

heart will find food and tonic in it, too. The work is well suited, as it is primarily intended, for the use of study circles, and young people's classes, but it will be of real service in dealing with inquirers in general. An appendix is devoted to suggestions for its use in the conduct of study circles.

GEO. B. EAGER.

Lands and Peoples of the Bible. By James Bakie, F.R.A.S. London: Adam and Charles Black, 1914. Through The Macmillan Company, New York. 288 pp. \$1.50 net.

The author of "The Story of the Pharaohs," "Peeps at Ancient Egypt," etc. gives us in this book something far superior to the ordinary book of travels in Bible lands. The substance of what he gave to his class in lecture form last winter he now publishes in this more complete and finished form, in the well warranted hope that Bible students and teachers of Bible classes may find it helpful in providing a background upon which to project the Scripture narrative, and of enabling the reader to form some complete conception of the great lands and nations with which the chosen people had to deal. The value and interest of the book as a medium of instruction will be greatly enhanced, certainly, by the fulness and beauty of its illustrations—an exquisite frontispiece in color, The Holy City, forty-eight full-page illustrations from singularly fine, well selected photographs and a double-page relief map of The World of Old Testament History. In the case of Palestine, it is the *land* that has been thus illustrated; in the case of Mesopotamia and Egypt it is the works of art and the historic monuments that have been drawn upon. The author lays no claim to originality, but he has here presented in small compass, charming style and excellently classified, facts for which the ordinary student and teacher might otherwise have to search through many large and costly treatises. A valuable appendix (4 pp.) is devoted to a sane and scholarly discussion of "The Date of the Exodus"; a Bibliography gives a list of the most important and useful books available to the English reader on the subjects

treated, and this is followed by a comparative Chronological Table, in which the dates for Egypt and Babylonia begin with the commencement of the unified government under Mena of the First Dynasty in Egypt, and Sargon of Akkad in Babylonia respectively. Then comes an excellent index and a useful list of passages of Scripture quoted or referred to.

GEO. B. EAGER.

Spiritual Culture. By Rev. Frederick A. Noble. Geo. H. Doran Company, New York, 1914. 346 pp. \$1.25 net.

The author's foreword and treatment of his great subject have the ring of conviction and the illumination of a lofty spiritual aim. His purpose is practical, not speculative, "to aid in the development of an intelligent, sincere and earnest religious life." He is certainly right in the persuasion that there is urgent need of a more marked and dominant note in the spirituality of the day. Popular thought runs largely in other directions. Church activities are chiefly concerned with other aims. But life, if it is to be fruitful in good works for any length of time, must have spiritual roots and the invigoration which such roots convey. Faith, love, obedience and the spirit of devotion and self-sacrifice will not long survive the decay or serious decrease of earnest longing for God, and the continuous reinforcement of strength and moral purpose found in tender and habitual communion with God. The cultivation of such spirituality is urged both for its own sake as a most precious and beautiful achievement, and also in the common interest of our patient continuance and highest efficiency in well doing. There is nothing, after all, so convincing of the truth and reality of the Gospel of Christ as a living disciple whose face is aglow with the radiance caught from the divine face, and whose walk is in the light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

The message is delivered with prophetic unction and in a style most persuasive and impressive. Not a chapter shows a trace of anything morbid, but we have instead a healthy, bal-