge increase, He ever remains the supreme interpreter of life, and an unfailing source of spiritual power.

While other themes are included, the chief aim of these addresses has been, therefore, to make as clear as possible within the limits of a brief Chapel Service, the significance of the life and the principles of Jesus. No complete presentation has been attempted, but a selection has been made from some of His striking sayings and illuminating parables. Especial attention has been given to His conception of the Kingdom of God, to be realized on earth, as the highest, unifying goal of life. To students and to others, irrespective of occupation or of age, who are seekers of life and the liberating power of truth, this book is offered in the hope that the Master of Life will become more real to them.

The title of the book, expressive of this purpose, is from the thirty-sixth Psalm, which was chosen in 1755 for the seal of King’s College, later Columbia College, and which is inscribed over the entrance to Saint Paul’s Chapel: *In Lumine Tuo Videbimus Lumen*—In Thy light shall we see light.

R. C. K.

Columbia University
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