

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface to the Updated Edition vii		
Preface to the Original Edition xi		
Illustrations in the Text xv		
1 Writing, Travel, and Letters Among the Early Christians 1		
2 Transmission of Letters in the First Century 11		
3 The Christian Letters and Their Transmission 17		
4 The Letters to the Seven Churches 25		
5 Relation of the Christian Books to Contemporary		
Thought and Literature 36		
6 The Symbolism of the Seven Letters 41		
7 Authority of the Writer of the Seven Letters 53		
8 The Education of St. John in Patmos 59		
9 The Flavian Persecution in the Province of Asia as		
Depicted in the Apocalypse 67		
10 The Province of Asia and the Imperial Religion 82		
11 The Cities of Asia as Meeting Places of the Greek		
and the Asiatic Spirit 92		
12 The Jews in the Asian Cities 102		
13 The Pagan Converts in the Early Church 114		
14 The Seven Churches of Asia 123		

15	Origin of the Seven Representative Cities 133
16	Plan and Order of Topics in the Seven Letters 142
17	Ephesus: The City of Change 151
18	The Letter to the Church in Ephesus 172
19	Smyrna: The City of Life 182
20	The Letter to the Church in Smyrna 195
21	Pergamum: The Royal City, the City of Authority 205
22	The Letter to the Church in Pergamum 213
23	Thyatira: Weakness Made Strong 231
24	The Letter to the Church in Thyatira 240
25	Sardis: The City of Death 259
26	The Letter to the Church in Sardis 271
27	Philadelphia: The Missionary City 286
28	The Letter to the Church in Philadelphia 294
29	Laodicea: The City of Compromise 303
30	The Letter to the Church in Laodicea 313
31	Epilogue 318