

of history and of experience. The doctrinal conclusions will usually turn out to be correct in the end if this is done. We commend this book as a concise, clear, and suggestive summary of the material supplied by the Gospels for interpreting the consciousness of Jesus.

E. Y. MULLINS.

The Spirits of Just Men Made Perfect. By John Elliott Wishart. Bibliotheca Sacra Company, Oberlin, Ohio, 1916. 170 pp. \$1.00 postpaid.

Books on the intermediate state are few and in many instances unsatisfactory. In fact our information on the subject is meagre at best and it is not easy to arrive at conclusions which will satisfy everybody. Professor Wishart of Xenia Theological Seminary gives us in these 170 pages an interesting discussion of the theme.

The author holds that at death the soul does not cease to be conscious, and cites many Old and New Testament proofs.

He repudiates the soul-sleeping theory which holds that at death the spirit sinks into unconsciousness and remains so until the resurrection. He cites New Testament passages in disproof of the view and argues that it would be virtual annihilation of the soul for a time.

The passage in 2 Cor. 5:1-4 in which Paul refers to "our habitation which is from heaven" is taken to mean an ethereal body of some kind, an attenuated form of corporeal clothing for the spirit. The author thinks this interpretation removes one of the chief difficulties connected with the intermediate state.

The author holds that character is crystallized in the experience of death. He presents the view that in all probability the crisis of dying involves a special turning point of the soul in which God's grace is offered under exceptionally favorable circumstances.

The final judgment is necessary as a public declaration of what was already established in the moral order.

The author devotes a chapter to the Catholic doctrine of Purgatory and shows very conclusively how fragile is the foundation of the dogma in Biblical teaching.

In the future life the author believes there will be activity and endless progress. The volume discusses briefly most of the problems connected with the intermediate state and will be found suggestive and helpful to all earnest students of the subject.

E. Y. MULLINS.

From Doubt to Faith. By Horace G. Hutchinson. Longmans, Green & Co., 39 Paternoster Row, London; Fourth Avenue and 30th Street, New York, 1915. Cloth, 64 pp. Price 6d.

This booklet is the product of the personal experience of one who has passed from agnosticism to faith. It should prove of real service to many others who are troubled by doubts that naturally spring from current philosophical theories and scientific hypotheses. The idea that started the movement toward faith was, that, assuming man's evolution to the state of moral personality, it would not be unlikely that, if he should stray and violate the moral imperatives, the Author of his being—call Him God—should, in some suitable way, seek to bring him back. And no more reasonable method could be than the incarnation of the Divine.

J. H. FARMER.

The Natural Order of Spirit. A Psychic Study and Experience. By Lucien C. Graves. Boston, Sherman, French & Co., 1915. 365 pp. \$1.50 net.

One is at a loss to know what to say about this and similar books. Theoretically it is possible, of course, that the ether, which is supposed to be a most refined kind of matter and to fill the universe, may be the abode of departed personalities. It may be also granted that possibly there have been cases, as is here claimed, in which persons living have received some sort of communications from departed spirits. But who knows anything about it?

As to the ether conditioning the existence of departed spirits, it is simply an interesting speculation. As to communications from departed spirits, there is no convincing evidence; and many alleged cases of such communication have been found to be fraudulent. So there we are. We simply do not know, and this book does nothing to relieve our ignorance.