If we regard God or gods and the whole supernatural realm as the rich product of the human imagination, what value can such ‘poetic tales’ still have for us, once we have discarded the supernatural? The surprising answer is as much as ever. Not only does everyone, atheist or otherwise, need some theology, without which so much of our history and culture remains baffling, but when taken and sifted with what Coleridge called poetic faith, those tales are found to contain treasures of wisdom. Poetic Tales is subtitled Logosofia Down to Earth. For more than twenty years Coleridge planned a huge work to be called Logosophia – Word Wisdom – but never actually got round to it. This book is not, of course, the one Coleridge would have written. Although its scope has a dash of Coleridgean ambition, it is more a train of thought than a treatise, combining a defence of poetry, a natural theology (with nothing supernatural about it) and a quest for kindness. After a chapter on the necessity of poetry, the book explores the central Christian story, not in order to add to the immense corpus of scholarship, but to ponder its enduring, purely natural, meaning and power. Poetic Tales offers a way into poetry even for the prosaic or merely puzzled, and a way into theology for atheists and all.