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Work While Ye Have the Light

By Count Leo Nikolayevich Tolstoy

Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.THE prologue, with its guest-table and shadowy modern personages, is, on the whole, unnecessary, though no doubt it does serve the useful, if obvious, purpose of giving the keynote of what is to follow. The guests are not individual personages, but conventional modern types. Apart from the main text, this prologue is interesting as an admirable example of Tolstoy's almost unique faculty for condensation-a faculty genuinely natural to him, though it may seem to some strange to affirm this of the author of the most diffuse works of fiction of our time. With a few keen rapid touches he sways the reader's mind this way and that, till he suddenly brings it up short, as a bewildered person traversing the dark after a swift guide abruptly comes upon a dead wall, with these concluding words: - It appears, therefore, that no one should lead a good, upright, spiritual life; the utmost people may do is to discourse about it. Then, without further preamble, the story opens, one hundred years after the birth of Christ, in the...



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