

**Jesus in Modern Criticism.**

By Dr. Paul W. Schmiedel. Translated by Maurice A. Canny, M. A. London, England, A. & C. Black. 1907. Pages 91. Price, sixpence net.

We are having a run of books on Jesus in Criticism. These were Weinel, Schweitzer, Sanday, and now Schmiedel. It is hard to deal seriously with Schmiedel because of his arrogance and patronizing airs. He claims that he was misunderstood in his article on Gospels in the *Encyclopædia Biblica* in which he claimed nine genuine sayings of Jesus. He meant that we knew nine beyond any doubt and could argue from them as a minimum. The title of this book is almost misnomer. Schmiedel does not discuss the critical views of various classes of men. He deals only with the most extreme radicalism like his own. That to him is above criticism. He is seriously engaged in the effort to prove that Jesus really lived. If I doubted that fact, I do not think that Schmiedel says anything here to throw light on that subject. He laments that Paul tells us "deplorably little about Jesus," (p. 14), and proceeds to separate the wheat from the chaff in the Gospels. One of his first remarks is that in the message to John the Baptist Jesus was speaking only of the "spiritually blind," "spiritually lame," etc. (p. 20). "The five thousand and the four thousand were fed, not with bread, but with teaching," (p. 21). After this luminous exegesis one is prepared for anything and he is not disappointed. He thinks that Jesus had calm moments and was not wholly visionary (p. 82). Schmiedel cannot approve some of Jesus' teachings, (p. 79 f). He will not assert that Jesus was unique (p. 84). He could not be upset a bit if Jesus never lived (p. 85), for others have excelled Christ at certain points, (p. 86). And this is "criticism," a la Schmiedel!

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**The Deity of Jesus Christ According to the Gospel of John.**

By the Rev. S. W. Pratt, D. D. The Sunday School Times Co., Philadelphia. 1907. Pp. 165. Price 50 cents.

Another publication called for by the study of the Gospel of John in the current International Series of Sunday School