

Literalism and pessimism are the bane of this book. The author makes a daring thrust at the modern mission program and its hope to win the world to Christ before His coming again.

“The Church misread the scriptures, Old and New,  
For centuries a wrong conclusion drew—  
Led by the Devil—they make daring claim  
They are to win for Christ a world-wide fame  
Bring all the World to own His Blessed Name.  
With brazen ignorance they proudly boast  
The Church must press on as a conquering Host  
’Til all the world is won.”

In harmony with these views the author dreams of a blissful millennium of peace on earth, beginning when Antichrist goes down.

“A Blessed Peace shall fall upon the world!  
Lo, for a thousand years shall battle flags be furled—  
Right be triumphant—and Wrong-Doing dumb—  
Men know at last—

The Prince of Peace Hath Come.”

C. B. WILLIAMS.

**The Gospel According to Matthew.** The Greek Text with Introduction, Notes, and Indices. By Alan Hugh McNeile, D.D., Dean of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. The Macmillan Co., London and New York, 1915. 448 pp. 15 s.

The author states in his dedication that this commentary was begun by Dr. H. B. Swete who has written great commentaries on Mark and Revelation. The Macmillan Company is slowly completing the series of New Testament commentaries begun by Lightfoot, Westcott, and Hort. Additions have been made by Swete, Mayor, Robinson, Milligan, Menzies, Rendall, Vaughan, and now by McNeile. There is no doubt about the author's scholarship. He is thoroughly abreast with all the new knowledge and holds to the Virgin Birth, the Deity, and the Resurrection of Jesus, but he thinks that Jesus was wholly under the influence of the eschatological conception of the Kingdom and was mistaken both as to the manner and the time of the coming of the

Kingdom of God and was not entirely sure that He was to introduce it. The critical views of Dr. McNeile are surely radical enough for any modern, and he handles the material in the gospel very freely and picks out legends and apocryphal additions at will, though he upholds the reality of miracles. There is more emphasis on the historical and less on the grammatical. Dr. Denney concedes it to be the best commentary on Matthew, but I do not so regard it. I find Plummer and Broadus the most useful and Zahn the most exhaustive. But both McNeile and Allen have merits of their own and surely now no one can complain of a lack of up-to-date commentaries on the first Gospel. The chief defect in McNeile's book, as I have already shown, is his complete acceptance of Schweitzer's eschatological interpretation of Christ's teaching. That element is present, but it is not the dominant note.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

**The Lord's Prayer.** By J. W. Thirtle, LL.D., D.D. Morgan and Scott, Ltd. 286 pp. 5s. net.

This is the fruitage of years, and yields richly to him who will gather. The prayer was taught by no priest or scribe, and so the exposition by a layman is specifically appropriate. Emphasis is laid on the spiritual and edifying qualities, while yet there is a wealth of scholarship regulating the study. The sustained comparison with Hebrew liturgies is novel, and most instructive in its contrasts. Frequently there are new suggestions from passages of Scripture not usually connected, as for example, that "Abba" is the title of the prayer, already standard when Paul wrote. Not only is there detailed attention to every word, but illuminating summaries are given:—Within the Church are His ordinances, The Lord's Prayer and the Lord's Supper; towards the world are two more, preaching and baptism. While predecessors are freely quoted, this study is as original as it is helpful.

W. T. WHITEY.

**A Commentary on the Gospel According to Mark.** By Melancthon W. Jacobus, D.D., Dean of the Faculty and Hosmer Professor of New Testament Exegesis, Hartford Theological Seminary. New York, 1915, The Macmillan Company. IX-|-259 pp. 75 cts.