



The Saviour of the World

Volume 6

THE TRAINING OF THE DISCIPLES

Charlotte Mason

This edition published 2026
by Living Book Press
Copyright © Living Book Press, 2026

ISBN: 978-1-76153-828-5 (hardcover)
978-1-76153-887-2 (softcover)

First published in 1914.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any other form or means – electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the copyright owner and the publisher or as provided by Australian law.



A catalogue record for this
book is available from the
National Library of Australia

The Saviour of the World

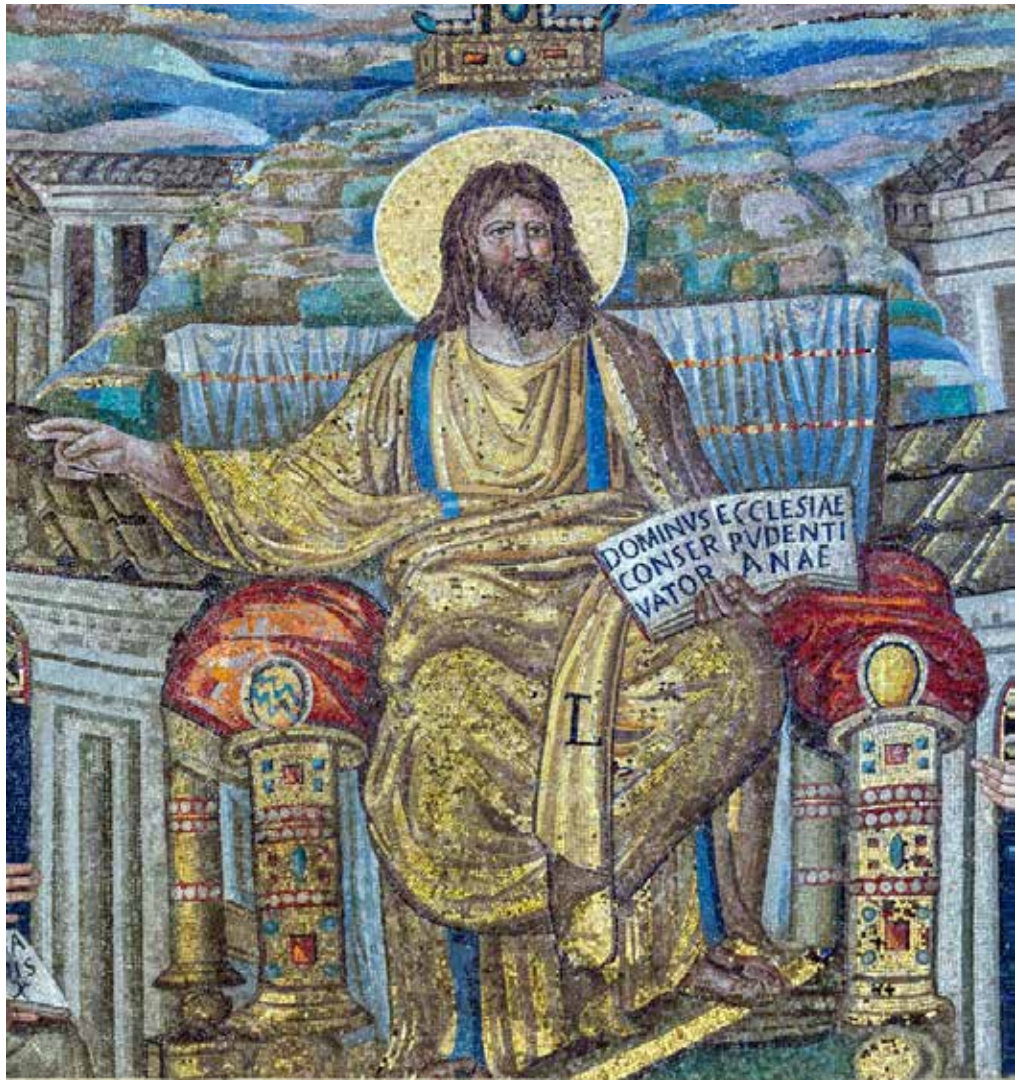
Book 6

The Training of the Disciples

by

CHARLOTTE M. MASON





Dominus et Magister (Lord and Master)

(4th Century Mosaic. Detail. Central Figure).

See Appendix I.

Contents

BOOK I	
The Disciples in Training	27
BOOK II	
Rest and Service	61
BOOK III	
Of Prayer and Conflict	87
BOOK IV	
Of Self-Deception and of Signs	127

DEDICATION

TO

THE REV. W. H. DRAPER, M.A.

A HEEDLESS traveller stumbled at a stile,
And one came by who stretched a friendly hand
To help o'er treach'rous places in a land
Where joyous trod the traveller mile by mile.

To aid a halting "foot," to reconcile
A rebel "accent" with the general scheme,
To seize each subtle nuance in the theme
And greet a fit word with the happy smile
Of one to whom fit words afford delight-
(Things of the Spirit dearer in his sight),-

E'en thus, accomplish'd Friend, did you beguile
Slack hands to utmost labour: "Leave the rest;
This task is worth it; pray you, give your best!"--

Urged you the laggard on with godly wile!
Wherefore with gratitude I dedicate
To you this little book with theme so great.

C. M. M.

Preface

“BOTH in philosophy and religion, the μαθητής is a distinct character, and Charles Marriot was an example of it at its best. He had its manly and reasonable humility, its generous trustfulness, its self-forgetfulness; he had, too, the enthusiasm of loving and recognising a great master and teacher, and doing what he wanted done; and he learned from the love of his master to love what he believed truth still more. The character of a disciple does not save a man from difficulties, from trouble and perplexity; but it tends to save him from idols of his own making. It is something, in the trials of life and faith, to have a consciousness of knowing or having known some one greater and better and wiser than oneself, of having felt the spell of his guidance and example.”

I have ventured to quote Dean Church’s exposition of the relation of a master to a disciple to a human master, (the Rev. Charles Marriot to Dr. Pusey’s)¹ because a chief object of this volume is, and indeed, of the work of which it is a part, is to emphasize and define the status of a disciple *quâ* disciple in such ways as a reverent following of the text allows.

We are perhaps a little apt to sum up that which we owe as Christians under the headings of faith, love, and good works, failing to give devout consideration to the Teaching Office of *Magister*, the studious habit due from *Discipline*.

1 The History of the Oxford Movement.

Sometimes we forget to consider what behooves us as scholars to whom is set the task of learning to understand and apply the Unique Philosophy included in the Christian Religion. It is earnest and devout endeavour—of any age, of all sorts and conditions—who set themselves to form a vivid conception of the Life among men, and labour to understand the Teaching of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I would venture to hope that this little volume may be acceptable. May I once again acknowledge my indebtedness to the Rev. C. James, the Chronologist writer of whose *Gospel History* I have followed throughout.

C. M. M.

CONTENTS OF VOLUME I
THE HOLY INFANCY

*ANGELS and prophets long had searched in vain
Those mysteries, now, for wayfarers writ plain:*

*How Christ was born in Bethlehem of pure Maid,
How to three kings His Rising was displayed;*

*How holy Simeon blessed Him and foretold
His Mother's grief, He, sacrificed and sold.*

*How out of Egypt did God call His Son
That all the prophets figured might be done.*

*How, simple Child, He dwelt in Galilee
That simple folk His light might daily see.*

*How to Jerusalem in His twelfth year
He went, before Jehovah to appear:*

*How there He shed His light, a duteous Boy,
To keep the law His errand, not destroy.*

*How eighteen years of meek submission then
Prepared Him for His labours amongst men.*

*How He went out to John to be baptised,
And John in Him a greater recognised.*

*How in the wilderness for Forty Days
He bare assaults of Satan. Give we praise!*

*How in Cana He made the water wine,
That men should see of life in Him a sign.*

*How in Jerusalem quick drew He forth
The traders and their wares—of how small worth!*

*How journeying north to Galilee once more,
He sate and taught that Woman heavenly lore.*

*How all the men came out who heard His fame,
And, SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD, did Him proclaim.*

*These things have we considered as we might,
And hence would meekly follow in His light.*

CONTENTS OF VOLUME II
HIS DOMINION

*CHRIST healed the rich man's son; the man believed;
"God is a spirit," the lesson he received.*

*He preaches to His own; mad hate they bring,—
Would from steep brow of hill the Saviour fling!*

*People who sat in darkness saw great light
Whose brightness baffled unaccustomed sight;*

*Those fishers four on Sea of Galilee
The fishers of the Lord were called to be:*

*At Capernaum Christ preached; the people heard,
And knew Authority was in His word.*

*Vile spirit bade He forth in that same hour,
And all men recognised an unknown Power.*

*Peter's wife's mother, raised from fevered bed—
By hand that raised her would thenceforth be led.*

*“At even ere the sun was set,” they came
To Him for healing, sick and blind and lame.*

*Then wearied, He, a great while before day,
Went out to desert place that He might pray.*

*The folk of Galilee would make Him King;
He knows how little worth the praise they bring.*

*Weary with preaching, Christ bade put to sea;—
Behold, a wondrous draught, the fishers’ fee!*

*A leper cried, Thou canst,—wilt make me clean?
I will, saith Christ; healed, who had leprous been!*

*Levi took customs’ dues by the seaside,
And when the Master called, he straight replied.*

*His Jews rejected for hypocrisy;
Too skilled in subterfuge, what hope have we?*

*Man at Bethesda’s pool so long had lain—
The Lord who healed him to betray was fain!*

*Christ taught,—the Father and the Son were One
In words They spake, in all works They had done.*

*On the Son the royal crown of judgment set;—
He learned the ways of men, nor would forget:*

*In Him was Life; and all the souls that live
Draw breath from Him, to Him their praises give.*

*The Law, the prophets, witness; to each heart,
The Father testifies, and shows his part.*

*Thy Jews condemned, grant us, good Lord, to heed—
Unstable in our faith, slack in our deed!*

*Christ walked in cornfield on the Sabbath day,
And set men free from bondage whilst they pray.*

*He instantly the withered hand restores,
And, grieved, the Rulers' faithlessness deplores.*

*Once more to fair Gennesareth He came,
And multitudes drew nigh, with love aflame.*

*Our Founder chose the Twelve, and laid them, sure
Stones to sustain that Church which shall endure.*

*He charged them; told them, how the poor are blest;
How persecutions should their lives molest:*

*Taught them the brother-secret; how to give;
How with all men as brothers they should live.*

*Of blind man led by blind man, cupboard's store,
Of building House of Faith, He told them more:*

*And then He climbed the Mount that all might hear,—
That multitude had come from far and near:*

*“Blessed are they that mourn,” He told the sad;—
With promise of the Father’s care made glad.*

*Chaste must they be and kind and guard their speech;—
For God’s own holiness is in man’s reach.*

*He taught men how to give their alms, to pray;
And all their anxious fears to put away.*

*Behold, the Church He founded on that day
Received those Institutes should guide her Way.*

*The people heard, and hardly understood,
But knew the Word He spake was very good;*

*Perceived Authority in every word
And fain would bear due fruit of that they’d heard.*

CONTENTS OF VOLUME III
THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

*THE centurion, begging that the Lord would heal
His suffering servant, did great faith reveal.*

*Behold, with joy return the mourning train
Come forth to bury that young man of Nain.*

*The prisoner, John, makes question by his friends;
News of His works, the answer Jesus sends.*

*“What went ye to the wilderness to see?”
Cried Jesus, praising John’s fidelity.*

*A woman anoints His feet with costly nard;
Christians shall know thy deed—her great reward.*

*He walks in Galilee, and women tend,
And gladly of their substance on Him spend.*

*The sower sowed in various kinds of ground;
The Lord to hearts of men a likeness found.*

*Who knows the things of God and doth not tell,
Like him who hides a lamp, doth not do well.*

*Together are let grow the wheat and tares,
Till each kind to its place the reaper bears.*

*Thou think'st to watch the growing of the seed?
A secret, that,—so by God's will decreed.*

*A grain of mustard-seed, so small to see,
May yet become a mighty sheltering tree.*

*Thou'st found a treasure? Go and sell thine all,
Ere thou this treasure all thine own may'st call.*

*The woman hid the leaven in her flour;
The Word hid in a heart shall rise with power.*

*A merchant came upon a pearl of price
And forthwith bought—by liberal device.*

*And, "Have ye understood?" the Saviour cried;
"Yea, Lord," they said, but in their lives denied.*

*"Thy mother and Thy brethren would Thee see;"
"These be My kinsfolk—they who follow Me."*

*Proud Nazareth rejected Him who came
To save the humble; Do not we the same?*

*Jesus came walking o'er the stormy sea;
His friends, relieved, were there—where they would be.*

*The demoniac raged as fierce as angry storm;
Christ spake,—and meek he sat who'd wrought such
harm.*

*The little maid was raised by Jesus' hand:
“Now, see ye no man tell,” the Lord's command.*

*A woman crept behind and healing took;
Christ made her happy by a pitying look.*

*Two blind men came and cried on Him for sight;
The Lord restored to these the joys of light.*

*A dumb deaf man sat moody by the way;—
Christ taught dumb lips to praise His name that day.*

*The time had come to send the Twelve abroad,—
Bless'd messengers to carry forth the Word.*

*As father charges son would cross the seas,
So Christ, their Father, gave His charge to these.*

*“Dangers I see await you on your way;—
Be prudent, friends, and bide a better day.*

*But have no fear; knows not your Father all
Of good or ill His children shall befall?*

*Yet ye must bear the cross, nor shrink in shame
From any obloquy or any blame.*

*Of this be sure, whoever you befriends,
Your Father in heaven will make that man amends.”*

*Forth fared the Twelve in pairs to do His will,
And as they went, the Lord was with them still.*

*With joy these men returned to shew their Lord
How it had prospered with the seed, His Word.*

*Now, John the Baptist prisoned in strong tower
To chide the king had used a prophet's power:*

*The king sware foolish oath to grant what boon
The princess asked of him; vindictive, soon—*

*“Give me John Baptist's head,” she cried; and, lo,
The sorry king bade armed men to go*

*And bring the prophet's head. The news was brought
To John's disciples; quick they Jesus sought*

*And told their grief to Him. “Come ye apart,”
Saith Christ to the weary Twelve; with tender heart*

*They follow Him and tell what things befell
In all the cities—whether ill or well.*

CONTENTS OF VOLUME IV
THE BREAD OF LIFE

*“COME ye apart into a desert place;”
But, quick the folk the Master’s steps to trace:*

*All day the Master spake; the people heard,
And hungered while they listened to the Word.*

*“Give them to eat,” He said: and one produced
A meal scarce more than one to eat was used.*

*Christ blessed and gave to all that multitude
And all were filled with meat—and gratitude.*

*He bade His friends take ship; then sent away
The folk, and climbed the mountain there to pray.*

*A storm arose; He looked and saw them row
Their little craft while wild the winds did blow.*

*He walks upon the sea; they take Him in;
Instant, subsides the tempest’s fearful din.*

*Next day the people seek Him in the place
Where He had fed them amply by His grace.*

*Returned, they question Him; and mysteries,—
The work of God, the bread of God,—to these*

*Unlearned He discloses; shows them how
God gave the manna as He feeds men now.*

*Having made plain that life-sustaining bread
Must ever come from God, He turned and said,—*

*“I am the bread of life; who eats of Me,
That man alone eternal life shall see.”*

*His disciples were offended: “How can He
Give us His flesh to eat? Can such thing be?”*

*Many forsook Him and fled; the Lord was grieved:
“Will ye, too, go away?” they who believed*

*Were asked in sadness: one stood up and said,—
“Thou hast the words by which a man is led*

*“In the ways of life; to whom then should we go?”
Peter, that happy saint who answered so.*

*“Nay, you Twelve have I chosen, and one of you
Is a devil:” said the Lord, whose word is true.*



*He told of things which most defile a man;
Not casual soil, but evil which he can*

*Conceal in his heart while outwardly he's clean;
But his foul secret thoughts by God are seen.*

*Nor shall one unto God that portion give
Which he owes to his father—that the man may live.*

*He journeyed northwards to the coasts of Tyre;
A woman came with passionate desire*

*That He would heal her daughter, sorely vexed;
Nor at His chiding did she go perplexed,*

*But spake that word of faith the Lord approved,
And He healed the little daughter whom she loved.—*

*“The dogs,” she said, “the crumbs that fall may eat,”
And Christ received her at His mercy-seat.*

*A dumb-deaf man they brought; He touched his tongue;
“He hath done all things well!”—the people sung.*

*Again, a desert place the Saviour sought;
The people followed and their sick folk brought.*

*Three days they listened to the Master's Word;
Ah, blessed folk who on the mountain heard!*

*Once more He fed them from a trifling store;
They ate till none was willing to eat more.*

*Before and after that great word of BREAD
Which He is, the Lord the hungry people fed;*

*That none might say, "Such Bread's a thing of nought;"—
Unlike the daily bread men ate and bought.*



*CHRIST and the Twelve land at the sunset hour;
Men ask a sign to manifest His power.*

*The sign of Jonas,—is the Lord's reply;
From those unfriendly shores with haste they fly.*

*"Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees,"
He bids the Twelve; and they their Lord would please,*

*And chide themselves that they had not brought bread.
Enough in the boat for each man to be fed.*

*The blind man of Bethsaida they brought
To Christ, who took his hand and led him out*

*Apart from the rest; cured him in stages three,—
In each of which a parable we see.*

*They journey north,—a pilgrimage oppressed
With coming woe—towards Hermon's snowy crest;*

*And, on the way, foretelling grief and loss,
He bids the Twelve go forth and bear the cross.*

*“He that will save his life, that life shall lose;
He saves his life who doth not death refuse.”*

*And now He takes the three and climbs the mount
With heavy steps the weary men scarce count.*

*The Lord knelt down and prayed; the Twelve went, sleep,
Too weary loving watch with Him to keep.*

*They waked, and, lo, the Lord was seated there,
Shining and glorious—most exceeding fair!*

*And two spake with Him, men of royal mien;—
Persons so noble no man yet had seen:—*

*Moses and Elias, come to cheer the Lord,
Before His coming conflict, with the Word*

*Writ in the Scriptures for Him to fulfil,—
Accomplishing in all the Father’s will.*

*A sudden cloud enwrapped the glorious sight,
And the three, scarce sensible for joy and fright.*

*As they descend the mountain, lo, a crowd,—
A wretched father cries on Him aloud*

*To save his son, possessed; Christ drew them out,
The demons who had brought this ill about.*

*They left that region, sore oppressed with grief;
For Christ had brought home to their slow belief*

*The great things He must suffer, and the pains
They too should bear,—full gladly for all those gains*

*They found in Jesus and the words He taught:
Now, tardy steps the heavy pilgrims brought*

*To the house of Peter, there, in Galilee,—
Capernaum, fair city by the sea.*

*One came to Peter for his temple dues;
“Half shekel, too, your Lord will not refuse.”*

*“Go to Gennesareth and cast a hook;
Draw the first fish to land, nor pause to look:”*

*He went, and in its mouth a shekel found,
And paid those dues on every man were bound.*



*WHEN all were in the house, now hear Him say,—
“What matter, then, discuss’d ye by the way?”*

*They were ashamed, for, Who should be the first,
Was their dispute; and none of them now durst*