



Light from the Ancient East: The New Testament; Illustrated By Recently Discovered Texts of the Graeco-Roman World (Classic Reprint)

Adolf Deissmann

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The cruel fate that overtook mankind in 1914 made deep inroads even on the studies to which this book is devoted. It carried off on the battlefield, or by starvation, privation and sorrow of heart, many of the scholars, middle-aged as well as young, who are named in the following pages, some of them tried and trusted friends of my own; and of the survivors it also demanded its tribute. Me it kept (to say nought of other things) for full seven years almost completely cut off from my old field of study. From 1914 to 1921, in such hours as were not claimed by the University, I devoted myself almost exclusively to fostering the solidarity which should prevail amongst all Protestants and throughout oecumenical Christendom, and which was most seriously endangered by the struggle of the nations. This I attempted by means of my *Evangelischer Wochenbrief* (circulated from Advent 1914 to the beginning of 1917 also in English, under the title *Protestant Weekly Letter*), by an extensive daily correspondence with individuals in connexion therewith, by organising, and by a considerable amount of attendance at conferences at home and abroad. Meanwhile the book had long been out of print. Made widely known in three German and two English editions, there was still a considerable demand for it during and after the war. As early as May 1915 my publisher, Dr. Paul Siebeck, who had always shown sympathetic interest in the book, and who has since passed away with his life's work abundantly prospered, drew up with me a contract for the new edition. But it was not until I had brought the *Evangelischer Wochenbrief* to a close, at the end of 1921, that I was able to pursue with energy the task of revision, hand in hand with the present 15th edition, because the second edition was curiously styled second and third. Tr. R. eally two, 1908 and 1909. Tr. F. irst edition, 1910; reprinted 1911. (Typographical errors above are due to OCR software and don't occur in the book.)

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