# Contents.....

#### Preface

I. GUIDEPOSTS IN OUR QUEST FOR RELIGIOUS UNDERSTANDING

A. Some Guiding Principles. B. A Criterion is Needed. C. A Linguistic Problem and Its Solution.

### PART ONE. HOW RELIGION OUTGROWS ITS PRIMITIVE FORMS

- II. PRIMITIVE RELIGION
  - A. What Is Primitive Religion? B. Analysis
  - of Primitive Addresses to Divine Powers.
  - C. The Categories of Primitive Thought. D. The General Nature of Primitive Religion.
  - E. Clarification of Some Difficult Problems.
  - F. The World of Primitive Man.
- III. FROM PRIMITIVE TO CIVILIZED RELIGION

   A. Western Theories of Religious History.
   B. A Suggested Historical Perspective.
   C. Its Confirmation in Secular and Religious Evolution.
- IV. THE GREAT RELIGIONS OF CIVILIZED MAN 105 A. Distinctive Features of the Living Faiths of Civilization. B. Acceptance of a Universal Moral Ideal. C. A Monistic Interpretation of

## 1803

ix

Ŧ

33

73

#### CONTENTS

God and the World. D. Discovery of Man's Spiritual Selfhood. E. Realization of New Possibilities of Happiness for Man. F. A Few Reminders About Civilized Religion.

### PART TWO. THE RELIGIONS OF THE EAST

- V. THE NATIVE RELIGIONS OF CHINA
  A. Historical Background of Chinese Religion.
  B. The Chinese Temper of Mind. C. Central Ideas of Chinese Religion. D. From Confucius to the Present Day.
- VI. CONFUCIANISM

A. Confucius' Life and Personality. B. The Central Ideas in Confucian Moral Philosophy. C. The Religious Dimension. D. The Psychology and Theology of Mencius.

VII. TAOISM

A. The Moral Philosophy of the Tao Teh Ching. B. Its Mystical Metaphysic. C. The Distinctive Contribution of Chuang Tse.

THE BACKGROUND OF HINDUISM AND BUDDHISM 202
A. General Characteristics of Indian Religion.
B. The Basic Concepts of Indian Thought.
C. The Rise and Expansion of Buddhism.
D. The Development of Later Hinduism.

IX. BUDDHISM

A. Guatama the Buddha. B. His Central Teachings. C. The Goal of Nirvana and the Ideal of Love. D. The Spirit of Early Buddhism. E. Theravada Buddhism. F. Mahayana Buddhism. G. Summarizing Reflections. 217

153

185

129

vi

X. HINDUISM

A. Hinduism and Buddhism. B. The Genius of Hinduism as Revealed in Its Historical Development. C. The Essence of Upanishadic Teaching. D. The Message of the *Bhagavad-Gita*. E. The Theology of Sankara. F. Hinduism Since Sankara.

### PART THREE. THE RELIGIONS OF THE WEST

XI. Religion in the Old Testament

A. Basic Characteristics of the Western Religions. B. Our Historical Sources and Their Interpretation. C. Preprophetic Hebrew Religion. D. The Message of the Great Prophets. E. The Spiritual Ideal of Second Isaiah. F. Between the Prophets and Jesus.

#### XII. CHRISTIANITY

A. Religion in the Hellenistic Era. B. The Life of Jesus, as Told in the Synoptic Gospels. C. The Essence of His Teaching. D. The Distinctive Portrayal in the Gospel of John. E. The Theology of the Apostle Paul. F. The Christian Doctrines of Incarnation and Atonement. G. Christianity in the Modern World.

XIII. Islam

A. Its Historical Background. B. Mohammed's Life. C. His Early Message. D. The Creed of Islam. E. Its Relation to Judaism and Christianity. F. The Social Gospel of Islam. G. The Early Centuries of Islam. H. Mysticism and the Theology of Ghazzali. I. Islam in the World of Today.

418

vii 260

364

32 I

#### CONTENTS

### PART FOUR. RELIGION IN THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE

XIV.	A SUMMARY, COMPARISON, AND FORECAST A. The Nature of Religion in the Light of Its History. B. Recurring Types of Civilized Religion. C. Is Communism a Religion? D.	455
XV.	Religion Looks Toward the Future. RELIGION FACES THE CONTEMPORARY SCENE A. Mahatma Gandhi's Religious Philosophy. B. Religion and Psychotherapy.	481
Notes		527
Bibliography		541

BIBLIOGRAPHY	541
Index	547