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working providence; Leviticus: the book of the law; Numbers: history written as homily; Deuteronomy: law that is literature; Joshua: history shaped by tradition; Judges: the Dark Ages; I-II Samuel: biographical history; I-11 Kings: religion interfering with truth; Chronicles- Nehemiah: history with priestly bias
X. BIBLICAL POETRY Ancient psalmody, Egyptian and Babylonian; Sources of their power; Nature and meaning of Lamentations and the Song of Songs; XI. BIBLICAL POETRY (continued); The Book of Job; Appraisal of values; XII. THE PROPHETS; Conditions calling them forth; The burden and literary ability of each prophet from Amos to Malachi; The permanent contribution of the prophets to religion; Their unique power and their limitations; XIII. THE HUMANISTS OF ISRAEL; The Book of Proverbs; Ecclesiastes; XIV. PROSE FICTION; Ruth; Esther; Jonah; PART III THE LITERARY QUALITIES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT XV. THE GOSPELS XVI. THE SAYINGS OF JESUS AS LITERATURE; XVII. PAUL AS A WRITER; XVIII. NEW TESTAMENT HISTORY AND LETTERS; Character of each of the general epistles; XIX. APOCALYPTICAL WRITINGS; The Book of Revelation; INDEX

Sommario/riassunto

<P>The religious associations surrounding the Bible make it difficult for the general reader to appreciate, in its full purity, the value which the Scriptures bear as literature, and as an epic in no way inferior, in cultural worth, to the greatest works of Greece and Rome. Dealing as it does with elementary passions and principles, the English Bible is, in the author's view, the greatest book of all the ages. This book, first published in 1931, will be of interest to students of literature and religious studies. </P>
