



# The Lily of the Field and the Bird of the Air: Three Godly Discourses

By Søren Kierkegaard

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**The Lily of the Field and the Bird of the Air: Three Godly Discourses** By Søren Kierkegaard

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus tells his followers to let go of earthly concerns by considering the lilies of the field and the birds of the air. Søren Kierkegaard's short masterpiece on this famous gospel passage draws out its vital lessons for readers in a rapidly modernizing and secularizing world. Trenchant, brilliant, and written in stunningly lucid prose, *The Lily of the Field and the Bird of the Air* (1849) is one of Kierkegaard's most important books. Presented here in a fresh new translation with an informative introduction, this profound yet accessible work serves as an ideal entrée to an essential modern thinker.

*The Lily of the Field and the Bird of the Air* reveals a less familiar but deeply appealing side of the father of existentialism--unshorn of his complexity and subtlety, yet supremely approachable. As Kierkegaard later wrote of the book, "Without fighting with anybody and without speaking about myself, I said much of what needs to be said, but movingly, mildly, upliftingly."

This masterful edition introduces one of Kierkegaard's most engaging and inspiring works to a new generation of readers.

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#### Review

"A gorgeous stand-alone edition. . . . What's most striking about *Three Godly Discourses* is its gentle, graceful simplicity."--**Will Rees, *Times Literary Supplement***

"Kirmmse's new translation of Kierkegaard's homiletical reflections on Matthew 6:24-34 captures the sermons' beauty and gravitas."--***The Christian Century***

"This accessible volume should be helpful to students of Kierkegaard or theology."--***Choice***

#### From the Back Cover

"This is one of Kierkegaard's most profound, affecting, and accessible works, and Bruce Kirmmse's magisterial translation perfectly captures both the letter and spirit of this amazing text."--**Gordon Marino, editor of *The Quotable Kierkegaard***

"Bruce Kirmmse provides an excellent new translation of a book that offers a less familiar view of Kierkegaard--and an alternative introduction to his writings."--**Alastair Hannay, author of *Kierkegaard: A Biography***

#### About the Author

**Bruce H. Kirmmse** is one of the world's leading Kierkegaard translators and scholars. He is the author of *Kierkegaard in Golden Age Denmark*, the editor of *Encounters with Kierkegaard* (Princeton), and the general editor of Princeton's eleven-volume edition of *Kierkegaard's Journals and Notebooks*. He is also the translator of Joakim Garff's acclaimed *Søren Kierkegaard: A Biography* (Princeton).

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