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## THE RISE OF CHRISTIANITY (PAPERBACK)



Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English. Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*\*. To the second edition-which will certainly be called for-of his translation of Kalthoff's Rise of Christianity, Mr. McCabe should add a page of introduction. Here and there the author appears to assume that his readers are acquainted with certain communistic ideas which he has expressed in previous works; and as one of the leading ideas of the present work is that the Christian Church is and has always been in principle a communistic body, a hint or two as to the author's special standpoint, as disclosed in his previous works, would be welcome to the average English reader. The author approaches his subject from the sociological point of view, and consequently sees no need for a personal founder of Christianity. Such a founder ceases to be necessary for understanding Christianity in proportion as we recognise in it a great historical development of the whole spiritual life-the social and economic, religious and moral, artistic and scientific life-of the race. The single individual as founder comes under consideration only in so far as the active forces of his age are embodied in him, and historical science still has the task of gathering the ideas of the master from the context of his age. In three interesting chapters, the author studies the preparation for Christianity in the Roman Empire, in Greek philosophy, and in Judaism. He finds much of the social and political atmosphere of the Synoptical Gospels rather in Rome than in Jerusalem-for example, the tax-gatherers, the debtor who lies in jail until he pays the last farthing, the higher slave set over others by his master, etc. As to Greek philosophy, it was this that developed the theological and ethical consequences...

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