

## III.—BIBLICAL LITERATURE.

**John Baptist and His Relation to Jesus.** With some account of His Following. By Allan Blakiston, M.A. J. & J. Bennett, London. 1912. 273 pages. Price 6s. net.

Mr. Blakiston has produced a very careful piece of work and he shows much insight and exercises discrimination in the main as is shown by his scholarly notes. In his "Appended Notes" he gives much material of value. Chapter X he calls "The Growth of the Baptist Sect," a discussion of the misguided followers of John of whom we have a glimpse in Acts 19. Mr. Blakiston (p. 22) says: "At a later stage, as we shall see, John did found his school of disciples." I do not believe that the facts justify this statement. This later "school" grew up under a misapprehension of John's real mission.

Mr. Blakiston is also a sacramentalist, or at any rate he makes Jesus out so: "Now the baptism of Jesus stands alone, as being strictly sacramental," (p. 23). John's baptism merely "symbolized a change of heart and life" while Jesus retained the water baptism "as its outward expression and means of conveyance" (p. 23). Thus it appears that at crucial points Mr. Blakiston misunderstands both John and Jesus. This defect mars the book very greatly.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

**Handbook to the Textual Criticism of the New Testament.** By Sir Frederic G. Kenyon, K. C. B., F. B. A., Director and Principal Librarian, British Museum. Second Edition. With sixteen facsimiles. Macmillan & Co., London and New York. 1912. Price, 5s. net. 381 pages.

There is no better discussion in English of the material for the criticism of the New Testament. The author has abundant knowledge and handles the subject with rare skill. The facsimiles help the student to understand the discussion. The latest phases of the problem are treated with sanity and insight. The discussion of the method of textual criticism is briefer than one could wish, but the competent teacher can sup-

plement at this point. The student needs practical training to learn how to apply the new knowledge. But it is superfluous to praise this standard book, made all the more useful by additions in the new edition.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

**The Apocalypse of Jesus; Being a Step in the Search for the Historical Christ.** By F. W. Worsley, M.A., B.D. 1912. J. & J. Bennett, London. 362 pages. Price 2s. 6d., net.

Mr. Worsley has done a very careful piece of work in which he shows Mr. Schweitzer errs in making "eschatology" the keynote in the teaching of Jesus. The ethical note is really dominant and the eschatological secondary.

Mr. Worsley makes the point, and proves it also, that all the apocalyptic element in the teaching of Jesus is not eschatological. For instance, the term "Son of Man" is apocalyptic, but not eschatological. On the whole the book is a good correction to the extreme position of Schweitzer. Certainly the subject is one of serious interest and calls for wise treatment and balanced judgment.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

**The Text and Canon of the New Testament.** By Alexander Souter, D.Litt. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. 1913. 253 pages. Price, 75c, net.

The book belongs to the "Studies in Theology" and is an able contribution to its subject. As a text-book it would perhaps have been more serviceable if it had been confined to "Text" as this subject is not always taught in connection with "Canon." But both are ably handled by Dr. Souter. His qualifications for this task are well known and abundantly shown by his *Novum Testamentum Graece*, pronounced by Kenyon (Textual Criticism of the N. T., p. 312) as "incomparably the best for general use." The discussion of the Text covers only 145 pages, but it presents the whole subject with wonderful clearness and completeness. Unfortunately (p. 31) little was known of the Washington Manuscript of the Gospels when