

Apostle John is left out in the cold in this series. Van Mauen denies that Paul wrote anything. Poor Peter is held up by the critics. James and Jude are crowded out also. Matthew and Luke are not credited by all and even Mark is looked at askance! Perhaps after all the New Testament is a grand joke. Everything is topsy-turvy! But these are interesting books after all, these German critical books, and they have much to teach the serious student, provided he knows what is true, a lesson, alas, that bothers the student in other realms also.

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The Epistle of St. Jude and the Second Epistle of St. Peter.
Greek Text with Introduction, Notes and Comments.

By Joseph B. Mayor, M. A., Litt. D. The Macmillan Co., New York and London. 1907. P. ccii, 239. Price 14s. net.

Dr. Mayor has produced distinctly the ablest commentary on James and he finds a congenial sphere in Jude and 2 Peter. Jude is the brother of James and 2 Peter undoubtedly makes use of Jude (so Mayor) in the second chapter. This means, of course, that Jude is earlier than 2 Peter, as I also think. I cannot, however, go with Mayor in the denial of the genuineness of 2 Peter. I do not think he answers the suggestion of Jerome and other early writers that Peter had a different interpreter in the two Epistles. Indeed in the Second Epistle we may, as Bigg holds, have Peter's own rugged style, while in 1 Peter the style is toned down much by Siloames. But, barring this matter, the work of Mayor on these two Epistles is of the very first quality. He is specially strong on the grammatical side of his work as seen in the Commentary on James also. He has an excellent little book, Greek for Beginners, which shows his turn for grammar. But Mayor has great exegetical insight and the book as a whole furnishes one with a wealth of critical apparatus not to be surpassed anywhere. One still needs Bigg on Peter and Jude, but Bigg and Mayor together will enrich any preacher's store.

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