

THE INSPIRATION OF OUR FAITH. Sermons.  
By John Watson, D. D. ("Ian MacIaren"). A.  
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Greatly beloved by multitudes is the author of "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush" and "The Mind of the Master." And when he sends out a new volume he is sure of a host of readers. This book has no less than twenty-nine short sermons, from almost any one of which it were very easy to make profitable quotations. Take, for example, the sixteenth, "Reasonableness the Touchstone of Truth." He says: "One is as much bound to repudiate an idea because it is untrue as to refuse to do an action because it is wrong." Speaking of the Scripture, he says: "It is evident that it could only come to us through a human medium, and nothing can guarantee the veracity of the medium except the inherent reasonableness of his message, and of that the human reason, as the reflection of the Divine, must be the judge." Speaking of the church, he says: "Reason must sift her utterances also, and separate not merely what is true from what is false, but very often what is local and temporary from what is universal and eternal. And so the final appeal must be made, and, as a matter of fact, is made, to the voice of reason." He has an excellent discourse on "The Immanence of God," which, he says, "puts a new face upon religion, making our relation to God at once more reasonable and more lovable." Other good topics are: "Vision," "Contempt of Goodness," "Worldliness a Frame of Mind," "Character the Spring of Life," "The Duty of Encouragement." Indeed, a very high standard of preaching is indicated by this volume. We have not seen one that pleased us more for a long time.